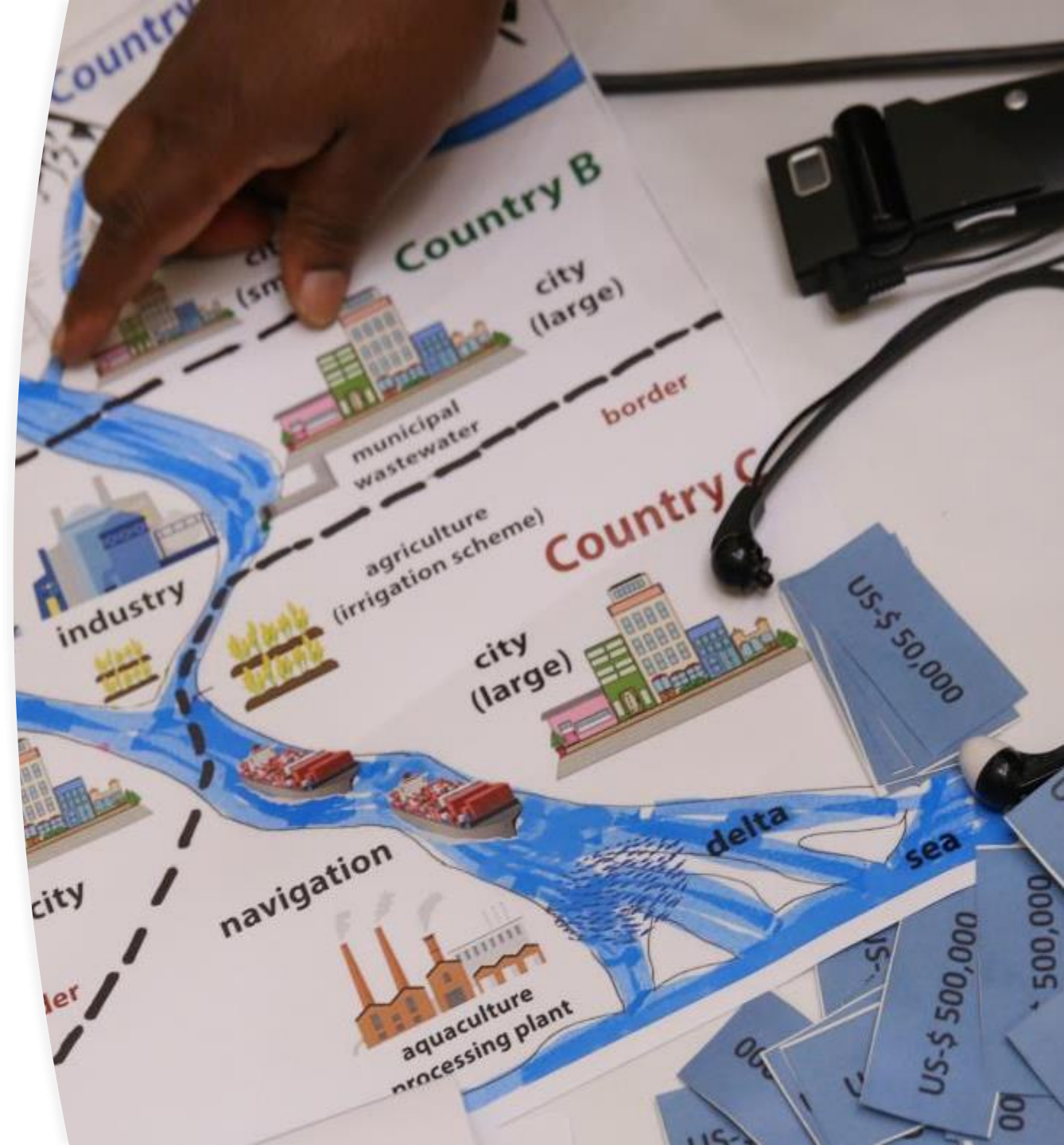


Financing transboundary climate change adaptation in shared basins

Hanna Plotnykova, Water
Convention Secretariat, UNECE

Workshop on Economic Implications of
Climate Change and Water Scarcity in the
Mashreq Region

1-3 December 2020



Why transboundary cooperation in climate change adaptation?

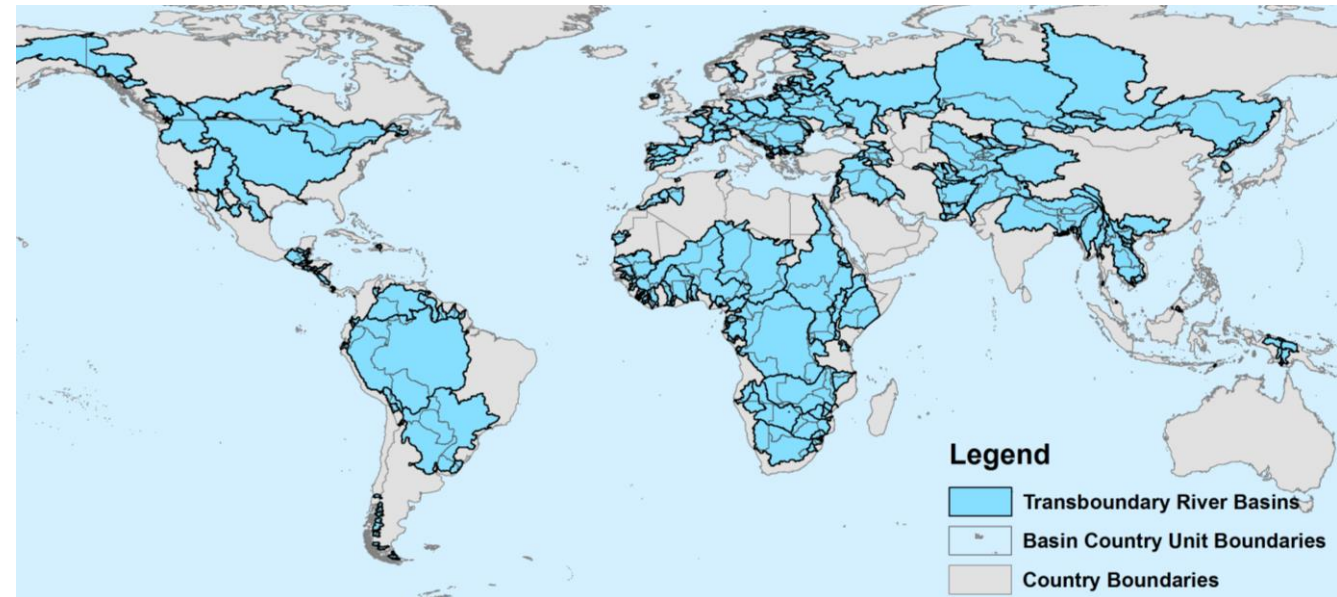
- More efficient adaptation: sharing data, enlarging the planning space and identification of better priorities as well as sustainable development and regional integration
- Avoiding mal-adaptation
- Addressing floods and droughts more efficiently
- Reducing uncertainties
- Can support adaptation planning at the country level

<http://twap-rivers.org/>



Sharing costs and benefits

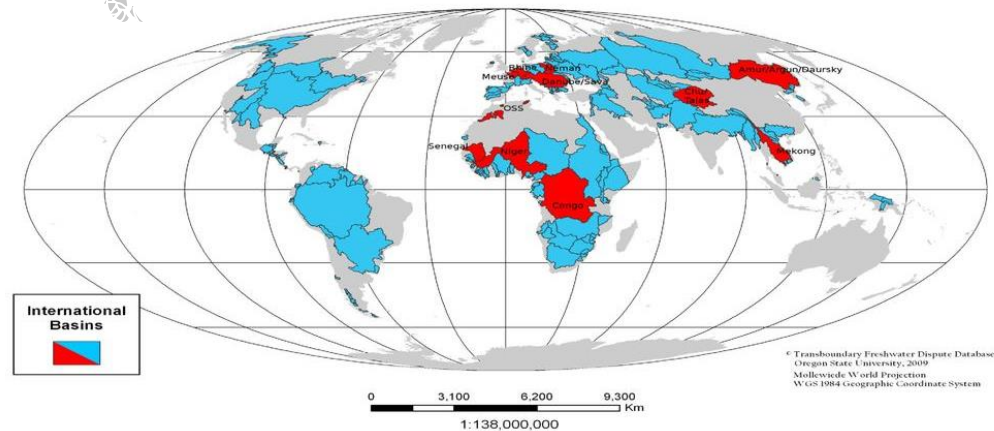
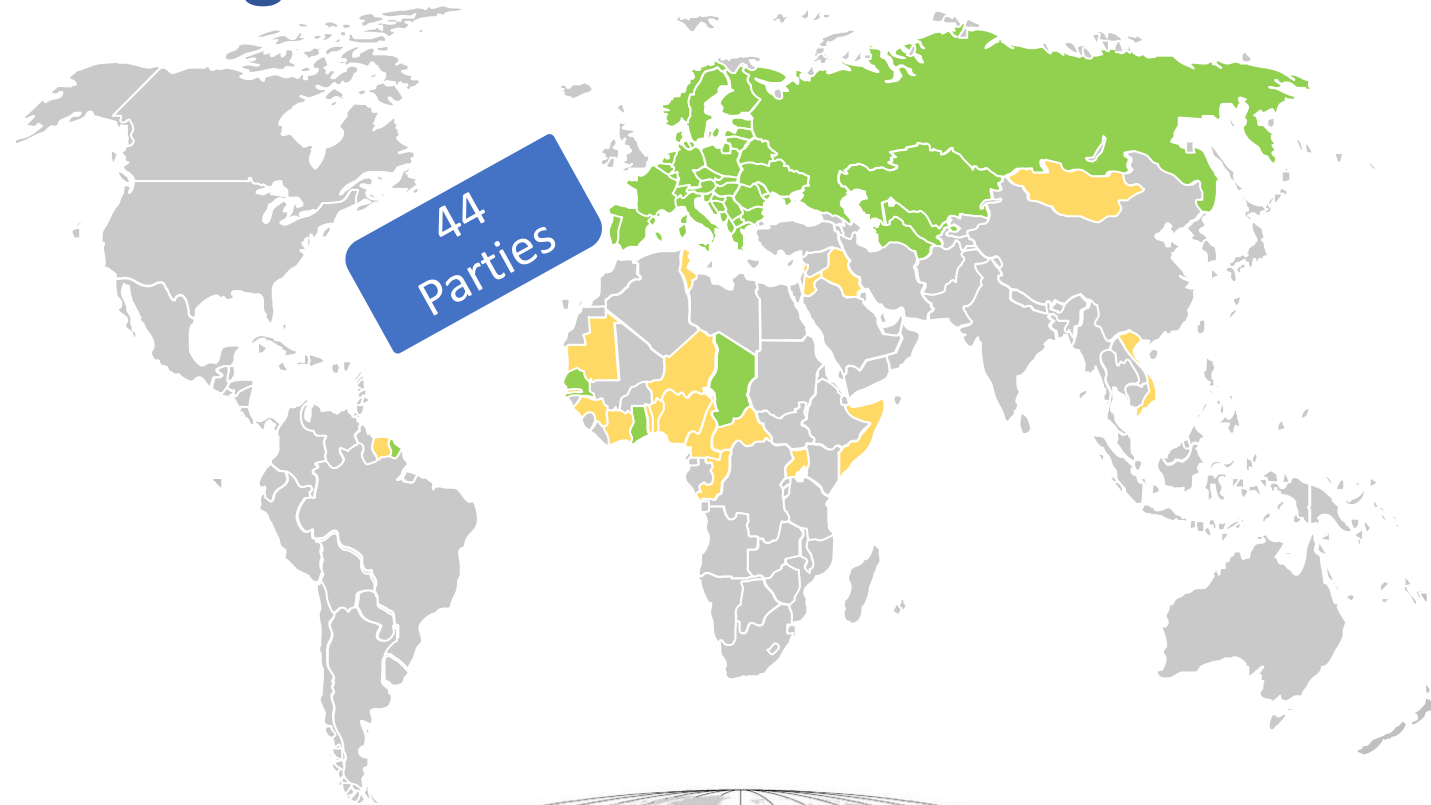
Transboundary cooperation can help to share the costs for climate change adaptation more efficiently (human and financial resources)



The Water Convention: supporting transboundary basins in adapting to climate change



- Unique global legal and intergovernmental United Nations framework on transboundary cooperation
- Offers capacity building, sharing knowledge and experience, guidance and projects on the ground:
 - Task Force on Water and Climate since 2006
 - Global Network of basins working on climate change adaptation
 - Capacity-building for financing transboundary adaptation



Survey on the future Programme of work of the Water Convention for 2022-2024

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/devpowwaterconventionen>

Financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins

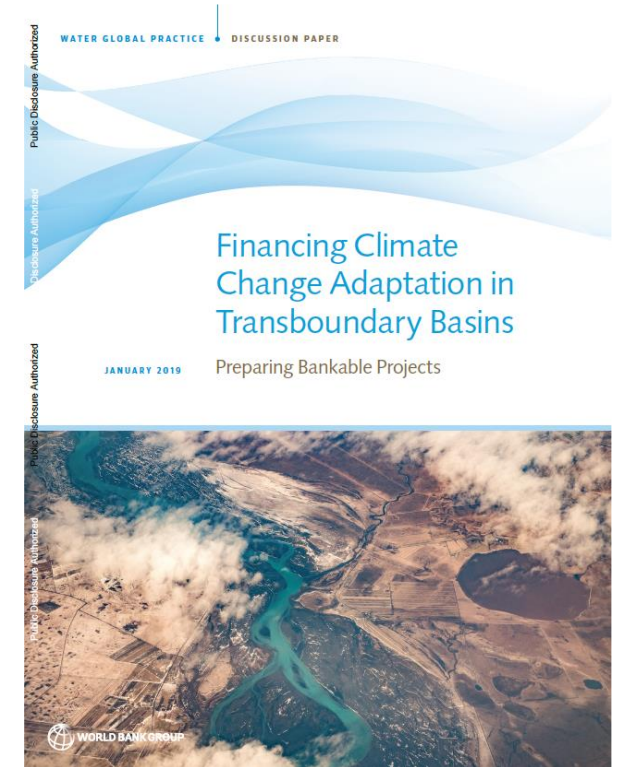
- Cooperation on climate change adaptation can **facilitate broader transboundary cooperation**
- **Transboundary/ regional organizations** as accredited agencies can submit funds for countries to climate funds, e.g. Sahara and Sahel Observatory
- **Options** for funding transboundary projects are **limited** comparing to individual states

Examples of regional support

• Adaptation Fund



- regional pilot program
- **20% total portfolio** under the regional window (US\$151M)
- about **13% portfolio** covers water management (US\$100M)
- Volta, Lake Victoria, Drin, others
- GEF International Waters



<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/31224?CID=WAT TT Water EN EXT&locale-attribute=en>

TABLE A.1. Multilateral and Regional Climate and Climate Related Funds

Name	Funding type	Eligible sectors and activities	Eligible countries and actors	Host entity or fund trustee	Further information
Adaptation Fund (AF)	Grant	Adaptation, all sectors, including transboundary waters	Developing member countries (DMCs)	World Bank	https://www.adaptation-fund.org/
Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP)	Grant, loans	Agriculture (smallholder farmers)	Least developed countries (LDCs)	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	https://www.ifad.org/web/guest/asap
Asian Development Bank (ADB) Carbon Market Program; incl. Asia Pacific Carbon Fund and Future Carbon Fund	Co-financing for CDM projects	Greenhouse gas emission mitigation; energy; methane capture	DMCs	ADB	https://www.adb.org/publications/carbon-market-program-brochure

Dniester basin

- The **Dniester basin** shared by Moldova and Ukraine (support from UNECE, OSCE, UNDP, UNEP)
- Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change was endorsed in 2015 and followed by development of its **Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan**
- These activities increased the adaptive capacity in the basin and facilitated the **entry into force of the transboundary Dniester Treaty** in 2017 and the establishment of the Dniester Commission in 2018
- Bilateral donors (Sweden, Finland, Austria), EU and **GEF International Waters**.

<https://dniester-commission.com/en/joint-management/dniester-commission/>

Strategic Framework
for Adaptation
to Climate Change
in the Dniester River Basin

WEBSITE OF THE DNIESTER COMMISSION
SAVE THE DNIESTER RIVER TOGETHER

Guvernul Republicii Moldova
Ministerul Agriculturii,
Dezvoltării Regionale și
Mediului

Міністерство
енергетики та
захисту довкілля

Lang: EN ▼

NEWS DNIESTER RIVER BASIN JOINT MANAGEMENT GEF PROJECT CONTACTS FAQ PUBLICATIONS

DNIESTER COMMISSION

The Commission on Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin (the Dniester Commission) was established under the Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Cooperation in the Field of Protection and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin (Moldovan, Ukrainian), which was signed in Rome on 29 November 2012. The Treaty covers almost all aspects relating to river basin issues, except for navigation and hydropower, and is aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, which started in 1994. Besides, the execution of this document was an important step in fulfilling the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine under the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (1992) and the EU Water Framework Directive (2000).

RULES AND COMPOSITION

The rules of procedure and proceedings of the Commission were approved at the first meeting of the Commission (Chisinau, 17 September 2018)

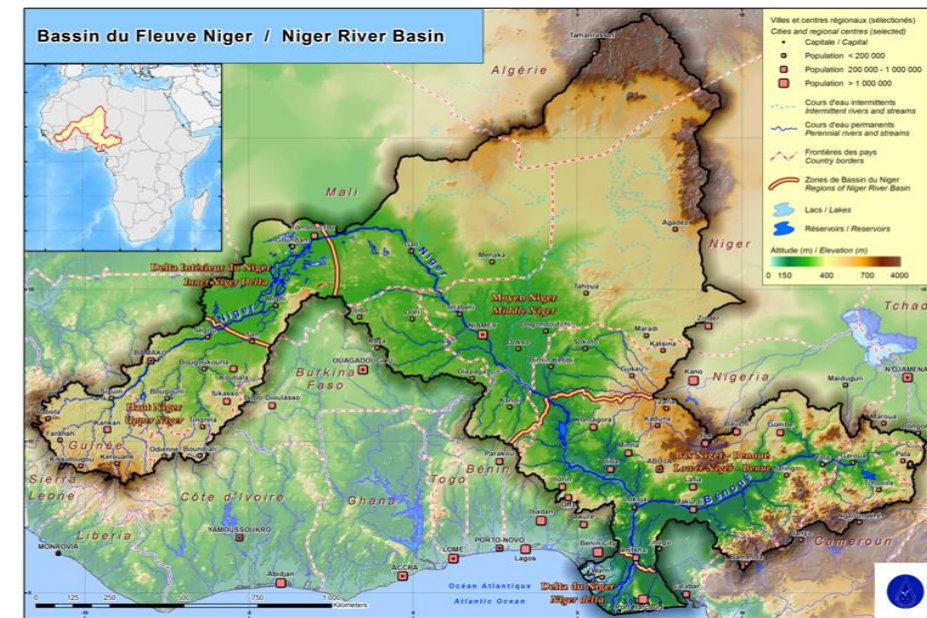
[READ MORE >](#)

WORKING GROUPS

The composition of the Moldovan and Ukrainian parts of the Commission is represented by the following working groups:

Niger basin





- **Niger Basin Authority:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria
- Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change (**PIDACC**)
- **GCF, GEF, AfDB, WB, Credit Institute for Reconstruction and EU, member states**
- **USD 308,000,000.00**
- **NBA played a key role**
- **Meetings at UNFCCC COP** and regional meetings <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp092>



PIDACC

- Resilience of ecosystems and natural resources
- Strengthening transboundary water resource management
- Resilience of communities incl. agriculture
- Regional Climate Change Adaptation Fund for the Niger basin incl. a mechanism for payment for environmental services

Niger basin: lessons learnt

- **Political will** of the Member States to cooperate incl. clear rules for decision-making and regular meetings 
- **Joint investment plan** indicating planning process 
- **Stakeholder engagement** at all stages (e.g. development, fundraising and implementation) 
- **Competent and proactive team** (such as within NBA) to respond as quickly as possible to all requests from beneficiaries, technical and financial partners 

Conclusions



- Development of **joint vulnerability assessments as well as adaptation strategies and plans** serve as a prerequisite for future funding and can support national adaptation strategies
- **RBOs/transboundary cooperation mechanisms** help mobilize resources
- **Consultative process and inter-sectoral cooperation**
- **Strong partnership** between different organisations
- **Funding from different sources** incl. national budgets covering different sectors, international donors and private financing (the latter especially for infrastructure projects)





Recommendations



- **Integrating central role of water and the benefits of transboundary cooperation** into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), sectoral strategies and climate-related projects
- Establishment/development of **inter-sectoral coordination groups/mechanisms** for developing national strategies and plans (e.g. incl. ministries of finance, climate and water)
- **Strengthening** mechanisms, institutions and legal and institutional frameworks for **transboundary cooperation**
- Each **river basin organization** is different and needs to find **its «niche» regarding climate change adaptation** and demonstrate added value
- **Political buy-in needed** – e.g. agreement or MoU in basin (must be strong enough, even under political changes)





Recommendations



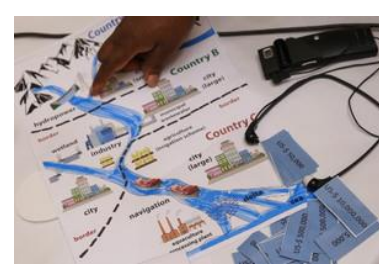
- Understanding which **funding sources are available and combining them** (incl. national, international and private)
- **Adapting the proposal to funding source** depending on project type and requirements of the donors which differ a lot
- **Building capacity in developing bankable project proposals with regional focus**, for example, developing expertise in climate finance within ministries or RBOs
- Projects need to be **technically sound and financially viable**, and comply with environmental protection and social standards
- Taking **sufficient time** for project preparation



Do you want to know more about challenges and opportunities related with the financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development?

Check out UNECE's Background study on financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development available in English @ <https://bit.ly/35VDt0w> (soon also available in French, Spanish and Russian)

On 16-17 December 2020: Join the virtual workshop on financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development !



Organized in partnership with Switzerland, The Netherlands, Senegal, AfDB, ADB, EIB, IDB, UNCDF; The World Bank, GEF, OECD and WWF to **discuss challenges and opportunities related with the financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development.**



Objectives:

- Provide a platform to countries and RBOs to facilitate mutual learning and discuss experiences and good practices in mobilizing financial resources for basin cooperation and transboundary water management and development activities;
- Provide a platform for International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and other banks and investors to share information on their functioning and the requirements for countries and RBOs to access and benefit from their financial support;
- Analyze the role of innovative financial mechanisms and private financial actors in investing in water-related activities at transboundary level.

 More information @ <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=55555>
 Registration @ http://indico.un.org/e/Financing_Transboundary_Basin_Development

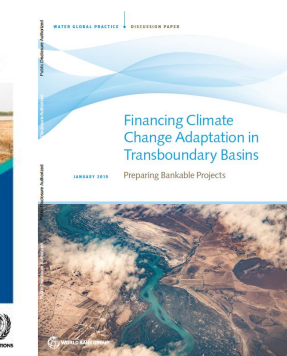
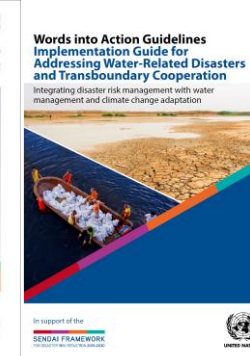
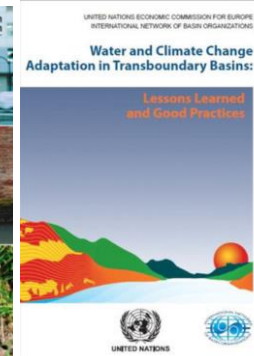
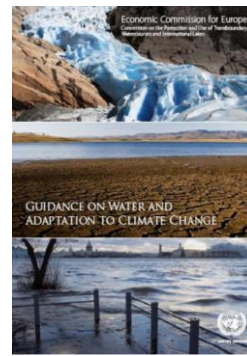
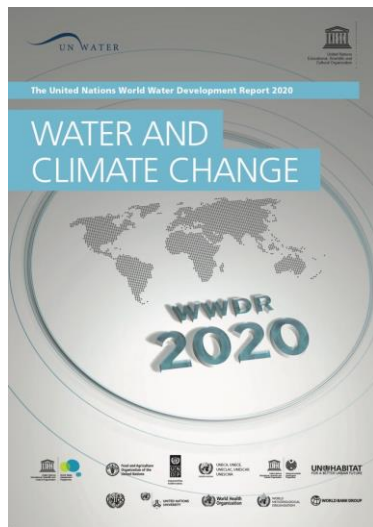
2020-2021

Date and venue	Meeting
16-17 December 2020, virtual	Global workshop on financing transboundary basin development
29-31 March 2021, Geneva, hybrid/virtual	Global workshop on climate change adaptation
26-28 April 2021, hybrid/virtual	16th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management
29 September - 1 October 2021, Tallinn	Ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties



Additional relevant resources

- MOOC on Governance for Transboundary Freshwater Security <https://www.edx.org/course/governance-for-transboundary-freshwater-security>
- World Water Development Report “Water and Climate Change”, 2020
- UN-Water Policy Brief on Climate Change and Water, 2019
- Towards sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment, 2020
- Financing Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Preparing Bankable Projects, 2019
- Implementation Guide for Addressing Water-Related Disasters and Transboundary Cooperation, 2018
- Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices, 2015
- Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change, 2009 <https://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html>





Thanks for
your attention!

Water Convention Secretariat contact:

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

water.convention@un.org

hanna.plotnykova@un.org (for climate change)

For more information:

www.unece.org/env/water/