

# Mind the gap! What about municipal actors in river governance?

Presenter: Dr Wikke Novalia, Research Fellow, [wikke.novalia@monash.edu](mailto:wikke.novalia@monash.edu)

Co-authors: B. Rogers, R. Suwarso, Y. Yosafat, J. Holden, D. Ramirez-Lovering, R. Raven



# Global river pollution

70-90% rely on surface waters for drinking and food production

90% wastewater are dumped untreated



2 out of 9 million metric tons / year of plastics flow through rivers into oceans

1 in 10 rivers is severely to moderately polluted



# IWRM in Citarum

>30-year of cross-scale coordination programs driven by provincial and national governments.

In 2018 the governments established:

- Citarum Harum Action Plan
- Presidential regulation no. 15 Year 2018
- Water quality target by 2025.
- Citarum Taskforce – as a coordinating agency

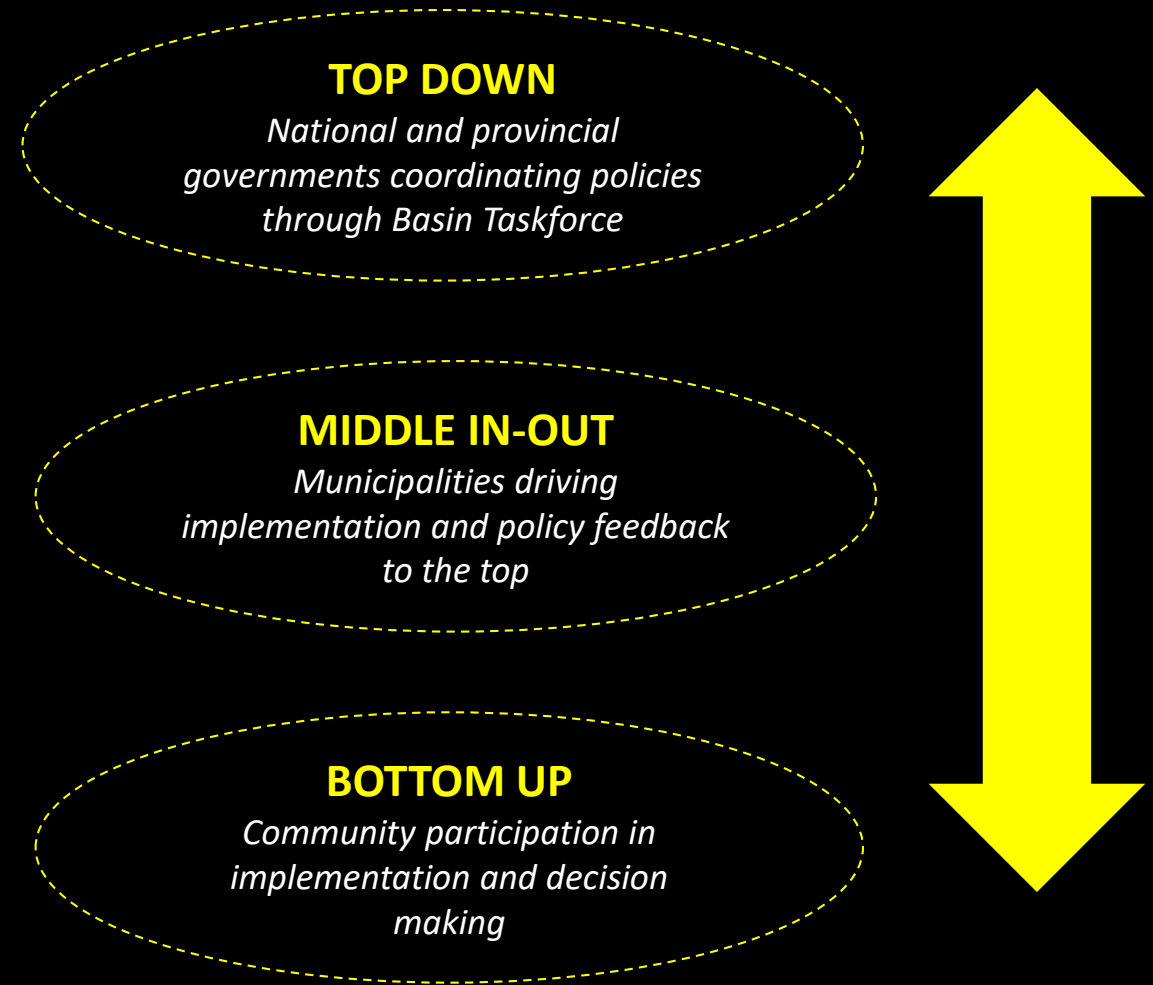


# Governance failure?

- The history of IWRM in Citarum shows symptoms of reactive decision-making in the infrastructure sector faced by crisis (Novalia & Malekpour, 2020).
- Systemic failures of decision making across planning, development, and environmental sectors over the past two decades has led to Citarum heavy degradation (Kusuma et al., 2018).

# IWRM in theory

- IWRM has gained popularity but little evidence of success in practice. (Biswas, 2008)
- Local implementation of IWRM principles is elusive.



# Municipal actors and river governance

- Limited research on local enablers for river governance. (Jetoo, 2017)
- Research questions:
  - What are the enablers for implementation of river revitalization policies at the local level?
  - How can we enhance the capacity of municipal actors to implement river revitalization policies at the local level?

# Synthesis of local enablers



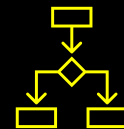
Perception of problems



Local leaderships and front-line bureaucrats



High level political & financial commitment



Formal coordinating structure and agencies



Intermediaries & bridging organisations



Community participation and social movements

# Building capacity

- Two locations in Citarum Basin
- Methods: case studies and participatory workshops

- **Action research** to test local enablers and co-develop governance frameworks.
- **Local experiments** with nature-based and circular economy solutions.



# Thank you

Questions?



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