

# Transboundary Water Allocation in the Water Convention's Programme of Work (PoW) 2022-2024

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**16 October 2017 – Global Workshop on Water Allocation organized by Water Convention**



**Eighth Meeting of the Parties in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan 10-12 October 2018**

- Agreed on the Water Convention's Programme of Work for 2019-2021
  - Among the activities *“Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in the transboundary context”* (Lead Party: Hungary)



## **2 MAIN ACTIVITIES:**

- 1. Development of a handbook on water allocation in the transboundary context**
- 2. Organization of 2 regional workshops on water allocation**

# Transboundary Water Allocation Handbook



## AUDIENCE

The handbook's primary audience will be **government officials, basin authorities and water sector practitioners** working at different levels (local, national, inter-governmental) of governance of shared rivers, lakes and aquifers.

## PURPOSE

A **practical guide providing an overview of the key elements**, frameworks and modalities to consider in applying water allocation in a transboundary context. It will outline **options for, and alternatives/limitations to, water allocation, drawing on a diversity of practice.**

## FORMAT

It will take the form of a **compendium style Handbook**, covering the major topics and **illustrative case studies to demonstrate key elements** of transboundary water allocation in different contexts, with a **bibliography of specific references for further research.**

# Transboundary Water Allocation Handbook



## OUTCOMES

The Handbook will comprise a **set of main messages for taking into consideration** along with a **modular framework in the form of a flowchart** for ‘operationalizing’ transboundary allocation (practical assessment/implementation whereby practitioners can add/subtract water allocation elements to **assess those that might fit and apply to them their specific context**).

## LIVING DOCUMENT

The Handbook in terms of its development and drafting with inputs, review and feedback should be seen as a **living document that is constantly evolving**. Drafts and especially the case studies will be **subject to revision and ongoing assessment** by different countries / institutions whereby the **final Handbook will reflect these consultative processes**.

## ADVICE OF EXPERT GROUP

**Composition:** ≈35 experts, chosen for global diversity & balance. Technical inputs, review, advice.

**3 Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> = 21 October 2019 / 2<sup>nd</sup> = 30-31 March 2020 / 3<sup>rd</sup> = 20-21 October 2020.

# Contents of the Global Handbook



- I Introduction
- II Issues Water Allocation Can Address
- III Limitations to Water Allocation & Broader Approaches
- IV Principles and Objectives of Transboundary Water Allocation
- V Cooperative Frameworks for Transboundary Water Allocation
- VI Knowledge Base for Transboundary Water Allocation
- VII Operationalizing Transboundary Water Allocation: Processes, Mechanisms & Examples
- VIII Lessons Learned & Main Messages
- IX Conclusions

**CASE STUDIES:** over 30 case studies worldwide selected for inclusion to highlight global practices  
-> Key features written into Handbook to illustrate elements of transboundary water allocation  
-> 1page profiles written/reviewed/approved by the co-riparian states will be listed in the ANNEX

# Timeline for development & publication until MoP9



# Key milestones for review, feedback, inputs



## Expert Group Meetings

- 1<sup>st</sup> on 21 October 2019; 2<sup>nd</sup> on 30-31 March 2020; 3<sup>rd</sup> on 20-21 October 2020

## Regional Projects for Central Asia and Regional Workshops for the Handbook

- 1<sup>st</sup> for Central Asia on 22-23 Sept; 2<sup>nd</sup> for Europe & Neighbourhood on 5-6 Oct
- SESSION: MENA Workshop on Transboundary Water Cooperation on 3-4 March 2020

## Regular Meetings under the Water Convention

- Working Group on IWRM & Bureau Meetings: Oct 2019; Sept 2020; 26-30 Apr 2021
- Working Group on Monitoring & Assessment: Dec 2019
- **Future PoW** - Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus: 22-23 Oct 2020

## Meeting of the Parties

- Launch the publication at 9<sup>th</sup> session & its adoption on 29 Sept – 1 Oct 2021 in Tallinn, Estonia

# Key contacts, roles & responsibilities



## Water Convention Secretariat (Remy Kinna & Annukka Lipponen)

- Overall Handbook coordination, convene meetings, collecting case studies, finalise drafts
- Emails: [remy.kinna@un.org](mailto:remy.kinna@un.org) & [annukka.Lipponen@un.org](mailto:annukka.Lipponen@un.org)

## Hungary (Peter Kovacs)

- Country leading this activity in Programme of Work, consult & advise secretariat

## International Water Assessment Centre (Zhanar Mautanova & Peep Mardiste)

- 2 projects on water allocation within Central Asia & neighbours feeding into global Handbook

## Handbook Project Team (Antti Belinskij, Suvi Sojamo, Tuula Honkonen & Lauri Ahopelto)

- University of Eastern Finland and the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
- Drafting Handbook chapters, coordinate inputs/reviews, integrating case studies



# Water allocation: future Programme of Work



## Water Convention Programme of Work (2022-2024)

- Programme of work to be read together with strategy for the implementation at global level

## What would be priority work on Transboundary Water Allocation moving forward?

- We need your inputs on what to focus on for transboundary water allocation
- Should look to build upon the Handbook launch and past activities e.g. 2017 global workshop

## Discussion on Day 2 of Nexus Task Force (23 Oct)

- **Future PoW** - Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus: 22-23 Oct 2020

## Survey for next PoW can be shared with you all, welcome your inputs

- Objective: Online survey aims at informing the development of the future PoW 2022-2024  
Structure: based on the current POW and its programme areas
- **DEADLINE: 3 weeks after launch of the survey**
- **Submission of the draft PoW on 15 February 2021, discussed 26-28 April at the IWRM WG**

# Water allocation: Possible areas of work



## Communications materials

- Developing a policy brief with short messages and diagrams based on the Handbook

## Online resources & tools

- Developing the Handbook into an e-Book with links to websites and resources online
- Developing the Handbook into an online web-based portal that can be regularly updated

## Integrated approaches & regional events

- Integrating the transboundary water allocation activities with those under, for example, the Nexus programme of work and then adapting for integrated regional capacity-building events

## QUESTION FOR THE NEXUS TASK FORCE

What are your ideas for developing the transboundary water allocation work?

- Please share any ideas with us!

# Questions & Feedback?

Additional information on the Water Convention's work on transboundary water allocation:  
<https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/water/areas-of-work-of-the-convention/water-allocation-in-a-transboundary-context.html>

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