

Thematic assessment on the water-food-energy- ecosystems nexus

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

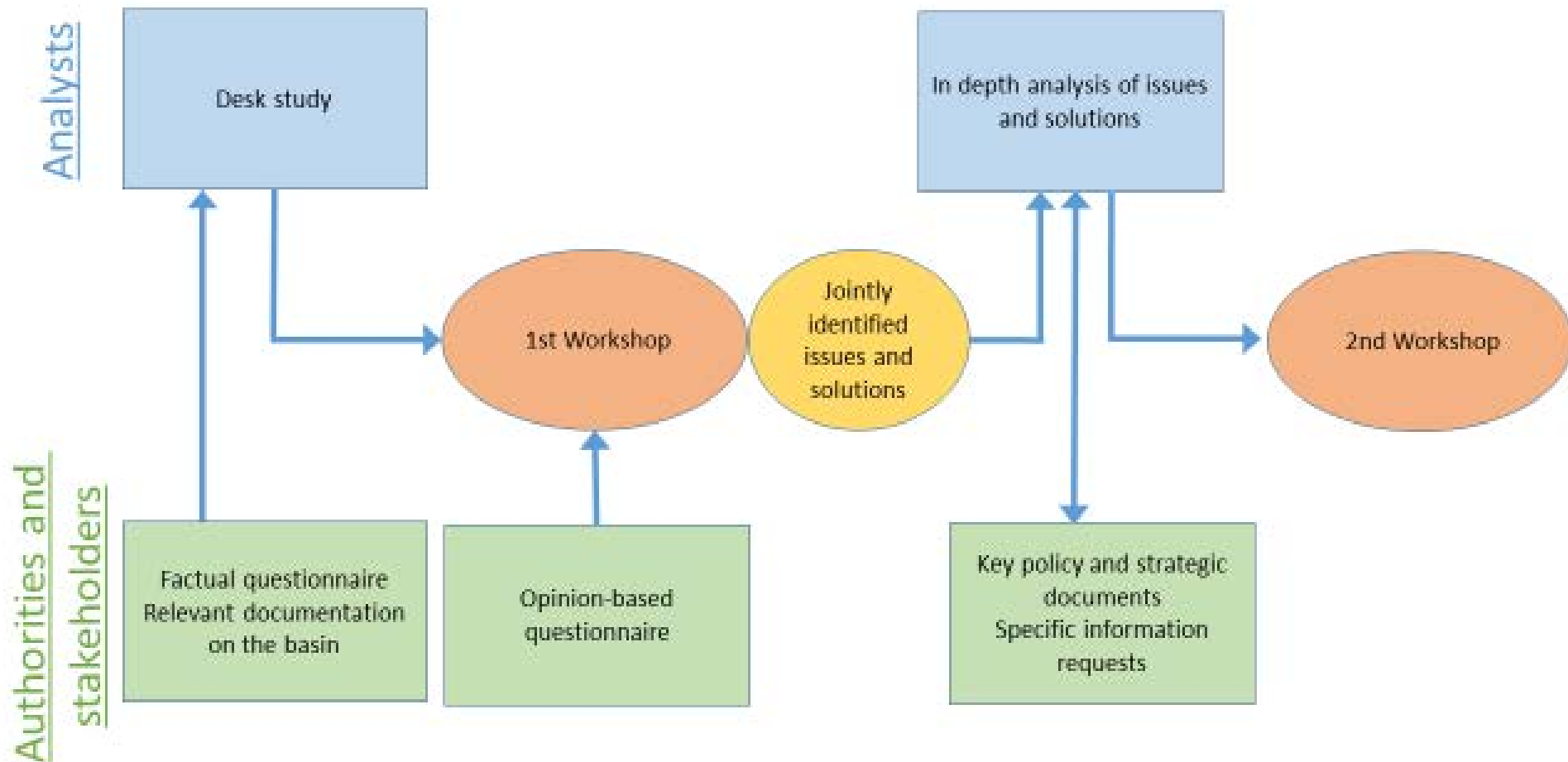


1. Progress and achievements in this area of work in the triennium, esp. since 2014

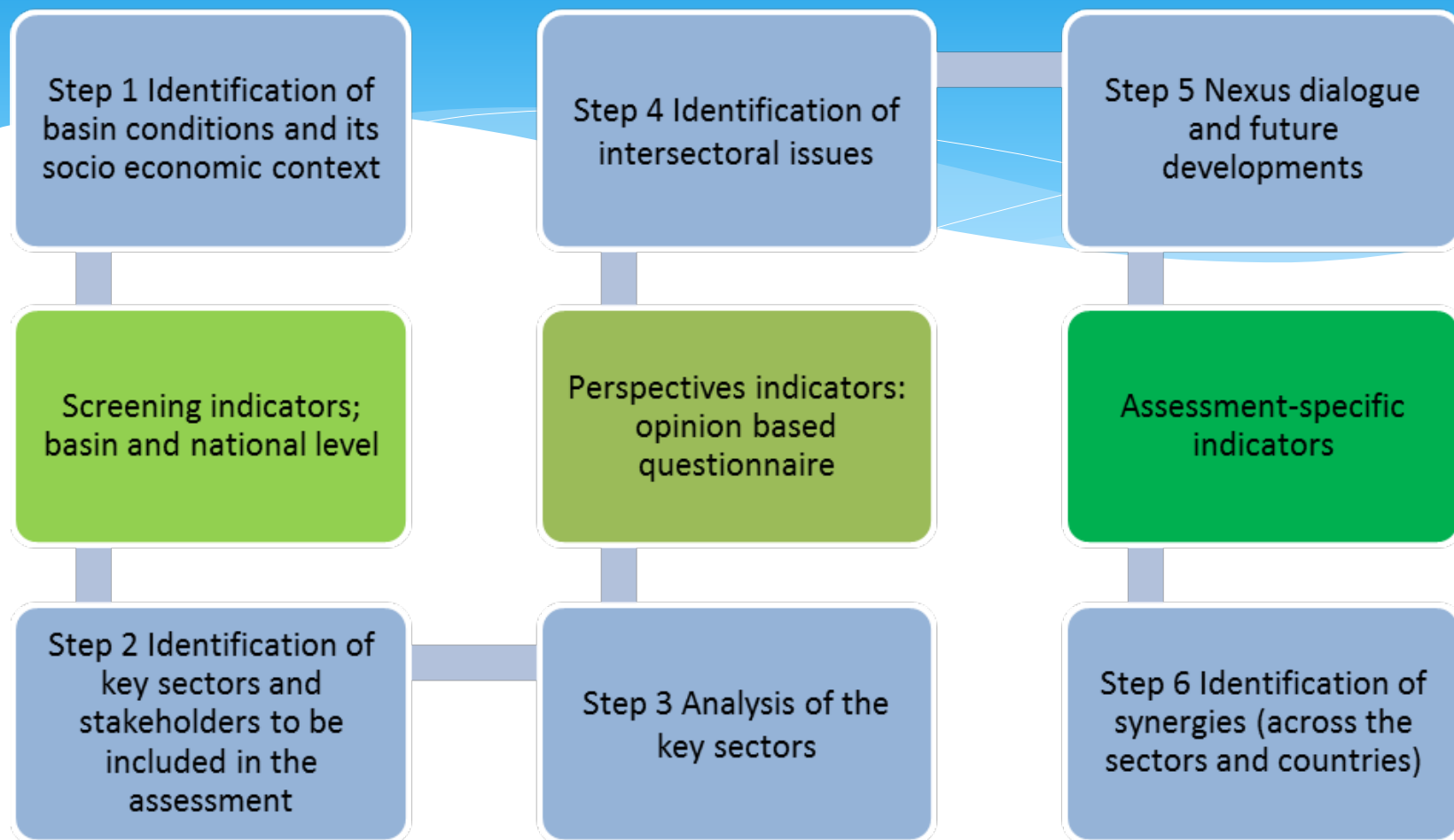
- * **Methodology** for nexus assessment piloted and refined
- * **3 basins assessed:** the Alazani/Ganykh, Sava, Syr Darya
- * 4th basin worked on: the Isonzo/Soča
- * The interest from diverse countries and basins indicates **pertinence of the challenges from intersectoral coordination**
- * Work has attracted a lot of **international attention** both due to the engagement with the riparian countries and the focus on transboundary (little done so far internationally)
- * **Awareness raised** in the UNECE region and beyond about intersectoral impacts and opportunities



2. The Nexus Assessment Process



Steps in the methodology and information flows



3. Main results

- * Methodology for assessing intersectoral links, trade-offs and benefits developed
- * Conclusions and general recommendations range from technical to governance related ones
- * Basin assessments:
 - * Main intersectoral linkages identified jointly; prioritization and the effects discussed
 - * a “menu” of possible synergetic, beneficial actions identified
 - * Benefits of applying a nexus approach identified, on the basis of the proposed solutions
- * An improved knowledge base about intersectoral issues and addressing them at a transboundary level



3. Main results (cont.): solutions

- * **Institutions** (intersectoral, multiple level governance, engaging resource users, responsibilities etc.)
- * **Information** (multi-sector information to support policy, assessing impacts across sectors, guidelines etc.)
- * **Instruments** (economic instruments, SEA etc.)
- * **Infrastructure** (built and natural – investments, operation, multiple use designs etc.)
- * **International coordination and cooperation** (sharing information, plans, good practices etc.)



4. Lessons learned

- * All basins unique: the **generic approach adapts** upon application to diverse settings. The methodology improved gradually in use.
- * Result of the nexus assessment may controversial to a sector or a country; the **design of the process** is important to ensure acceptance
- * An **active participation and commitment from the countries** necessary to shape the process into a valuable exercise, focusing on relevant policy issues
- * Complex issues: **clear and accessible communication** needed to ensure attention to the conclusions
- * Even though already the intersectoral-transboundary **dialogue** has value, **adequate data** is necessary for a meaningful analysis



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

- * **Assessments** replicating and adapting the methodology with or through partners: the Isonzo/Soča (continuation); North-Western Sahara Aquifer (GWP-Med, OSS), Niger (NBA, FAO, Wetlands International, GIZ)?; others subject to interest
- * **Promotion** of the findings and methodology (e.g. a brochure, policy brief, international events and processes, possible basin reports)
- * **Stock-taking workshop** on the assessments in 2016 (with GEF IW:LEARN and others)
- * Facilitating **identification of and agreement on follow-up actions** by the countries through e.g. NPDs
- * Input to collecting experience on water allocation

