Global network of basins working on climate adaptation: progress update

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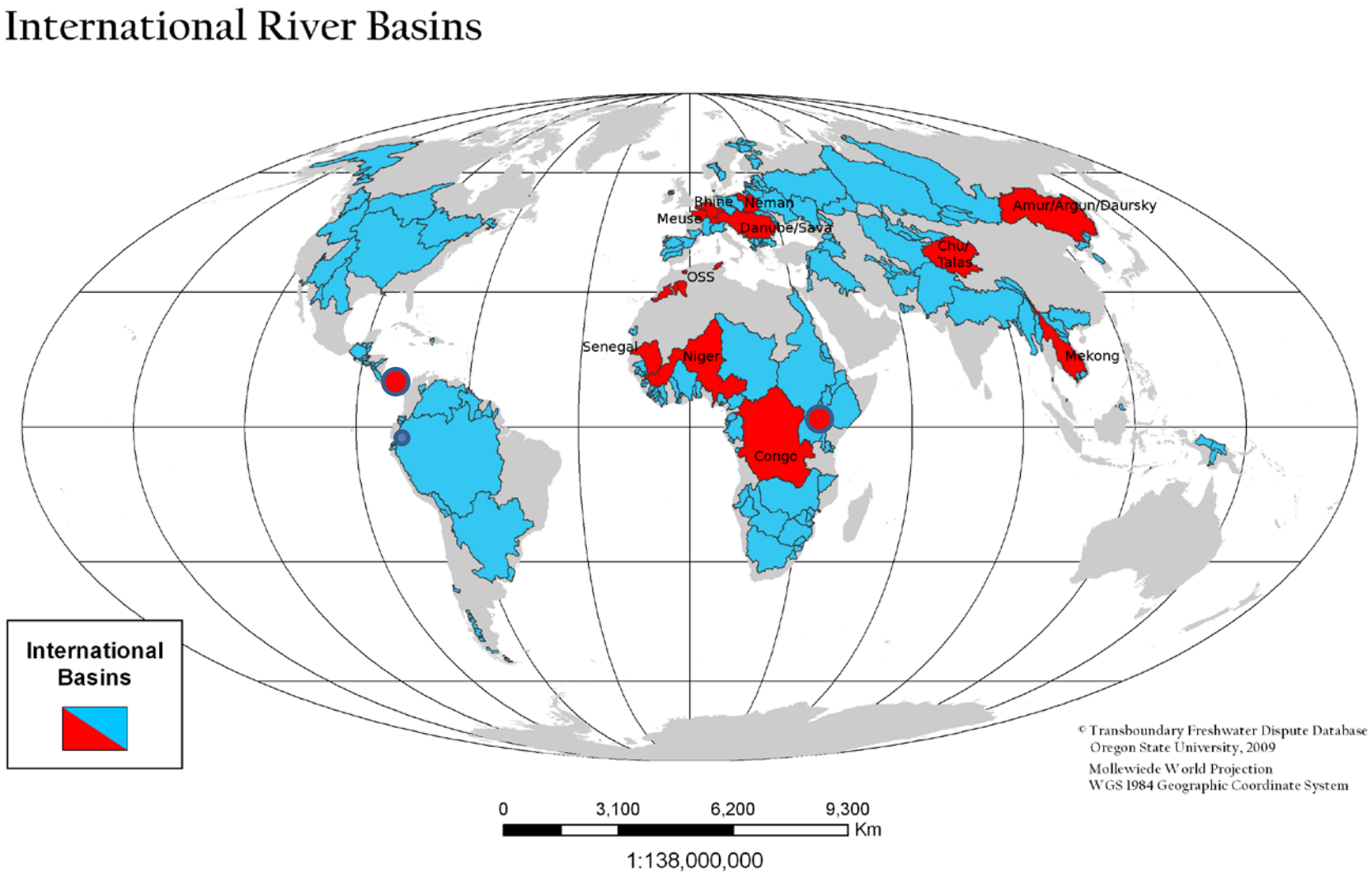
Global network of basins working on climate change adaptation

- Global network of basins working on water and climate managed by UNECE and INBO
- Created in 2013
  - Basins with different priorities (water scarcity, floods)
  - Currently 16 basins, 2 new ones
- Includes a platform for exchanging experiences and regular meetings
- Collection of good practices and lessons learnt on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins
- Other interested basins invited to join

Global network of basins working on climate change adaptation



Activities on climate change under the Water Convention in 2016-2018

- Lead Parties: Switzerland, the Netherlands
- Pilot projects: moving towards implementation, scaling up, mainstreaming and ensure sustainability of projects: continuation of ongoing pilots + possibly new ones
- Continuation and expansion of the global network of basins coordinated with INBO
- Exchange of experience: 2 global workshops + 2 meetings of global network + specific exchanges within network e.g. focused on adaptation-mitigation linkages, scenarios, water scarcity, financing
- Contribution to global processes on water and climate such as under UNFCCC and UNISDR, including Paris Pact

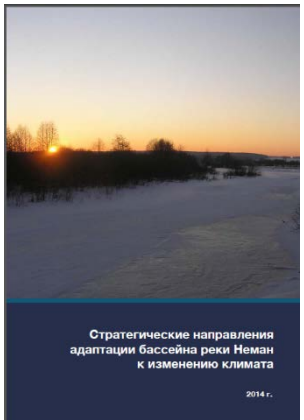
Progress report of the network: 2017

13 reports out of 16

Thank you!

Good practice examples from the network of basins

- Niger basin developed a transboundary climate investment plan
- Lake Victoria Basin Commission developed a successful application for a transboundary project to the Adaptation Fund
- Observatory for Sahara and Sahel (groundwater in the MENA region) became accredited to the Adaptation Fund and for the Green Climate Fund
- Neman basin developed a transboundary adaptation strategy
- Dniester basin developed a transboundary adaptation strategy and its implementation plan as well as implemented measures
- Senegal: decision to develop climate investment plan in May 2017
- Sava developed an outline of the adaptation strategy
- Chu Talas: developed an annex to the TDA on climate change
- Congo: working on improving monitoring system and proposal development



Major challenges

- Differences in methodological approach eg. Monitoring and sharing data
- Engagement of governments at national and local levels
- Intersectoral cooperation & coordination (TB issues)
- Limited capacity of joint bodies
- Lack of resources

Lessons learned

- Joint commissions – good example of transboundary cooperaton
- Importance of interaction between policy and technical level
- Involvement of local stakeholders is crucial; mix of top-down and bottom-up approaches
- Lead country, strong leadership
- CC adaptation is often not a priority
- Adaptive management, deal with uncertainty of CC
- Need for flexibility and compromises
- Importance of ecosystem monitoring data
- Information exchange platform is important

Future priorities for the network

- Building knowledge on climate change adaptation
- Facilitating technical discussions eg. environmental flows, public participation, adaptation measures
- Developing guidance and standards
- Advice on coordination between local & national & transboundary levels
- Collect and share best practices
- Training on best management practices
- Communication campaign ideas
- Donor coordination and support developing proposals