Work on monitoring and assessment under the Water Convention

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The basis: Monitoring and assessment obligations in the Water Convention

* Both general obligations and obligations specific to Riparian parties promote sharing of information

* General obligations:
  * Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters for water quantity and quality is a core requirement
  * Data exchange in transboundary basins

* Specific obligations for parties:
  * Conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements Cooperate on the basis of IWRM
  * Establish joint bodies (e.g. river commissions)
  * Consult and exchange of information
  * Joint monitoring and assessment
  * Elaborate joint objectives and action programme

=> the Convention supports and reinforces basin level cooperation and implementation of basin agreements
The basis: Monitoring and assessment activities under the Water Convention

- **Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment**
- **Various guidelines on monitoring and assessment** developed in the 1990s and 2000s; tested in pilot projects on both surface waters and groundwaters
- **Regional assessments**: 1st Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters (2007), 2nd Assessment (2011)
- Lately monitoring and assessment has been integrated into thematic activities, or has been a component in projects on the ground
- **Reporting under the Water Convention** on cooperation, including in monitoring and information exchange
Programme of work 2019-2021:
PA 2 - Supporting monitoring, assessment and information sharing in transboundary basins

2.1 Organize of a global workshop on information exchange and regional events on monitoring and assessment
   a. A global workshop on data and information exchange with partners, develop a substantive background paper.
   b. Two regional capacity building events on monitoring and assessment, responding to specific regional needs.

2.2 Tailored assistance and gathering experience for updating guidance material under the Convention
   a. Targeted assistance to cooperation processes through monitoring and assessment work on the basis of demands.
   b. Promoting exchanges between countries or basin organizations
   c. Thematic and basin level activities will be used to collect information on the gaps, updating needs and shortcomings of the existing monitoring guidance to guide future review (for the next triennium).