



Ministerial Conference „Environment for Europe“, Astana 2011

Theme no 1: Sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems

Water and Agriculture

- Specific problems on groundwater quantity and quality
- Water quantity→Irrigation: Water use efficiency / Infrastructure / Water loss
- Water quality→Chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers
- Soil: Land degradation / Desertification / Salinization
- Water-related ecosystems such as wetlands, forests including their biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (PEBLDS)
- Land use planning
- Economic tools: Water pricing /and payments for Ecosystems services
- Capacity Building / Education and awareness-raising / Good practices
- Governance: Integrated Water Resources Management / National Policy Dialogue
- Implementation of MEAs (as Water Convention / Water and Health Protocol, etc.)

Water and Climate Change

- Impact of climate change on water-related ecosystems (incl. biodiversity, wetlands, forests, glaciers, etc.)
- Water quantity: floods, desertification, land degradation, water stress,
- Water quality, social and economic impacts
- Impacts on other sectors through water (agriculture, hydropower generation, transport, industry, tourism, etc)
- Adaptation to climate change and water management

Water and benefits' sharing

- Valuation of water and ecosystems services
- Multiple uses of water at the national level, water/benefit sharing between users
- Water/benefit sharing in transboundary basins: existing practices and lessons learned of cooperation beyond water
- Conflict prevention and conflict resolution

Water supply and sanitation and health issues

- Nexus between water management and water supply and sanitation
- Access to water supply and sanitation in rural areas
- Consequences for human health and future vulnerability of societies
- Economic aspects, tariffs, investments and financing of the water sector