

# Third comprehensive assessment of transboundary waters

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# 1. Rationale and background

- ▶ *Purpose is to keep the status of transboundary waters under scrutiny*
- ▶ *Article 11 of the Water Convention: The Riparian Parties shall, at regular intervals, carry out joint or coordinated assessments of the conditions of transboundary waters and the effectiveness of measures taken for the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact.*
- ▶ *Various technical guidelines published on monitoring and assessment (rivers, lakes, groundwaters, water quality etc,)*
- ▶ *First and Second Assessments*



## 2. Lessons learnt from earlier assessment work

- *The process is as important as the final product for dialogue, capacity building & exchange of experiences*
- *Strategic partnerships needed*
- *Intersectoral coordination at national level!*
- *More information on status and pressures than about impact and responses*
- *Different approaches/methodologies complicate regional assessments, e.g. water quality, ecological status*
- *To keep the effort manageable: Well designed and targeted collection of information, complementary information sources, seek synergy with other reporting processes*



### 3. Consideration for future work

- *3rd assessment for 2021, if not later*
- *Special edition on water–food–energy–ecosystems nexus provides intersectoral perspectives*
- *Baseline from earlier regional assessments*
- *Visible changes compared to 2010/2011!*
- *Link with SDG reporting (transboundary cooperation in IWRM, target 6.5)*
- *Complement information from reporting under the Convention*
- *Build on other related initiatives: Transboundary Waters Assessment Project (GEF), GEO, Shared Environmental Information System, reporting for the EU water directives*

