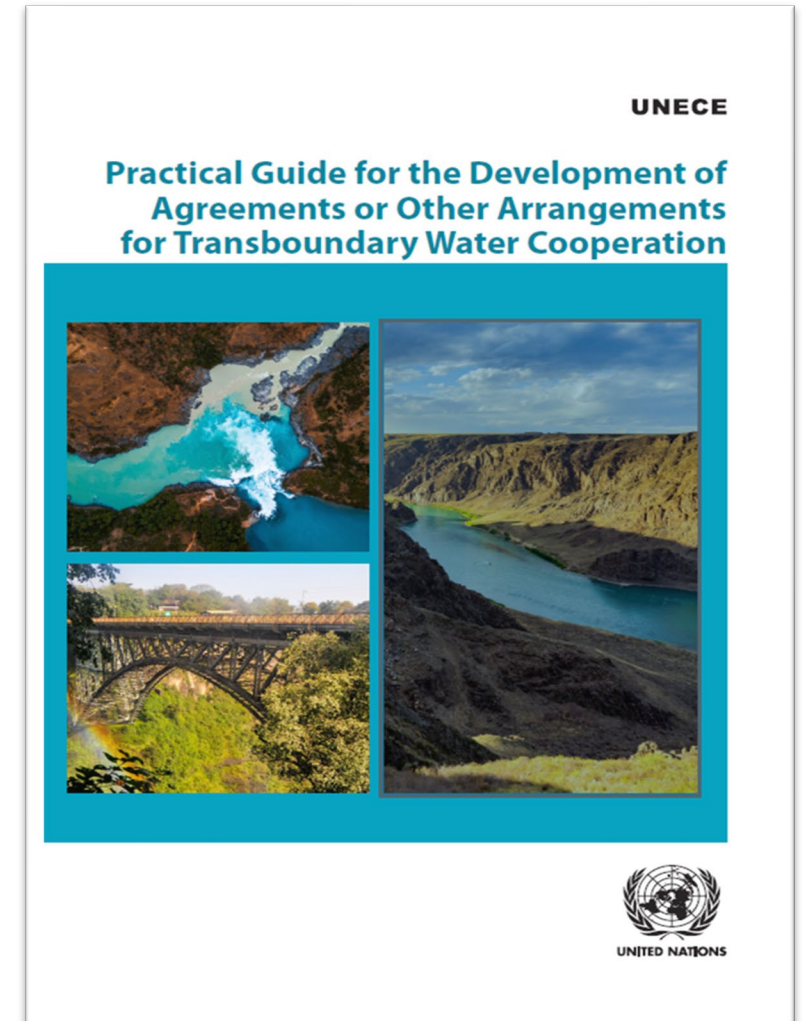


# Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation

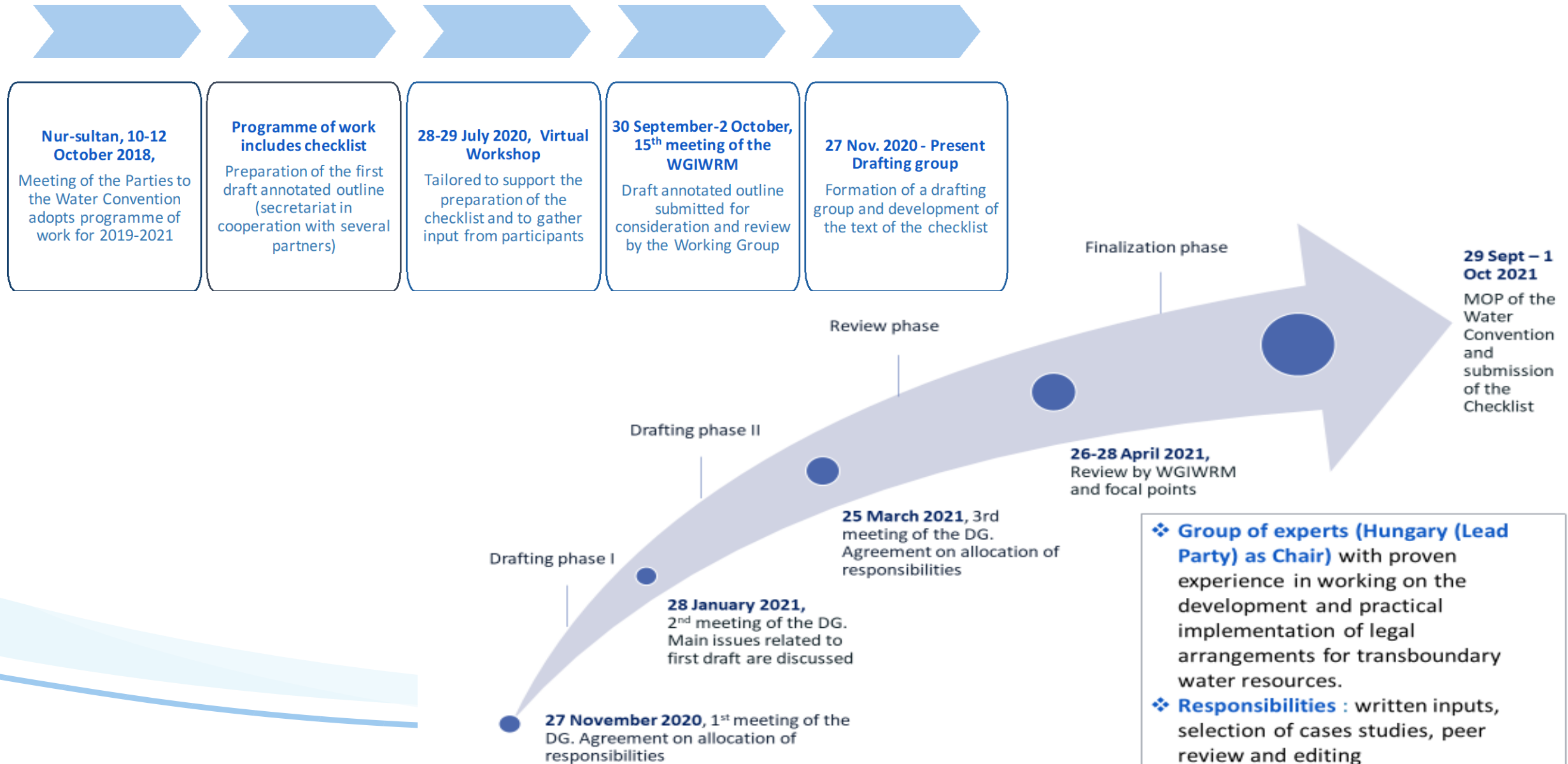
Mr. Komlan Sangbana, Secretariat of  
the Water Convention, UNECE

Global Workshop on the Development of Transboundary Water  
Cooperation Agreements or other Arrangements

7-8 November 2023 | Budapest | Hungary



# Elaboration of the Practical Guide



# Introduction to the Practical Guide

**Objective:** support countries in the **design and drafting** of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary waters that are effective, adaptable and sustainable.

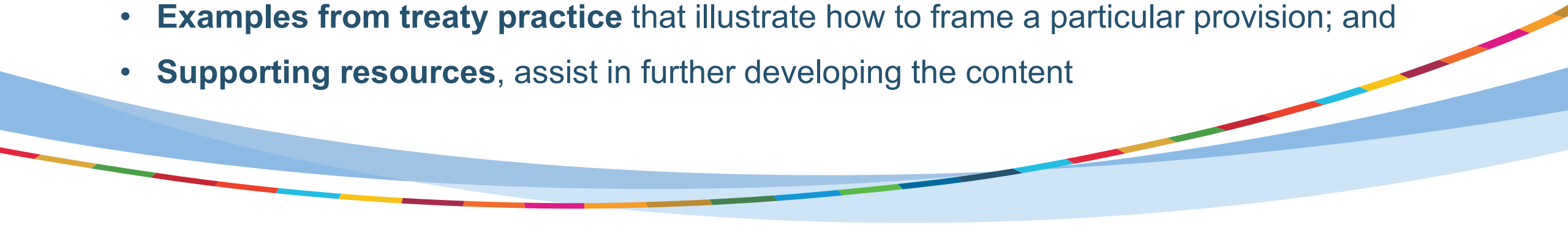
**Focus:** on **content and drafting options** rather than on process.

**Target audience:** State representatives, legal and technical experts, decision-makers involved in negotiation of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary waters, the staff of river basin organizations, regional organizations, and other stakeholders working on transboundary cooperation and water diplomacy are the target audience of the Practical Guide.

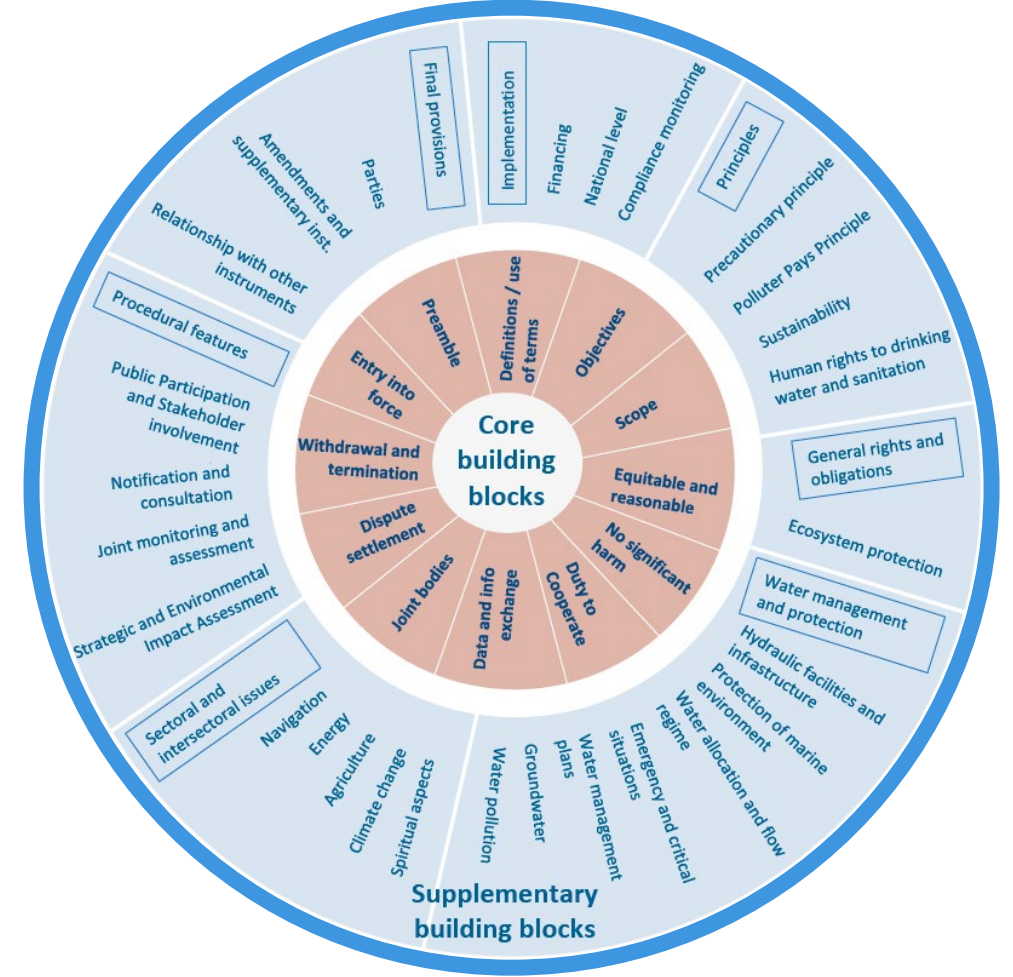
Publication available at: <https://unece.org/info/publications/pub/361821>



# Structure of the Practical Guide

- **6 thematic modules:** Preamble; General provisions; Substantive content; Procedural features; Implementation, institutional framework and dispute settlement; Final provisions.
  - **Building blocks** provisions/issues that countries may consider including within each module
  - **Key aspects:** help define content of building blocks
  - **Introductory text** to each building block, setting out its context and rationale;
  - **Key considerations**, which explain different approaches that might be taken within the arrangements, and the implications thereof;
  - **Examples from treaty practice** that illustrate how to frame a particular provision; and
  - **Supporting resources**, assist in further developing the content
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# How to use the Practical Guide?



Identify thematic modules to structure the arrangement or the agreement

Consider which building blocks to include from each module

Decide upon the type of provision to develop within a particular building block

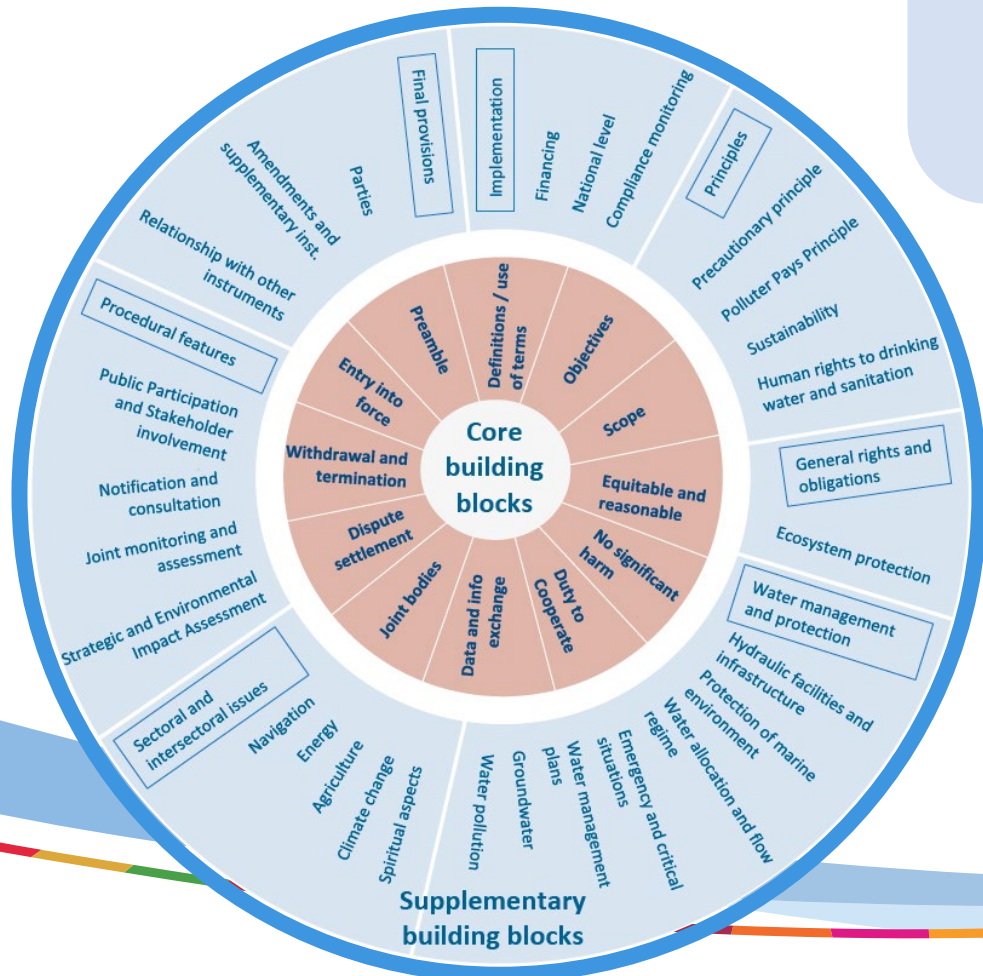
Rely on support resources for further details, justification and explanations

# Question 1

**What form might the arrangement take?**

# Question 2

## What core building blocks should be included in the arrangement?



Overview of building blocks that might be included in an arrangement

**Question 3**

**Should the arrangement include general principles and other guiding concepts?**

**Question 4**

**Should the arrangement include provisions on general substantive rights and obligations?**

**Question 5**

**Should the arrangement include provisions on general substantive rights and obligations?**

**Question 6**

**Should the arrangement include provisions on sectoral and intersectoral issues?**

**Question 7**

**Should the arrangement include provisions on procedural norms?**

**Question 8**

**Should the arrangement include provisions on implementation?**

**Question 9**

**Should the arrangement include final provisions?**



# Key messages

1. There are several **benefits** to developing agreements or arrangements for transboundary water cooperation.
2. The process of developing an agreement or other arrangement is itself an **important outcome**.
3. Arrangements can take **many shapes and forms**.
4. Consider **existing** national and international **law and practices**.



# Thank you!

**Water Convention:**

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