

# Trainings in preparing bankable project proposals for climate change adaptation in transboundary basins

Sonja Koeppel  
UNECE Water Convention



# Global workshop on financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins (Geneva, 12-13 Sept 2016)

- About 100 participants from governments, RBOs, (non) governmental agencies, academia, IFIs
- Under the leadership of the Netherlands and Switzerland, jointly with WB, INBO, IUCN, AGWA, WMO, GEF IW Learn,
- Presentations of GCF, EIB, AfDB, etc

## OUTCOMES:

- The need to address the lack of capacity in river basin organisations (RBOs) and national authorities to prepare bankable project proposals;
- The need to generate replicable business models for financing climate change adaptation at the basin level;
- The need to put more emphasis on the transboundary dimension, which should be integrated into national adaptation projects, where relevant.

# Training on how to prepare bankable project proposals for financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins (Dakar, 21-23 June 2017)

- Strong interest from the countries; attended by 30 trainees from African basins and Dniester, Sava, Neman and Chu Talas
- Jointly organized with World Bank, European Investment Bank, African Development Bank and INBO
- Hosted by OMVS (Senegal basin development organization)
- Outputs: overview paper prepared
- Website: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=45666#/>
- Future workshop planned for 2019 for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia



# Outcomes of the training on how to prepare bankable project proposals for financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins

- \* Range of different funding possibilities with different focus and requirements – need for better overview and need to identify good fund and adapt proposal to funding source depending on project type
- \* Bankability has different meanings for different banks – including with regards to transboundary basins
- \* Each river basin organization is different and needs to find its «niche» regarding cc adaptation and demonstrate added value
- \* Projects need to be technically sound and financially viable, and comply with environmental protection and social standards
- \* Take sufficient time for project preparation
- \* Political buy-in needed – e.g. agreement or MoU in basin (must be strong enough, even under political changes)

# Trainings at basin level as follow-up

- N'Djémana, 19-20 November 2018:
  - Project initiated by Chad following its accession to the Water Convention
  - Organized in partnership with AfDB, the training aimed to build the capacity of experts to address climate change and other transboundary water governance risks in the region through the preparation of well-designed bankable projects.
- Tirana, 26-27 November 2018, for the Drin:
  - In the framework of the GEF-UNDP-GWP-Med project
  - Training aimed to increase capacity in preparing bankable projects



# Good practice examples

- Niger basin developed a transboundary climate investment plan
- Nile basin developed a basin-wide climate change strategy
- 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 is in the process of doing so 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



# Positive outcomes of these activities

- Transboundary adaptation strategies have inspired and facilitated national adaptation strategies e.g. in the Dniester
- Transboundary/ regional organizations as accredited agencies can submit funds for countries to climate funds, e.g. OSS
- Joint capacity-building on developing bankable project proposals e.g. in the Neman basin
- Cooperation on climate change adaptation can facilitate broader transboundary cooperation
- Donors are interested in projects based on basin-wide adaptation strategies and plans- e.g. EIB for Dniester
- Banks: compliance with international water law is an important aspect in the preparation of funding applications.

**Thank you for your attention!**

**More information**

**<http://unece.org/env/water>**

**[www.unece.org/env/water/water climate activ](http://www.unece.org/env/water/water_climate_activ)**

**<https://www2.unece.org/ehlm/platform/display/ClimateChange>**

**[Sonja.Koeppel@unece.org](mailto:Sonja.Koeppel@unece.org)**

**[Water.convention@unece.org](mailto:Water.convention@unece.org)**

