

18th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources
Management (IWRM) under the Water Convention, 19-21 June 2023

Item 8c / Supporting intersectoral dialogues and assessments through the application of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus approach

Antti Rautavaara

Special Envoy for Water, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Annukka Lipponen

Chief specialist on water, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry &
Chair of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus

1. Main achievements in this area of work

- Support/assistance in the **operationalization of cross-sectoral (i.e. nexus) solutions and investments in transboundary basins** (in Drin, Drina, Niger)
- **Knowledge sharing** on operationalization of nexus solutions (through the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Task Force)
- **Preparation of the IKI Nexus Project** “Regional mechanisms for the low-carbon, climate-resilient transformation of the energy-water-land Nexus in Central Asia” (2023-2027)
- Strengthened/continued **coordination with other areas of work** (PA1 increasing awareness of the convention, PA4 water and climate, PA5 Financing), within P3 (water allocation, NPDs), and **cooperation with Sustainable Energy Division of UNECE in Central Asia**
- Dissemination of the Transboundary Nexus Assessment Methodology (TBNA), through the development of a graphic **Leaflet in ENG FRE RUS and SPA**
- Translation of the Publication “**Solutions and investments in the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus: A synthesis of experiences in transboundary**“ (UNECE, 2021) into FRE RUS and SPA (upcoming)

2. How was it achieved?

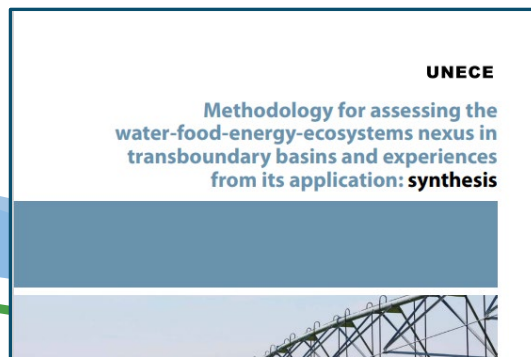
- **1 Task Force meeting** (12-13 December 2022), with key messages shared to UN Water Conference (UN-DESA side event on Sustainable Water-Energy Solutions Network)
- **4 Project documents in Drin and Drina river basins in Western Balkans** (with Global Water Partnership): climate adaptation, sediment management, wastewater treatment through nature-based solutions, sustainable biomass
- Contribution to **capacity building on international water law in the Niger river basin** (with Niger Basin Authorities and GIZ on nexus guidelines for projects)
- **Contribution to various activities in Central Asia:**
 - **Nexus and water allocation** at the **Regional Workshop** “International experience related to transboundary water allocation and prospects for the development of cooperation on the joint use of water resources in Central Asia” (2-3 November 2022, Kazakhstan)
 - Introduction of **nexus issues in the National Policy Dialogues** in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
 - **Water-energy discussion** at the **2nd Almaty Energy Forum** “Innovating and Modernizing Energy Infrastructure in Central Asia” (14-16 November 2022)
 - **Nexus issues** at the 25th meeting of the **SPECA Working Group on Water, Energy, and Environment** (United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia)

3. Challenges and lessons learned

- **New emerging topics:** the role of River Basin Organizations in implementing nexus solutions; the role of ecosystems in relation with WEF sectoral policies; water needs for the energy transition
- Nexus approach needed when planning **climate mitigation and adaptation**
- Combining water allocation and nexus broadens the scope for action for **adaptable allocation arrangements and co-optimization solutions** (Drina example))
- Important **vehicles for 'nexus' solutions and investments** include:
 - cross-cutting **regional strategies** agreed by multiple governments,
 - **river basin plans** developed jointly by riparian states,
 - regionally **coordinated financial support** from financial institutions.
- It is crucial that experts from water join the energy discussion (and vice versa!). Examples of platforms to join:
 - Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network (UNDESA) – incl. for NGOs, private sectors
 - Group of Experts on Renewable Energy & Task Force on Energy transition on Central Asia (UNECE)

4. Planned future activities until MOP10

- **8th meeting of the WFEE Nexus Task Force** (7-8 December 2023) – focus on financing nexus investments
- Continue discussion on **policy and science interface** (particularly on ecosystems)
- Continue support/assistance in the **operationalization on nexus solutions and investments** – including through the IKI Climate & Nexus Project in Central Asia
- Continue discussion on **water-energy** at 3rd Almaty Energy Forum “Building Resilient Energy Systems in Central Asia” (6-8 November 2023)
- Further **dissemination of nexus tools** developed under the Convention, with the aim to promote broader uptake of nexus solutions and investments around the world



check out the TBNA Leaflet

[Transboundary Nexus Assessment \(TBNA\) Methodology | UNECE](#)
[The Water, Energy & Food Security Resource Platform \(water-energy-food.org\)](#)



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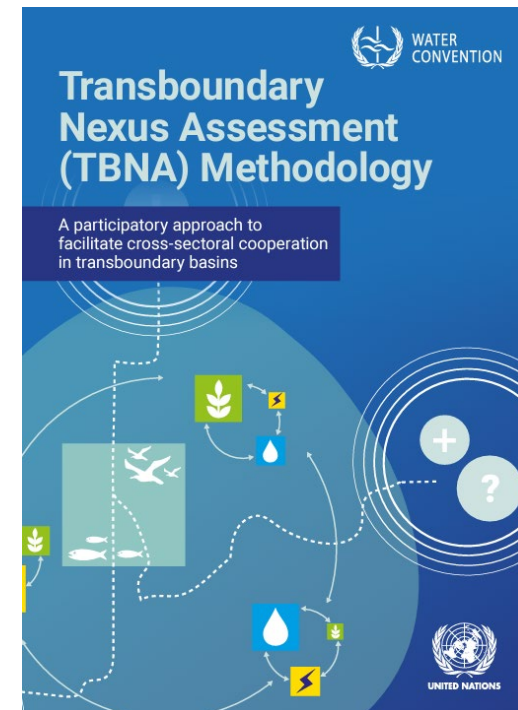
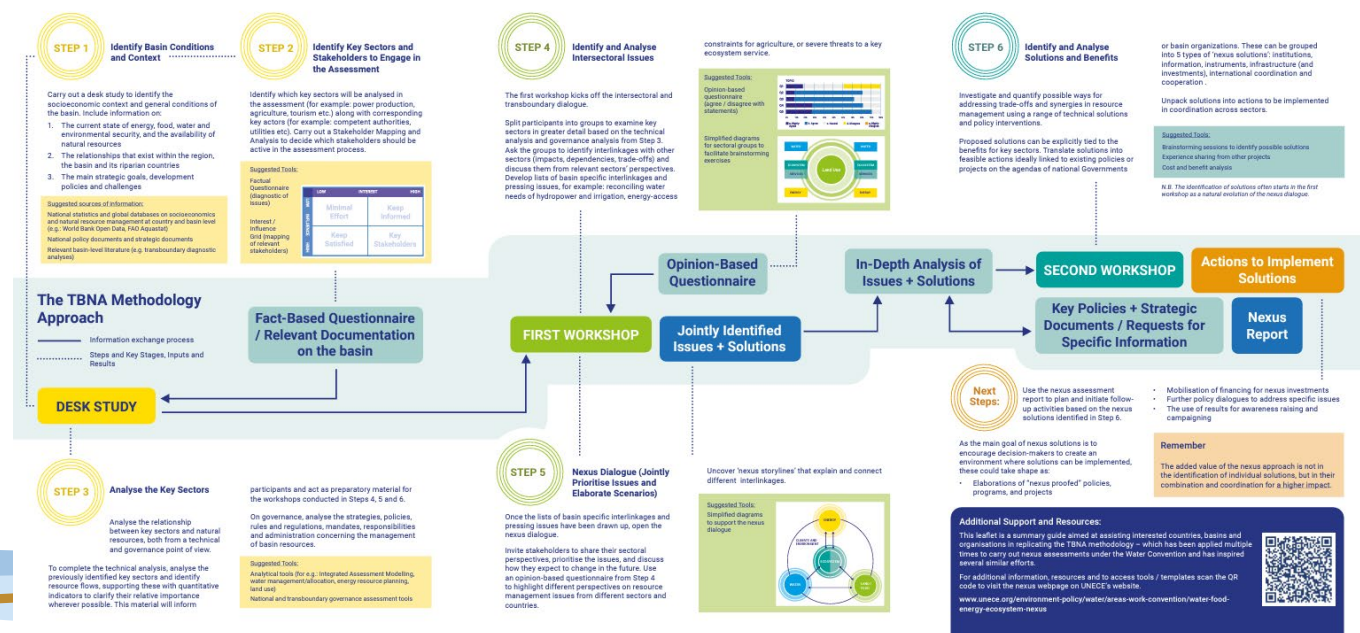
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WEF Nexus Tool // Transboundary Nexus Assessment (TBNA) Methodology Interactive Infographic

In transboundary settings, Nexus related issues can result in painful trade-offs and friction between countries. The TBNA Methodology is a participatory approach to facilitate cross-sectoral cooperation in transboundary basins. The interactive infographic simplifies the six-step methodology.

INFOGRAPHICS TOOLS AND DATABASES NEXUS METHODOLOGY MODELLING AND ASSESSMENT

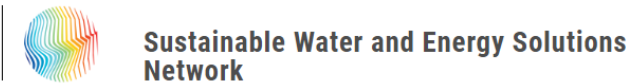
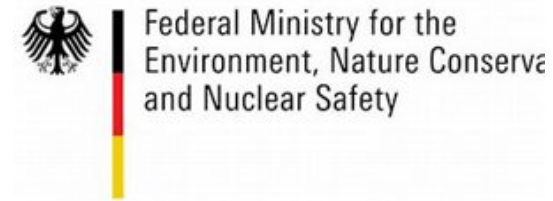
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5. Partners



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland



Thank you!



WEB

unece.org/env/water

EMAIL

water.convention@un.org

lucia.destrasser@un.org

antti.rautavaara@formin.fi

annukka.lipponen@gov.fi



RESOURCES <https://unece.org/environment-policy/water/areas-work-convention/water-food-energy-ecosystem-nexus>



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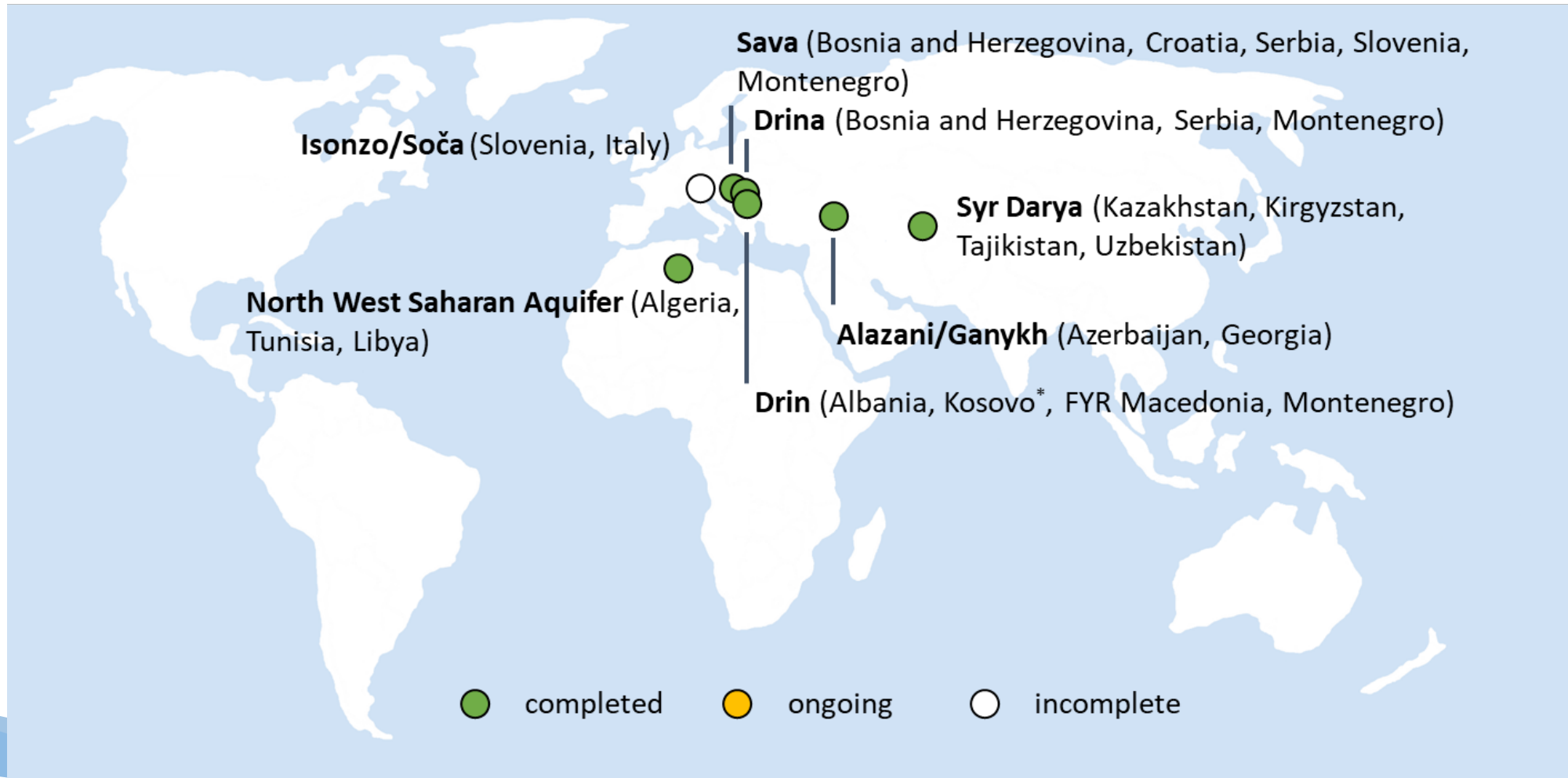


Global Task Force on Transboundary Nexus



- Objectives of the Task Force:
 - oversee nexus activities under the Convention, as well as activities on water allocation in transboundary context
 - provide a global platform for sharing knowledge and experience in integrated natural resource management in shared basins.
- Includes Parties and non-Parties, country authorities and basins, experts, partner organizations
- created in 2013 and chaired by Finland, meets regularly (1-2 years)

Nexus assessments under the Convention



* United Nations administered territory under the UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)