Transboundary Water Allocation Handbook

2nd Expert Group Meeting
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Presenter:
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Thematic Group Discussion:
Assessment of water resources

Case study:
XXXXXXXXXXXX
What are the most important aspects of this thematic element to include in the Handbook?

A. Availability & Variability of Surface Waters and Groundwaters

B. Competing Uses
   i. Water Scarcity & Efficiency
   ii. Sectors: Different major water use sectors (agriculture, industry, households, environment).

C. Climate Change as a Cross-Cutting Challenge

D. Integrity of ecosystems

E. Historical, Current & Future Uses

F. Impacts of Withdrawals and Flow Regulation
   i. Existing Uses: Overview on how various water uses and functions can be reconciled with finite supply and considering the aspects of quantity, quality, timing, and ecosystem requirements.
   ii. Water Quality: Impact of withdrawals and flow regulation on water quality; dilution of pollution loads
   iii. Ecosystem Degradation: Importance of ecosystems, levels to be maintained, minimum requirements.

G. Preventing, Controlling and Mitigating Impacts

H. Reconciliation of Different Water Uses and Needs
   i. Equitable and Reasonable Utilization

I. Cooperation and Good Neighbourliness
   i. Transboundary Water Agreements
   ii. Joint Bodies and Cooperation Arrangements

J. Knowledge Base for Transboundary Water Allocation

K. Assessing Available Water Resources and E-flows

L. Environmental Impact Assessment
2. Highlight and discuss the potential need to limit withdrawals or prioritise certain uses (particularly human consumption and domestic use) at times
   a. If information about available resources is available and the legitimate demands are known and prioritised it will be easy to negotiate sustainable and equitable allocation;
   b. It would be good to carry out an options assessment so that the basket of benefits and therefore the available resources are equitably distributed per established needs;
   c. Baseline Assessment of the basin to determine the health status and define the development space

- Where would you highlight this thematic element within the different Chapters and how?
- Chapters: II, III, and IV,
  - How would you avoid repetition and demonstrate linkages?
  - By referencing the various elements at the appropriate sections to avoid repeating them as well limiting the depth of discussions of each issue.
Some case studies have been identified as relevant to this thematic element.

1. The CORB E-flows Assessment Study – Environment as a legitimate user of the Resource;

2. The Draft Water Allocation Strategy – The methodologies and processes of coming up with the Strategy; specific elements addressed by the strategy e.g. prioritized needs, available resources, etc.

3. The OKACOM DSS Framework – Information Collection, Processing and sharing.