

Task Force on Water and Climate

Niels Vlaanderen

Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Directorate General for Spatial Planning and Water



Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

Sibylle Vermont

Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
International Affairs Division



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



1. Progress and achievements in this area of work in the triennium, esp. since 2014

* Meetings:

- * First meeting of the core group of pilot projects and global network of basins (20 - 21 February 2013)
- * Fourth Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins (25 - 26 June 2013)
- * Second meeting of the global network of basins (13 - 14 February 2014)
- * Fifth Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins (14 - 15 October 2014)
- * Second Workshop on Transboundary Flood Risk Management (19-20 March 2015)

* Publication: *Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices.*

- * Launched at Seventh World Water Forum (Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, 12–17 April 2015).

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1. Progress and achievements in this area of work in the triennium, esp. since 2014

- * Contributions to (a.o.):
 - * UNFCCC processes - SBSTA meeting in June 2013, COP 19 and 20, other UNFCCC meetings and products
 - * World Water Week Stockholm in August 2014
 - * 5th Water Conference, 2014 "Water in the Alps - and beyond: Adapting alpine and mountain river basins to climate change" (25th-26th September 2014)
 - * World Water Forum Korea in April 2015



2. 5th Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins - Adaptation strategies: which measures for which outcomes at transboundary level?

Geneva, 14-15 October 2014

- * > 100 participants
- * Presentations and discussions
- * Serious game: Negotiations on water infrastructure and climate change adaptation
 - * Imaginary basin (“Shariva”)
 - * Facilitator: “Group has high awareness of the need for cooperation”
- * Lunch session: Sharing experiences in river basin management - Organized by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine
- * Some conclusions:
 - * Land cover changes affect climate (deforestation – less rain, less biomass, drier – more fires and more deforestation) – need for reforestation
 - * In many regions in the world climate change is less important than socio-economic developments
 - * National Adaptation Strategy should account for regional/transboundary dimension



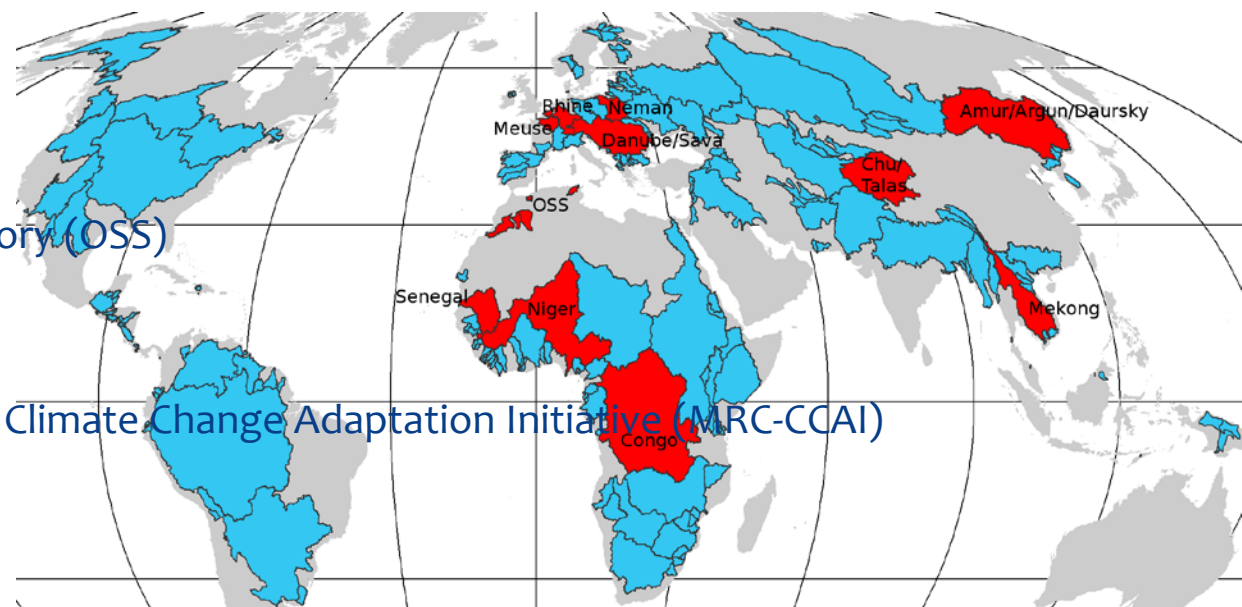
2. Pilot projects and network of basins

* Pilots:

- * Chu Talas Basin, Dniester Basin, Neman Basin, Rhine Basin, “Dauria going dry” (Amur Basin), Danube Basin
- * Dniester and Neman basins developed draft adaptation strategy

* Network:

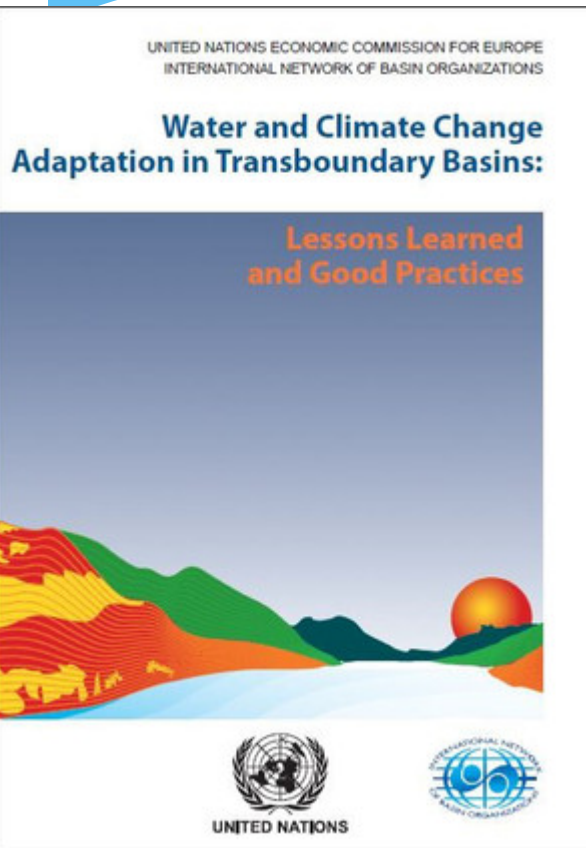
- * Pilot basins
- * Drin Basin
- * Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)
- * Niger Basin
- * Congo Basin
- * Mekong River Commission Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (MRC-CCAI)
- * Senegal Basin



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2. Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices



* Process:

- * Drafting group
- * Call for case studies
- * Partnership with INBO, AGWA, WMO, GWP, OECD, IUCN and others

* Some numbers:

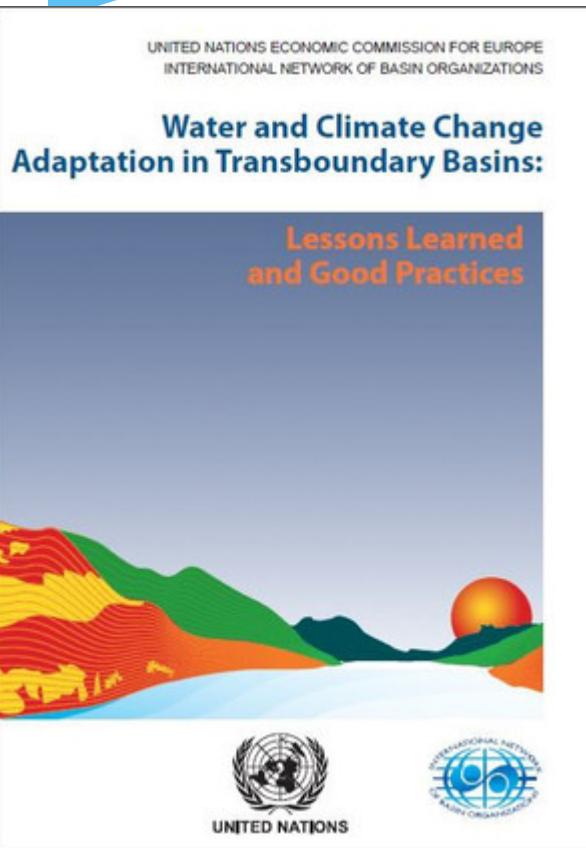
- * 63 Lessons learned
- * 58 Case studies
- * Contributions from 80 experts worldwide



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2. Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices



- * Transboundary cooperation - more efficient and effective adaptation by pooling resources and enlarging the planning space for locating adaptation measures.
- * Proper institutional arrangements are essential for transboundary cooperation.
- * A flexible legal framework can support the development and implementation of adaptation strategies and measures.
- * Proper communication is important.
- * A joint group of experts from all riparian countries should be develop a vulnerability assessment.
- * Uncertainty about future impacts requires a flexible policy.
- * Capacity development is needed for a common understanding.
- * Decision makers need to be involved in the adaptation process from the beginning.



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3. Plans in this area in the draft programme of work for 2016-2018

- * Pilot projects on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins: moving towards implementation, scaling up and mainstreaming
- * Regular thematic global workshops and meetings of the global network of basins working on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins



3. Plans in this area in the draft programme of work for 2016-2018

- * Exploring possibilities for:
 - * Thematic Twinning between the basins of the global network
 - * Providing inputs to and promoting importance of water and transboundary cooperation in global processes



3. Plans in this area in the draft programme of work for 2016-2018

- * Vision for next 10 year (work in progress):
 - * *Increasing recognition of the need for transboundary cooperation in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction*
 - * *Mainstreaming climate change into the water community*
 - * *Replicating experience of the pilot projects*
 - * *Ensuring sustainability of the pilot projects*
 - * *Exchange and collection of experience*

