

Possible reporting under the UNECE Water Convention

Considerations and approach

Elements to consider

- Implementation guide on the UNECE Water convention
- Questionnaire results
- EU reporting requirements, mainly under WFD but also others
- Other UN reporting requirements such as RAMSAR (prepared in UNECE docs)

Questionnaire conclusions

- Support for the introduction of reporting strongly depends on the design and efficiency of the mechanism
- Reporting could support implementation
- Reporting must be complementary to other reporting obligations
- Exchange of experiences and support for the Implementation Committee are main purposes of reporting
- Web based/electronic reporting templates are the preferred format
- No consensus on reporting frequency

Considerations on overlaps I/IV

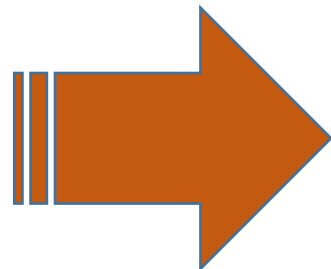
- Overlaps with **other legislation/agreements** and their respective reporting schemes are a major concern
- **Other legislation/agreements** concern different 'groups' of countries
 - MEAs are ratified by different countries
 - Basins connect different groups of countries
 - With harmonised/similar legislation (e.g. EU MS)
 - With different legislation/tradition
- **Other legislation** uses different schemes and terminology;
 - no direct comparability/ translation from one to another

→ Complex structure and multiple dimensions and perspectives of 'overlaps'

→ Overlaps are partly ambiguous and need further discussion/definition

Considerations on overlaps II/IV

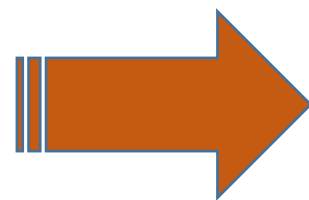
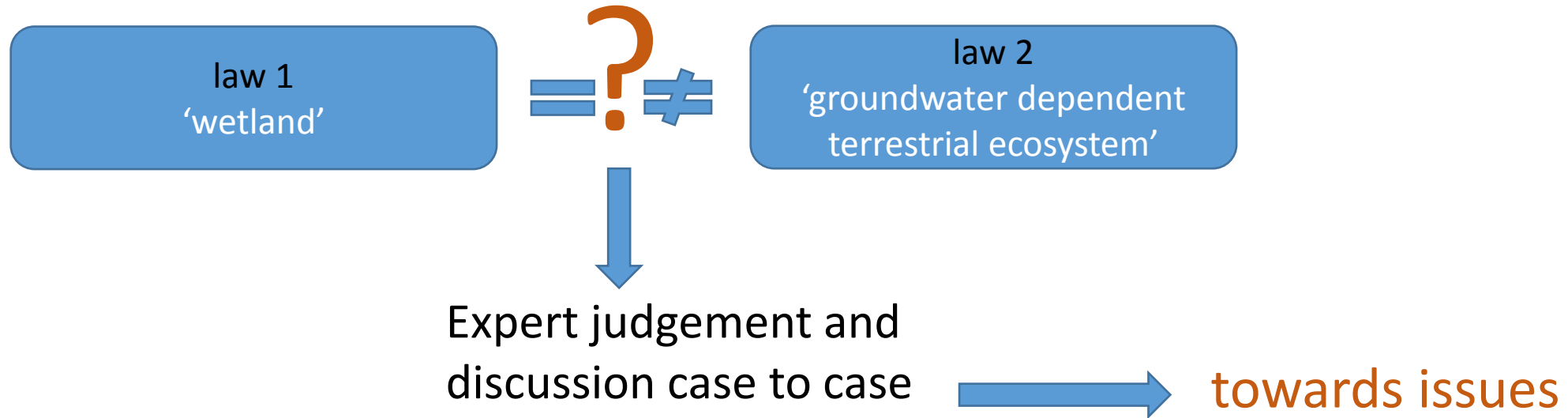
- Formal overlaps may still result in different results at the technical level
 - E.g. Yes we have nutrient monitoring in place but different/incomparable in terms of parameters, frequencies, uncertainty, EQS
- Same legislation does not necessarily entail same status of implementation
 - Interpretation differences
 - Implementation gaps



The approach/methodology for reporting should deal with this complexity in a transparent way.

Considerations on overlaps III/IV

From articles, wording and terminology



The approach must provide for translation from articles/wording to issues to be able to identify overlaps.

Considerations on overlaps IV/IV

Thematic overlaps have an additional dimension i.e.

the level of detail and timing

- E.g. the RBMP Danube reports on catchments $>4000\text{km}^2$ while the WFD national reports have a resolution of $>10\text{km}^2$
- International monitoring locations are just a subset of national ones
- WFD information is WB related and might need aggregation other information might need disaggregation
- Synchronising reporting requirements is an issue (even inside the EU).

Approach / methodology

additional considerations

The methodology needs to support the discussion of expert's and parties on overlaps

→ Aggregation and disaggregation (i.e. attribution of articles to issues) must be unambiguous/exact/reproducible

The methodology needs to be able to integrate the results of the consultations so far (questionnaire, MEA reporting assessment etc.)

Different types of overlaps for different Parties require not only one but numerous individually composed reporting schemes

→ Taylor made templates as a result of complex interactions

Proposed methodology - Tabular approach

1st step: List of articles of the UNECE Water convention (each thematic aspect in one line – what are the objects of reporting?)

2nd step: Summary of each item for better overview

3rd step: Attribution of articles to issues (in detail: issues are separated into major aspects and details thereof, e.g. Water quality is subdivided into point sources, diffuse sources, organic, nutrient and hazardous,...)

4th step: Analysis of redundancies within Part I of the Convention

5th step: Analysis of the relation between Part I and II

6th step: Analysis of potential overlaps (in reporting) between relevant laws/directives/MEAs/regular assessments

7th step: Attribution of issues to reporting questions and related options for measures

Proposed methodology - Tabular approach

- The tabular approach is meant as a container for the essence of the work done so far and a tool to support the further work of the core group on reporting and other involved entities! It is open for additions and amendments.

Input, discussion or review is possible and required primarily for

3rd step: Attribution of articles to issues

4th step: Analysis of redundancies

6th step: Analysis of potential overlaps (in reporting) between relevant laws/directives/MEAs

7th step: Attribution of issues to reporting questions and related options for measures

If available, please provide data (or indicate respective sources) documenting developments for each of the questions for indicating impact.		For each applied measure, please provide additional information : - National formal background (law, regulation etc.) - International formal background (EU directive etc.) - Practical examples - sources for further respective information			
Measures					
Questions	legal	administrative	economic	financial	technical
1	Which specific measures does your country apply to ensure the conservation and, where necessary, restoration of ecosystems ?	- restriction of activities in protected eco systems	- pro-active involvement of units responsible for protection of the environment - regulation of quantitative impacts on eco-systems - environmental impact assessments	- payments for ecosystem services	- river regulations reflecting ecosystem needs
2	Which measures does your country apply for ensuring the integrated, sustainable management and conservation of its (transboundary) water resources ?		- definition & monitoring of WQ objectives - others		
3	Which measures does your country apply for ensuring that transboundary waters' quantities are influenced reflecting the principle of equitable usage?	- restrictions for the usage of (transboundary) aquifers - restrictions for the usage of (transboundary) surface waters	- operation manuals for dams - reflection of natural conditions in spatial planning (e.g. runoff)	- pricing of surface water & groundwater	- automatic gauging stations - preservation and restoration of flooding areas
4	Which measures does your country implement to control and reduce the impact of point sources on (transboundary) water quality?	- waste-water emission permits reflecting the sensibility of the receiving waters - technological requirements for industrial activities ("low/no waste") - permits for indirect emitters - list of substances banned from usage, production and import - requirements for the prevention of accidental pollution	- regular monitoring of direct & indirect emitters - Coordination of units responsible for industrial permits & (TB)WM - maintenance of lists of "best available technologies" - definition of sector-specific emission limits for hazardous substances	- pricing of discharged loads - customs duty on imported hazardous substances - taxing of products causing problematic emissions	- subsidizing of cleaner production technologies - credit schemes for technological improvements - construction of two-stage municipal WWTPs - nutrient removal in WWTP - WQ monitoring programme
5	Which measures does your country implement to control and reduce the impact of diffuse sources on (transboundary) water quality?	- restrictions for the application of fertilizers (time, quantity) - restrictions for the application of pesticides - list of substances banned from usage, production and import - restrictions for activities in flood prone areas	- installation of agricultural advisory services - monitoring of agricultural practices (usage, storage)	- taxing of problematic substances - price guarantees for sustainable produced products	- subsidizing of organic farming - subsidizing of other ecofriendly practices - flood protection of agricultural areas - preservation and restoration of flooding areas - reduction of wash-off and enhancement of infiltration - WQ monitoring programme
6	Which additional, specific measures does your country implement to control and reduce the pollution of (transboundary) groundwater ?	- operational requirements for industries producing, handling or using problematic substances - requirements for the household storage of fuel oil - restrictions for the infiltration of treated or untreated waste waters	- Coordination of units responsible for industrial operation permits & groundwater protection - regular inspection of activities involving problematic substances - strengthening GW-perspectives in EIAs		- GW quality monitoring programme
7	Which measures does your country implement to minimize the impact of emergency situations on water quality, water regime and water-related aquatic ecosystem? <i>Questions 8-12 require a different structure</i>	- requirement of internal contingency plans for critical activities - requirement of a national contingency plan	- installation of a body coordinating planning of relevant administration units - installation of a body responsible for coordinating actual emergency response - harmonizing of contingency plans with riparians		- equipment for minimizing impact of accidents
8	Please provide a list of all transboundary catchments (surface & ground water) and indicate which are managed based on bilateral or multilateral agreements to minimize transboundary impact.	<i>For each relevant catchment:</i> Name of catchment	<i>For each agreement:</i> - Agreement type (e.g. MoU, contract, bilateral, multilateral, joint institution) - starting date - covered issues	<i>If relevant:</i> - Name of joint institution - contact	
9	Please indicate if and how in your country research on transboundary impact is conducted and where it is internationally coordinated.	Name of reserach project	Topic	Partners	Name of international programme
10	Please indicate how your country provides for the exchange of information relevant for transboundary water management, both routine and in cases of emergencies.	Identification	Type (agreement, policy, publication, website)	Target group	Content Covered topics
11	Please indicate how your country supports international efforts in the fields of responsibility and liability with respect to TBWM.	Identification	Topic	Role	
	Please indicate under which circumstances regulations for the				

Proposed structure of a possible
reporting mechanism

Part I

P1

Issues:

- 1.Ecosystems
- 2.Resources
- 3.Quantity
- 4.Point sources
- 5.Diffuse sources
- 6.Groundwater
- 7.emergency

- measure 1
- measure 2
- ...
- ...
- measure n-1
- measure n

Part II

- Arrangements/joint bodies (Art 9)
- Consultations (Art 10)
- Joint monitoring (Art 11)
- R&D ? (Art 12)*
- Data exchange (Art 13)
- Emergency (Art 14)
- Mutual assistance (Art 15)
- Public data ? (Art 16)*

P2

Issues:

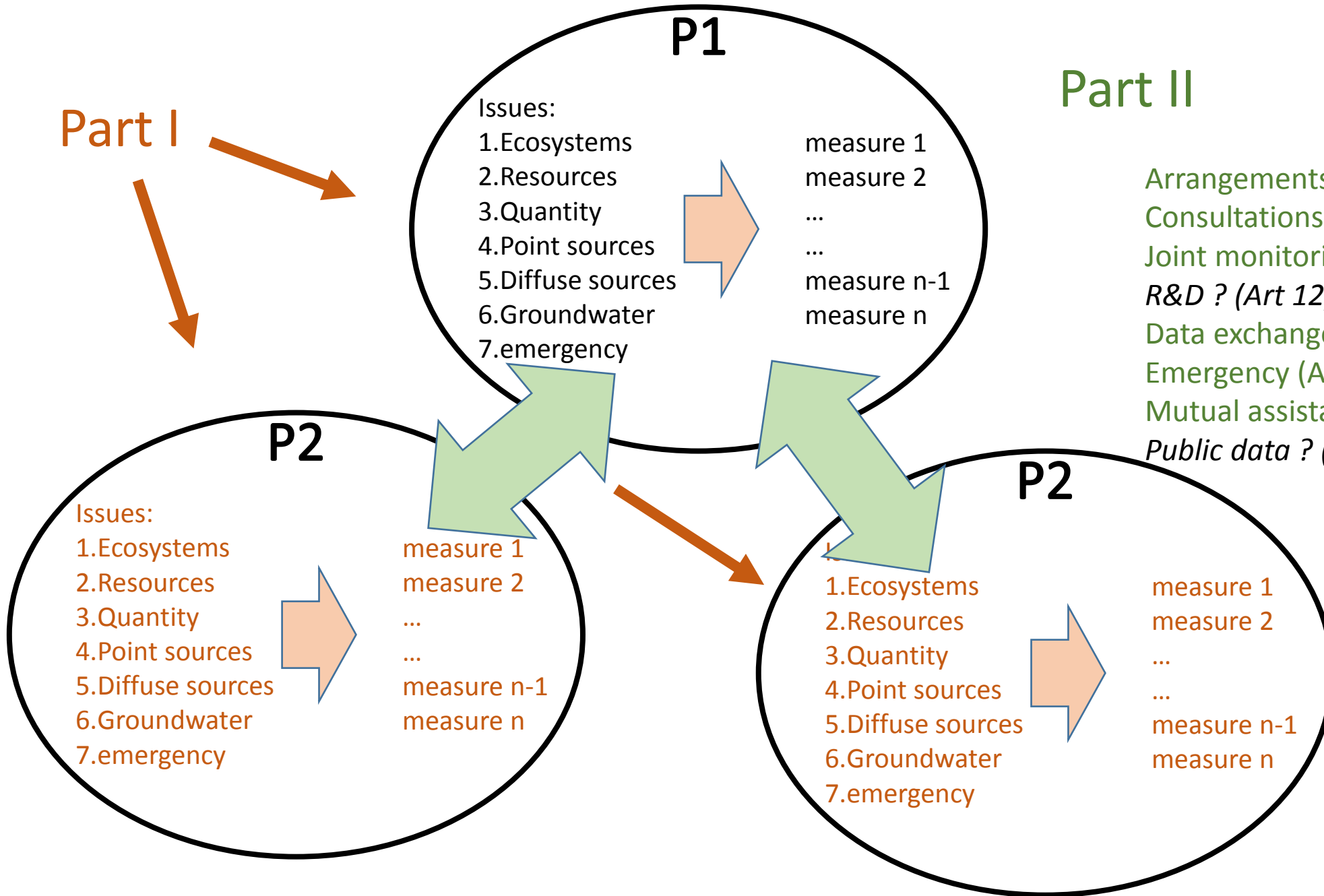
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- measure 1
- measure 2
- ...
- ...
- measure n-1
- measure n

P2

- 1.Ecosystems
- 2.Resources
- 3.Quantity
- 4.Point sources
- 5.Diffuse sources
- 6.Groundwater
- 7.emergency

- measure 1
- measure 2
- ...
- ...
- measure n-1
- measure n



Disaggregated view on the structure of the template(s)

- Party 1

- Measure 1 (related to questions/issues; multiple choice, closed/restricted answers & free text) – origin Part I

- Basin A – origin Part II

- Arrangement(s)? Y? (N – gap!)

- joint body? Y → entity/contact
 - joint body? N → partners/content/scope

- Data exchange mechanism Y? (N – gap!)

- joint body? Y → contact
 - joint body? N → partners/content/scope partners

- Basin B

- ...

- General topics – origin Part II

- Basin A

- Consultations (Art 10)

- joint body? Y → entity/contact
 - joint body? N → partners/content/scope

- Joint monitoring? Y? (N – gap)

- joint body? Y → entity/contact
 - joint body? N → partners/content/scope

- Emergency (Art 14) and Mutual assistance (Art 15)

- joint body? Y → entity/contact
 - joint body? N → partners/content/scope

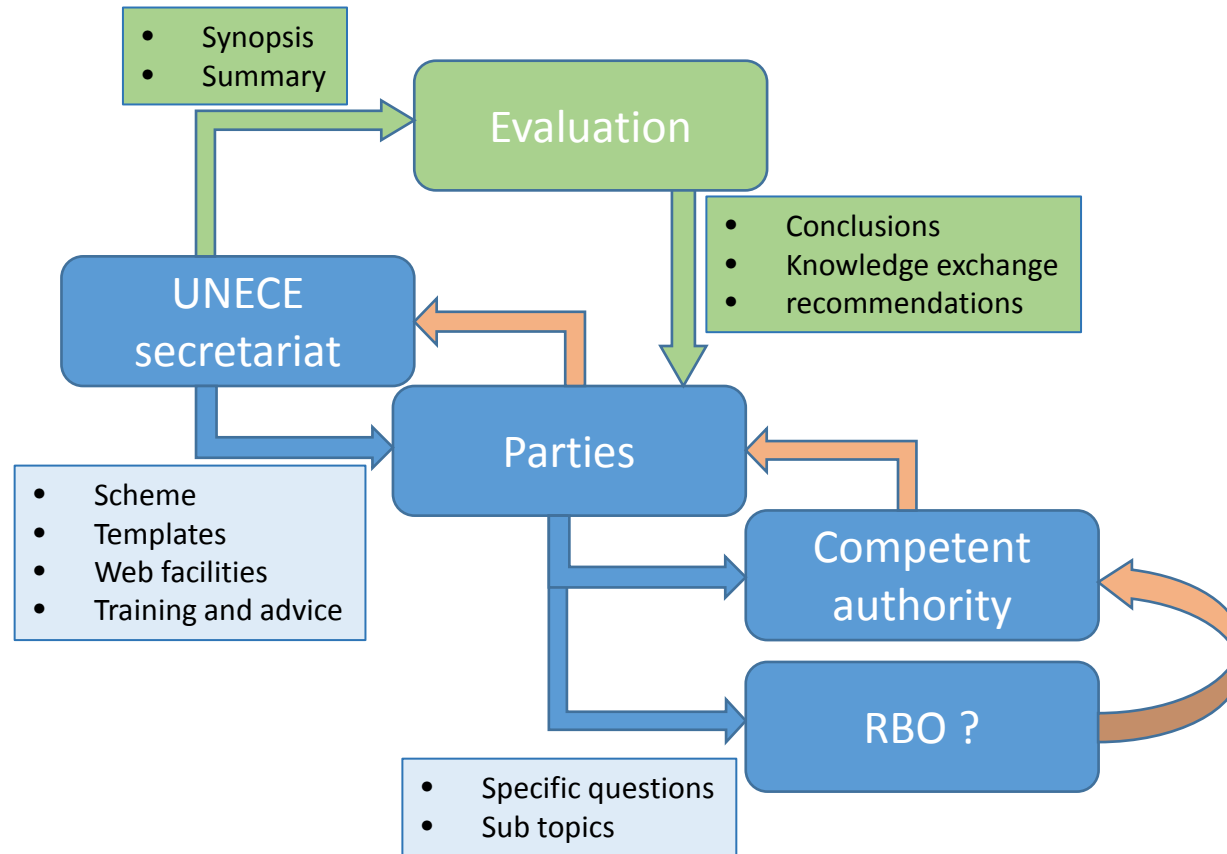
- Basin B ..

- ...

Detailed structure of the template(s)

- Remaining aspects of Part II – the specific transboundary aspect appears to be weak
 - *R&D ? (Art 12)*
 - *Public data ? (Art 16)*

Information flow and utilisation



Summary