



UNECE

INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION



Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Development of
Montenegro



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

Workshop on ASSESSING THE WATER-FOOD-ENERGY-ECOSYSTEMS NEXUS AND BENEFITS OF TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION IN THE DRINA RIVER BASIN

Venue and date: Hotel Podgorica (Ulica Svetlane Kane Radević 1), Podgorica, Montenegro
21-22 April 2016

Draft Programme

Organizers: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC)
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro

Languages: English and official languages of the Drina River Basin countries (with simultaneous interpretation)

As the assessment of the intersectoral links, trade-offs and benefits in the Sava River Basin, summarized in UNECE's publication "Reconciling Different Resource Uses in Transboundary Basins: Assessment of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus" demonstrates, there are various benefits to the riparian countries from improved coordination. The findings of the assessment carried out from 2014 to 2015 under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) underline the value of transboundary cooperation for balancing between increasing energy generation, the ambitious regional climate and energy policy targets and maintaining a good status of shared waters. A broad range of beneficial response actions was outlined. Such solutions to the nexus span institutions, information, instruments, infrastructure as well as international coordination and cooperation.

The nexus assessment aims to foster transboundary cooperation by identifying intersectoral synergies and determining measures that could alleviate tensions related to the multiple needs of the riparian countries for common resources. Energy generation, agricultural and rural development, tourism, among others, have their water needs as do the ecosystems. In the Drina River Basin, the nexus assessment of the key resources – water, energy, food/land and ecosystem services – and their actual and planned uses both from a technical and governance point of view provides a basis for preparing a focused study of benefits of transboundary cooperation across sectors and identifying concrete beneficial actions.

Participation in the assessment is expected to benefit the participating countries and actors through increased efficiency in resource use and coherence in policies, through identification of opportunities for improving inter-sectoral coordination and transboundary cooperation, and through building capacity in addressing intersectoral impacts.

This workshop is organised as a key step in the nexus assessment in the Drina River Basin, to provide stakeholder inputs to the assessment to contribute to defining its focus and relevance to topical policy issues in the countries. A broad participation of sectoral authorities, private sector and the civil society is sought.

The nexus assessment and the related study of benefits in the Drina River Basin are supported financially by the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea.

DAY 1 • Thursday, April 21, 2016

9.00 – 9.30

Registration of participants

9.30 – 10.00

Welcome

Petar Ivanović, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro

Opening remarks

Salvatore D'Angelo, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of Italy

Dejan Komatina, ISRBC

Introduction

Introduction to the workshop: objectives and expectations, background and inputs to the workshop

Annikka Lipponen, UNECE

Methodology for assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus under the UNECE Water Convention

Lucia de Strasser, UNECE Consultant

Opinion survey – distribution (collection during the coffee break)

10.00 – 11.00

SESSION 1. Setting the stage: The sub-regional context

The session is aimed at providing the participants with the information on relevant processes and projects on the South-Eastern Europe (SEE), Danube and Western Balkans levels.

Chair: *representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro*

Presentations

- Overview on renewable energies: UNECE Status report and country commitments within the Energy Community: *Miloš Banjac, Vice-Chair of the UNECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE)/Assistant Minister, Ministry for Infrastructure and Energy, Republic of Serbia*
- Status of ecosystems in the Western Balkans and the outlook: *Goran Sekulić, WWF*
- Technical assistance projects to support water management in the Drina River Basin: *Dragana Milovanović, Directorate for Water, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of the Republic of Serbia*

Questions and answers

11.00 – 11.15

Coffee break



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11.15 – 12.45

SESSION 2. National development plans and sectoral goals in the Drina river basin

This session will include presentations / short statements (5-7 min. each) of governmental representatives of the water, energy, agriculture and environment sectors/authorities from the Drina River Basin countries summarising the main strategic orientations, the key policies and sectoral goals.

Chair: *Velizar Vojinović, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro*

Overview presentations and interventions by representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia:

- Water sector
- Energy sector
- Agriculture sector
- Environment

Authorities and stakeholders representing each sector concerned are invited to react to the presentation and to complement the information provided.

Questions and answers

Questions to be discussed in plenary:

- What in the sectoral plans and strategies envisage by the year 2020 and 2030?
- Do the sectoral plans envisage specific projects on the Drina (if needed, information in the presentations can be complemented by input from the desk study)?

The plans outlined for each sector, the vision and the demands are discussed in the light of the predicted trends (socio-economic, etc.).

12.45 – 13.45

Lunch break

13.45 – 15.20

SESSION 3. Exploring the nexus in the Drina Basin: Zooming in from the Sava assessment

In this session, the objective is to recall those findings of the nexus assessment in the Sava Basin that are pertinent to the Drina Basin including about status of intersectoral issues, on-going trends and developments in the basin. On the basis of this, the issues of specific relevance to the Drina will be focused on and discussed in detail.

Chair: *Boško Kenjić, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Presentations:

- An overview of the identified intersector issues and results from the analysis: *Eunice Ramos, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)*
- Governance: *Stephen Stec and Savannah Carr-Wilson, Central European University*



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Discussion:

- To what degree are the same challenges and trade-offs identified in the Sava Basin present also in the Drina Basin? Are there some significant differences?
- What are the needs and expectations of the authorities and stakeholders regarding the nexus assessment and study of benefits in the Drina Basin?
- Taking into account also the national level developments, presented earlier, what might be relevant policy questions that the assessment could help to answer?

Graphics summarizing the main issues will be distributed for the discussion and notes.

Splitting into groups, mixed by sector/specialization to review and discuss in detail nexus issues in the Drina Basin based on the findings from the Sava Basin.

Each group will be assigned a facilitator and one group member to report for the group.

The discussion will be facilitated by the distribution of the prepared material (maps of the basin and nexus graphs) to allow detailing the identified issues, including considering where in the basin they manifest themselves.

15.20 – 15.45

SESSION 4: Presentation of the group work and plenary discussion about the intersectoral issues and their relative importance

The nominated rapporteur for each of the groups will report back to the plenary about the findings, presenting the group's understanding of the intersectoral issues in the Drina Basin and commenting on how the group sees their relative importance. The groups are invited to think and make notes.

Chair: *Annukka Lipponen, UNECE*

What are the interlinkages identified by more than one group? Are they the most important ones?

In the end (or after the session by the facilitators), a consolidated picture of the interlinkages is prepared.

15.45 – 16.00

Coffee break

16.00 – 17.30

SESSION 5: Group work – intersectoral linkages and influences

The participants are divided into mixed groups to focus on selected intersectoral themes.

The groups are expected to build on the previous session's joint identification of issues and detail how specific intersectoral issues. The discussion will be facilitated by the prior distribution of intersectoral nexus graphs.

Discussion in groups:

- Where and what kind of effects are there across sectors? Can some of them be quantified?
- Which incompatibilities or trade-offs have the greatest impact? (Try to agree in the group about an order of importance).



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The groups should note down possible solutions or improvements to the current situation, without evaluating them too critically yet. Their advantages and limitations will be discussed later on (session 7).

The groups are encouraged to start thinking what information is still needed (time permitting).

Discussion groups report back to the plenary.

19.30

Joint dinner

DAY 2 • Friday, April 22, 2016

[8.30 – 9.00 Preparatory meeting for the group work facilitators]

9.00 – 10.00

SESSION 6: Predicted impacts of the climate change on the Sava and the Drina River Basins (plenary)

Climate variability and change influence the conditions for the different sectors and the ecosystems, and hence how the nexus plays out in the future. In this session, the climate change-related activities relevant to the basin and predictions for the sub-region will be presented.

Presentations:

- Climate change predictions for the Sava River Basin and relevant projects on climate change, *Dejan Komatina, ISRBC*
- Mitigation and adaptation to climate change in Montenegro *Institute of Hydrometeorology and Seismology, Montenegro (TBC)*

Chair: *Annikka Lipponen, UNECE*

Discussion:

- What the predicted impacts of climate change mean concretely at the level basin — for the sectors?
- How would the changes affect intersector dynamics?

10.00 – 11.15

SESSION 7 (part 1): Reconciling different uses: potential nexus solutions

In this session, potential solutions to alleviate the negative impacts in the nexus are discussed (plenary), taking as a starting point the ideas put forward in the discussions on Day 1.

The first part of the session focuses on possible nexus solutions which could be of various kinds – changes to policies, new policies, management and measures practices, institutional arrangements, infrastructure operation and so on.

Chair: *Dragana Milovanović, Directorate for Water, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of the Republic of Serbia*

Five types of nexus solutions (5 Is): Institutions, Information, Instruments, Infrastructure and International coordination and cooperation

Roberto Martin-Hurtado, UNECE consultant

Invited short interventions on examples of solutions:

- Institutional solutions: *Stephen Stec, CEU*
- Infrastructure solutions: Guiding Principles: Sustainable Hydropower Development in the Danube Basin: *Momčilo Blagojević, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro*
- International coordination and cooperation in development financing: *Sven Hartmann, KfW Group, Germany*

Questions:

- What opportunities are there to reduce negative intersectoral impacts and enhance positive impacts (synergy)?
- Who (which sector, etc.) is in a position to do something about the identified potential solutions?
- Can some priorities for the above be identified for possible follow-up?

11.15 – 11.30

Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00

SESSION 7 (part 2): Benefits of transboundary cooperation

The objective of the session is to carry out a preliminary identification of possible types benefits of transboundary cooperation applicable in the case of the Drina Basin. A basis for the discussion is set by presenting the UNECE *Policy Guidance Note on the Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation: Identification, Assessment and Communication*¹. The input to the discussion will be used for a focused study of cooperation benefits.

Introduction: Towards a broader understanding of benefits of cooperation

Roberto Martin-Hurtado, UNECE consultant

Questions for discussion:

- Which nexus solutions identified require cooperation between the riparian countries?
- What possible benefits could be achieved through developing cooperation?

13.00 – 13.30

SESSION 8: Information and sources, indicators and presentation of findings

In this session, information needed to describe the identified inter-sectoral linkages and impacts as well as possible indicators to quantify them will be discussed.

To stimulate the discussion the international experts will show some initial elements/findings for the nexus assessment based on the data and documentation available, including as much as possible the questionnaire replies and the highlights of previous sessions. It will also be discussed what

¹ The Policy Guidance Note is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41340>

analyses or quantification could be made, and whether some scenarios could be developed based on the sectoral plans outlines and/or climate change.

Chair: *Lucia de Strasser, UNECE consultant*

Discussion:

- What are the possible indicators for the trade-offs or conflicts identified? (international experts can provide a list for review and inspiration)
- Is the proposed list of nexus issues descriptive of the Drina Basin?
- Should other qualitative or quantitative indicators be added to the list?
- What information is still needed? What are sources for this information?

13.30 –14.00

SESSION 9: Further steps of the nexus assessment and benefits' study in the Drina River Basin

The schedule of the nexus assessment is recalled in this session. The next steps in the assessment process are agreed upon, including the deadlines and responsibilities.

- Collection and sharing of information and data
- Analyses and quantification
- Preparation of the draft assessment
- Preparation of a study on the benefits of cooperation
- Review of the draft assessment by the national administrations and commenting
- Presentation of findings to the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus (December 2016)

Chair: *Dejan Komatina, ISRBC*

Conclusions of the workshop

Dejan Komatina, ISRBC

Annikka Lipponen, UNECE

14.00

Closure of the workshop

14.00 – 15.00

Lunch