instability in Syria, highlighting political instability’s negative impact on water resources management.

Additionally, the way riparian states decide to cooperate will influence their respective water resources management processes. Water resources management can become more or less securitized. Increased securitization implies that national security concerns are tied with the management of transboundary waters. Here, water resource management is associated with the 'high-politics issues' of survival of the State and water resource management structures are prevented from developing by hydrological data being kept secret (Turton, 2005). This is the case with the Tigris-Euphrates, with Turkey employing securitizing techniques by considerably overselling the role of its water in their political economy to the international community (Cascão and Zeitoun, 2010).

In contrast, water resources management is desecuritized and politicized when all affected parties share the data. This positions water management in a political framework and is most likely to provide regional peace, as seen in Southern Africa. In fact, the 11 countries of Southern Africa peacefully share 15 river basins. Botswana and Namibia, even though both are water scarce, have negotiated with their neighbors (including the stronger South Africa) in a way that allows them to continue water-promoted economic growth (Turton, 2015). Therefore, the co-riparian relationships are being carried out plays an important part in the effectiveness of shared water resources management. A desecuritized approach has proven to be the most successful way to avoid conflict. In the case of Southern Africa, political stability over the region has been a great asset in the cooperation process.

Furthermore, adequate water resources management stems from appropriate knowledge of water resources. Such understanding is crucial to grasp causal relationships embedded in water management, it helps create trust amongst stakeholders regarding technical dimensions and allows sound decision making at a governmental level (Salamé and van der Zaag, 2010). Knowledge of the water resources being dealt with is achieved through data gathering, a developed local research community, and funding. In the context of political instability, these knowledge building processes are not put forward or simply unable to take place. The political instability in