“Governance and cooperation: Chapters 4 and 8”

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2d Workshop on Assessing the Nexus and Benefits of Transboundary Cooperation in the Drina River Basin

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Recent developments

- Podgorica Workshop (April)
  - Desk Study Completed
- Revision of assessment outline
- “Zoom in” from Sava to Drina
- Updated institutional mapping (Serbia)
- Governance input in context of substantive chapters
- Development of possible actions/solutions
Complexity

Governance in the context of nexus has several problematic aspects –

• 1. differences in governance structures, institutions and cultures across sectors
• 2. differences in geographical scale/ - global/regional/river basin/transboundary/national/subnational
• 3. differences in decision-making processes and differences in planning cycles (timing)
• 4. Changes in global/international governance context
Governance Context in Brief

- Global SDGs, MEAs, declarations, etc
- Regional MEAs, e.g., Water Convention, Espoo, SEA
- EU membership - WFD, CAP etc
- European Energy Community
- Basin-level organizations - Danube and Sava

- Limited bilateral arrangements
- No Drina basin organization
Intersectoral coordination on transboundary level

- MEA regimes (Espoo, SEA Protocol)
- FASRB, Danube conventions
- ICSRB Secretariat
- Frameworks for energy, agriculture, etc
- Ad hoc bilateral/trilateral arrangements
Intersectoral coordination on national level

- Mapping of authorities
- Legislative framework overview
- National framework for EU accession
- Application of SEA on national level
- Integrated permitting/EIA
- Inspection and enforcement
- Aarhus Convention principles
General Governance Issues

- Rule of law
- Absence of corruption
- Financial and human capacities
- Stakeholder engagement
Selected findings

• Further progress made in identifying actors in the three countries, especially in the areas of energy and water management

• Overall, there is a need to create further mechanisms for horizontal coordination between policymakers on nexus issues, and to strengthen mechanisms that already exist

• In some countries, legislation enables the creation of bodies that could obtain input from a variety of stakeholders on environmental issues; in some cases there are implementation issues
Selected findings (2)

- Constantly changing laws to keep pace with EU requirements creates progress, but also means implementation often lags behind law creation.
- In particular, there is often a lack of necessary secondary legislation (i.e. by-laws, regulations) for key pieces of environmental legislation.
- Laws on integrated permitting potentially a very good tool but not yet functioning optimally.
Governance in Chapters 5-8
Options/solutions and Governance

- Governance issues considered in each chapter
- Filling gaps in transboundary governance framework
- Strengthening instruments for cooperation
- In-depth national level nexus assessment
- Enhancing national intersectoral coordination
Mechanism for Drina Nexus Cooperation

Must take into account:

- Basin and other geographical scales
- Planning cycles
- Degree of regionalization/globalization
- Points of contact between processes
Issues for SRB Context (and/or EEC, RRD SWG)

- Montenegro status
- Scope of regime
- Degree of authority
- Outreach to processes beyond practice or mandate
Proposed Policy Options/Solutions (Ch. 8)

- Explore development of a ‘Drina nexus platform’
  - Possibly under SRBC auspices
  - Extending contacts w/ other processes
- Detailed national nexus governance assessments carried out by each government
- Potential to better align policy timelines and related planning cycles
- National level capacity building, public education campaigns
- Pilot assessment tools (such as sustainability impact assessment) w/ nexus framework
THANK YOU!

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