

5th joint meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention, 6-8 May 2024

Agenda Item 7: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins

Niokhor Ndour

Co-chair of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment and Director of Water Resources Planning and Management in the Ministry of Water and Sanitation of Senegal

1. Main achievements in this area of work

- **Global dialogue on the trends and future needs** related to monitoring and assessment
- **Development of guidance instruments** for monitoring and assessment
- **Comprehensive overview of data-sharing practices** in transboundary basins globally
- **Increased awareness of the benefits of monitoring and assessment** in transboundary waters globally.





Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (17-18 October 2023)

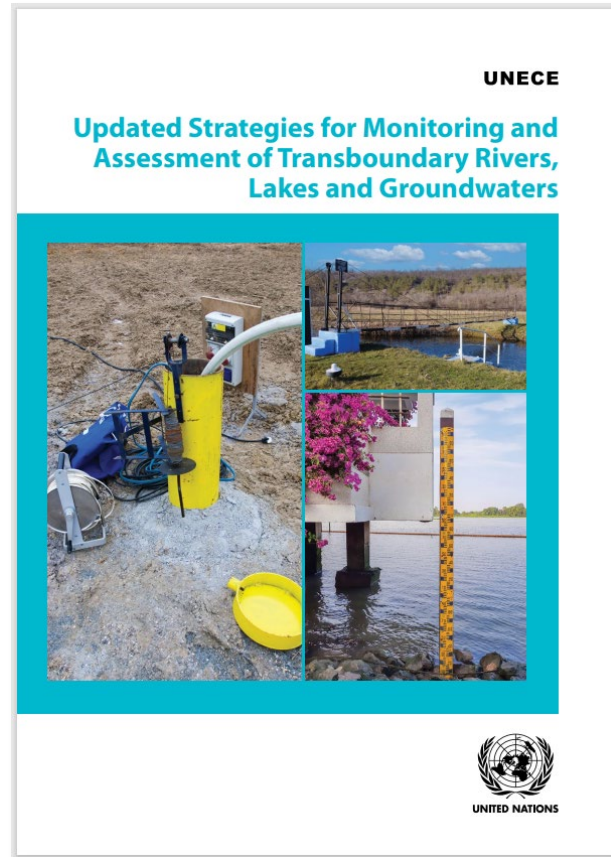
- Over 150 participants from all over the world
- Interactive discussions on data-sharing and future work on monitoring and assessment

Finalization of the text of ***Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Transboundary Data-sharing***

Translation and dissemination of ***Updated Strategies for Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters***

2. How was it achieved?

Updated Strategies for Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters (2023)



Key principles and approaches to monitoring and assessing transboundary waters.

Supports the preparation of **policy actions** at local, national and transboundary levels.

Step-by-step approaches and strategies for the development of monitoring, assessment and data sharing building on **global experience**.

Considers technological developments.

Available in Arabic, English, French and Russian. The Spanish translation is on the way.

Link: <http://bit.ly/3X5banz>

Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Transboundary Data-sharing

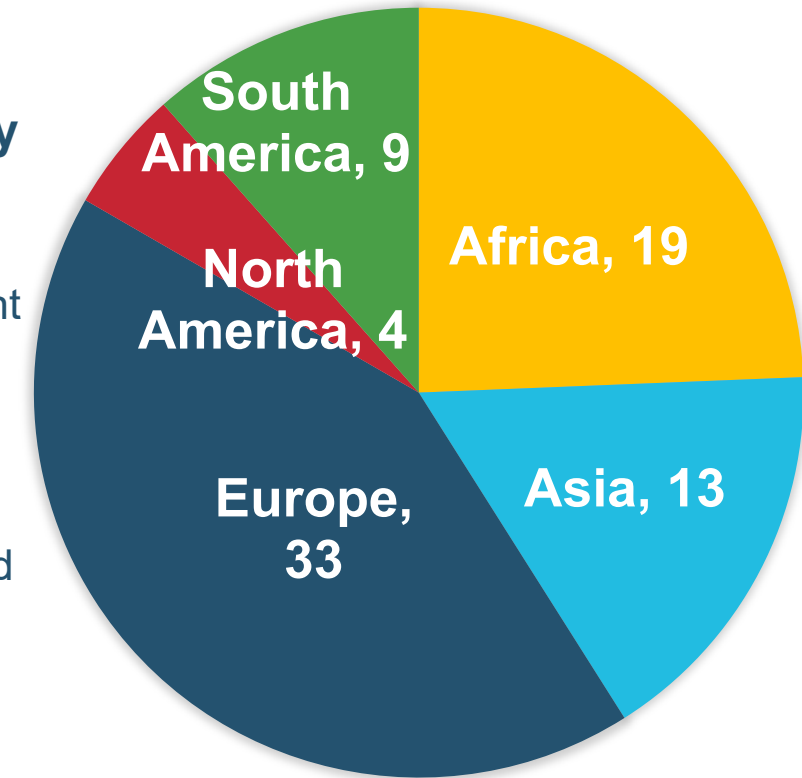
Contains **43 lessons learned** supported by **78 case studies** from around the world, highlighting the **importance of data-sharing in transboundary waters globally**.

Comments from WGMA have been addressed: several case studies added and updated; professional text edit completed; visuals under development; Development of an online toolbox: included in the PoW for 2025-2027.

Proposed new title: ***Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Data-sharing in Transboundary Basins***

Current draft (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2024/INF.3-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2024/INF.3) and Key messages (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2024/6, ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2024/6) are available in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Finalization of the publication by MOP10. No new case studies will be included. Updates or errors to be sent to the secretariat (erik.aarnos@un.org) by **May 15th 2024**.





Data-sharing Key Messages

- A) Water management needs **timely, targeted, relevant, sufficient, valid and reliable data**
- B) Data-sharing needs an **enabling environment**
- C) **Groundwater data and information** are essential for proper water management
- D) Build a **common understanding** of the functioning of the basin, including human activities
- E) Take a **pragmatic and focused approach** to monitoring

Data-sharing Key Messages

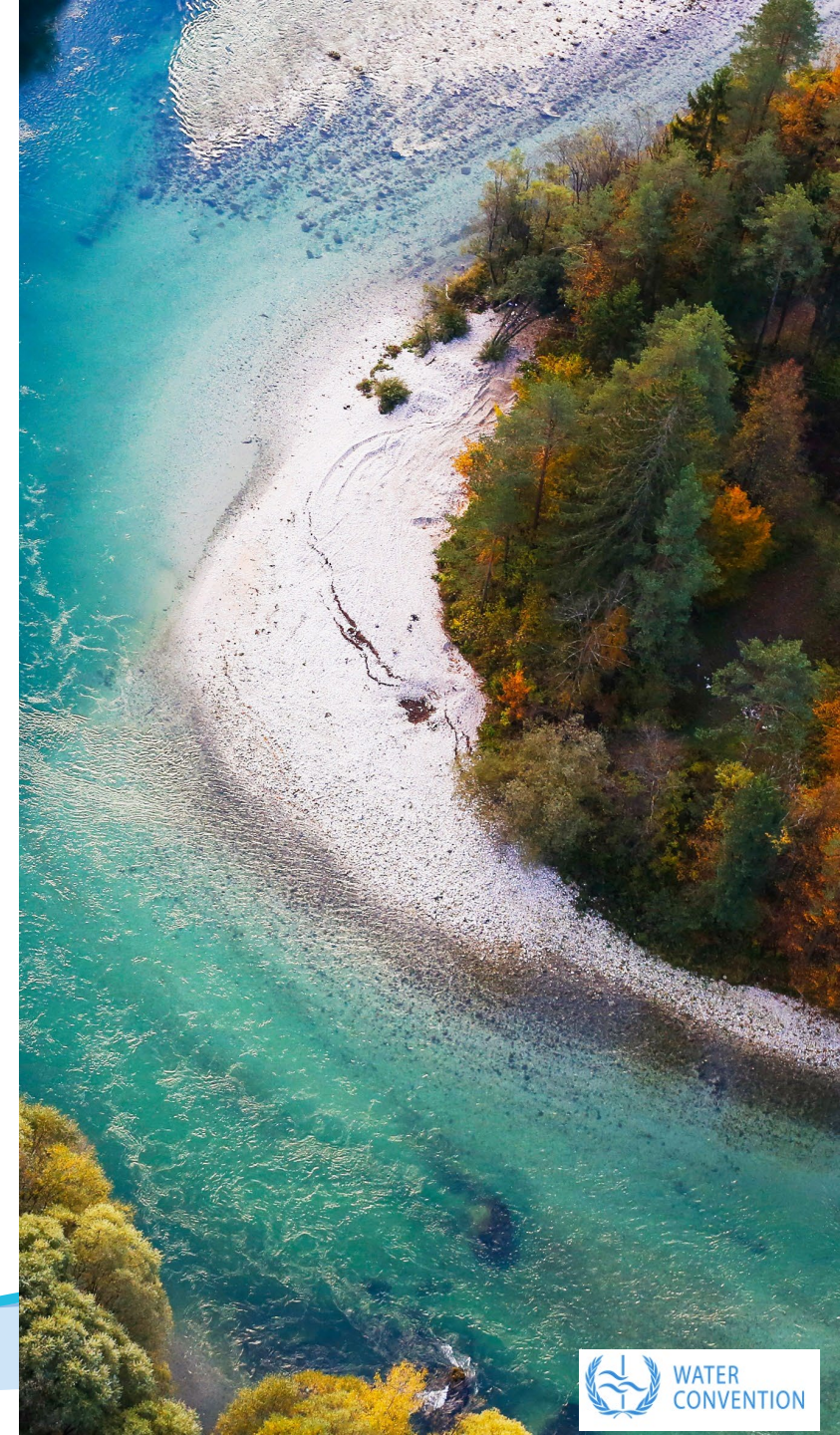
F. **Political will** is essential

G. Involve **stakeholders**

H. Collaborate across **different levels and disciplines**

I. Developing **transboundary early warning mechanisms**

+ **Benefits** of regular and planned monitoring and data-sharing in transboundary basins





3. Challenges and lessons learned

Continuing **challenges in the collection and sharing of data** in transboundary basins.

Need to **fully utilize the developed guidance material**, e.g., through regional workshops and targeted capacity building events.

Growing interest and need for capacity building on **innovations and new technologies** supporting monitoring and assessment.

4. Proposed future activities for 2025-2027

Sub-Programme Area 2.1 (2025-2027): **Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing**

Proposed lead Parties: Finland, Senegal

- **A global workshop** on the use of **new technologies and innovation** for monitoring and assessment.
- **Up to two regional workshops on monitoring, information and data** will be organized to promote the use of guidance materials developed in this area.
- The development of an **online toolkit** based on the publication *Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Transboundary Data-sharing*.
- **Tailored assistance** and support for developing and operationalizing joint or coordinated monitoring or information and data exchange, based on the guidance available.

4. Proposed future activities for 2025-2027

Proposed new sub-programme area 2.2: **Improving water quality, including through pollution prevention and control**

Proposed lead Parties: Hungary and Senegal

Objective: Support countries in improving water quality in transboundary basins on the basis of assessment of pressures from sectoral activities and impacts from climate change.

Proposed activities:

- 1-2 regional workshops on prevention/reduction of point and diffuse pollution

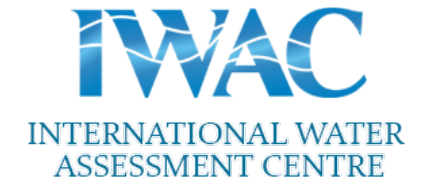
Meetings of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents will be serviced jointly with the Industrial Accidents Convention secretariat. Proposed joint activities include:

- One global workshop on good practices and guidance for preventing water pollution
- Guidance documents on point and diffuse pollution will be promoted
- In one pilot basin, capacity will be enhanced in emergency preparedness and prevention of accidental pollution.



Pilot monitoring exercise Armenia-Georgia, September 2020

5. Partners and Donors



Thank you!

(please include your contact information)



WEB: www.unece.org/env/water

EMAIL



water.convention@un.org

niokhor.ndour@eau-assainissement.gouv.sn

erik.aarnos@un.org



RESOURCES

<https://unece.org/environment-policy/water/monitoring-assessment-and-information-sharing-transboundary-basins>

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