UNECE Nexus Methodology

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Fifth meeting of the Task Force on the Nexus Water Convention, UNECE
Geneva, 18 Oct 2017
Background

Methodology developed ad hoc for the UNECE. Pillars:

- Participatory process
- Knowledge mobilization
- Sound scientific analysis
- Benefits and opportunities

Applications:

- Alazani/Ganykh (Azerbaijan, Georgia)
- Sava (Bosnia&Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia)
- Syr Darya (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)
- Isonzo/Soča (Italy, Slovenia)
- Drina (Bosnia&Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia)
- North West Saharan Aquifer System (Algeria, Lybia, Tunisia) (ongoing)
The Assessment Process

Analysts

Desk study

In depth analysis of issues and solutions

1st Workshop

Jointly identified issues and solutions

2nd Workshop

Authorities and stakeholders

Factual questionnaire
Relevant documentation on the basin

Opinion-based questionnaire

Key policy and strategic documents
Specific information requests
A six step methodology

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

- Factual questionnaire
- Key documentation
- Desk study: Sectors, resources and governance analysis
- Opinion based questionnaire
- Basin report: Nexus issues, solutions & benefits

Analysis of the basin (with indicators) → Active engagement (workshop & follow up meeting) → Limited quantification (with indicators)
## A six step methodology

### Steps in the nexus assessment of a basin

<p>| Step | Identification of basin conditions and its socio economic context | Identification of key sectors and stakeholders to be included in the assessment | Analysis of the key sectors |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <strong>Actors</strong> | Analysts. | Analysts. Authorities | Analysts. Authorities |
| <strong>Location</strong> | Desk study | Desk study | Desk study/1st Workshop |
| <strong>Sectors</strong> | General. Information normally used to underpin sectoral planning. Key elements include general socio-economic goals and targets. | General. Requires expert judgment understanding of local context and governance. | Individual sector experts and plans. Key elements include identifying resource flows and institutional mapping. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Identification of intersectoral issues</th>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
<th>1st Workshop</th>
<th>Sectoral group discussion on interlinkages (input needs, impacts and trade-offs), and discussion on sectoral plans</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Nexus dialogue and future developments</td>
<td>Stakeholders</td>
<td>1st Workshop</td>
<td>Agreeing on a prioritization of main interlinkages. How the interlinkages are expected to change according to jointly identified development trends, noting key uncertainties and most important drivers</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Identification of opportunities for improvement (across the sectors and countries)</td>
<td>Stakeholders and analysts</td>
<td>1st Workshop/2nd Workshop/Desk study</td>
<td>Within the context of 5, there is an identification of solutions with multiple impacts between sectors, scales and boundaries. Such solutions could eventually be integrated into policies and programmes in the countries/basins.</td>
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Methodological progress

General:
Governance – effort to streamline elements of governance analysis
Application to the case of an aquifer - ?

Specifically on steps:
1. Exploiting synergies with earlier efforts, e.g. questionnaires often not necessary
2. Identification of actors - ?
3. Higher involvement of local experts for better understanding issues
4-5. Towards more focused discussions on specific issues: thematic working groups
6. Structured discussion on benefits of cooperation during workshop

Case by case changes to maximize impact in the basins/regions:
Looking for alignment and synergy with other projects (e.g. GEF TDA)
For more information on the methodology see:
