

STUDY ON THE EVENTUAL FORMALISATION OF ASPECTS OF FLOW REGULATION ACROSS THE RIPARIAN COUNTRIES OF THE DRINA AND THEIR NEXUS SECTORS

Stephen Stec, CEU
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FLOW REGULATION STUDY

Flow regulation was one of the substantive "specific solutions" related to basin-wide cooperation identified during the DRB nexus process for elaboration in the Phase II Nexus Assessment

The regulation of flow in the Drina Basin is currently uncoordinated and sub-optimal, and this has an impact on both water availability and quality.

The study describes different options for the eventual formalisation of key aspects of flow regulation across the riparian countries of the Drina and their Nexus sectors. The relevant parts of the study were integrated into the "Phase II" Drina Nexus Assessment Report and were referenced in the Water Allocation Handbook as a case study.

MAIN CONCERNS OF FLOW REGULATION

Protection against excess or inadequate flows (flood or drought), seasonal fluctuations, distribution of resources, and disaster risk reduction and response.

Optimization of benefits through transboundary cooperation

Improper flow regulation can lead to international liability for transboundary harm

- Principle of harm prevention obligation to conduct EIA and/or SEA (Pulp Mills)
- Obligation to maintain e-flows (Kishenganga Arbitration)

BASIS OF THE STUDY

Principles of Water Allocation

Sources of International Guidance

Specific Context of Water Management and Energy in the DRB

MEAs Context

International Practice Examples

National Frameworks and Bilateral Agreements

Existing platforms for basin-wide cooperation

OUTCOMES OF THE STUDY

Overview of the relevant flow regulation issues

State of the art about the current flow regulation and relevant governance issues

Analysis of the applicability of relevant international examples

Typology of possible cooperative arrangements for the Drina River Basin for the key flow regulation issues, taking into account the governance landscape

Recommendations on basin-wide and national levels