Objectives of Governance Assessment

• To gain a better understanding of the context in which nexus sectors of activity operate
• To generate understanding of instruments, actors and institutions aimed at transboundary cooperation to achieve sustainable integration of the different sectors
• To achieve a better understanding of a complex system, of its performance, strengths and weaknesses at different scales and entry points
The Task

• “Revise the governance component of the nexus assessment methodology covering all the four sectors/resources (water, energy, land/agriculture and ecosystems) and work out an improved general governance assessment framework with supporting aids such as a matrix or a check list of features by sector and/or a governance survey.”
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 of policy and decisionmaking/ - 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
The Revised Governance Methodology

Provenance

1. Diagnostic audit methodology (e.g., Tisza River Basin, REC)
2. Preliminary draft governance methodology (C. Bréthaut, University of Geneva), tested within a research project regarding the Rhone River basin
3. Practical adaptation and provisional application in several basins
4. UNECE, “Reconciling resource uses in transboundary basins: assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus” (particularly, the chapter on “Nexus assessment methodology and its development process” and Annex V: “Guide to the Governance Analysis”)
5. Water article by de Strasser et al.
6. Feedback
The Revised Governance Methodology

Considerations

• 1. Take into account lessons learned
• 2. Acknowledge variation in basins
  – Geophysical, socioeconomic, geopolitical, cultural
• 3. Allow for adaptation
  – RGM has to be elemental and flexible
• 4. Ownership and need for updating on national level
The Revised Governance Methodology

Overview

• 1. Background
• 2. Rationale
• 3. Assumptions
• 4. Governance entry points in overall methodology
  — Socioeconomic context
  — Key sectors and actors/mapping
  — Sectoral analysis
  — Intersectoral analysis
  — “Nexus dialogue”
• 5. Solutions and benefits
Stages in Nexus Assessment

1. Socio-economic context
2. Key sectors, key actors
3. Analysis of key sectors
4. Intersectoral issues
5. Nexus dialogue
6. Solutions and benefits

Analysis of the basin (with indicators) -> Active engagement (workshop and follow-up meeting) -> Limited quantification (with indicators)

Factual questionnaire
Key documentation

Opinion questionnaire
Desk study: Sectors, resources and governance analysis

Report: Nexus issues, solutions and benefits
Governance Assessment Methodology

• **Some key elements:**
  
  – *Global/regional/transboundary policy frameworks*
  
  – *Strategic decisions/implementation and acceptance*
  
  – *Scope of transboundary cooperation/institutions*
  
  – *Gaps and conflicts*
  
  – *Conditions (effective institutions, ROL, SH engagement, transparency, capacities, corruption)*
Framework for Environmental Governance: Global

- **Global Conferences** (Stockholm, Rio, Jo’burg, Rio+20, trade/development conferences)
- **2015 SDGs** – Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030 (e.g., SDG 16)
- **Paris Agreement**
- **Sendai Framework** on DRR
Governance Context in Brief (Sava and Drina examples)

• 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
• Bilateral arrangements
National Governance Assessments

• Sectoral and intersectoral
• Mapping institutions and actors
• Legislative/regulatory frameworks
• Governance cultures by sector
• Can be analyzed according to: extent, coherence, robustness, flexibility
• Geographical scale of decisionmaking
• Identification of “hot spots”/conflicting uses/rivalries
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
Kinds of findings

• Mapping of institutions and actors
• Inventory of policies and legislation (assessment of adoption of state of the art)
• Mapping contact points (timing, processes)
• Assessment of mechanisms for horizontal coordination
• Assessment of stakeholder engagement and cultural aspects
Actions/Solutions

*Improvement of data platforms*

*Acceptance of instruments*

*Integration*

*Engagement and dialogue*

*Feedback (monitoring, inspection, enforcement)*
Kinds of Proposed Policy Options/Solutions

Aimed at governance aspects of specific ‘interventions’ (cross-sectoral/multi-sectoral) and also aimed at overall Governance Framework

• Governance issues considered in each chapter
• Filling gaps in transboundary governance framework/ Strengthening instruments for cooperation
  — Explore development of a [TBA] nexus platform, possibly under auspices of existing cooperative framework, extending contacts w/ other processes
• In-depth national level 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
  — Enhancing national intersectoral coordination
• Pilot assessment tools (such as sustainability impact assessment) w/ nexus framework
Mechanism for Nexus Cooperation:
Broadening & developing scope of cooperation

Must take into account:
• Basin and other geographical scales
• Planning cycles
• Scope
• Degree of regionalization/globalization
• Points of contact between processes

Should aim at:
1. Harmonization, strengthening, inclusion.
3. Expanding the use of instruments aimed at integration.
THANK YOU!

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