



SDGs in the Environmental Policy: prevention of water pollution, transboundary cooperation and resilience to climate change

The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

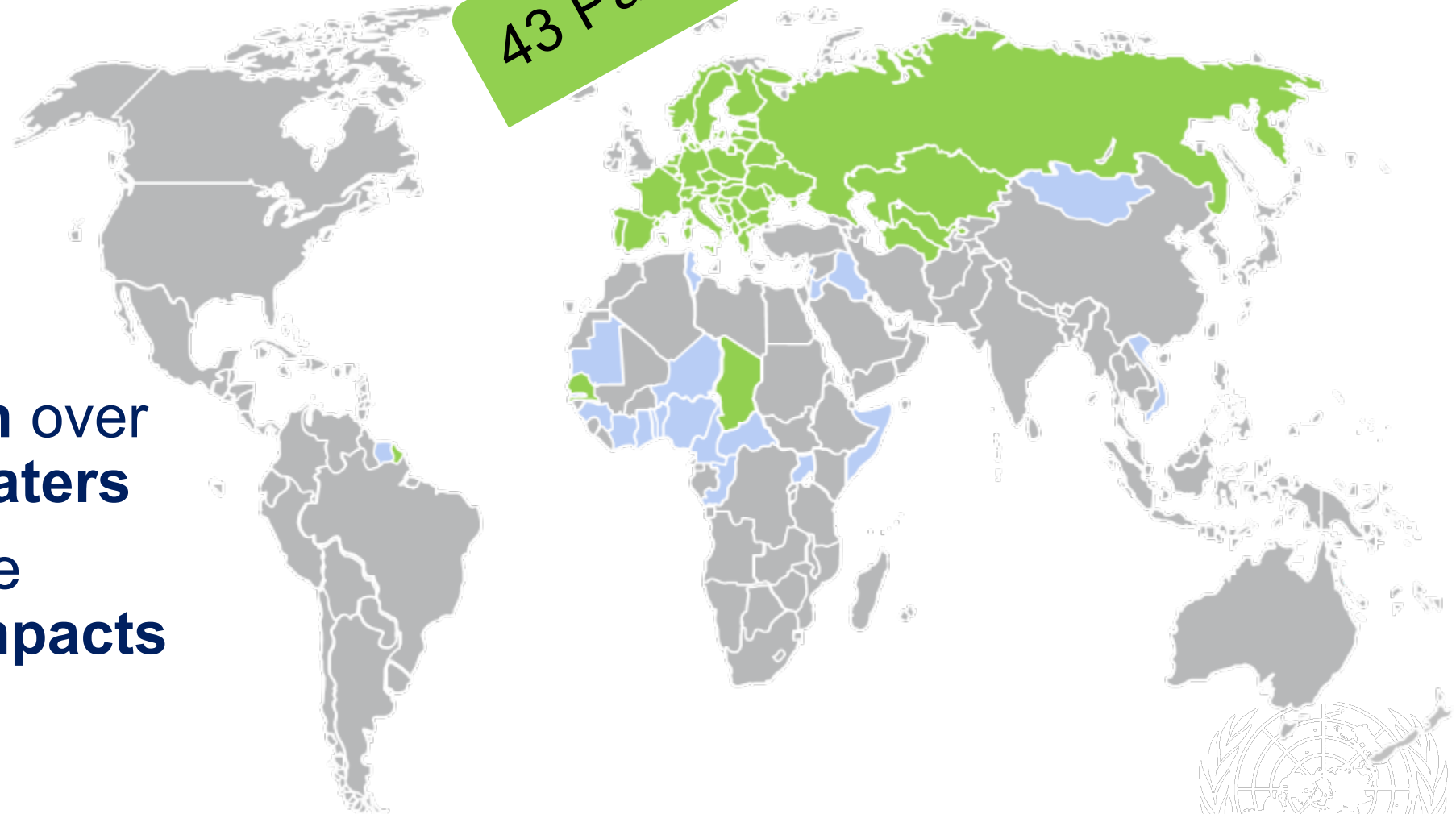
The Water Convention

43 Parties

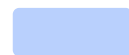
Objectives:

foster **cooperation** over
transboundary waters

prevent and reduce
transboundary impacts



Parties to the Water Convention

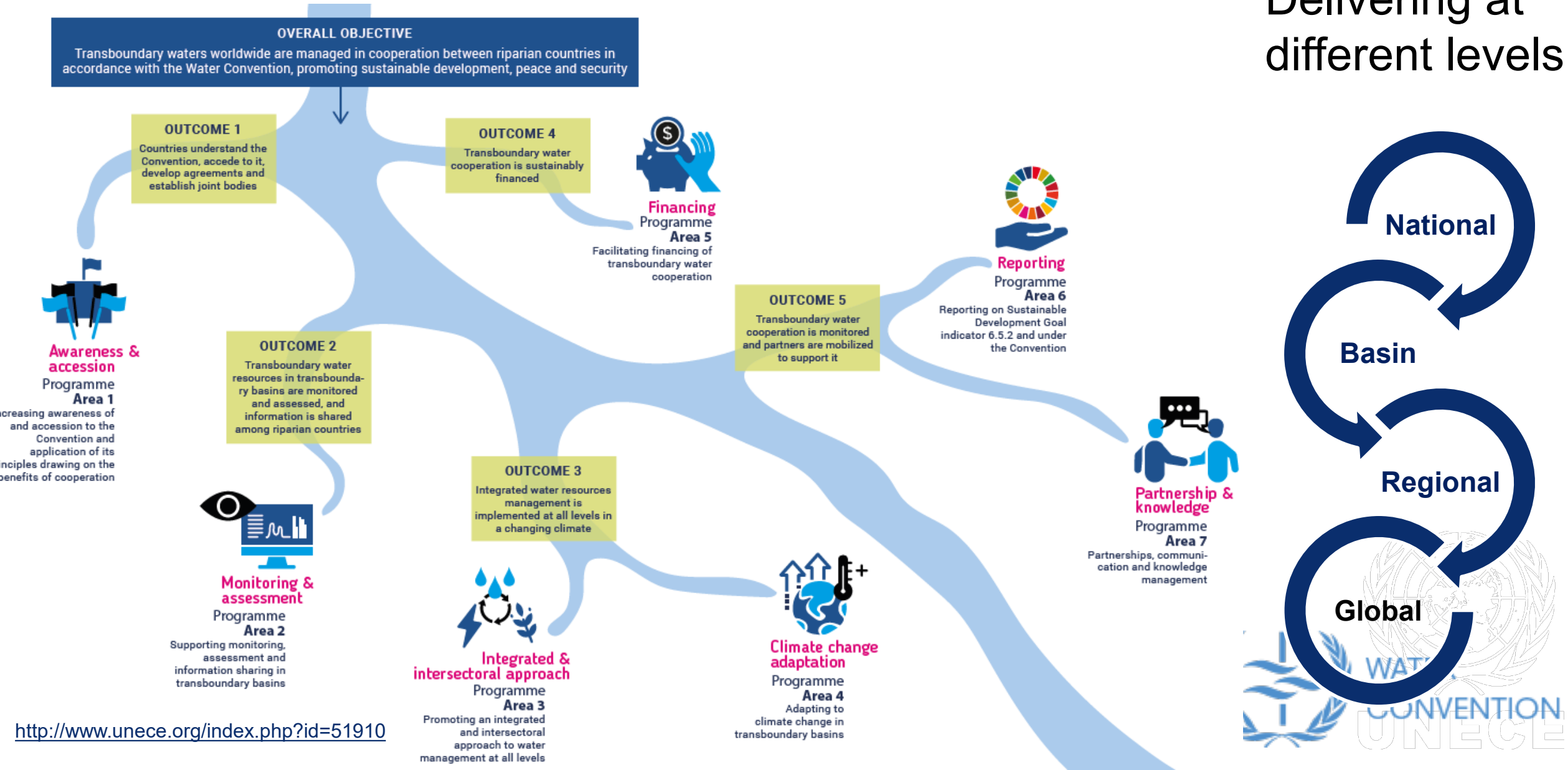


Countries which expressed interest to accede to the Convention



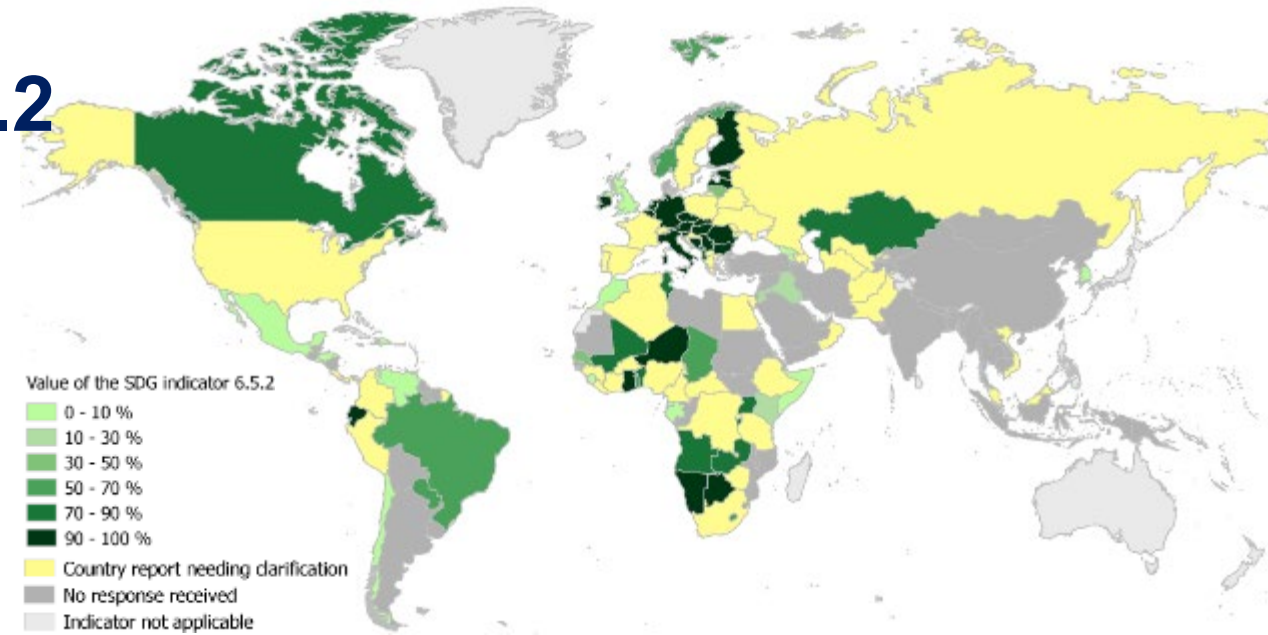
Water Convention Programme of Work 2019-2021

Delivering at different levels:



Results of the reporting under the Convention and SDG indicator 6.5.2

- 107 out of 153 countries responded
- 38 out of 41 Parties responded
- UNECE region – agreement/other arrangements and a joint body
 - 15 basins – arrangements do not cover the entire basin
 - 29 basins – no arrangements on transboundary aquifers
- Many tasks and activities within the Water Convention well covered by joint bodies
 - But: maintenance of pollution inventories, setting of emission limits, climate change adaptation, and basin-wide or joint public participation



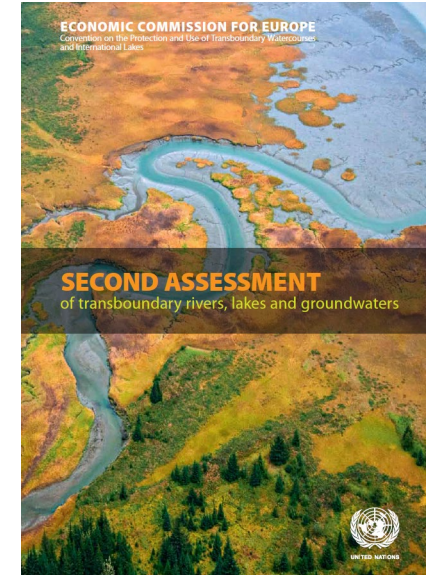
Transboundary agreements

- **Global workshop on the development of transboundary agreements**
1-2 April 2020, Geneva
 - How to start cooperation?
 - How to develop new agreements?
 - How to revise/amend existing agreements?
 - Case-studies?
- **Checklist for developing and revising agreements**

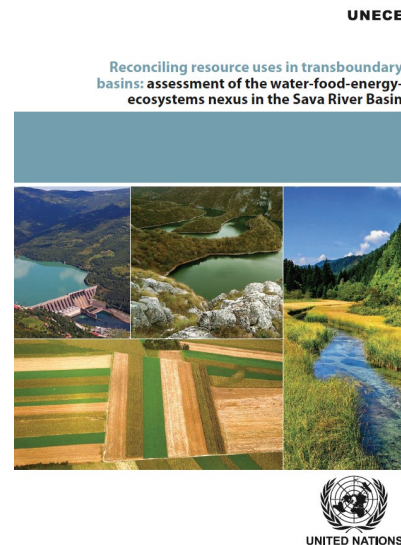


Monitoring, assessment and information sharing

- Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment
- Guidelines on Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Groundwaters
- Second Assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters (2011)
- Nexus assessment: Sava basin (2016)
 - flow and sediment management
 - intersectoral dialogue: ecological and water status and navigability
 - coordinated management upstream and downstream



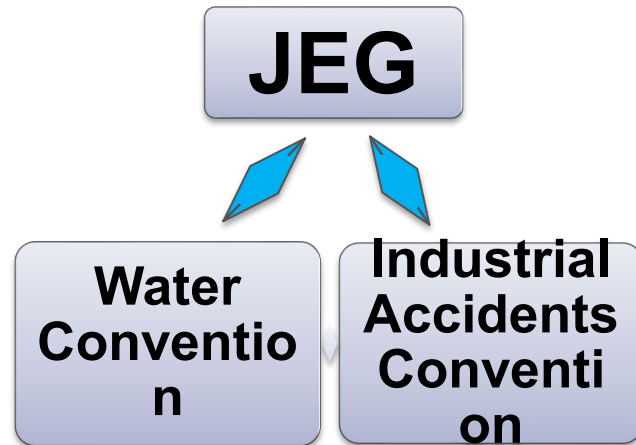
<http://www.unece.org/?id=26343>



<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=45241>



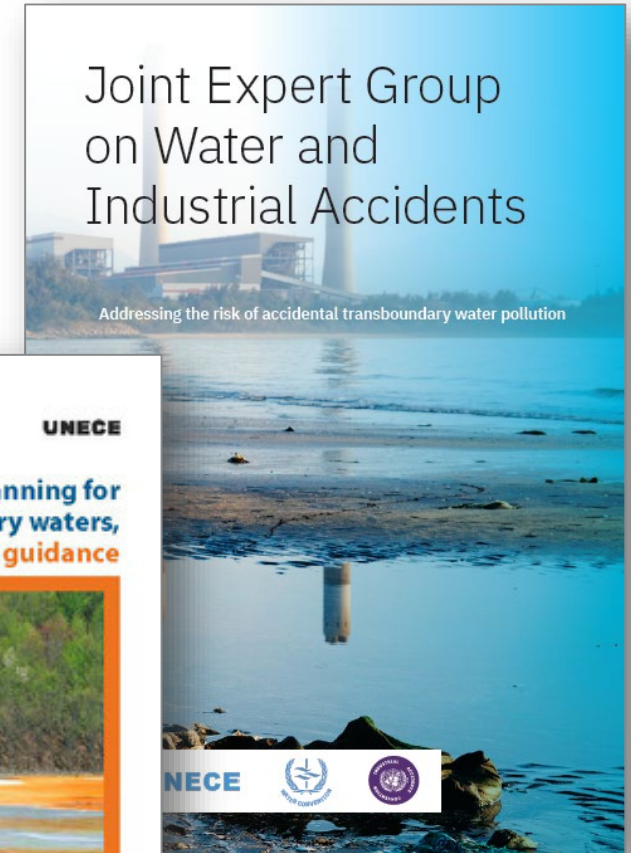
The Joint Expert Group (JEG)



⇒ **Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents**

- ⇒ 2018 – JEG workplan includes strengthened cooperation with river basin commissions
- ⇒ Seminar in November 2019 in Budapest
- ⇒ UNECE Safety Guidelines (oil terminals, firefighting water retention, pipelines, tailings management facilities)

www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/industrial-accidents/publications.html



Climate Change Adaptation

- **Task Force on Water and Climate**
 - Next meeting on 30 September 2020
- **Global workshops on climate change adaptation**
 - Water allocation and water scarcity in 2017
 - Next – preliminary 1-2 October 2020
 - Potential topic is climate, water, disasters and health
- **Global Network of Basins working on climate change adaptation (the Dniester and the Neman)**



Words into Action Guidelines Implementation Guide for Addressing Water-Related Disasters and Transboundary Cooperation

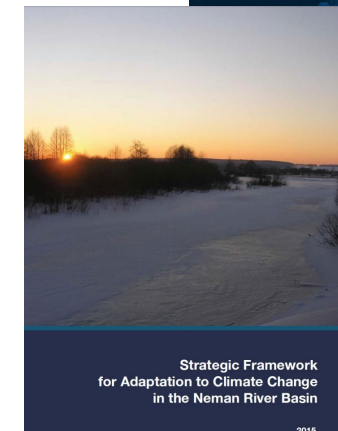
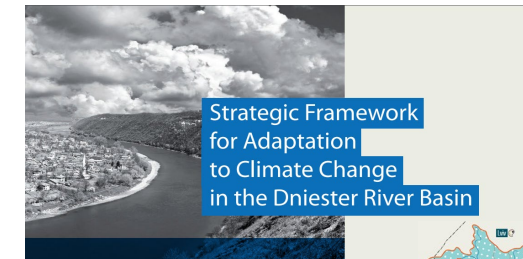
Integrating disaster risk management with water management and climate change adaptation



In support of the
SENDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

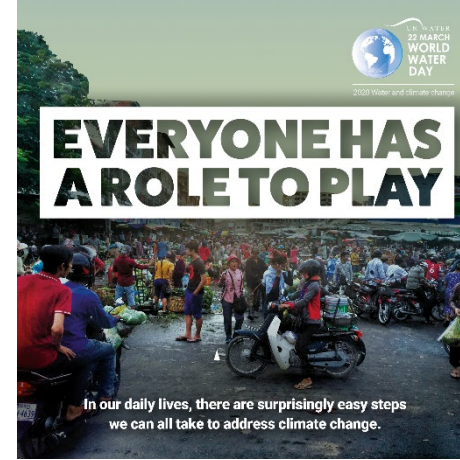
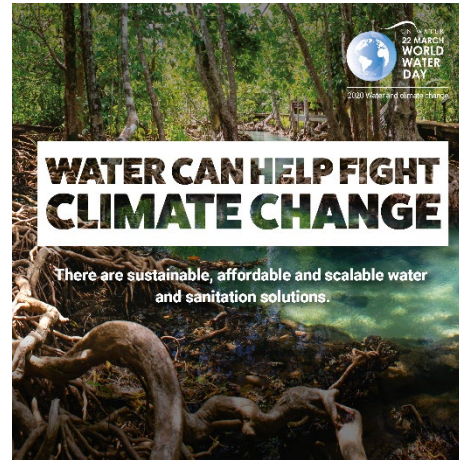


<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51488>



Climate Change Adaptation

- Global policy processes (UNFCCC, UNDRR, SDGs, etc.)
 - COP 25 and COP 26
 - World Water Day on 22 March (<https://www.worldwaterday.org/>)



Climate Change and Water
UN-Water Policy Brief



<https://www.unwater.org/unwater-policy-brief-on-climate-change-and-water/>

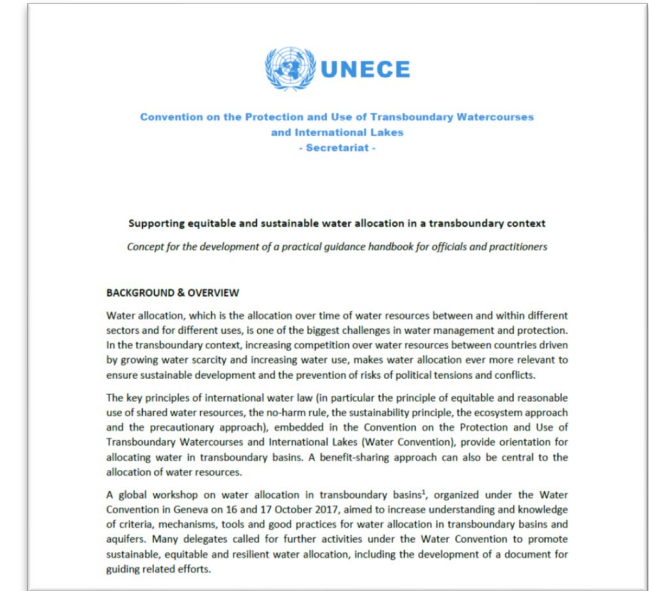


Handbook on Transboundary Water Allocation

- **Practical guide** for government & practitioners.
- **Approaches**, frameworks, tools & **case studies**.
- **Options** for practitioners to consider if any fit their own needs and modality.

MAIN ELEMENTS & TIMELINE

- **Expert Group**
- **Regional workshops**
 - 5-6 May 2020, Budapest
- **Final version** at the next MoP in Nov 2021.



2020

DATE AND VENUE	MEETING
1-2 April 2020, Geneva	Global workshop on transboundary agreements
15-17 June 2020, Geneva	Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management
30 September 2020, Geneva	Eleventh meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate
1-2 October 2020, Geneva	Global workshop on climate change adaptation
16-18 December 2020, Geneva	Global workshop on financing transboundary basin development

<https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/water/envwatermeetings.html#/>





Thanks for your attention!

Water Convention Secretariat Contact:

**Palais des Nations, Geneva,
Switzerland**

Water.convention@un.org

For more information:

<https://www.unece.org/env/water/>

