NEXUS ACTIVITIES IN THE TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS OF DRIN AND DRINA RIVERS

7th Meeting of the Nexus Task Force
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Background

✓ In the framework of the ADA-funded “SEE Nexus Project” (2017-2022)
  ▪ To advance and promote Nexus approach in SEE
  ▪ Regional activities
  ▪ Focus areas: Albania, Drin basin, Drina basin
  ▪ Applying the UNECE Nexus Assessment methodology

✓ Building up on strong and established cooperation with UNECE
Nexus Dialogue in the Drin basin

✓ Building up on official institutional framework and policy priorities
  ▪ Under Drin CORDA process, guided by DCG
  ▪ Linked to TDA & SAP developed under GEF “Drin Project”
✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment
  ▪ Hydropower & floods interface using integrated modelling
  ▪ Interlinkages related to modern biomass & sustainable forest management
✓ 2 Capacity Building Workshops
  ✓ Sustainable Forest Management
  ✓ Hands-on training of staff/experts on integrated modelling
Key findings in the Drin basin

- Climate change may reduce hydro generation by 6-14% by 2040
- Allowing for 20% increased buffer volume in 2 largest HPP reservoirs leads to minimal reduction in output but significant reduction in expected flood damages for 10-yrp events
Nexus Dialogue in the Drina basin

✓ Building up on previous UNECE-led work in the Region (2014-19)
  ▪ Sava & Drina Assessments / “Follow-up Nexus Project”
✓ Ad-hoc Steering Committee
  ▪ High-level representatives from all sectors and countries – a first in the basin
✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment
✓ Detailed Nexus Roadmap for the basin
  ▪ Consulted with ISRBC - Approved by SC
✓ Capacity Building Workshop training of staff/experts on integrated modelling
Key findings in the Drina basin

✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment:
  ▪ Role of RES and Hydro in the basin, in view of climate impacts and policies
  ▪ Legal aspects & options towards TB Agreement on Flow Regulation

✓ Key findings:
  ▪ Ambitious climate policies will drastically change energy mix. Non-hydro RES competitive with coal
  ▪ Detailed/focused studies needed to assess climate change impacts on water flows and hydro generation
  ▪ Recommendations towards Agreement on Flow Regulation
Tangible outputs – detailed Project Documents

✓ Nature-based Solutions for WWT in 2 rural locations in ALB & KOS
  ▪ Detailed to pre-feasibility study level
✓ Modern & efficient biomass in 2 areas in MKD & MNE
  ▪ Sustainable biomass certification, design of heating facilities...
✓ Intervention to improve Sediment Management
  ▪ Harmonised erosion maps, TB sediment monitoring system
✓ Outline of Climate Adaptation Strategy for the basin
  ▪ Consulted with national Climate representatives and ISRBC

➢ All linked to regional and national priorities and processes
Sustainability of results and follow-up options

- Countries have officially expressed interest for further Nexus assessments and activities
- Drin: New GEF Project to advance recommendations and finance implementation of Project proposals
- Drina: Nexus Roadmap provides countries with detailed lines of action to advance transboundary and cross-sectoral coordination
  - Exploring options for follow-up activities and for financing Project Documents
- EU accession process and Green Agenda for Western Balkans – political framework facilitating coordinated and sustainable management of natural resources in the region
All materials available at: www.gwp.org/seenexus

Thank you for your attention!