

Reporting on global SDG indicator 6.5.2
TEMPLATE of the second cycle for reporting

Content of the template

The template is divided into four parts:

- Section I - Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2
- Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins
- Section III - General information on transboundary water management at the national level
- Section IV - Final questions

Country name: Netherlands

I. Calculation of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2

Methodology

1. Using the information gathered in section II, the information gathered in this section allows for the calculation of Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.
2. The step-by-step monitoring methodology for indicator 6.5.2, developed by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of UN-Water, should be referred to for details on the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation.^a
3. The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary basins (river and lake basins and aquifers) that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the area obtained by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both river and lake basins, and aquifers).
4. Transboundary basins are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.
5. An “arrangement for water cooperation” is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.
6. For an arrangement to be considered “operational” all the following criteria need to be in place in practice:
 - (a) There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g., a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation (criterion 1);
 - (b) There are regular (at least once per year) formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings (either at the political or technical level) (criterion 2);
 - (c) Joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan, or an action plan have been agreed upon by the riparian countries (criterion 3);
 - (d) There is a regular (at least once per year) exchange of data and information (criterion 4).

Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

7. Please list in the tables below the transboundary basins (rivers and lakes and aquifers) in your country’s territory and provide the following information for each of them:
 - (a) The country/ies with which the basin is shared;
 - (b) The surface area of the basin (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in square kilometres (km²));
 - (c) Whether a map and/or a geographical information system (GIS) shapefile of the basin has been provided;
 - (d) Whether there is an arrangement in force for the basin;
 - (e) The verification of each of the four criteria to assess operability;

^a Available from the UN-Water website: <https://www.sdg6monitoring.org/indicators/target-65/indicators652/> (updated version “2020”).

(f) The surface area of the basin within the territory of your country which is covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria.

8. In case an operational arrangement is in place only for a sub-basin or a portion of a basin, please list this sub-basin just after the transboundary basin it is part of. In case there is an operational arrangement for the whole basin, do not list sub-basins in the table below.

Table 1
Transboundary river or lake basin (please add rows as needed)

<i>Name of transboundary river or lake basin/sub-basin</i>	<i>It is a basin or a sub-basin?^b</i>	<i>Countries shared with</i>	<i>Surface area of the basin/sub-basin (in km²) within the territory of the country</i>	<i>Map and/or GIS shapefile provided (yes/no)</i>	<i>Covered by an arrangement (entirely, partly, no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 1 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 2 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 3 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 4 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Surface area of the basin/sub-basin (in km²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country</i>
Rhine	basin	AT, BE, CH, DE, FL, FR, IT, LU, NL	28,917	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	28,917
Meuse	basin	BE, DE, FR, LU, NL	7,474	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7,474
Scheldt	basin	BE, FR, NL	3,263	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	3,263
Ems	basin	DE, NL	2,478	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	2,478
(A) Total surface area of transboundary basins/sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km ²) (do not double count sub-basins)										42,132
(B) Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km ²) (do not double count sub-basins)			42,132							

^b List sub-basins after the basin they belong to.

Table 2

Transboundary aquifers (please add rows as needed)

<i>Name of the transboundary aquifer</i>	<i>Countries shared with</i>	<i>Surface area of the aquifer^c (in km²) within the territory of the country</i>	<i>Map and/ or GIS shapefile provided (yes/no)</i>	<i>Covered by an aquifer specific arrangement (entirely, partly, no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Covered within an arrangement not specific to the aquifer^d (entirely, partly, no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 1 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 2 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 3 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 4 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Surface area of the aquifer (in km²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country</i>
Rhine	AT, BE, CH, DE, FL, FR, IT, LU, NL	23,517	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	23,517
Meuse	BE, DE, FR, LU, NL	10,119	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	10,119
Scheldt	BE, FR, NL	3,980	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	3,980
Ems	DE, NL	2,313	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	2,313
(C) Sub-total: surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km²)										39,929
(D) Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km²)		39,929								

^c For a transboundary aquifer, the extent is derived from the aquifer system delineation which is commonly done relying on information of the subsurface (notably the extent of geological formations). As a general rule, the delineation of aquifer systems is based on the delineation of the extent of the hydraulically connected water-bearing geological formations. Aquifer systems are three-dimensional objects and the aquifer area taken into account is the projection on the land surface of the system. Ideally, when different aquifer systems not hydraulically connected are vertically superposed, the different relevant projected areas are to be considered separately, unless the different aquifer systems are managed conjunctively.

^d In the text of the agreement or arrangement or in the practice.

Indicator value for the country

Surface waters:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes covered by an operational arrangement:

$$A/B \times 100 = 42,132 / 42,132 \times 100 = 100\%$$

Aquifers:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by an operational arrangement:

$$C/D \times 100 = 39,929 / 39,929 \times 100 = 100\%$$

Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins covered by an operational arrangement:

$$((A + C)/(B + D)) \times 100 = ((42,132 + 39,929) / (42,132 + 39,929)) \times 100 = 100\%$$

Spatial information

If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e., “transboundary basins”) is available, please consider attaching them. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in GIS should be sent.



Figure 1: Netherlands EU-WFD River basin districts and Groundwater bodies RBMP 2015-2021

Additional information

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

¹ Water quality portal of the ‘Informatiehuis Water’
<http://www.informatiehuiswater.nl/pagina/producten/waterkwaliteitsportaal.html>

Does your country have transboundary agreements or arrangements for the protection and/or management of transboundary waters (i.e., rivers, lakes or groundwater), whether bilateral or multilateral?

Yes /No

If yes, list the bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements (listing for each of the countries concerned):

1839 Treaty of London

1868 The Mannheim Document

1960 Ems-Dollard treaty on maintenance of the fairway and other shipping issues (NL-DE)

1960 Treaty on the improvement of the canal between Terneuzen (NL) and Gent (BE)

1963 Treaty on the connection between Scheldt and Rhine rivers (NL-BE)

1963 Treaty on the protection of the Rhine River against pollution

1976 Rhine treaty on chemicals

1976 Chlorides Convention

1991 Additional Protocol to the Chlorides Convention

1992 Convention on the protection and use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Helsinki Convention)

1992 Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention)

1994 Treaty on the protection of the Scheldt (NL-BE-FR)

1994 Treaty on the protection of the Meuse (NL-BE-FR-LU-DE)

1995 Treaty on the discharge of the Meuse River (NL-Flanders)

1996 Ems-Dollard environmental protocol

1996 Convention on the collection, deposit and reception of waste generated during navigation on the Rhine and other inland waterways (CDNI)

1997 UN Convention on the Law of the Non Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (New York Convention)

1999 Convention for the Protection of the Rhine

2000 EU Water Framework Directive

2002 Treaty of Ghent to establish the International Meuse Commission and the International Scheldt Commission

2002/2007 Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Lower-Saxony and Nordrhein-Westfalen in which they agree to implement the Water Framework Directive (summer 2002) and the Floods Directive (March 17th 2009) in the river basin of the Ems

2005 Treaty on cooperation in policy and management of the Scheldt estuary

2007 EU Floods Directive

II. Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar.² In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements³ or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

² In principle, section II should be submitted for every transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, in the country, but States may decide to group basins in which their share is small or leave out basins in which their share is very minor, e.g., below 1 per cent.

³ In section II, "agreement" covers all kinds of treaties, conventions and agreements ensuring cooperation in the field of transboundary waters. Section II can also be completed for other types of arrangements, such as memorandums of understanding.

Name of the transboundary basin,-sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: Rhine River

List of the riparian States: AT, BE, CH, DE, FL, FR, IT, LU, NL

In the case of an aquifer, what is the nature of the aquifer and its relation with the river or lake basin:

Unconfined aquifer connected to a river or lake

Unconfined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water

Confined aquifer connected to surface water

Confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water

Other

Please describe: [fill in]

Unknown

Percentage of your country's territory within the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: 17%

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force

Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force

Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s)

Convention on the Protection of the Rhine, Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations for the Cooperation of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) with the Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine, EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Floods Directive.

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement or arrangement

If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation: [fill in]

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?
(Please list):

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Swiss Confederation, and the European Community (ICPR) and Governments of the Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Region Wallonia and the Italian Republic (Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine)

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

Yes /No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement: No transboundary aquifers in the Dutch part of the Rhine are defined.

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| All water uses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| A single water use or sector | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Several water uses or sectors | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):

Water uses or sectors

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Transport (e.g., navigation) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Households | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Energy: hydropower and other energy types | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fisheries | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tourism | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nature protection | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please list): [fill in] | |

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Institutional cooperation (joint bodies) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation on planned measures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mutual assistance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Topics of cooperation

-
- Joint vision and management objectives
 - Joint significant water management issues
 - Navigation
 - Human health
 - Environmental protection (ecosystem)
 - Water quality
 - Water quantity or allocation
 - Cooperation in addressing floods
 - Cooperation in addressing droughts
 - Climate change adaptation

Monitoring and exchange

- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange
- Joint monitoring
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Common early warning and alarm procedures
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Development of shared infrastructure

Other (*please list*): Concerning navigation cooperation exists between the ICPR and the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- Lack of financial resources
- Insufficient human capacity
- Insufficient technical capacity
- Tense diplomatic relations

Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement

No significant difficulties

Other (*please describe*):

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of ICPR has been a tremendous improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the water of the Rhine. This has been achieved through both measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures among other through improving the ecological connectivity and spawning grounds. Also, the flood management has substantially improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Currently, coordination on drought issues and general climate change is being developed. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust between the parties.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

http://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente_en/Convention_on_the_Protection_of_the_Rhine_12.04.99-EN_01.pdf,

[http://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente_en/IKSR-CC-](http://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente_en/IKSR-CC-EN_30.06.10.pdf)

[EN_30.06.10.pdf](http://www.iksr.org/en/international-cooperation/legal-basis/convention/index.html) and <http://www.iksr.org/en/international-cooperation/legal-basis/convention/index.html>

3. Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

Yes /No

If no, why not? (please explain): [fill in]

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) If there is a joint body or mechanism, which kind of joint body or mechanism (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism? (*Please list*):

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Swiss Confederation, and the European Community (ICPR) as well as Governments of the

Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Region Wallonia and the Italian Republic (Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine)

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism? (please list): [fill in]

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (please describe): [fill in]

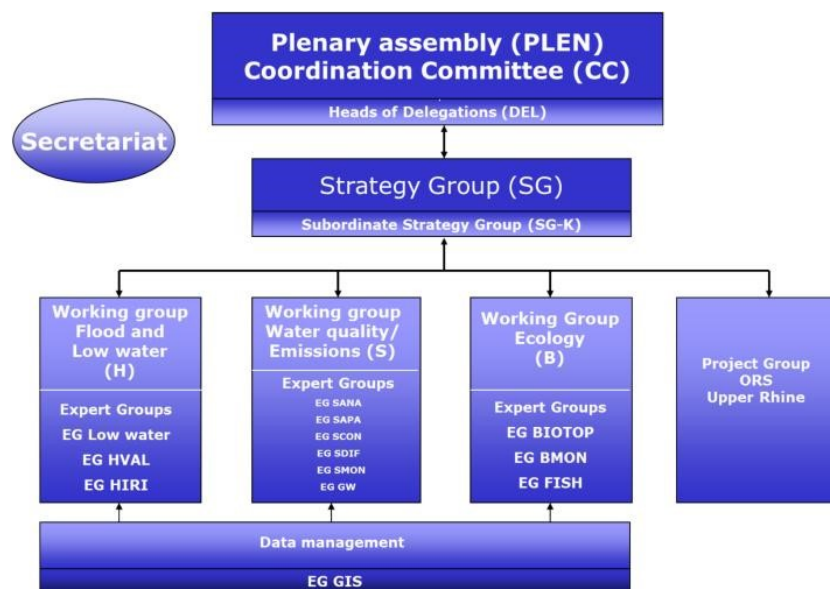
(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features (please tick the ones applicable)?

A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe): joint secretariat

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):



Other features (please list): [fill in]

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?⁴

Identification of pollution sources

Data collection and exchange

Joint monitoring

Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

⁴ This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

-
- Setting emission limits
 - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
 - Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
 - Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
 - Surveillance and early warning of water related disease
 - Water allocation and/or flow regulation
 - Policy development
 - Control of implementation
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
 - Settling of differences and conflicts
 - Consultations on planned measures
 - Exchange of information on best available technology
 - Participation in transboundary EIA
 - Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
 - Management of shared infrastructure
 - Addressing hydromorphological alterations
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Joint communication strategy
 - Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
 - Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
 - Capacity-building

Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

Governance issues

Please describe, if any:

In general, challenges relate to aligning ICPR plans and activities with changing national policies and programmes, and coming to agreement on newly arising issues and setting the agenda.

Unexpected planning delays

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of resources

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body or mechanism?
see above

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

Yes /No

If yes, please give details. If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism? Some of the relevant coastal states are party to the joint body (France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany). Contacts exist with OSPAR Convention and Baltic Sea Convention.

4. Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details:

Internationally coordinated Rhine river basin management plan 2015
(<http://www.iksr.org/en/water-framework-directive/river-basin-management-plan-2015/index.html>)

Internationally coordinated Rhine river flood risk management plan 2015
(<http://www.iksr.org/en/floods-directive/flood-risk-management-plan/index.html>)

Programme Rhine 2040 – The Rhine and its catchment: Sustainable managed and Climate-resilient
(<https://www.iksr.org/en/rhine-ministerial-conference-on-13-february-in-amsterdam>)

Sediment Management Plan
(http://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente_en/Reports/Bericht_175e.pdf and
<http://www.iksr.org/en/topics/pollution/sediments/index.html>)

5. How is the transboundary basin,–sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction.

Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

Water-related species and habitats protection

Other measures (*please describe*):

Improve river connectivity

6. (a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

- (b) If yes, how often:

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

- (c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

The various working groups regularly exchange information on specific topics. Yearly, reports are developed about the agreed joint monitoring.

- (d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions

Research activities and application of best available techniques

Emission monitoring data

Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts

Point source pollution sources

Diffuse pollution sources

Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)

Water abstractions

Climatological information

Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange: [fill in]

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the web address: <http://iksr.bafg.de/iksr/>

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

Frequency of exchanges

Timing of exchanges

Comparability of data and information

Limited spatial coverage

Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

Other (*please describe*):

Largely technicalities like frequency, metadata, number format, etc.

Additional comments: [fill in]

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? (*please describe*):

Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system, improved understanding of other countries' interests.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	<i>Hydrological</i>	<i>Ecological</i>	<i>Chemical</i>
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in part of the basin please describe [fill in]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on monitoring stations that are part of the network

Joint and agreed methodologies

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the methodologies to be used

Joint sampling

Please describe: [fill in]

Common monitoring network

Please describe: [fill in]

Common agreed parameters

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the parameters to be included

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters, that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Deciding upon parameters and methodologies, and assuring comparability of data.

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Annual progress reports (<http://www.iksr.org/en/documentsarchive/progress-reports/index.html>)

9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

Yes /No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied? based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive sets for priority substances and priority hazardous substances, and Rhine river specific substances.

10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

Notification and communication

-
- Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- No measures
- If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]
11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?
- Notification and communication
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- No measures
- If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]
12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?
 Yes /No
- If yes, please provide a brief summary:*
 discussed within the framework of the EU Floods Directive
13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
 Yes /No
- If yes, how? (please tick all applicable)*
- Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body or mechanism
- Stakeholders have an advisory role in the joint body
- Stakeholders have a decision-making role in the joint body
- If yes, please specify the stakeholders for the joint body or mechanism:*
 [fill in]
- Intergovernmental organizations
- Private sectors organizations or associations
- Water user groups or associations
- Academic or research institutions
- Other non-governmental organizations
- General public
- Other (please specify): [fill in]
- Availability of information to the public

Consultation on planned measures or river basin
management plans⁵



Public involvement



Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

⁵ Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

Name of the transboundary basin,-sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: Meuse River

List of the riparian States: BE, DE, FR, LU, NL

In the case of an aquifer, what is the nature of the aquifer and its relation with the river or lake basin:

- Unconfined aquifer connected to a river or lake
- Unconfined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Confined aquifer connected to surface water
- Confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Other
- Please describe: [fill in]
- Unknown

Percentage of your country's territory within the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: 22%

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s) Maasverdrag (Verdrag van Gent)/Meuse treaty (Ghent treaty), Treaty on the discharge of the Meuse River (NL-Flanders), EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Floods Directive.

- Agreement or arrangement is under development
- No agreement or arrangement

If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation: [fill in]

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?
Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

- Yes /No

Additional explanations? The questions are answered with regard to the Ghent treaty.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?
(Please list):

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, The Kingdom of Belgium, The Brussels capital region of Belgium, the Flemish region of Belgium, the Walloon region of Belgium, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

Yes /No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement:

No transboundary aquifers in the Dutch part of the Meuse are defined

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| All water uses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| A single water use or sector | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Several water uses or sectors | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):

Water uses or sectors

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Transport (e.g., navigation) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Households | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Energy: hydropower and other energy types | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fisheries | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tourism | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nature protection | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please list): [fill in] | |

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Institutional cooperation (joint bodies) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation on planned measures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mutual assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Topics of cooperation

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Joint vision and management objectives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint significant water management issues | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

-
- Navigation
 - Human health
 - Environmental protection (ecosystem)
 - Water quality
 - Water quantity or allocation
 - Cooperation in addressing floods
 - Cooperation in addressing droughts
 - Climate change adaptation

Monitoring and exchange

- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange
- Joint monitoring
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Common early warning and alarm procedures
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Development of shared infrastructure
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- Lack of financial resources
- Insufficient human capacity
- Insufficient technical capacity
- Tense diplomatic relations
- Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- No significant difficulties
- Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

Roof reports for EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive are produced, a joint monitoring network is established and coordinated action in case of emergencies (floods or spills of pollutants). Keys to the achievement are strong support from several of the parties and international obligations from EU side.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/ACCORDS/accord-gand_n.pdf and
http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/ACCORDS/accord-charleville_n.pdf

3. Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

Yes /No

If no, why not? (please explain): [fill in]

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) If there is a joint body or mechanism, which kind of joint body or mechanism (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism? (*Please list*):

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, The Kingdom of Belgium, The Brussels capital region of Belgium, the Flemish region of Belgium, the Walloon region of Belgium, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism? (*please list*):

No

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (*please describe*):

All States are member

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features (please tick the ones applicable)?

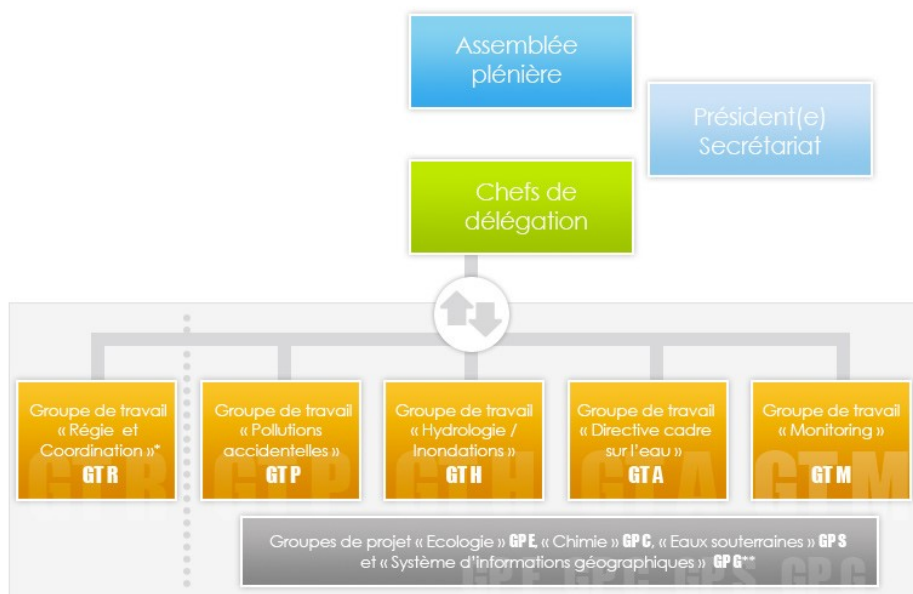
A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):

joint secretariat

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):



Other features (please list): [fill in]

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?⁶

Identification of pollution sources

Data collection and exchange

Joint monitoring

Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

Setting emission limits

Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning

⁶ This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

-
- and alarm procedures
 - Surveillance and early warning of water related disease
 - Water allocation and/or flow regulation
 - Policy development
 - Control of implementation
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
 - Settling of differences and conflicts
 - Consultations on planned measures
 - Exchange of information on best available technology
 - Participation in transboundary EIA
 - Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
 - Management of shared infrastructure
 - Addressing hydromorphological alterations
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Joint communication strategy
 - Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
 - Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
 - Capacity-building
 - Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- Governance issues

Please describe, if any:

In general, cooperation requires time. Agreement on issues to tackle, methodologies to implement, procedures to follow, etc. is only slowly reached because it involves different governments with different interests.

- Unexpected planning delays

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

- Lack of resources

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

- Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

- Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

-
- Unexpected extreme events
- Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]
- (i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?
 Yes /No
- If yes, how frequently does it meet?
- More than once per year
- Once per year
- Less than once per year
- (j) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body or mechanism?
 Roof reports for EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive are produced, a joint monitoring network is established and protocols for coordinated action in case of emergencies (floods or spills of pollutants). Keys to the achievement are strong support from several of the parties and international obligations from EU side.
- (k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?
 Yes /No
- If yes, please give details. If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?*
- The relevant coastal states are party to the joint body (France, Belgium, Netherlands). Contacts exist with OSPAR Convention and Baltic Sea Convention.
4. Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
 Yes /No
- If yes, please provide further details:*
- Roof reports for EU WFD (http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/Rapport-faitier-dec-2015/Rapport_faitier_Maqua_15_1rev11_n_.pdf?ext=.pdf) and EU FD (http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/DI/PGRI%20-%20d%e3%a9c%202015/pr-PGRI_Minond_15_4rev2_n.pdf?ext=.pdf)
5. How is the transboundary basin,–sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?
- Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction.
- Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms,
heavy metals

Water-related species and habitats protection

Other measures (*please describe*):

6. (a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

- (b) If yes, how often:

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

- (c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

The various working groups regularly exchange information on specific topics. Yearly, reports are developed about the agreed joint monitoring.

- (d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions

Research activities and application of best available techniques

Emission monitoring data

Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts

Point source pollution sources

Diffuse pollution sources

Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)

Water abstractions

Climatological information

Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange: [fill in]

- (e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

- (f) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the web address:

- (g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?
- Frequency of exchanges
- Timing of exchanges
- Comparability of data and information
- Limited spatial coverage
- Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- Other (*please describe*): *Largely technicalities like frequency, metadata, number format, etc.*
- Additional comments: [fill in]

- (h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? (*please describe*):

Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system, improved understanding of the functioning of the water system as a whole and other countries' interests.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

- (a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	<i>Hydrological</i>	<i>Ecological</i>	<i>Chemical</i>
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in part of the basin please describe [fill in]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- (b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on monitoring stations that are part of the network

Joint and agreed methodologies

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the methodologies to be used

Joint sampling

Please describe: [fill in]

Common monitoring network

Please describe: [fill in]

Common agreed parameters

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the parameters to be included

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters, that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Deciding upon parameters and methodologies, and assuring comparability of data. Timely delivery of data.

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Results and assessment of the monitoring network (http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/PUBLICATIONS_Rapport-faitier-monitor_progr-surveillance/Brochure_RMh_2011_2013_Mmonitor_15_10rev4_n_.pdf)

9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

Yes /No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive sets for priority substances and priority hazardous substances, and Meuse river specific substances.

10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

Joint climate change adaptation strategy

Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide a brief summary: [fill in]

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (please tick all applicable)

Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body or mechanism

Stakeholders have an advisory role in the joint body

Stakeholders have a decision-making role in the joint body

If yes, please specify the stakeholders for the joint body or mechanism: [fill in]

Intergovernmental organizations

Private sectors organizations or associations

Water user groups or associations

Academic or research institutions

Other non-governmental organizations

General public

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

Availability of information to the public

Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans⁷

Public involvement

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

⁷ Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: Scheldt River

List of the riparian States: BE (regions of Flanders, Brussels, Wallonia and the federal government), FR, NL

In the case of an aquifer, what is the nature of the aquifer and its relation with the river or lake basin:

- Unconfined aquifer connected to a river or lake
- Unconfined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Confined aquifer connected to surface water
- Confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Other
- Please describe: [fill in]
- Unknown

Percentage of your country's territory within the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: 6%

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s) Scheldeverdrag (Verdrag van Gent)/Scheldt treaty (Ghent treaty), Treaty on cooperation in policy and management of the Scheldt estuary, EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Floods Directive.

- Agreement or arrangement is under development
- No agreement or arrangement

If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation: [fill in]

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? The questions are answered with regard to the Ghent treaty.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?
(Please list):

The Kingdom of Belgium, The Brussels capital region of Belgium, the Flemish region of Belgium, the Walloon region of Belgium, the French Republic and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

Yes /No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement: There is one transboundary aquifer: NLGWSC0005

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

All water uses

A single water use or sector

Several water uses or sectors

If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):

Water uses or sectors

Industry

Agriculture

Transport (e.g., navigation)

Households

Energy: hydropower and other energy types

Fisheries

Tourism

Nature protection

Other (please list): [fill in]

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution

Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)

Consultation on planned measures

Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

Joint vision and management objectives

-
- Joint significant water management issues
 - Navigation
 - Human health
 - Environmental protection (ecosystem)
 - Water quality
 - Water quantity or allocation
 - Cooperation in addressing floods
 - Cooperation in addressing droughts
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Monitoring and exchange**
 - Joint assessments
 - Data collection and exchange
 - Joint monitoring
 - Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
 - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
 - Common early warning and alarm procedures
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on planned measures
 - Joint planning and management**
 - Development of joint regulations on specific topics
 - Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
 - Management of shared infrastructure
 - Development of shared infrastructure
 - Other (*please list*): Concerning environmental protection cooperation exists between the ISC and the Flemish-Dutch Scheldt Commission. Navigation is subject in the Permanent Commission of supervision on the navigation of the Scheldt [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- Lack of financial resources
- Insufficient human capacity
- Insufficient technical capacity
- Tense diplomatic relations

Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement

No significant difficulties

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system, improved understanding of other countries' water management situation, problems and measures taken. Common monitoring network on water quality. Good, trustworthy multi-lateral contacts and easy information and data exchange when needed. Learning lessons from each others methods and measures. Better understanding of the ecosystem Scheldt due to information about the complete river basin district.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

<http://www.isc-cie.org/NL/workshops/root/verdragen-verklaringen.html#2002>

3. Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

Yes /No

If no, why not? (please explain): [fill in]

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) If there is a joint body or mechanism, which kind of joint body or mechanism (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism? (*Please list*):

The Governments of the Kingdom of Belgium, The Brussels capital region of Belgium, the Flemish region of Belgium, the Walloon region of Belgium, the French Republic and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism? (*please list*):

No

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (please describe):

All riparian States are member

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features (please tick the ones applicable)?

A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):

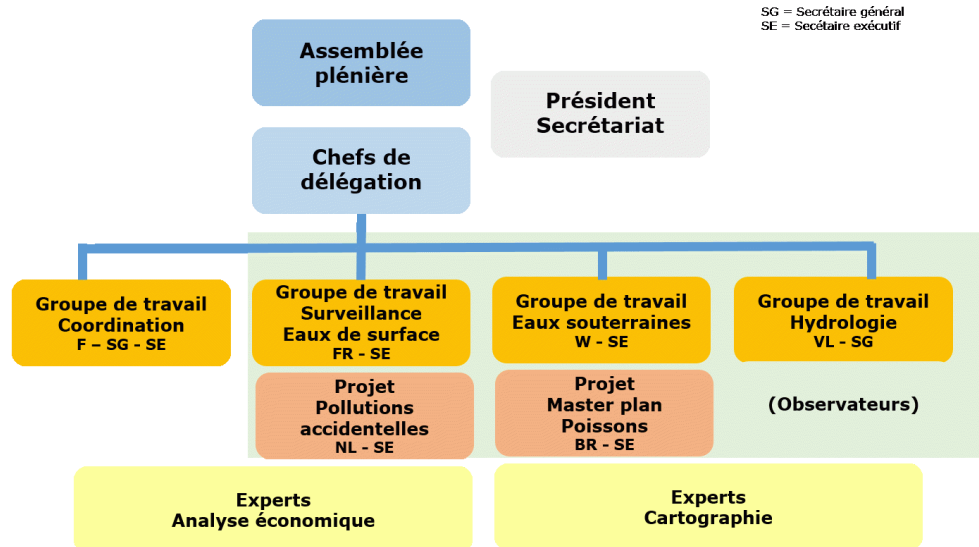
joint secretariat

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):



Organigramme CIE: 2016



Other features (please list): [fill in]

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?⁸

Identification of pollution sources

Data collection and exchange

Joint monitoring

⁸ This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

-
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
 - Setting emission limits
 - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
 - Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
 - Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
 - Surveillance and early warning of water related disease
 - Water allocation and/or flow regulation
 - Policy development
 - Control of implementation
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
 - Settling of differences and conflicts
 - Consultations on planned measures
 - Exchange of information on best available technology
 - Participation in transboundary EIA
 - Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
 - Management of shared infrastructure
 - Addressing hydromorphological alterations
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Joint communication strategy
 - Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
 - Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
 - Capacity-building
 - Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- Governance issues

Please describe, if any:

In general, cooperation is subject to improvement. Agreement on issues to tackle, methodologies to implement, procedures to follow, etc. is only slowly reached.

- Unexpected planning delays

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

- Lack of resources

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body or mechanism?

Roof reports for EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive are produced, a joint monitoring network is established. Keys to the achievement are strong support from several of the parties and international obligations from EU side.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

Yes /No

If yes, please give details. If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

The relevant coastal states are party to the joint body (France, Belgium, Netherlands). Contacts exist with OSPAR Convention and Baltic Sea Convention.

4. Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details:

Roof report EU WFD (https://www.isc-cie.org/wp-content/uploads/ODB2-PFPG2_RAPPORT_NL-FR_VDEF.pdf)

5. How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction.

-
- Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- Water-related species and habitats protection
- Other measures (*please describe*):
6. (a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
Yes /No
- (b) If yes, how often:
More than once per year
Once per year
Less than once per year
- (c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):
The various working and expert groups regularly exchange information on specific topics, such as drought, water quality and ecology issues. Yearly, reports are developed about the agreed joint monitoring.
- (d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?
Environmental conditions
Research activities and application of best available techniques
Emission monitoring data
Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
Point source pollution sources
Diffuse pollution sources
Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
Water abstractions
Climatological information
Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]
Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange: [fill in]
- (e) Is there a shared database or information platform?
Yes /No
- (f) Is the database publicly available?
Yes /No

If yes, please provide the web address:

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- Frequency of exchanges
- Timing of exchanges
- Comparability of data and information
- Limited spatial coverage
- Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

Other (please describe): Largely technicalities like frequency, metadata, number format, etc.

Additional comments: [fill in]

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? (please describe):

Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system, improved understanding of other countries' problems. Shared concept of mutual pressures. Insight in development of water quality throughout the whole river basin.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in part of the basin please describe [fill in]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on monitoring stations that are part of the network

-
- Joint and agreed methodologies
- Please describe:*
 Joint agreement in technical working groups on the methodologies to be used
 Joint sampling
- Please describe:* [fill in]
- Common monitoring network
- Please describe:* [fill in]
- Common agreed parameters
- Please describe:*
 Joint agreement in technical working groups on the parameters to be included
 (c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:
 Insight in the development of the water quality throughout the whole river basin. Shared concept of pressures.
- (d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:
 Deciding upon parameters and methodologies, and assuring comparability of data. Timely delivery of data.
8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
 Yes /No
- If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:*
 Triannual report on water quality in the Scheldt River Basin District 2014-2016
 (https://www.isc-cie.org/wp-content/uploads/RHME_RAPPORT-TRIENNAL2014-2016_VDEF200325.pdf)
9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?
 Yes /No
- If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?*
 Based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive sets for priority substances and priority hazardous substances, and Scheldt river specific substances.
10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?
- Notification and communication
- Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- Notification and communication
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide a brief summary: [fill in]

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (please tick all applicable)

- Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body or mechanism
- Stakeholders have an advisory role in the joint body
- Stakeholders have a decision-making role in the joint body

If yes, please specify the stakeholders for the joint body or mechanism: [fill in]

- Intergovernmental organizations
- Private sectors organizations or associations
- Water user groups or associations
- Academic or research institutions
- Other non-governmental organizations
- General public
- Other (please specify): [fill in]
- Availability of information to the public
- Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans⁹
- Public involvement

⁹ Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

Name of the transboundary basin,-sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: Ems River

List of the riparian States: DE

In the case of an aquifer, what is the nature of the aquifer and its relation with the river or lake basin:

Unconfined aquifer connected to a river or lake

Unconfined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water

Confined aquifer connected to surface water

Confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water

Other

Please describe: [fill in]

Unknown

Percentage of your country's territory within the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: 13%

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force

Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force

Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s)

Ems-Dollard Treaty 1960 (<http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBV0005343/1978-07-01>) on navigation, Additional protocol to the 1960 Ems-Dollard Treaty on Cooperation in Water- and Nature Management / Ems-Dollard Environmental Protocol 1997 (http://www.ems-eems.de/fileadmin/templates/downloads/de/1996_Ems_Dollart_Umweltprotokoll_b_gbl297.pdf);

Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Lower-Saxony and Nordrhein-Westfalen in which they agree to implement the Water Framework Directive (summer 2002) and the Floods Directive (March 17th 2009) in the river basin of the Ems, EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Floods Directive.

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement or arrangement

If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation: [fill in]

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? The questions are answered with regard to the Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Lower-Saxony and Nordrhein-Westfalen in which they agree to implement the Water Framework Directive (summer 2002) and the Floods Directive (March 17th 2009) in the river basin of the Ems.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?
(Please list):

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

Yes /No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement: No transboundary aquifers in the Dutch part of the Ems are defined.

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

All water uses

A single water use or sector

Several water uses or sectors

If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):

Water uses or sectors

Industry

Agriculture

Transport (e.g., navigation)

Households

Energy: hydropower and other energy types

Fisheries

Tourism

Nature protection

Other (please list): [fill in]

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- Consultation on planned measures
- Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- Joint vision and management objectives
- Joint significant water management issues
- Navigation
- Human health
- Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- Water quality
- Water quantity or allocation
- Cooperation in addressing floods
- Cooperation in addressing droughts
- Climate change adaptation

Monitoring and exchange

- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange
- Joint monitoring
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Common early warning and alarm procedures
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Development of shared infrastructure
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with

- regional laws, policies and programmes
- Lack of financial resources
- Insufficient human capacity
- Insufficient technical capacity
- Tense diplomatic relations
- Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- No significant difficulties
- Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

Roof reports for EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive are produced, a joint monitoring network is established. Keys to the achievement are strong support from several of the parties and international obligations from EU side.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

<https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBV0005343/1978-07-01> and [-/BWBV0005276/1998-07-01](https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBV0005276/1998-07-01)

3. Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

Yes /No

If no, why not? (please explain): [fill in]

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) If there is a joint body or mechanism, which kind of joint body or mechanism (*please tick one*)?

- Plenipotentiaries
- Bilateral commission
- Basin or similar commission
- Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism? (*Please list*):

The Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the state of Lower Saxony and the state of Nordrhein-Westfalen.

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism? (*please list*):

No

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (please describe):

All riparian States are member

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features (please tick the ones applicable)?

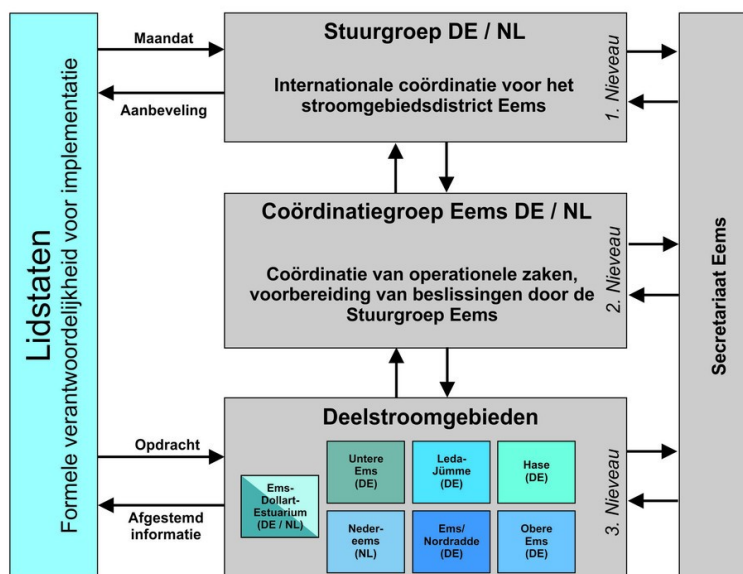
A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):

A joint secretariat has been established under the 'Niedersächsischer Landesbetrieb für Wasserwirtschaft, Küsten- und Naturschutz' (NLWKN), a government body of one of the German Länder.

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):



Other features (please list): [fill in]

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?¹⁰

Identification of pollution sources

Data collection and exchange

¹⁰ This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

-
- Joint monitoring
 - Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
 - Setting emission limits
 - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
 - Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
 - Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
 - Surveillance and early warning of water related disease
 - Water allocation and/or flow regulation
 - Policy development
 - Control of implementation
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
 - Settling of differences and conflicts
 - Consultations on planned measures
 - Exchange of information on best available technology
 - Participation in transboundary EIA
 - Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
 - Management of shared infrastructure
 - Addressing hydromorphological alterations
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Joint communication strategy
 - Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
 - Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
 - Capacity-building

Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- Governance issues

Please describe, if any:

In general, cooperation is subject to improvement. Agreement on issues to tackle, methodologies to implement, procedures to follow, etc. is only slowly reached.

- Unexpected planning delays

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of resources

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body or mechanism? The commissions meet frequently. There are several working groups working on different themes.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

Yes /No

If yes, please give details. If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Both Parties are coastal states

4. Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details:

International River Basin Management Plan for the River Basin District Ems (http://www.ems-eems.de/fileadmin/templates/permalinks/WRRL/2015_BWP_Ems/2015_int_BWP_Ems_NL.pdf) and International coordination of the implementation of the Floods Directive in the River Basin District Ems (http://www.ems-eems.de/fileadmin/templates/permalinks/HWRM-RL/2015_HWRMP_Ems/2015_int_Koord_HWRM_Ems_NL.pdf)

5. How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and

-
- gravel extraction.
- Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- Water-related species and habitats protection
- Other measures (*please describe*):
6. (a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
Yes /No
- (b) If yes, how often:
- More than once per year
- Once per year
- Less than once per year
- (c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):
The various working groups regularly exchange information on specific topics. Reports are developed about the agreed joint monitoring.
- (d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?
- Environmental conditions
- Research activities and application of best available techniques
- Emission monitoring data
- Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- Point source pollution sources
- Diffuse pollution sources
- Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- Water abstractions
- Climatological information
- Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]
- Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange: [fill in]
- (e) Is there a shared database or information platform?
Yes /No
- (f) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the web address:

http://www.ems-eems.nl/

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

Frequency of exchanges

Timing of exchanges

Comparability of data and information

Limited spatial coverage

Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

Other (please describe): Largely technicalities like frequency, metadata, number format, etc.

Additional comments: [fill in]

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? (please describe):

Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system, improved understanding of other countries' problems and the shared problems with turbidity in the Ems-Dollard estuary.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in part of the basin please describe [fill in]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on monitoring stations that are part of the network

Joint and agreed methodologies

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the methodologies to be used

Joint sampling

Please describe: [fill in]

Common monitoring network

Please describe: [fill in]

Common agreed parameters

Please describe:

Joint agreement in technical working groups on the parameters to be included

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

A common fish monitoring for the WFD has been established.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Deciding upon parameters and methodologies, and assuring comparability of data. Timely delivery of data. The methodologies are usually different. Developing and use of a common monitoring methodology would lead to an anomaly in the data series.

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

International River Basin Management Plan for the River Basin District Ems (http://www.ems-eems.de/fileadmin/templates/permalinks/WRRL/2015_BWP_Ems/2015_int_BWP_Ems_NL.pdf), including point sources, diffuse sources, water abstractions, morphological alterations, and emissions and other pollutions on both surface- and groundwater.

For the EU Flood Directive: http://www.ems-eems.de/fileadmin/templates/permalinks/HWRM-RL/2015_HWRMP_Ems/2015_int_Koord_HWRM_Ems_NL.pdf

9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

Yes /No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive sets for priority substances and priority hazardous substances, and Ems river specific substances.

10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

Joint climate change adaptation strategy

Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Denmark, Germany and Netherlands treaty on assistance in case of emergencies in the estuary and the North sea.

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (please tick all applicable)

Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body or mechanism

Stakeholders have an advisory role in the joint body

Stakeholders have a decision-making role in the joint body

If yes, please specify the stakeholders for the joint body or mechanism:
[fill in]

Intergovernmental organizations

Private sectors organizations or associations

Water user groups or associations

-
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Academic or research institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other non-governmental organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General public | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify): [fill in] | |
| Availability of information to the public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans ¹¹ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Public involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (<i>please specify</i>): [fill in] | |

¹¹ Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

**Name of the transboundary basin,-sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins:
German – Dutch water bodies at the border**

List of the riparian States: Germany, The Netherlands

In the case of an aquifer, what is the nature of the aquifer and its relation with the river or lake basin:

- Unconfined aquifer connected to a river or lake
- Unconfined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Confined aquifer connected to surface water
- Confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water
- Other
- Please describe: [fill in]
- Unknown

Percentage of your country's territory within the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins: No percentage information available, agreement covers water bodies at the borders

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
- One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s):

Treaty from 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the regulation of border questions and other problems between the two countries

Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning Arrangements for the Cooperation in the Ems Estuary (Ems-Dollart Treaty)

Protocol to the Ems-Dollart Treaty concerning cooperation on water and nature protection issues

Water bodies at the border belong to different basins, thus are also covered by the agreements on the Rhine (ICPR), Meuse (IMC) and the Ems basins

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement or arrangement

If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation:

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

Yes /No

Additional explanations?

Water bodies at the border

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Additional explanations? [fill in]

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement? *(Please list):*

Germany, The Netherlands

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

Yes /No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement:
Information not available. Ground water bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

-
- (c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?
- All water uses
- A single water use or sector
- Several water uses or sectors
- If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):*
- Water uses or sectors**
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Transport (e.g., navigation)
- Households
- Energy: hydropower and other energy types
- Fisheries
- Tourism
- Nature protection
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- (d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?
- Procedural and institutional issues**
- Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- Consultation on planned measures
- Mutual assistance
- Topics of cooperation**
- Joint vision and management objectives
- Joint significant water management issues
- Navigation
- Human health
- Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- Water quality
- Water quantity or allocation
- Cooperation in addressing floods
- Cooperation in addressing droughts
- Climate change adaptation
- Monitoring and exchange**
- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange

-
- Joint monitoring
 - Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
 - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
 - Common early warning and alarm procedures
 - Exchange of experience between riparian States
 - Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Development of shared infrastructure

Other (*please list*):

- (e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes

Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes

Lack of financial resources

Insufficient human capacity

Insufficient technical capacity

Tense diplomatic relations

Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement

No significant difficulties

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

- (f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main has been improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the waters at the border. This has been achieved through both measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

- (g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

Treaty from 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the regulation of border questions and other problems between the two countries

https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBV0005042/2004-05-01#Verdrag_Verdragtekst_1

Ems-Dollart Treaty

<https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBV0005276/1998-07-01>

3. Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

Yes /No

If no, why not? (please explain): [fill in]

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

- (a) If there is a joint body or mechanism, which kind of joint body or mechanism *(please tick one)*?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

Other *(please describe)*: [fill in]

- (b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

- (c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism? *(Please list)*:

Germany, The Netherlands

- (d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism? *(please list)*: [fill in]

- (e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other *(please describe)*: [fill in]

- (f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features *(please tick the ones applicable)*?

A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Seven regional working groups

-
- Other features (*please list*):
- (g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?¹²
- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Identification of pollution sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Data collection and exchange | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maintenance of joint pollution inventories | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Setting emission limits | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Elaboration of joint water quality objectives | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Management and prevention of flood or drought risks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Surveillance and early warning of water related disease | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Water allocation and/or flow regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Policy development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Control of implementation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange of experience between riparian States | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Settling of differences and conflicts | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Consultations on planned measures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange of information on best available technology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Participation in transboundary EIA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Management of shared infrastructure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Addressing hydromorphological alterations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Climate change adaptation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint communication strategy | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Capacity-building | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- Any other tasks (*please list*):

¹² This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

-
- (h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

Governance issues

Please describe, if any:

Unexpected planning delays

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of resources

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

- (i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

More than once per year

Once per year (Comment: Every body once per year or some of the sub-committees every two years..)

Less than once per year

- (j) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above.

- (k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

Yes /No

If yes, please give details. If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism Germany and the Netherlands are coastal states and members of the bilateral commission.

4. Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details: Cooperation concerning all water management issues relevant for waters at the border (see text of the agreements).

-
5. How is the transboundary basin,–sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction.

Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

Water-related species and habitats protection

Other measures (*please describe*):

6. (a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

- (b) If yes, how often:

More than once per year

Once per year

Less than once per year

- (c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies): In connection with meetings, but also via bilateral exchange on regional/local level

- (d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions

Research activities and application of best available techniques

Emission monitoring data

Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts

Point source pollution sources

Diffuse pollution sources

Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)

Water abstractions

Climatological information

Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

Other subjects (*please list*):

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange: [fill in]

- (e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide the web address:

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

Frequency of exchanges

Timing of exchanges

Comparability of data and information

Limited spatial coverage

Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

Additional comments: [fill in]

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? (*please describe*):

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No Joint monitoring is realised in the international river basin commissions or bodies.

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	<i>Hydrological</i>	<i>Ecological</i>	<i>Chemical</i>
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in part of the basin please describe [fill in]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

Please describe: [fill in]

Joint and agreed methodologies

Please describe: [fill in]

-
- Joint sampling
- Please describe:* [fill in]
- Common monitoring network
- Please describe:* [fill in]
- Common agreed parameters
- Please describe:* [fill in]
- (c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:
- (d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:
8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?
- Yes /No
- If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:*
- Joint assessments if needed with regard to special water bodies at the border. Joint assessments take place in international river basin commissions based on the EU Water Framework Directive
9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?
- Yes /No
- If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?*
- Based on EU water legislation.
10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?
- Notification and communication
- Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]
- No measures
- If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]
11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?
- Notification and communication
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- Other (*please list*): Exchange of monitored effects or trends

No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on who cooperates how in case of disasters.

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (please tick all applicable)

Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body or mechanism

Stakeholders have an advisory role in the joint body

Stakeholders have a decision-making role in the joint body

If yes, please specify the stakeholders for the joint body or mechanism:

Intergovernmental organizations

Private sectors organizations or associations

Water user groups or associations

Academic or research institutions

Other non-governmental organizations

General public

Other (please specify): [fill in]

Availability of information to the public

Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans¹³

Public involvement

Other (please specify):

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins. Please also remember to attach copies of agreements or arrangements, if any.

¹³ Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

III. Water management at the national level

In this section, you are requested to provide general information on water management at the national level as it relates to transboundary waters. Information on specific transboundary basins, sub-basins, part of basins and groups of basins, should be presented in section II and not repeated here.

1. (a) Does your country's national legislation, policies, action plans and strategies refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact?

Yes /No

If yes, please briefly describe the main national laws, policies, action plans and strategies

National Water Law (29 Januari 2009)
(<http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0025458/2017-01-01>) a.o. art. 2.11, 4.3, 4.5, 4.7, 6.5

- (b) Does your country's legislation provide for the following principles?

Precautionary principle Yes /No

Polluter pays principle Yes /No

Sustainable development Yes /No

User pays principle Yes /No

If yes, please briefly describe how these principles are implemented at the national level: National Water Plan 2016-2021
(<https://www.helpdeskwater.nl/onderwerpen/wetgeving-beleid/nationaal/nationaal-waterplan/>)

- (c) Does your country have a national licensing or permitting system for wastewater discharges and other point source pollution? (e.g., in industry, mining, energy, municipal, wastewater management or other sectors)?

Yes /No

If yes, for which sectors?

Industry

Mining

Energy

Municipal

Livestock raising

Aquaculture

Other (please list): [fill in]

Please briefly describe the licensing or permitting system, indicating whether the system provides for setting emission limits based on best available technology?

If yes, for which sectors? (please list):

All sectors; National Water Law art. 6.2: any discharge without licence or exemption is prohibited. Since so-called direct industrial companies have to apply BAT in order to reduce discharges to surface waters emission limits are set. Specific arrangements are included for nutrients and pesticides in agriculture, nuclear energy, shipping and mining.

If not, please explain why not (giving the most important reasons) or provide information if there are plans to introduce a licensing or permitting system: [fill in]

(d) Are the authorized discharges monitored and controlled?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (Please tick the ones applicable):

Monitoring of discharges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring of physical and chemical impacts on water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring of ecological impacts on water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conditions on permits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inspectorate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other means (*please list*): [fill in]

If your country does not have a discharge monitoring system, please explain why not or provide information if there are plans to introduce a discharge monitoring system: [fill in]

(e) What are the main measures which your country takes to reduce diffuse sources of water pollution on transboundary waters (e.g., from agriculture, transport, forestry or aquaculture)? The measures listed below relate to agriculture, but other sectors may be more significant. Please be sure to include these under “others”:

Legislative measures

Norm for uses of fertilizers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Norms for uses of manure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permitting system	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bans on or norms for use of pesticides	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Others (<i>please list</i>): [fill in]	

Economic and financial measures

Monetary incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental taxes (such as fertilizer taxes)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Others (<i>please list</i>): [fill in]	

Agricultural extension services

Technical measures

Source control measures

Crop rotation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tillage control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Winter cover crops	<input type="checkbox"/>
Others (<i>please list</i>): [fill in]	

Other measures

Buffer/filter strips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wetland reconstruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sedimentation traps

Chemical measures

Others (*please list*): [fill in]

Other types of measures

If yes, please list: [fill in]

(f) What are the main measures which your country takes to enhance water resources allocation and use efficiency?

Please tick as appropriate (not all might be relevant)

A regulatory system regarding water abstraction

Monitoring and control of abstractions

Water rights are defined

Water allocation priorities are listed

Water-saving technologies

Advanced irrigation techniques

Demand management activities

Other means (*please list*)

- E.g. salt resistant crops

(g) Does your country apply the ecosystems approach?

Yes /No

If yes, please describe how:

The ecosystems approach is part of the national water policy since 1984, when it was described in the second National Water Policy Plan. In water management, the characteristics of the aquatic ecosystem is an important basis for the use of the human water system.

(h) Does your country take specific measures to prevent the pollution of groundwaters?

Yes /No

If yes, please briefly describe the most important measures:

- Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources
- Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration
- Rules concerning the abstraction of groundwater (National Water Law art. 2.9)
- Licencing for abstraction and/or infiltration of groundwater (National Water Law art. 6.4)
- National decision in infiltration for the protection of the soil (<http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0005957/2009-12-22>)

-
2. Do your national laws require transboundary environmental impact assessment (EIA)?

Yes /No

If yes, please briefly describe the legislative basis, and any related implementing procedures.

Netherlands is party to Espoo Convention and has provisions included in the Law on Environmental Management (13 June 1979) (art. 7.14).

If not, do other measures provide for transboundary EIA? [fill in]

IV. Final questions

1. What are the main challenges your country faces in cooperating on transboundary waters?

- Differences between national administrative and legal frameworks
- Lack of relevant data and information
- Difficulties in data and information exchange
- Sectoral fragmentation at the national level
- Language barrier
- Resource constraints
- Environmental pressures, e.g. extreme events
- Sovereignty concerns
- Please list other challenges and/or provide further details: [fill in]

2. What have been the main achievements in-cooperating on transboundary waters?

- Improved water management
- Enhanced regional integration, i.e. beyond water
- Adoption of cooperative arrangements
- Adoption of joint plans and programmes
- Long-lasting and sustained cooperation
- Financial support for joint activities
- Stronger political will for transboundary water cooperation
- Better knowledge and understanding
- Dispute avoidance
- Stakeholder engagement

Please list other achievements, keys to achieving success, and/or provide concrete examples: [fill in]

3. Please indicate which institutions were consulted during the completion of the questionnaire

- Joint body or mechanism
- Other riparian or aquifer countries
- National water management authority
- Environment agency/ authority
- Basin authority (national)
- Local or provincial government
- Geological survey (national)
- Non-water specific ministries, e.g. foreign affairs, finance, forestry and energy

Civil society organizations

Water user associations

Private sector

Other (please list): [fill in]

Please briefly describe the process by which the questionnaire was completed:
[fill in]

4. If you have any other comments please add them here (*insert comments*): [fill in]
5. Name and contact details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire (*please insert*):

Niels Vlaanderen,

Ministry of Infrastructure and Water management, the Netherlands,
niels.vlaanderen@minienw.nl

Date: **29 June 2020** (initial submission), **23 December 2020** (final revised submission)

Signature:



Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this report.
