

# **Transboundary cooperation for balancing conflicting water uses in shared basins**

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Water

To ensure functioning of ecosystems  
To satisfy human needs  
For prosperity/development

*"Water for all parties"*

# Equitable and sustainable water resources management

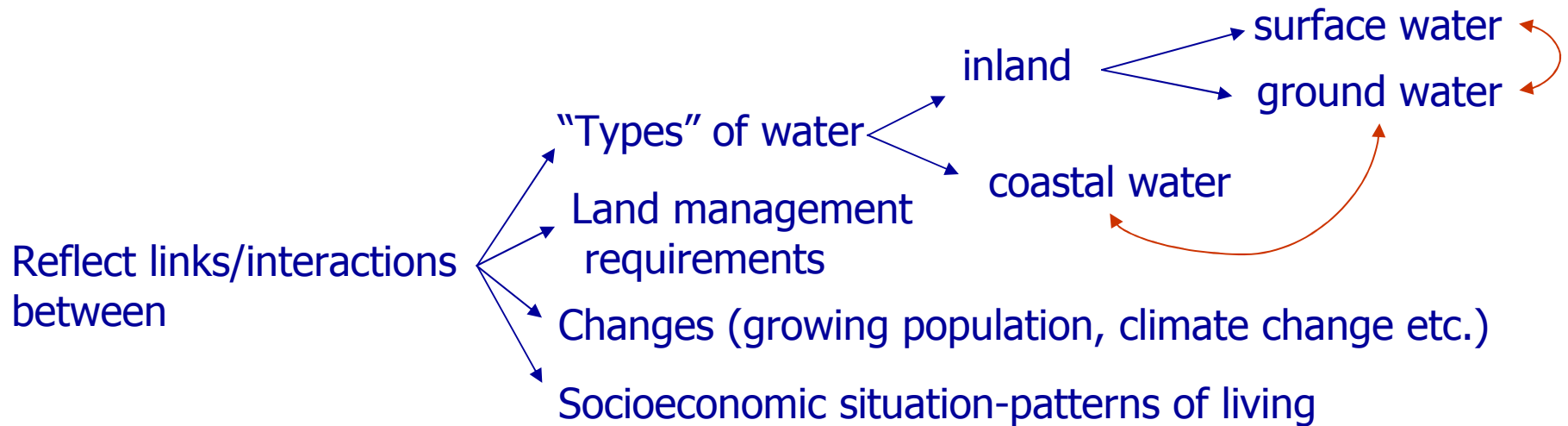
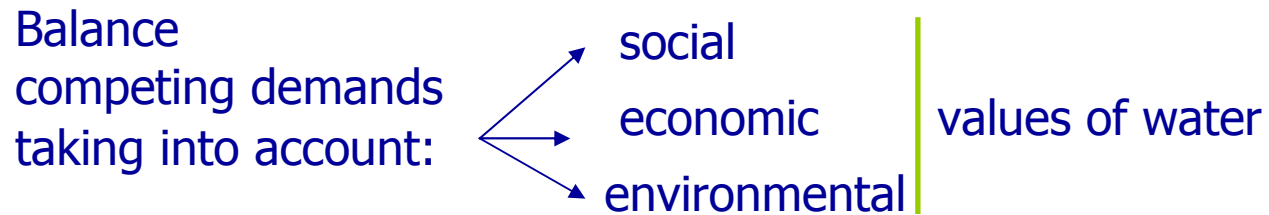
National Level

Primary responsibility rests with the governments

Stakeholders participation required

Participatory integrated assessment of needs and options

# Allocation mechanisms



# **IWRM**

**at Transboundary level**

**How do we start?**

**A balance between top-down and  
bottom up approach**

Identification of main drivers of sustainable development and prioritization (through cost-benefit analysis)



at national level

Adaptation over time to respond to a changing environment



Re-asses

# Equitable and sustainable water resources management

(not excessive,  
not full exploitation)

National Level

Transboundary  
Level ?

Primary responsibility rests  
with the governments

Stakeholders participation  
Required

Participation integrated  
assessment of needs and options

Identification of main drivers of sustainable development and prioritization (through cost-benefit analysis)

Add the regional perspective to the picture

Consideration of already undertaken commitments under international conventions and/or formal agreements

Adaptation over time to respond to a changing environment

Re-asses

# Upstream-Downstream considerations

## Drivers = Competing Uses

### Drivers of sustainable development

Including benefits, needs and concerns

Country A

A1

A2

A3

A4

A5

### Drivers of sustainable development

Including benefits, needs and concerns

Country B

B1

B2

B3

B4

B5

Drivers for Sustainable Development at transboundary level

Cooperative Management Objectives

**"Sudecir" Approach**

**Cooperation  
Management  
Objectives**

=

**Multipurpose  
management**

# The basis of discussion/negotiation

Common understanding of



# **Prerequisites of cooperation**

- **Willingness to cooperate for a Common Vision**
- **Acceptance of minimum rules**
- **Political Commitment**
- **Ambitions in combination with Pragmatism**
- **etc.**

# **Tools for Cooperation**

- **Generation of new knowledge**
- **Enhancement of human capacities**
- **Facilitating Initiatives involving minimum human and other resources**
- **Joint pilot projects**
- **Joint political statements**
- **etc.**

# Key steps to be followed

- Identification of :
  - Already undertaken commitments under international conventions and/or formal agreements
  - Previous processes and initiatives
  - Strengths
  - Weaknesses and Gaps
  - Priorities (regional and national)
  - Key obstacles to be addressed
  - Key actors
  - Potential synergies
- Agreeing on adaptive processes
- Elaborating and selecting scenaria

## **Among principal points to be taken into account:**

- There is a need to “build in” the international (multilateral) commitments as a baseline of the common (bilateral) cooperation
- Ecosystems need to be part of the equation - Employ mechanisms to internalize the value of ecosystem services in the socioeconomic assessment
- Scenaria should be based not only on short term but on medium and long term considerations, as well

**Thank you**

How to combine Bottom Up and Top Down approaches for transboundary cooperation?

What is the role of stakeholders in resolving conflicting use issues (in different parts of the basin in different countries)?