Cooperation Process for the management of the Drin Basin

Tirana, October 2012

Drin Core Group
Towards the enhancement of transboundary cooperation among the Drin Riparians for the sustainable management of the extended Drin River Basin.
International Roundtable on “Integrated Management of Shared Lake Basins in Southeastern Europe” (Ohrid 12-14 October 2006)

Consultation Meeting on Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin (Tirana, Albania, 24/11/2008)

Meeting to coordinate joint action for the initiation of a structured Drin Dialogue (Sarajevo, 18/5/2009)

First Drin Core Group Meeting (Podgorica, Montenegro, 1/12/2009)

Initiation of the Drin Dialogue
Drin Dialogue process

The Policy Framework was provided *inter alia* by the:

- The **UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention)**

- The **European Union Water Framework Directive (EU WFD)**

- The **Petersberg Phase II Process / Athens Declaration Process** (jointly coordinated by Germany, Greece and the World Bank - with the active participation of key regional organizations and bodies including UNECE, UNDP, UNESCO, GEF etc).

- Other compatible **Multi-lateral Agreements**
Drin Dialogue process

A coordinated and structured consultation process among the:
- water resources management competent ministries of the Riparians,
- the existing joint commissions/committees in the sub-basins and the
- stakeholders
Main objective: The development of a Strategic Shared Vision among the competent national authorities and stakeholders for the sustainable management of the Drin basin.
"Strategic Shared Vision" for the management of the Drin Basin

Describe the **vision** regarding the management of the Basin in relation to its sustainable development including **actions** to **address key issues** as well as actions to **enhance cooperation** among the Riparians.

Based on the views and opinions of the stakeholders as identified through the Drin Dialogue Process.
Drin Dialogue process

How?

Through activities financed by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Drin Dialogue process

How?

Activities

- Situation Analysis
- Drin Core Group Meetings
- National Consultation Meetings
- Consultation Meeting at Drin Basin level
Identify and briefly analyze the key issues linked with water resources management in the Basin.

Using the GEF Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis methodology
The coordinating body of the Drin Dialogue

A. Members:
- Representatives of the Ministries of the Riparians competent for water resources management
- Representatives of the joint bodies in place (Prespa, Ohrid, Skadar/Shkoder)
- UNECE
- GWP-Med
- MIO-ECSDE

B. Observers
Swedish EPA; EC; UNDP/GEF

GWP-Med is the Secretariat providing technical and administrative support.
Used as means to involve the stakeholders of the Riparians in the Drin Dialogue – Create ownership

Stakeholders discuss, interact and elaborate on basin management issues, and facilitate the development of the Strategic Shared Vision for the management of the Drin Basin.
The final step of the Drin Dialogue.

It built on the outcomes of the:
- Three National Consultation Meetings; Work of the Drin Core Group.

**Who?** Representatives of Riparians’ national authorities and other key national and local stakeholders.
Identification and brief analysis of the key issues linked with water resources management of the Drin Basin

"Strategic Shared Vision" for the management of the Drin Basin possibly complemented by a Plan of Action for the promotion of multilateral coordination/cooperation

Meeting 1 → Meeting 2 → Meeting 3 → Meeting 4

Meeting 1: FYR Macedonia Consultation Meeting
Meeting 2: Albania Consultation Meeting
Meeting 3: Montenegro Consultation Meeting
Meeting 4: 2nd Drin Consultation Meeting

Drin Dialogue → Drin Core Group Meetings → National Consultation Meetings

Consultation Meeting at Drin Basin level
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Ohrid - National Consultation Meeting (Ohrid, 2/11/10)

Tirana - National Consultation Meeting, (Tirana, 5/4/11)

Podgorica - National Consultation Meeting, (Podgorica, 28/9/11)

Transboundary - National Consultation Meeting, (Tirana, 25/11/11)

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Transboundary - National Consultation Meeting, (Tirana, 25/11/11)
Drin Core Group Meetings (2nd to 6th)

Meeting of the Parties to the MoU, (Ministerial Meeting, Tirana, 11/12)

Initiation of the Drin Dialogue (Ohrid, 18/4/11)

Drin MoU (Tirana, 25/11/11)

Characterization of the Basin (WFD) – Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis

Monitoring – System for exchange of information

Cooperation on flood risk preparedness and management

Preparation of an Agreement

Preparation of coordinated management plans (beyond 2015)

Etc.

Implementation of the Drin MoU

2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)