

A large cable-stayed bridge with a prominent central pylon and multiple stay cables, spanning across a body of water. The scene is captured at dusk or dawn, with a deep blue sky and water reflecting the ambient light. The bridge's structure is silhouetted against the sky.

Policy, legal and institutional aspects of enabling regional cooperation on data and tools

Contribution of the UNECE Water Convention

Francesca Bernardini
Secretary, UNECE Water Convention

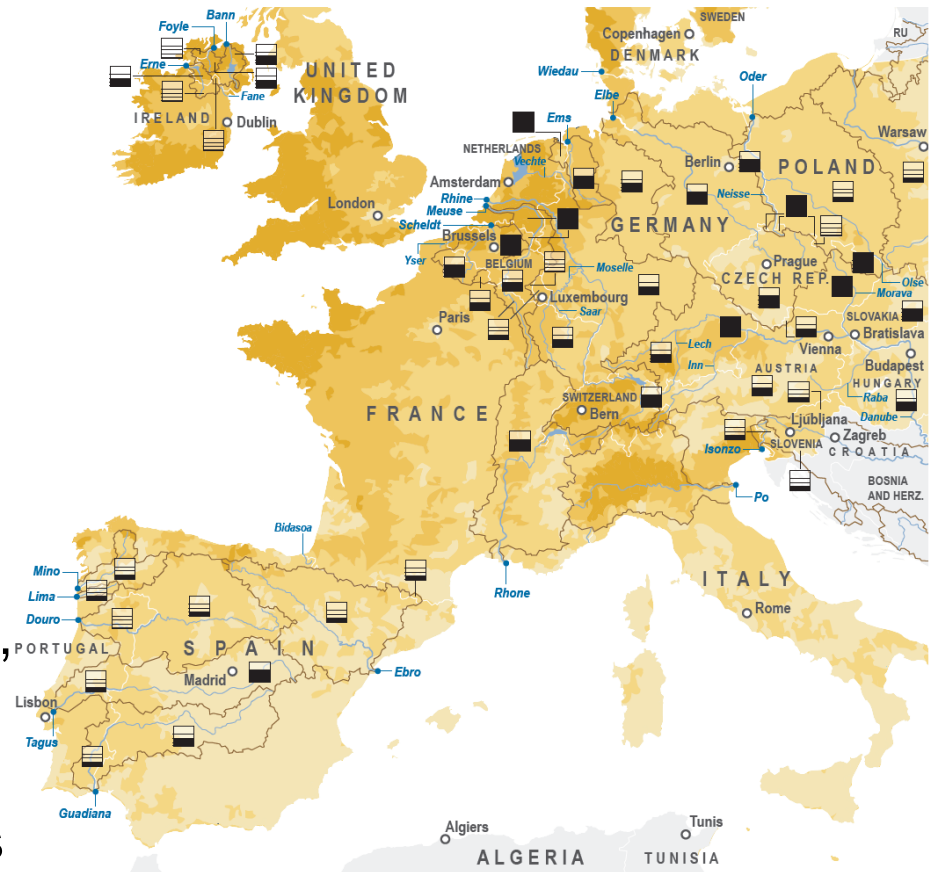
Promotion of information exchange under UNECE Water Convention

- Both general obligations and obligations specific to Riparian parties promote sharing of information
- Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters for water quantity and quality is a core requirement
- Data exchange in transboundary basins among the obligations
- Assessment data should be available to the public
- Regional (increasingly beyond pan-Europe) assessment work keeps the status of transboundary waters, pressures on them and cooperation under scrutiny
- Water Convention encourages continuously expand the range of information to be exchanged

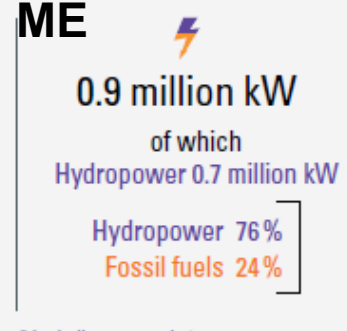
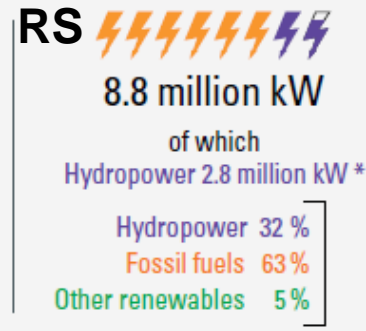
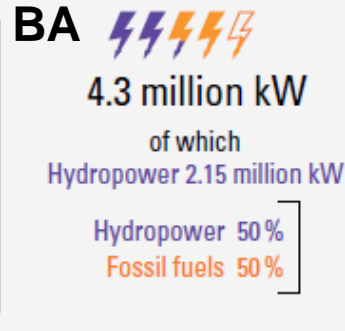
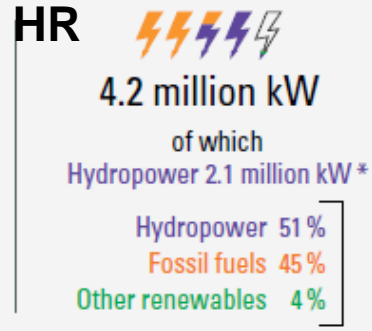
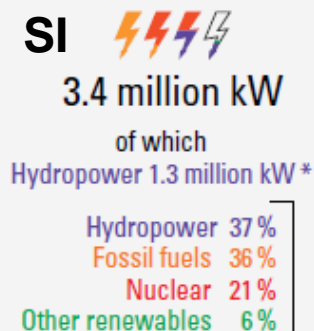
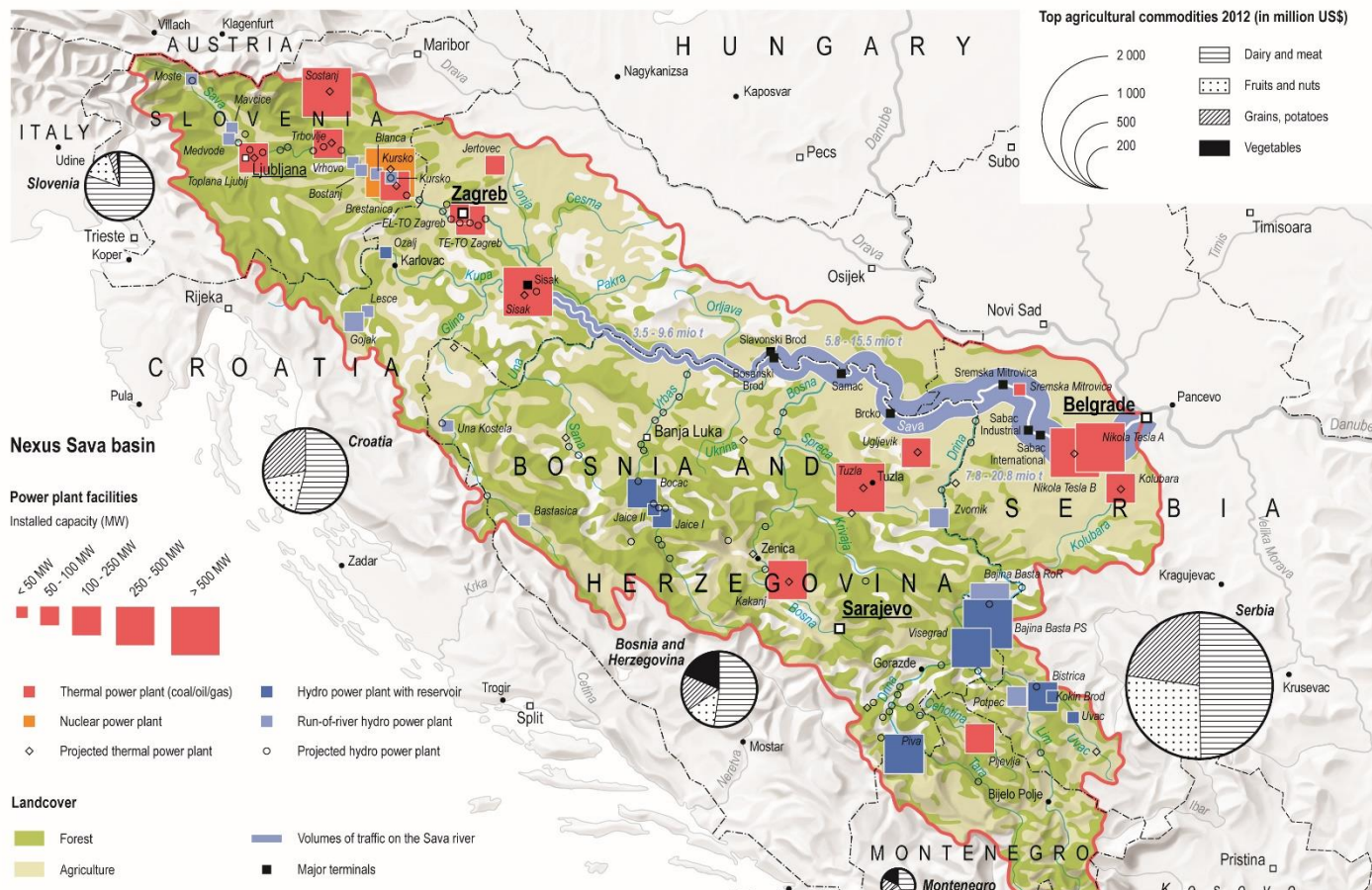


Second Assessment of transboundary waters

- Covered: >140 rivers, 25 lakes, some 200 groundwaters and 25 Ramsar Sites & other wetlands of transboundary importance from W. Europe to Central Asia; also countries from outside UNECE participated & non-Parties
- Covers pressure factors, quantity and quality status of waters, transboundary impacts, responses and future trends
- Process: subregional focus, extensive data collection using a questionnaire: 50 countries, 5 subregional workshops over >2 years, reviews by national administrations, e.g. basin commissions provided input
- Challenges: basin level information, intersector access, cost
- Served to exchange views & experience, harmonize approaches

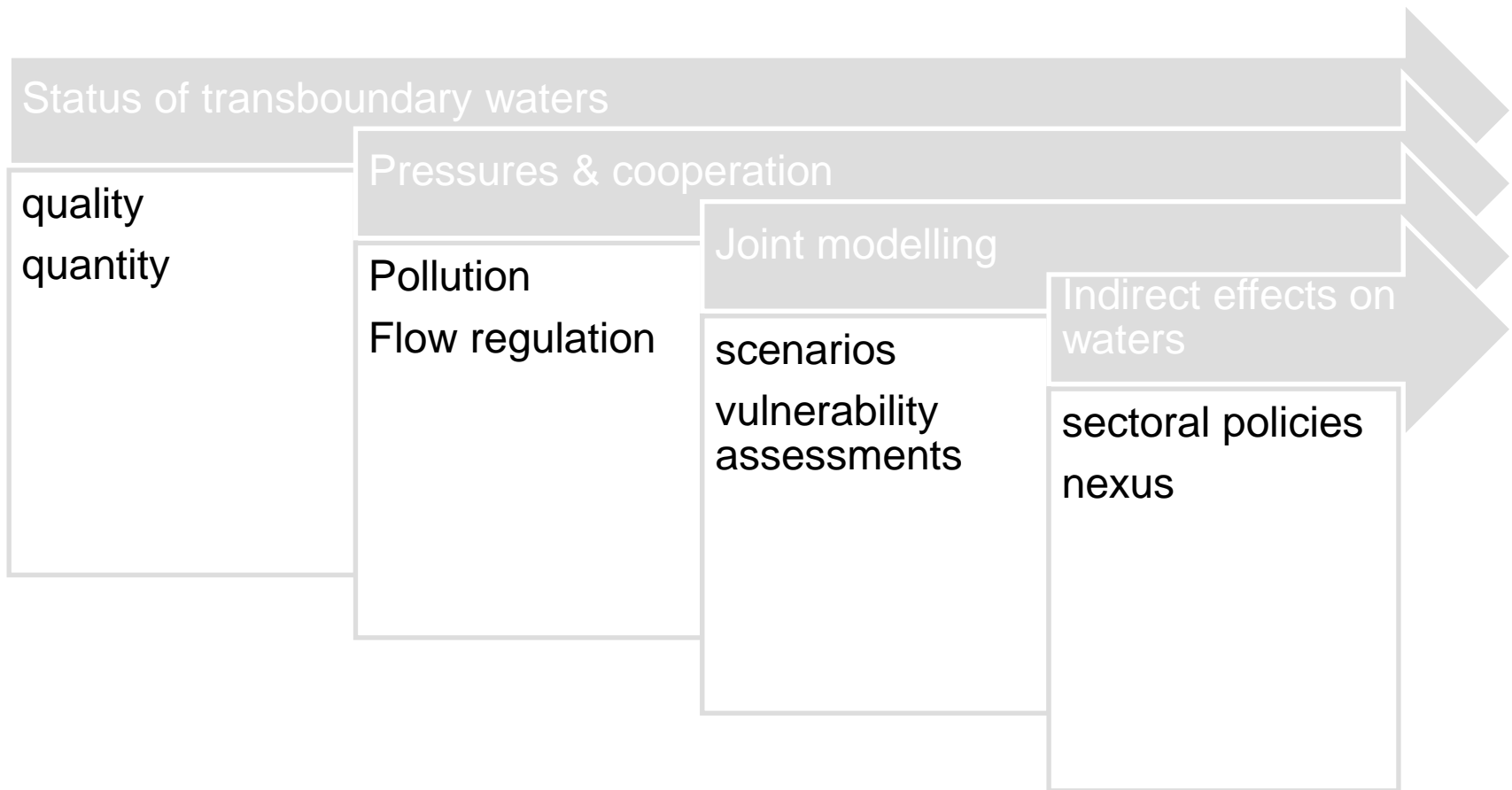


The Sava Basin nexus assessment: electricity generation, land & agricultural production, navigation...



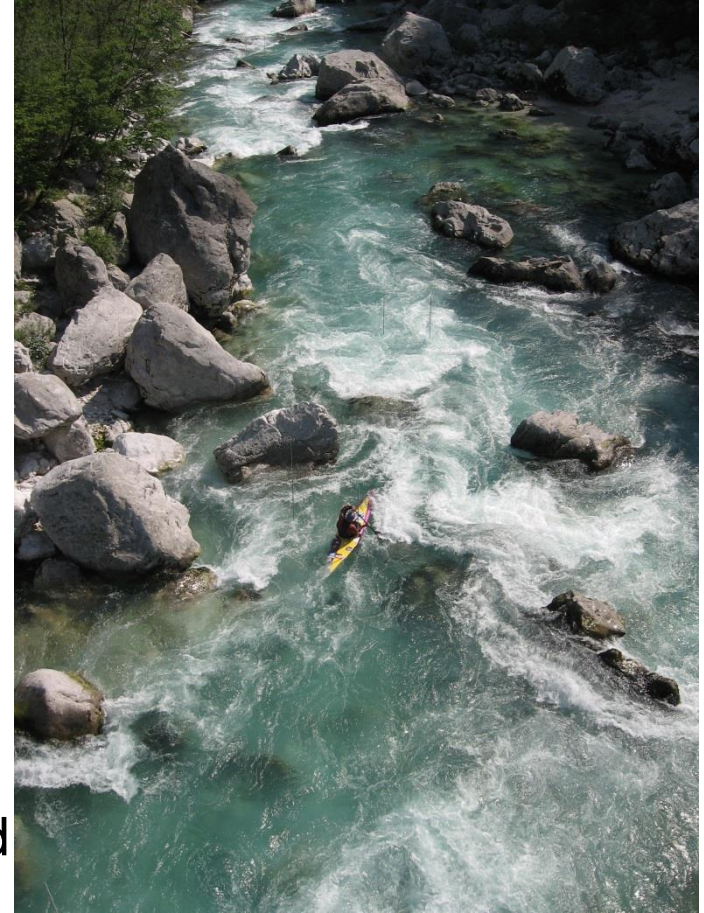
* including pumped storage

Gradual evolution of data and information in the work under the Water Convention



Reporting under the Water Convention

- Adopted by the Parties in November 2015
- Every 3 years as of 2017
- Information to be gathered through a questionnaire covers transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters sent to national authorities responsible for transboundary water cooperation
- involves both Parties and non-Parties
- The questionnaire to be piloted
- Contributes to monitoring of indicator 6.5.2 for Water SDG's, on the cooperation arrangements, transboundary waters covered by them as well as operationality of cooperation arrangements.



Information gathered in the reporting under the Water Convention

- management of transboundary waters at the national level (measures, policies, principles in legislation etc.)
- transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters
- coverage of transboundary waters by agreements and joint bodies
- scope of cooperation, including information exchange, activities etc.
- challenges, achievements

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2015/WAT/11Nov_17-19_MOP7_Budapest/ECE_MP.WAT_2015_7_reporting_decision_ENG.pdf