



**Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**

SEVENTH MEETING

Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus

Item 4: Operationalizing nexus solutions through transboundary cooperation

PRESENTATION OF THE NBA

By

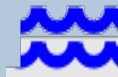
Walter B. Olatunji



This project is co-funded by
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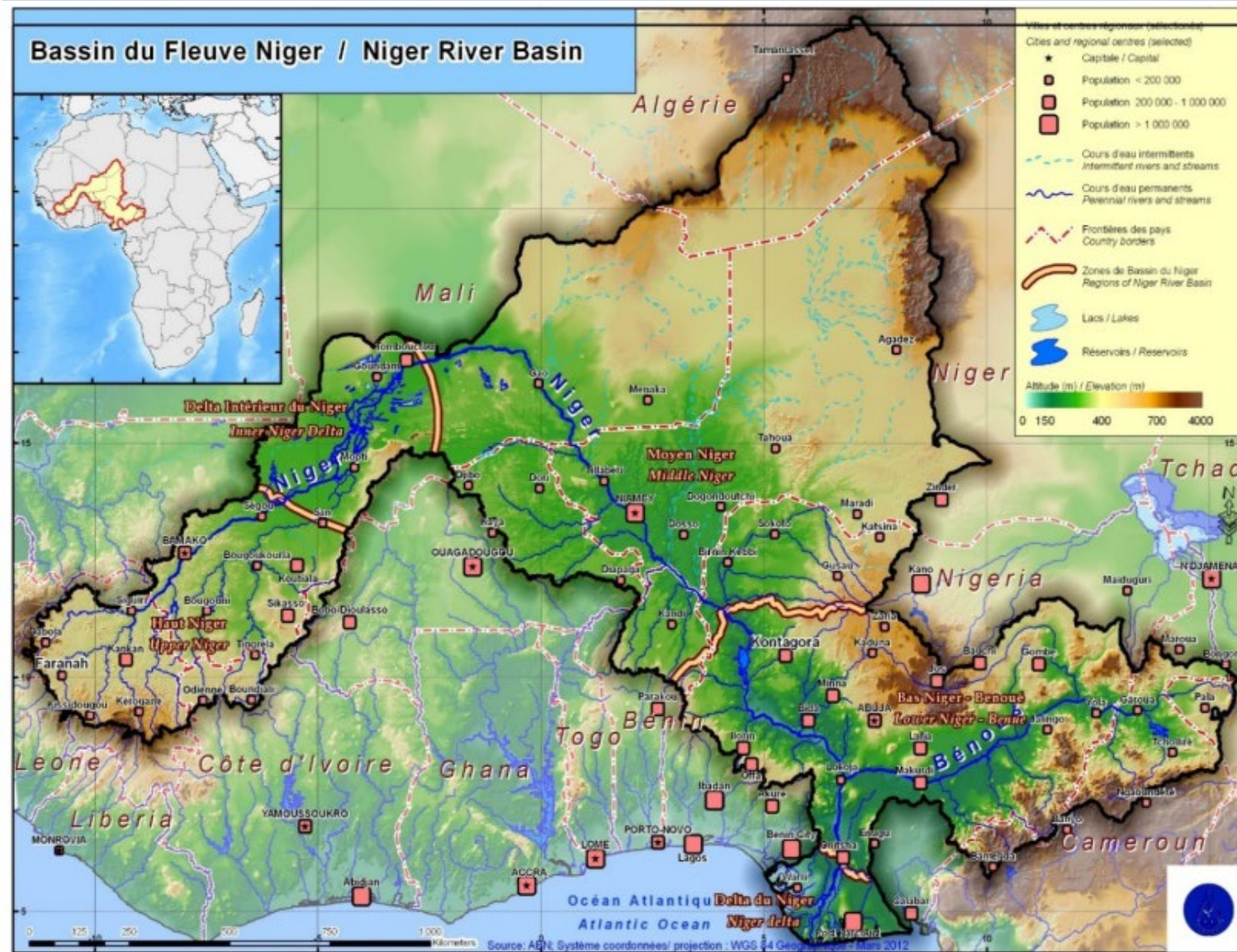


12. – 13. 12. 2022 - Geneva, Switzerland

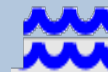




GEOGRAPHICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND



- **November 1980 in Faranah (GUINEA):** Creation of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) to replace the Niger River Commission (NRC) born in 1964.
- **NBA Member states:** Benin (2%), Burkina Faso (4%), Cameroun (4%), Ivory Coast(1%), Guinea (6%), Mali (26%), Niger (23%), Nigeria (33%), Chad (1%)
- **Stream River :** Niger (4200 km), Bénoué (1200 km)
- **Active basin area:** 1.5 millions km²

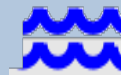




It is characterised by:

- A population of about 160 million with an average annual growth rate of 3.2%;
- 64% rural and 36% urban ;
- 44% are under 15 years old;
- Average literacy rate: 35% ;
- Life expectancy: 50 years;
- Access to health services: 40%;
- Average annual GDP per capita is US\$ 350.

A young but poor population despite the abundance of natural resources which are becoming fragile due to the combined effects of climate change and human pressure.





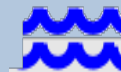
Mission of the NBA

To promote cooperation between member countries and ensure integrated development of the Niger Basin by developing its resources, particularly in the fields of :

- water, energy ,
- agriculture, livestock, fishing and fish farming,
- forestry and logging,
- mining, industry, transport and communication

Statutory Governance Organs

- ❑ Summit of Heads of State and Government.
- ❑ Council of Ministers;
- ❑ Technical Committee of Experts
- ❑ Executive Secretariat
- ❑ National Focal Structures
- ❑ Regional Steering Committee for Projects and Programs
- ❑ Partners Advisory Committee
- ❑ Permanent Technical Committee





NBA Shared Vision

Niger Basin Authority (NBA) strategic and programmatic framework

Institutionalization of the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus approach

Integration of the WEF Nexus into the Operational Plan of the NBA : eg. Lagdo Dam, Kandadji Dam and Fomi Dam





Outcome of the Shared Vision

- Adoption in July 2007 of the Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP) for the Niger Basin up to 2025;
- Adoption in April 2008 of the Investment Program (IP) 2008-2027 for a total cost of **9.335 billion USD**, divided into four five-year plans;
- Adoption of the Niger Basin Water Charter in April 2008;
- Adoption of the Strategic Plan 2013-2024 in November 2012;
- Adoption of the Operational Plan 2016-2024 integrating the **Climate Investment Plan (CIP)** in January 2016, for a total cost of USD 7.2 billion, including USD 3.11 billion for the ICP.



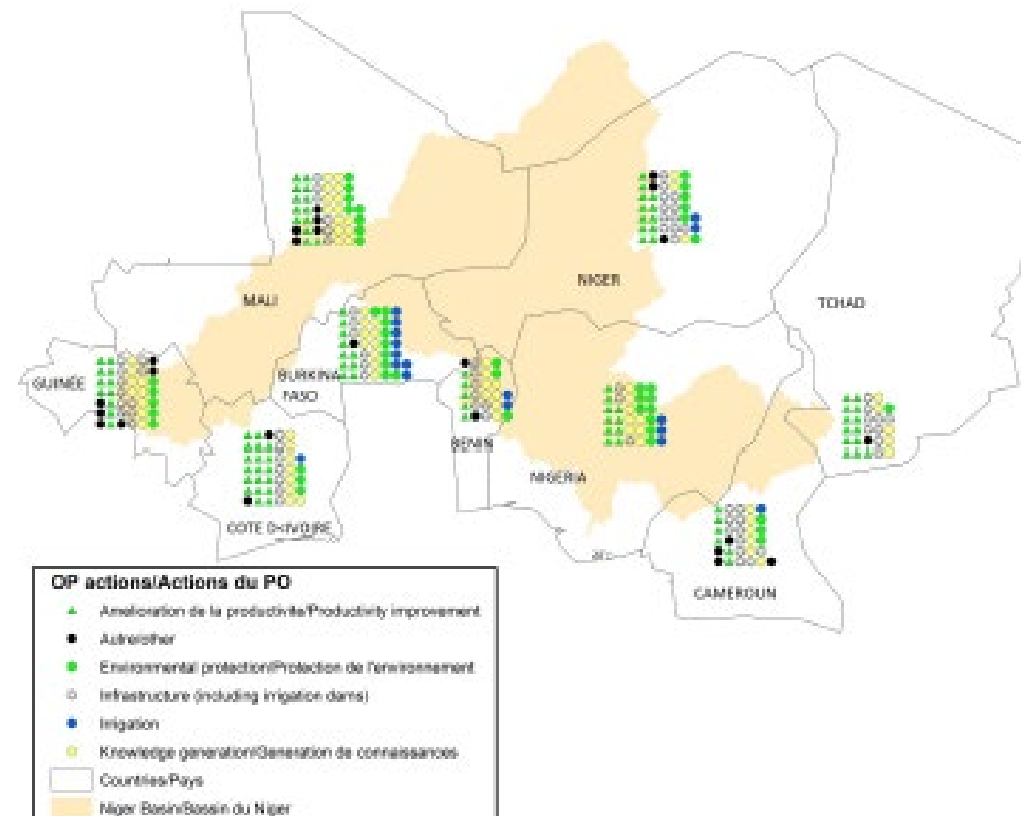


Integration of Nexus into the NBA's Operational Plan (OP) and investment portfolio



Recommendation to update the criteria for the selection of project for the Operational Planning using a Nexus angle

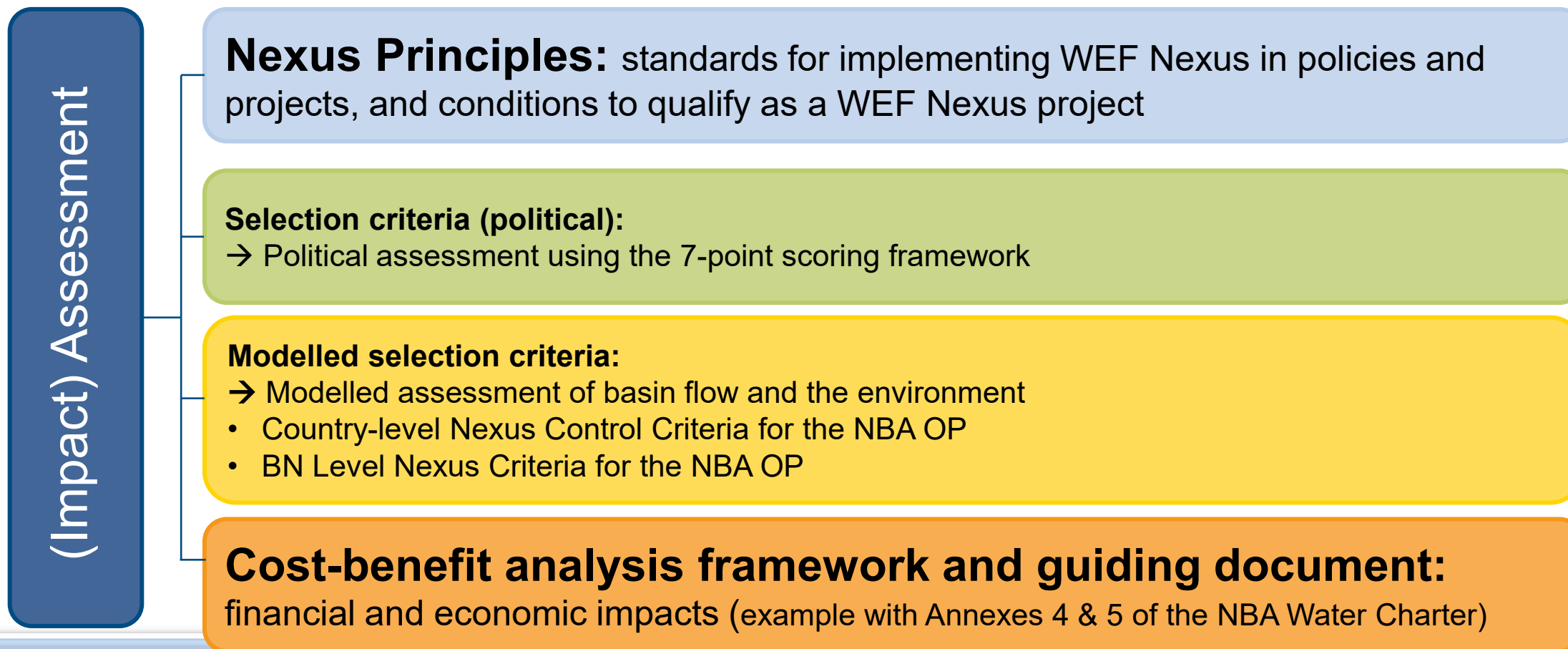
- Actions proposed by the member countries and validated by the NBA
- Criteria for inclusion (NBA & WEF E Criteria):
 1. Contribution to strategic objectives (infrastructure, ecosystems, governance)
 2. Transboundary character
 3. Level of project maturity
 4. Availability of financing
- Insufficient knowledge of cumulative impact of the actions
→ Nexus





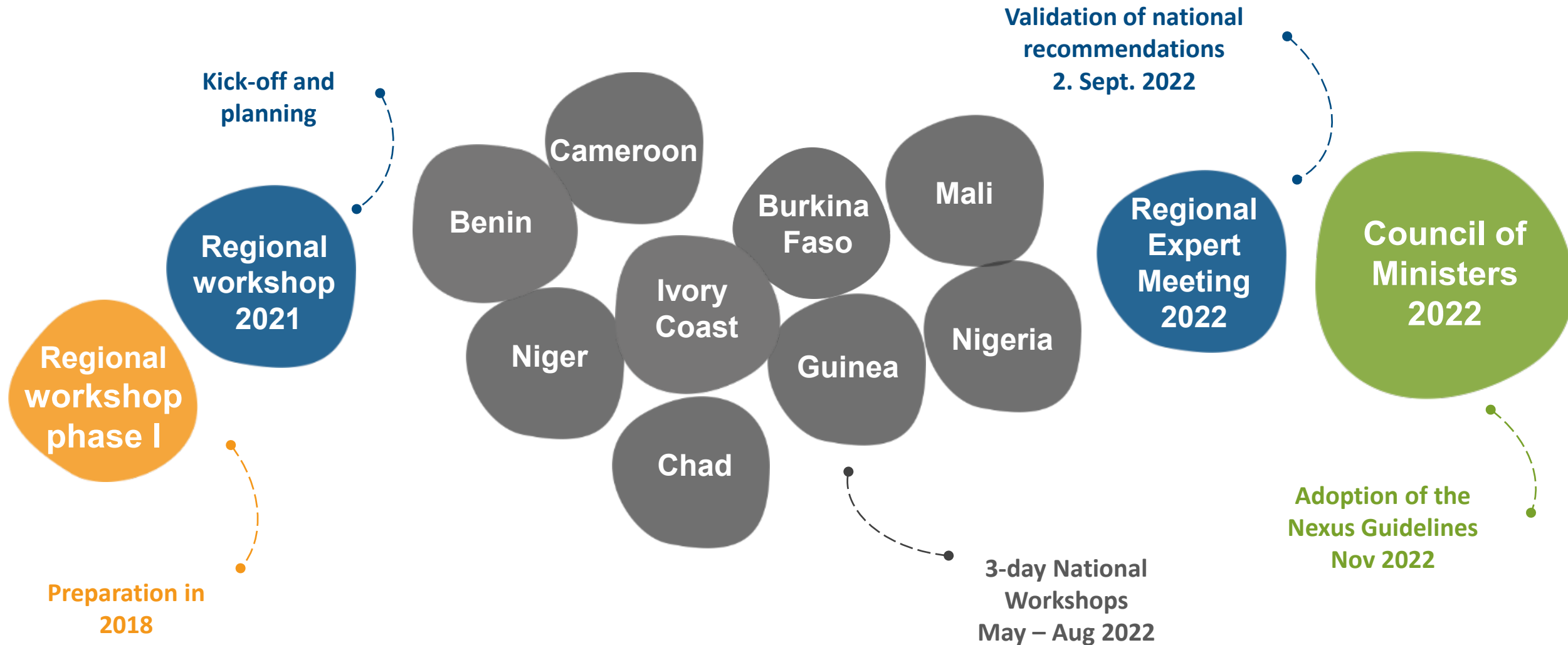
Nexus Impact Assessment (NIA) Toolkit

- Showcasing the added-value of the Nexus approach





How We Work - Towards a Nexus Paradigm Shift





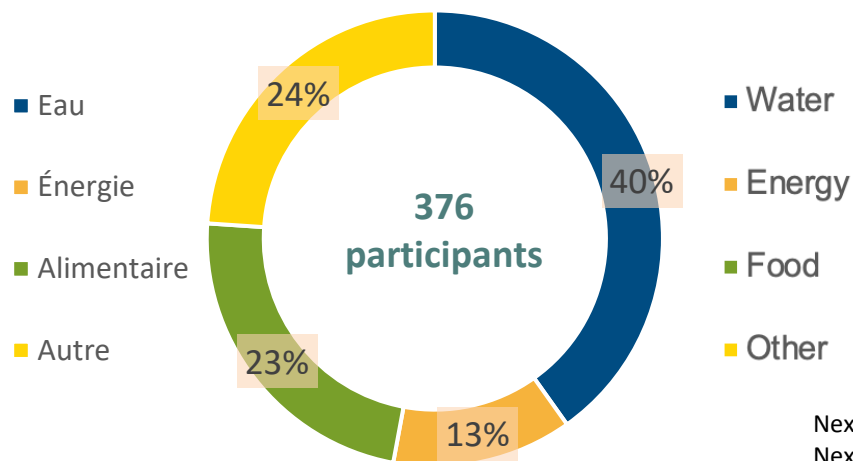
Nexus Dialogues



– 9 Dialogues of 3 days on:

- Training (Nexus Game)
- Project analysis + financing
- Guideline Development

– Over 300 participants in 9 countries from several ministries + private sector and civil society





- **Definitions**



Nexus: an integrated approach that takes into consideration the identification of linkages between several sectors and their objectives as well as the reduction of negative tradeoffs and the strengthening of positive synergies to reconcile the various human and environmental development needs that depend on or compete for the same resources;



Environmental Sustainability Nexus:

version of the Nexus that considers water, energy, and food security and environmental sustainability; the WEF E Nexus approach contributes to:

- i) **improving the design** and impact of investment programs and projects,
- ii) achieving **multiple objectives** through a single intervention,
- iii) **preventing negative** intersectoral impacts,
- iv) strengthen **intersectoral synergies** between several interventions,
- v) **facilitating the financing** of investment programs and projects.



- **CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- Article 2. Overall objective
- Article 3. Specific objectives
- Article 4. Scope
- Article 5. **General principles**
- Article 6. **Specific principles** of the Water, Energy, Food Security, and Environmental Sustainability Nexus governance framework

- **CHAPTER II. **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES** OF ACTORS** (Art. 7 – 14.)

- **CHAPTER III. METHODOLOGY FOR INTEGRATING THE WEF NEXUS INTO PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

- Article 15: Characterization of the proposed project
- Article 16. **Simplified evaluation**

- Article 17. **Detailed evaluation**

- **CHAPTER IV. REVIEW OF THE APPROACH**

- Article 18. Inclusion of a WEF NEXUS analysis in the process of **prior notification** of planned measures
- Article 19. Results of the evaluation of the integration of the WEF NEXUS in programs and projects

- **CHAPTER V. PROMOTING THE WEF NEXUS INTEGRATION IN INVESTMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

- Article 20. Capacity building of actors
- Article 21. Regional Dialogue Network

- **CHAPITRE VI. DISPOSITIONS FINALES** (Art. 22 – 23.)

ANNEXES





Challenges – Lessons learned



Challenges		Lessons learned
Fluctuation among key stakeholders	Key stakeholders	Institutionalisation is a continuous process. Continuation means 1 step back, 2 forward.
Though the approach is highly appreciated, challenge in agreeing on strong language in the guideline document among all 9 member states.	(Non-)binding	Institutionalisation is a continuous process. Fear of member states to die down to a single approach.
Coordinators of the National Focal Structures are mainly from the water sector – origin of a basin organisation.	Sector-balance	Organise capacity development for a large and diverse range of participants.





Strengthened the Cooperation and collaboration in NBA



- **Member Countries of the TBO should respect their commitment with Paris Agreement & others; to allow coordination of action and avoid maladaptation activities within their basins;**
- **Member's countries should have regulated structure for fund mobilization and commitment for the sustainability of the basin**
- **Empowerment of local communities, especially young people, through the creation of SMEs to enhance adaptation infrastructure;**
- **Strengthening the adaptation capacities of local communities (awareness-raising and support, training) in order to create adaptation action reflexes;**





- Programmatic planning: Develop a basin-wide strategy for key challenges, such as sedimentation, and then develop basin-wide financing, starting with implementation in hotspot area;
- Opportunities for increased collaboration with other organizations related to the Nexus: exchange of information and data; bundling of investments or projects.;
- Use the Nexus concept to promote cross-border cooperation;
- Creating an enabling environment for intersectoral investment;
- Better knowledge management and information exchange on Nexus indicators and data: Ensure that key information (geographic location, areas, water consumption, etc.) is provided to the regional organization for a more precise assessment of the benefits and impacts.





Ways that transboundary water cooperation can practically support nexus solutions and investments



- Creating enabling environment (eg. Preparation and implementation of legal texts required for cross-border/cross-sectors cooperation);
- Policies review and alignment across the sectors related to water and environment;
- Capacity building and Knowledge transfer on the interrelation of sectors
- Creating an enabling environment for intersectoral investment;
- Developing a bankable project under the Nexus approach (eg. Application of WEFE Nexus guidelines for project formulation) .





The role River Basin Commissions in Operationalizing nexus solutions through transboundary cooperation



- TBO's should continue building the capacities of national actors to promote the integration of the WEF E Nexus approach in development programs and projects;
- TBO's should foster the promotion of Nexus regional dialogues on Water, Energy, Food Security and Environmental sustainability;
- TBO's should monitor and evaluate the implementation of NEXUS Guidelines for integrating the WEF E Nexus approach into development programs and projects;
- TBO's can also support member countries in identifying bankable project and source of financing.





Thank you for your kind attention

