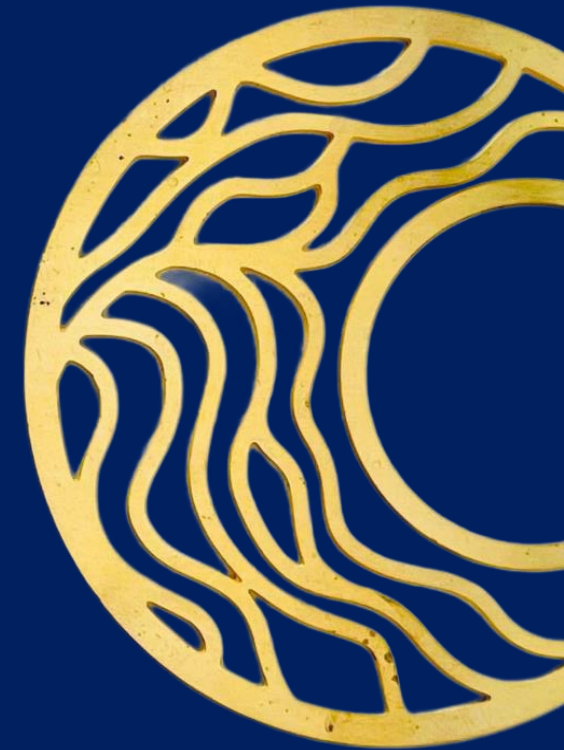


Women in Water Diplomacy Network South Caucasus Inception Workshop



April 26 - 27, 2024 | Tbilisi, Georgia

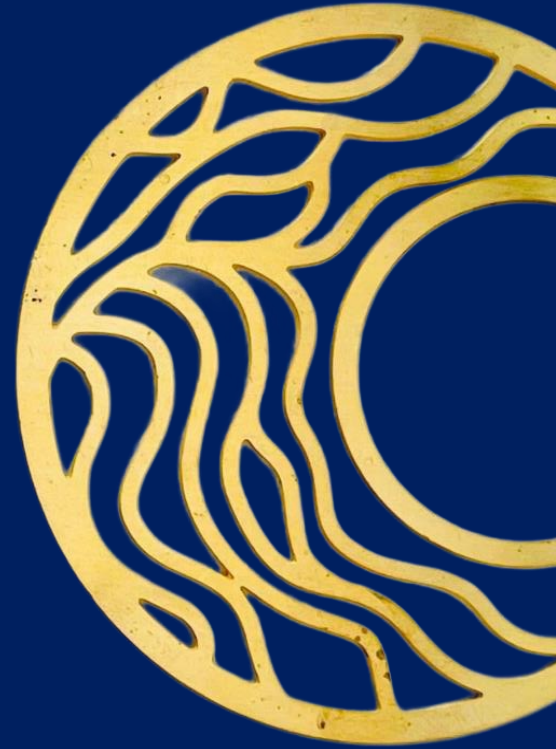


WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Welcome



Dr. Róisín Burke,
Assistant Professor of Public International Law,
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Utrecht University



Introduction to the Workshop

Overall Objective: Examine the interconnections of women, water, peace, and security and consider avenues to support and improve women's participation in transboundary water related decision-making processes at various levels.

Specific objectives:

- Improve understanding of the barriers and opportunities for women's meaningful participation in water and climate decision-making and management.
- Connect with women water experts from the region
- Foster dialogue and exchange
- Identify opportunities to support women's participation
- Discuss inception and development of a regional Women in Water Diplomacy Network branch in the South Caucasus



Workshop Day 1 Program Snapshot

UTC+4	Friday, April 26, 2024
9:00 - 9:45	Welcome and Introduction Welcome remarks from partners
9:45 - 10:45	Interactive participant introductions
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:00	The intersections of women, water, peace, and security processes
12:00 - 13:30	Group Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	Experience exchange with the Women in Water Diplomacy Network
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee Break
15:15 – 16:30	The role of international water law and water governance organizations in supporting and sustaining transboundary water cooperation
16:30 - 17:00	Wrap Up and Closing Reflections from participants
18:30 – 21:00	Group Dinner

Workshop Day 2 Program Snapshot

UTC+4	Saturday, April 27, 2024
9:00 - 9:30	Morning welcome and participant reflections
9:45 - 10:45	Introduction to the USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management (SCRWM) Program and opportunities to support South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:30	Interactive Exercise: Envisioning a South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network
12:30 - 14:15	Group Lunch for all participants and group picture
14:15 – 15:30	The role of water in tensions within and between countries Invited participant discussant responses
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 17:00	Experience Exchange: Climate change and preparing for an uncertain future With Expert Participant Panelists
17:00 - 17:20	Awarding of Participation Certificates
17:20 – 17:45	Next Steps, Workshop Evaluation and Closing Remarks USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program representative

Guidelines for Participation

- **Chatham House Rule** to encourage open dialogue and discussion.
- **Respect and consideration** of all participants is our priority.
- Program partners are committed to providing a friendly, safe and **inclusive environment for all**.
- We ask all participants to **ensure prior consent** of all persons prior to disseminating images from the workshop including informal activities.
- If you have **any questions** on the meaning and application of the Chatham House Rule or participation guidelines do not hesitate to speak to one of the workshop organizers.



Logistical Notes

- Coffee and tea breaks; group lunches and dinner on Friday evening
- No formal translation – let us know if this is a challenge!
- Phones on silent mode during sessions
- Whatsapp group for updates
- Workshop evaluation to be kindly completed and submitted before departure
- All participants will receive the workshop's **After-Action report** summarizing the workshop, presented materials and related resources for ongoing learning.
- **Participation certifications** are available for all who complete the full workshop.
- All participants are encouraged to actively participate, share their expertise and experience throughout the workshop agenda.



Welcome Addresses:



Michelle Koscielski,
Country Director,
USAID Georgia



Eric Viala,
Chief of Party, USAID
South Caucasus Regional
Water Management



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Interactive Participant Introductions

Facilitated by:

Dr. Róisín Burke,

Assistant Professor of Public International Law,
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights,
Utrecht University;

With an interactive activity led by:

Moreta Bobokhidze,

Consultant Women, Peace and Security,
Gender Sensitive Leadership, Conflict Resolution



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
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Coffee Break!

Reconvene at 11:00!



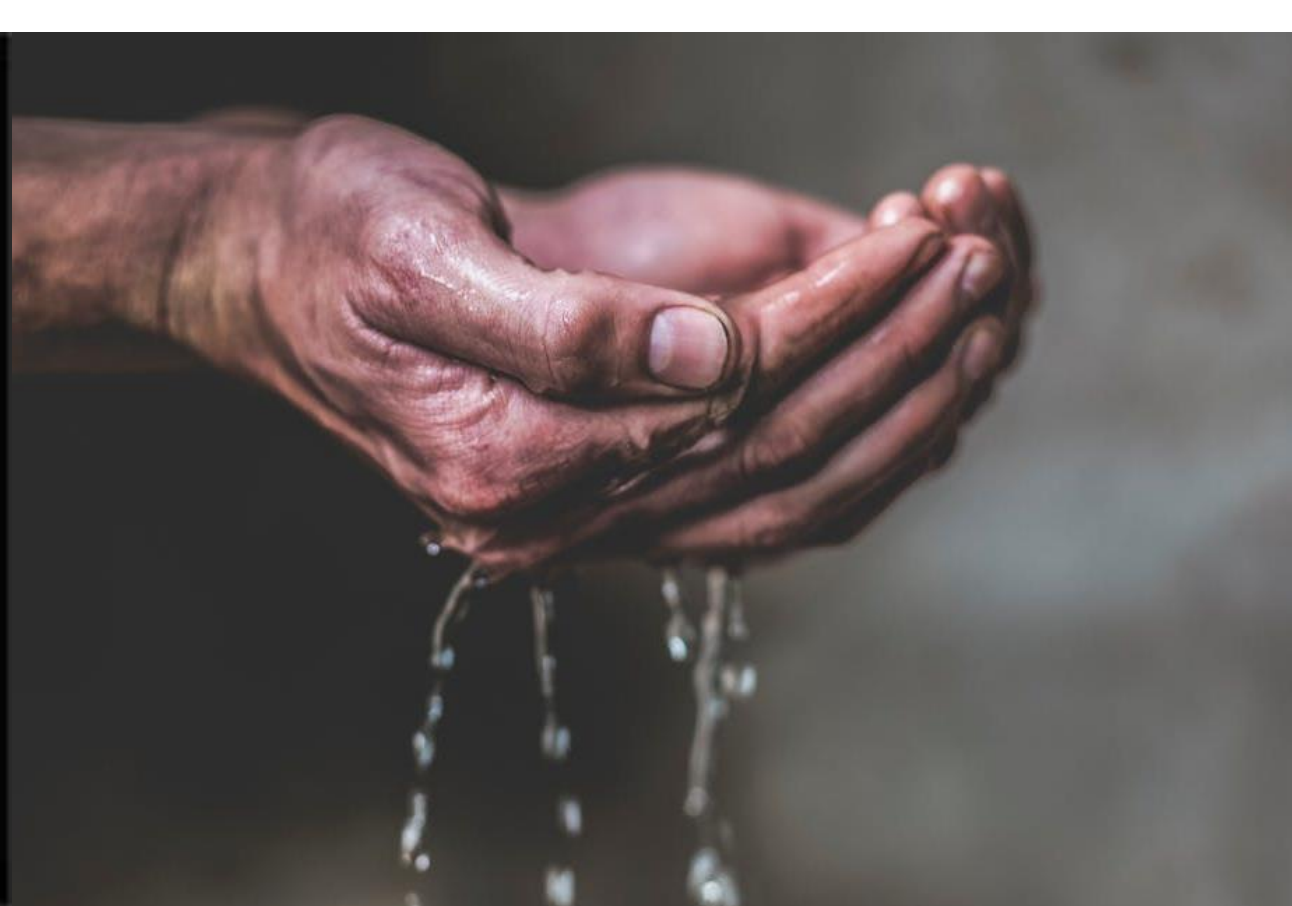
WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

The intersections of women, water, peace, and security processes



Dr. Róisín Burke,
Assistant Professor of Public International Law,
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Utrecht University





The intersections of women, water, peace, and security processes

r.s.burke@uu.nl

Women, Conflict and Peace

- Stereotypes
- Gendered human rights abuses physical and structural
- Women and men's experiences of conflict differ – impacts on access to resources and decision-making spaces
- Women, girls victims, survivors, combatants, mediators, peacebuilders, etc
- Gendered impact of conflict - access to & control over natural resources
- 2 in 5 people live in an international river basin globally
- UNEP - By 2030 half the world's population will experience severe water stress under current consumption, etc rates - increased competition

Women, Conflict and Peace

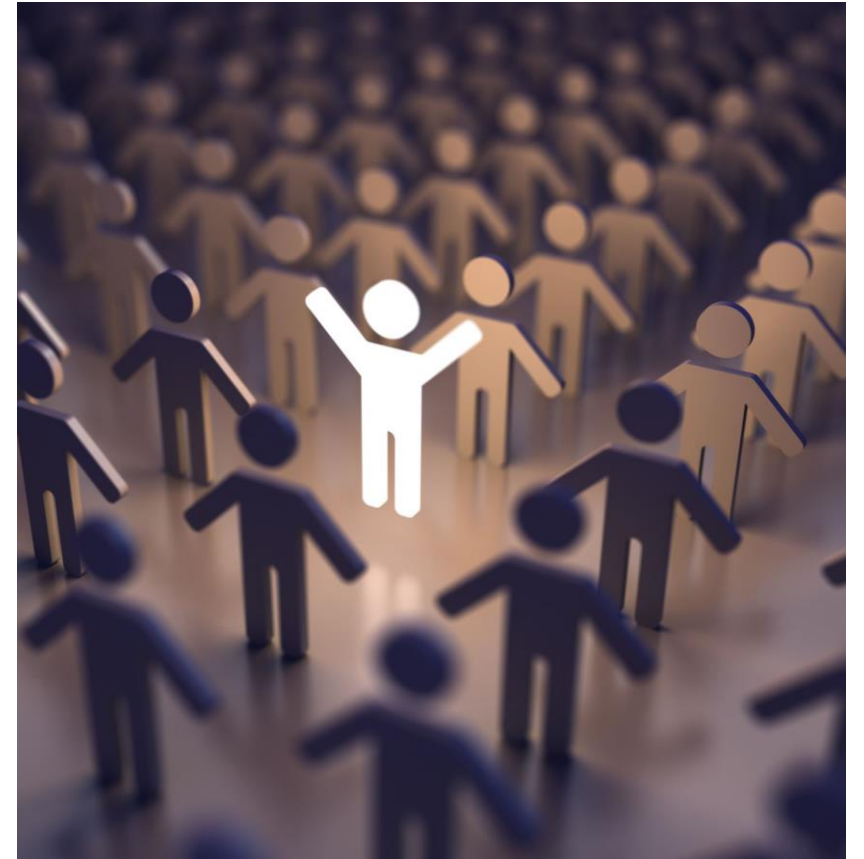
- Gender inequality permeates all state systems & decision-making processes - gendered rights abuses more pervasive during & post-conflict - re-patriarchalization of societies.
- Abuses – e.g. civil & economic rights, inheritance, access to & management of natural resources, land grabbing, displacement, human rights violations, etc
- When gender considerations are not prioritised in peace processes - risks reproducing systems which subordinate women and their priorities
- Women are traditionally marginalized from peacebuilding and decision-making processes both during and post-conflict, including in relation natural resources
- International & domestic actors - increasingly obliged to mainstream gender considerations into all activities aimed at building peace,

Definitions

‘Gender refers to the social attributes, challenges and opportunities as well as relationships associated with being male and female. These are constructed and learned through socialization; they are context- and time-specific and changeable. Gender affects power relations in society and determines what is expected, allowed and valued in a woman and a man in a given context.’ (*UNDPA Guidance on Gender and Inclusive Mediation Strategies*, 2017)

Gender analysis – process of looking at dynamics to understand the relationships between men and women in any given context and how this underpins power, control and resources and decision-making processes

Intersectionality



Environmental Peacebuilding

- Environmental peacebuilding is the ‘process of governing and managing natural resources and the environment to support durable peace’ ([Bruch et al, 2012](#))
- positive environmental action and cooperation on an issue may foster confidence-building between parties in inter-state and intra-state conflicts - entry point for dialogue
- Natural resources, including water, can exacerbate conflict, be damaged in conflict, but may serve as a tool for preventative diplomacy
- Environmental cooperation may bring economic and other mutual benefits



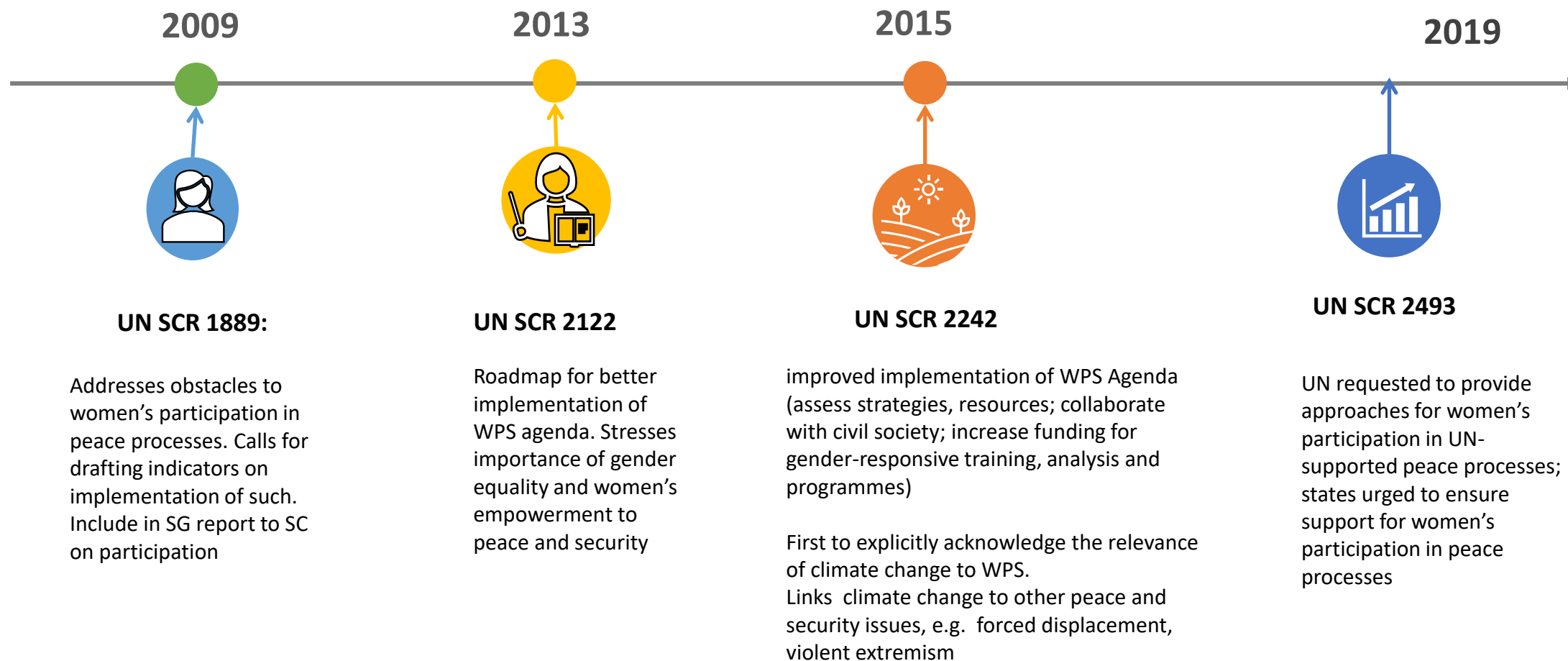


Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda

Women, Peace and Security: SC Resolution 1325

- 2000 – SC Res 1325 Watershed Resolution – need for women’s participation in peacemaking, peace-keeping, and peace-building
- Subsequent SC resolutions reinforce - WPS Agenda
- Over 20 yrs of women’s advocacy (CEDAW (1979), Beijing Platform for Action (1995))
- **4 Pillars** - participation, prevention, protection, relief & recovery
- WPS Agenda - political framework- implications - policy, decision-takers, programmers and funding across UN operations, states, and further afield
- **Inclusion of a Gender Perspective at All Levels of Decision-Making**

Women Peace and Security Agenda



CEDAW General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations

“Women are not a homogenous group and their experiences of conflict and specific needs in post-conflict contexts are diverse. Women are not passive bystanders or only victims or targets. They have historically had and continue to have a role as combatants, as part of organized civil society, as human rights defenders, as members of resistance movements and as active agents in both formal and informal peacebuilding and recovery processes. States parties must address all aspects of their obligations under the Convention to eliminate discrimination against women” (Gen Rec 30)

- Links the WPS agenda explicitly with CEDAW – implementation tool
- Recommends state actions to implement WPS commitments & CEDAW obligations
- Post-conflict space offers opportunities for transformation along gender equitable lines

National Action Plans (NAP) and Women Peace and Security

- Finnish WPS NAP - emphasis on women's participation in peace processes and mediation, in climate and environmental negotiation, including water
 - 'In terms of conflict prevention as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation, it is essential to involve women in transboundary water cooperation and regional decision making on managing water resources for the use of different functions of society'
 - WPS NAP Objective 2, Outcome 2.2.4 – 'In water diplomacy, the integration of gender perspective and women's participation are enhanced, and existing networks are strengthened...'
- **Question** – Do you know if women's participation in environmental negotiations is embedded in your country's WPS NAP?

Impact – Women Peace and Security Resolutions

- Reinforces existing human rights instruments, connecting them to peace
- Funding, monitoring and reporting
- Some increase in women's participation – lacking in many areas
- Participation in legal and political sectors limited by societal and cultural barriers
- 2015 the 'Global Study' on Implementation – progress issues
- WPS Index Georgetown University – country rankings - 13 indicators: inclusion, justice, security
- WPS NAPs – increased reference to climate and environment
- Water is not explicitly mentioned in the WPS resolutions, but increasingly the relationship between water diplomacy, peace and women is recognized

2030 Sustainable Development Goals

- Gender considerations underpin all SDGs - <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>
- There can be no development without water
- SDG 5 – Gender Equality
- SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



Women and Peacebuilding

‘But women, who know the price of conflict so well, are also often better equipped than men to prevent or resolve it. For generations, women have served as peace educators, both in their families and in their societies. They have proven instrumental in building bridges rather than walls. They have been crucial in preserving social order when communities have collapsed.’

(Kofi Annan, SG United Nations, 2000, SG/SM/7598)



Women as Peacebuilders

- Peace processes from 1992-2019:
 - Only 6% of signatories of peace agreements were women.
 - Only 13% of negotiators were women.
 - Only 6% of lead mediators were women.
- Evidence suggests that:
 - When women participate in peace processes the likelihood of the agreement lasting for more than 15 years increases by 35%.
 - Peace agreements - 64% less likely to fail when civil society & women's organisations participate

(Council on Foreign Relations, 'Women's participation in peace processes', 30 January 2019 <www.cfr.org/womens-participation-in-peace-processes>)



Women as Peacebuilders

- Track I (formal process, peace negotiations) – male elite actors dominate
- Tracks II & III (less formal, mid-grassroots level) – more accessible to marginalised groups
- Peace negotiations usually five areas: security, justice, power-sharing options, social issues, the economy, and natural resource management
- Inclusion of women in peace negotiations - often greater social considerations
- Add women and stir not sufficient – critical mass important
- A gender lens can be applied by all

Women as Peacebuilders

- SC 2493 reaffirms need for women's participation in peace processes & negotiations.
- “In many cultures, women have traditionally been assigned to the private, domestic sphere and denied access to the male-dominated public sphere because of their role as primary caretakers of children and other family members. Gender stereotypes picturing women as emotional and caring and men as rational and pragmatic underlie this division and continue hindering women's participation in politics and access to power. In some cultures, women themselves view politics as “dirty” and within the male domain, thus restricting themselves from political participation. However, conflict may change these role expectations, and as a result women may also seek greater influence in the political life of society.”

(Gender in Mediation: An Exercise Handbook (Center for Security Studies, ETH Zurich, Swisspeace, 2017))

Women as Peacebuilders: Examples

Northern Ireland:

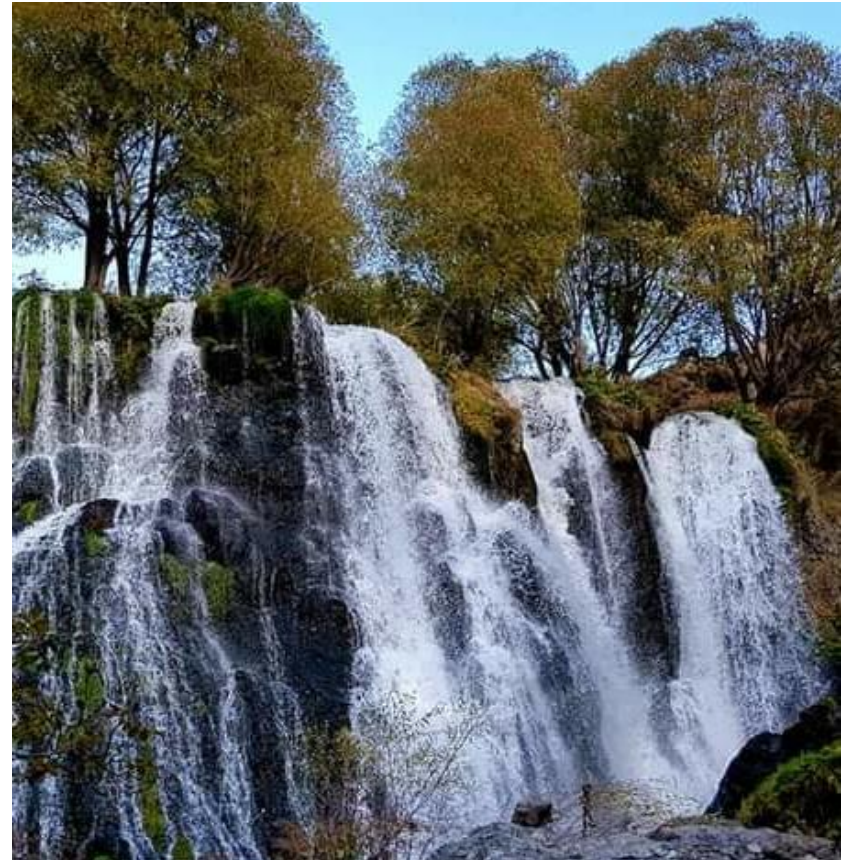
- Watch:
<https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/wwp19.ss.nipeace/northern-ireland-peace-talks-women-war-and-peace-ii/>
- Peace process - 1998 Good Friday Agreement
- Women formed a political party across opposing communities to join peace talks (Northern Ireland Women's Coalition) - 2 seats at negotiating table
- Reintegrating political prisoners & mediated across divided community
- **Mano River Women's Peace Network** - Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone - influential in peace-building - brought heads of state to negotiating table

Women, Water and Peace

‘Increasing women’s participation and influence in water governance processes is critical to improve services, reduce inequalities, and mitigate conflicts. Addressing the embedded inequalities requires an enhanced awareness and understanding of the underlying power dynamics and structural barriers that reinforce gender inequalities.’

(Klimes et al, Water diplomacy: The intersect’, Journal of Hydrology (2019))

- Approx 310 transboundary river basins globally – i.e. shared amongst riparian states across international borders
- Oregon State Uni, International Water Event Database – water interactions – cooperative to conflictive scaled



Women, Water and Peace

- Need critical mass - Quota of 40% women in water governing bodies ensures they are heard (Women for Water Partnership, 2015)
- Climate Change increasingly recognized as a potential tensions driver – e.g. water scarcity, political instability, displacement, poverty, employment, hunger
- WPS NAPs starting to recognize the relationship between the climate and security, and disproportionate impacts on women
- WPS Agenda – tool for women’s participation in dialogue on natural resources .
- Need for more focus on linkages between security, WPS and the environment – disproportionate effects of environmental degradation and climate change on women
- A gender lens can be applied by men and women – men can play a critical role

Lunch Break!

Reconvene at 13:30!



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

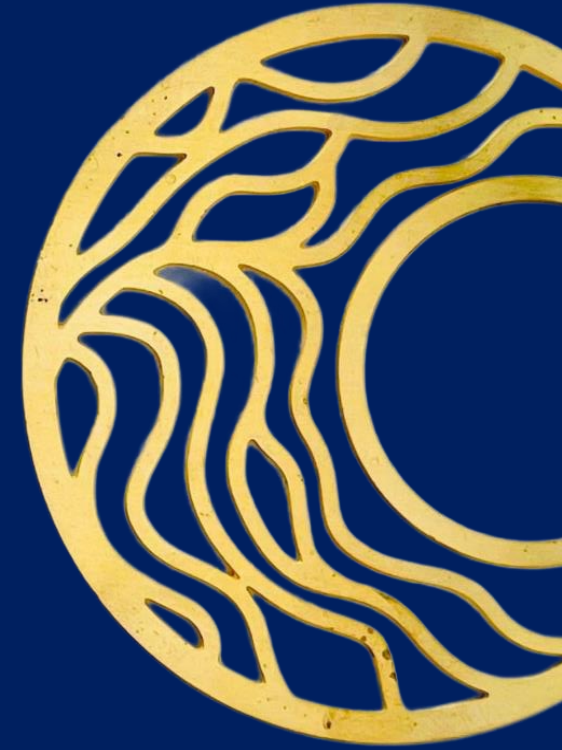
Experience exchange: Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Elizabeth A. Koch,
Environmental Law
Institute; Network
Process Support Team



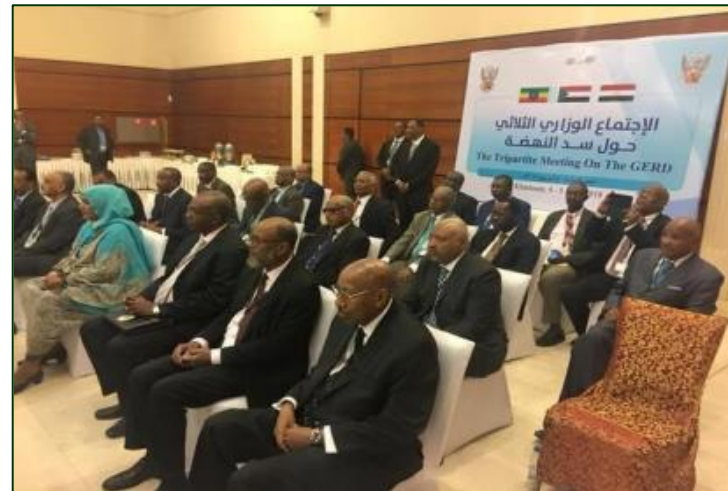
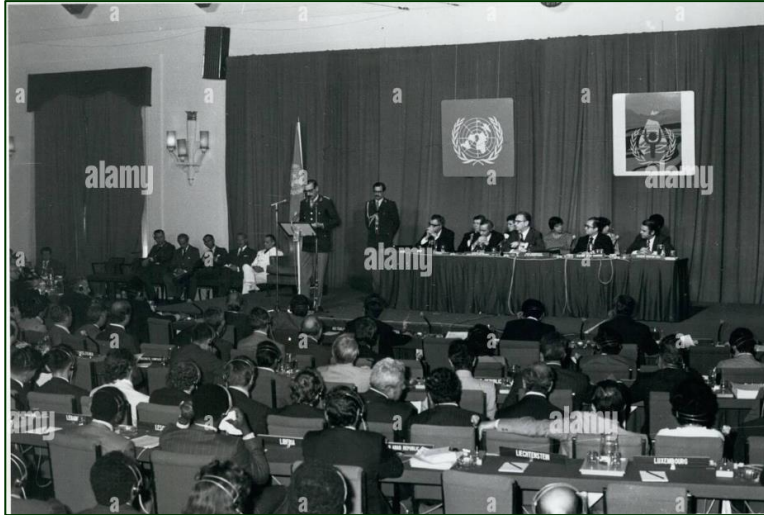
Tais Reznikova,
Manager, CAREC
Central Asia-Afghanistan
Regional Network Partner



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS



Why focus on inclusion in water diplomacy? Specifically, gender equality?



The status quo is
exclusive



Under-represented and
vulnerable communities
on all sides bear
**disproportionate and
cumulative harm from
water and climate
decisions.**

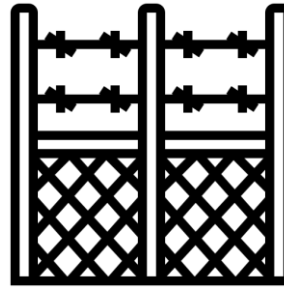
Why are we here? To collectively address barriers to Women's participation in regional and global water decision making



Sponsored in person attendance is rare.



Women Water Diplomats have a lot of different responsibilities



Conflict Barriers restricting movement



Language Barriers

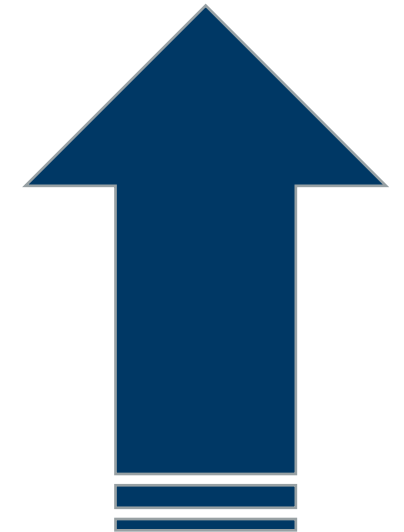


Internet connectivity



Political Barriers restricting movement

Result: Improved Inclusive Decision Making

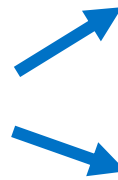


Target: Removal of Participation Barriers

Costs – Benefits – Opportunities



Failure to include women equitably

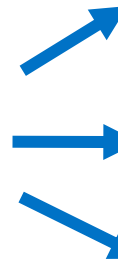


Has direct cost to political decision-making at transboundary level

Undermines progress toward cooperative and sustainable management



Support to women water experts



Opportunity to elevate distinctive knowledge, perspectives and experiences

More comprehensive understanding of relevant water issues and challenges

Broader set of **equitable solutions**

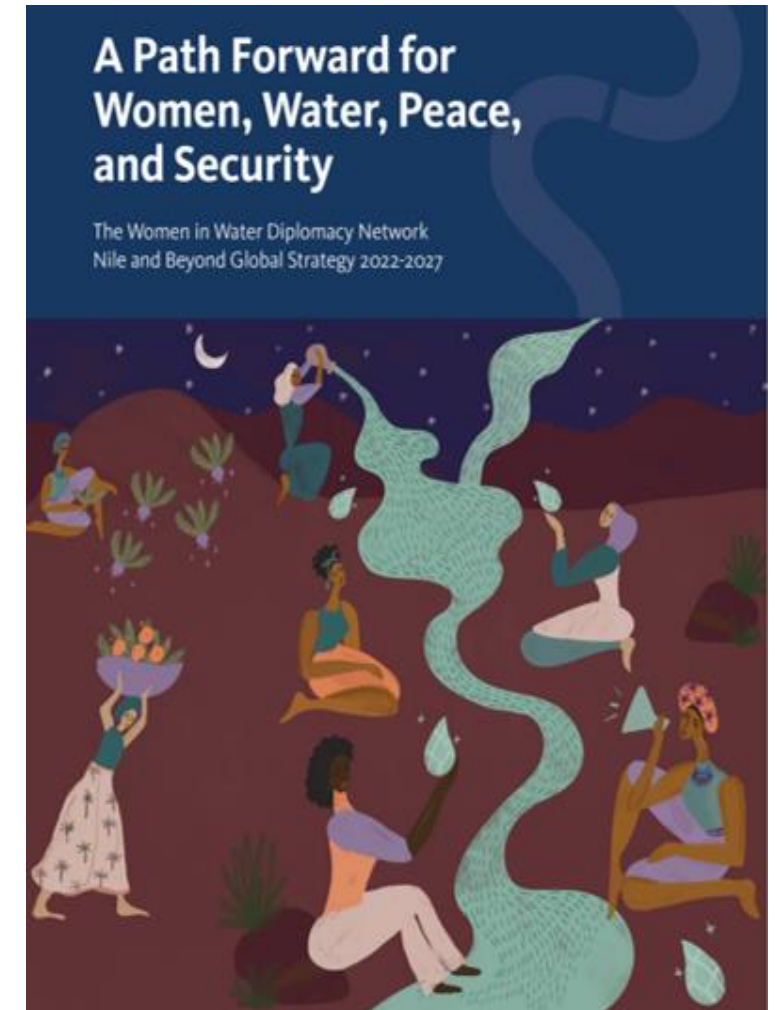
Resources are scarce



Investing directly in women is an easy choice

What does it mean to ‘Invest in Women’?

- Changing the status quo requires **ACTIVE** efforts to both remove barriers and create opportunities.
- Both mainstreaming and targeted approaches.
- Within our programs we must examine how resources are allocated using the tools of gender analysis, including collection of sex-disaggregated data, and gendered budgeting and financing.
- Ask women!
- These efforts are not luxuries but fundamental.





**The Woman in Water
Diplomacy Pilot Nile
Network Forum; Uganda.
October 2017**





The second Women in Water Diplomacy Nile Network Forum; Ethiopia, December 2018



‘To get ahead and to innovate in our work, professionals and experts need to be surrounded by a network of supporters for inspiration and sharing. This is an important value of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network.’

Dr Muna Musnad | UNESCO Chair in Water Resources-Omdurman Islamic University, Sudan | Founding Member of Women in Water Diplomacy Network, Member of the Network Leadership Council, Member of Board of the UNESCO Category II International Centre for Water Cooperation.



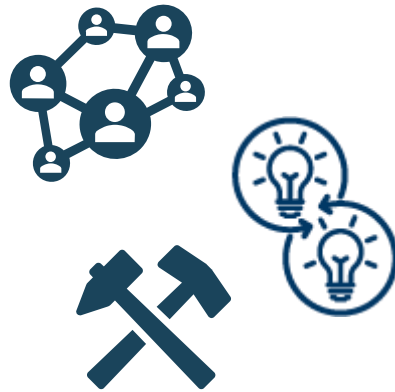
2020 third Nile Network Forum; Kenya



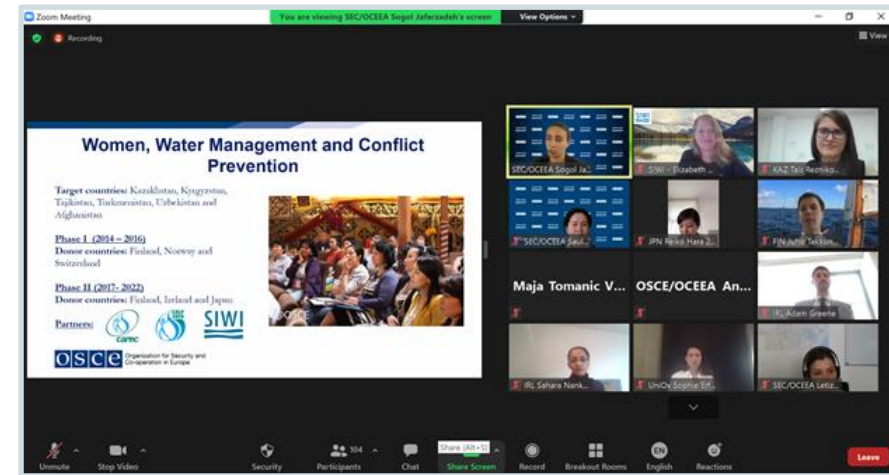
‘The Women in Water Diplomacy Network provides women with a space where we can learn and share experience about water governance and transboundary cooperation issues. It is very empowering to be part of this Network.’

Yodit Balcha | Founding member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and Member of the Network Leadership Council

2020 Digital Water Diplomacy Network Adaptions




2021 Launch of the Women in Water Management Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan





**Women in
Water
Diplomacy
Network
Mission:**

To improve gender equality in high-level decision making in transboundary basins with focus on women's leadership in regional dialogues around shared waters - with resultant positive implications for regional peace and human security.



What do we do together?

Global Strategy – Regional Approach

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN HIGH-LEVEL DECISION-MAKING IN TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS

PILLAR 1



GENDER AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

In transboundary
water decision making

PILLAR 2



PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

Capacity development &
experience exchange

PILLAR 3



RESEARCH COOPERATION

Supporting network
members & institutions

PILLAR 4



LINKAGES TO BASIN

Regional and
global processes



PILLAR 5

PROCESS SUPPORT

Strategic analysis; Design, monitoring & evaluation; Communications; Partnership development

Women in Water Diplomacy *First* Global Network Forum, 2022



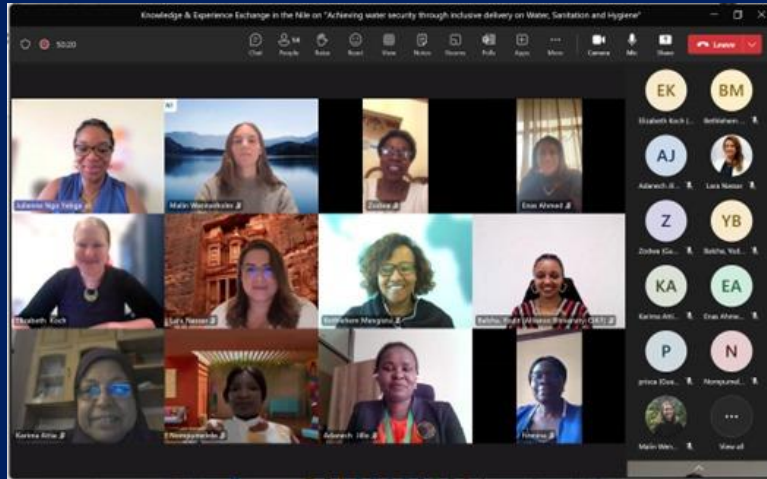
Women in Water Diplomacy UN Water Conference 2023



Global Network Forum 2024 Snapshots



Regular basin level online Network experience exchange sessions focused on innovative themes of water diplomacy...



WASH + Water Security (2023)



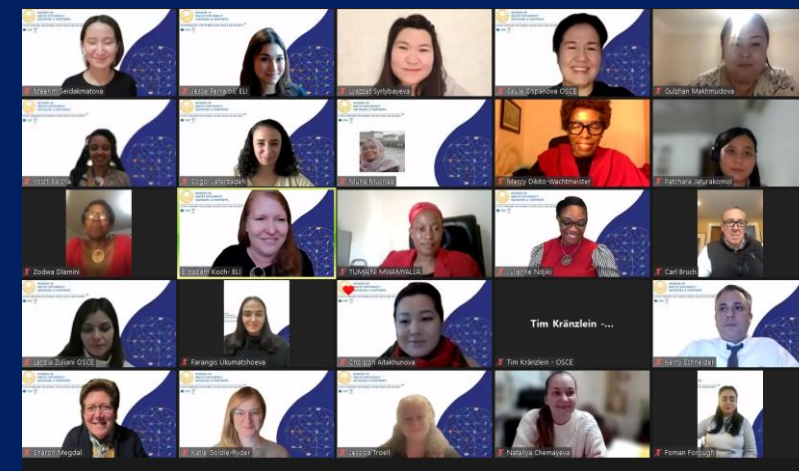
Digitalization: Supporting inclusive, sustainable, and effective water diplomacy processes (2023)

Annual Global Public Engagement Activities:


**International
Women's Day
March 8**

**Women in
Diplomacy Day
June 24**

**Year-in-
Review
December**



Expanding #Herstory Resource Series



POLICY PAPER

Tapping our Potential: Women's Water Leadership in the Nile Basin

Women Have a Critical Role to Play in Inclusive and Effective Transboundary Water Governance

Cooperation over the shared water resources of the Nile Basin is essential to water security and development in the region. To mitigate and manage potential and actual drivers of water-related conflict in the region, improved and more inclusive resource decision-making is critical. Engaging a diverse cross-section of stakeholders in decisions around shared water breaks the out of environmental and social impacts that are considered and the knowledge and skills employed to address them, thus increasing the likelihood of developing sustainable and equitable solutions. In the Nile Basin, SWI and partners initiated a growing network of women water professionals active in transboundary water management under the 'Women and Water Diplomacy in the Nile (WIN)' platform to enhance the collective capacity of women throughout the basin and to support the engagement of these women water leaders in decision-making and peace building processes in the Basin.

From Policy to Action: Balancing Gender for Stronger Water Diplomacy

The critical role of women in water resources management and protection has been recognized and emphasized at the highest policy levels for over 25 years. The Dublin Statement on 'Water and Sustainable Development' (see box) was only the first of countless national, basin-level and international policy statements and guidance documents that stress the need for more gender-inclusive water governance processes at all levels¹. Yet, despite repeated high-level commitments to engaging women in water governance, evidence reveals a persistent gender gap in the water sector. This gap is particularly evident at the transboundary level, where water governance processes continue to be dominated by men (Baillis and Earle, 2013; ILCN, 2017).

Similarly, the transformative role of women in conflict prevention and peacebuilding has been repeatedly demonstrated.


¹See, for example, The Beijing Platform for Action (2004), Rio Principle 20 (1992), Africa Water Vision 2025, The AMACOW Strategic and Policy for Mainstreaming Gender in the Water Sector in Africa (2011) and the Mekong River Commission Gender Policy and Strategy (2013).

INCEPTION AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Laying the Bedrock of Transformation

Women in Water Diplomacy Network 2013-2021

The story so far; how the Network came to be and how it has developed through the years.



Dublin Statement (1992) Principle 3:

Women play a central part in the provision, management and safeguarding of water.

This pivotal role of women as providers and users of water and guardians of the living environment has seldom been reflected in institutional arrangements for the development and management of water resources. Acceptance and implementation of this principle requires positive policies to address women's specific needs and to equip and empower women to participate at all levels in water resources programmes, including decision-making and implementation, in ways defined by them.

including research showing that gender inclusive peace processes are 35 per cent more likely to last at least 15 years, that peace agreements signed by women are positively associated with more durable peace, and that higher levels of gender equity are associated with a lower incidence of conflict (Kosow et al., 2018; UNSC, 2000). Despite this evidence and the formal recognition of the UN Security Council of the critical role of women in peace and security efforts, between 1990 and 2017 women constituted only 2 percent of mediators, 8 percent of negotiators and 5 percent of witnesses in all major peace processes.


Women in transboundary water governance therefore face a hurdle on two fronts in overcoming the traditionally male-dominated world of water and peacebuilding (UN Women, 2018). Ensuring a better gender balance in water diplomacy efforts will require a sea change in perception of gender roles in both fields, accompanied by strong and implementable policies to overcome entrenched discrimination.

The persistent failure to include women equitably in political decision-making processes at the transboundary level impedes progress towards the cooperative and sustainable

GLOBAL STRATEGY | AUGUST 2022

A Path Forward for Women, Water, Peace, and Security



The Women in Water Diplomacy Network Nile and Beyond Global Strategy 2022-2027



REPORT | APRIL 2023

Women in Water Diplomacy Network After Action Report

The Water Diplomacy Symposium and Network Engagement in the UN 2023 Water Conference

Orange-Senqu Network Development Process

- **Aug 2022:** Commitment to establish an Orange-Senqu chapter of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network at Global Strategy launch
- **Nov 2022:** Concept Note developed for inception and development
- **April 2023:** Consultation processes undertaken in all riparian states
- April 2024: Framework document presented by ORASECOM to stakeholders for validation
- Leadership Council appointees



North American Network Development Process:

- **Aug 2022:** Call to establish a North American chapter of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network at Global Strategy launch
- **Engagement and support for Global Network events** (UN Water Conference Water Diplomacy Symposium, World Water Week, Second Global Network Forum)
- **December 13 2023: Launch Event CRWUA** in Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.A
- New partnerships
- 2024 – Network inception and development consultations underway
- Leadership Council appointees



*Tomorrow afternoon we will all have an opportunity to **think together** about what a Women in Water Diplomacy Network in the South Caucasus could look like.*



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

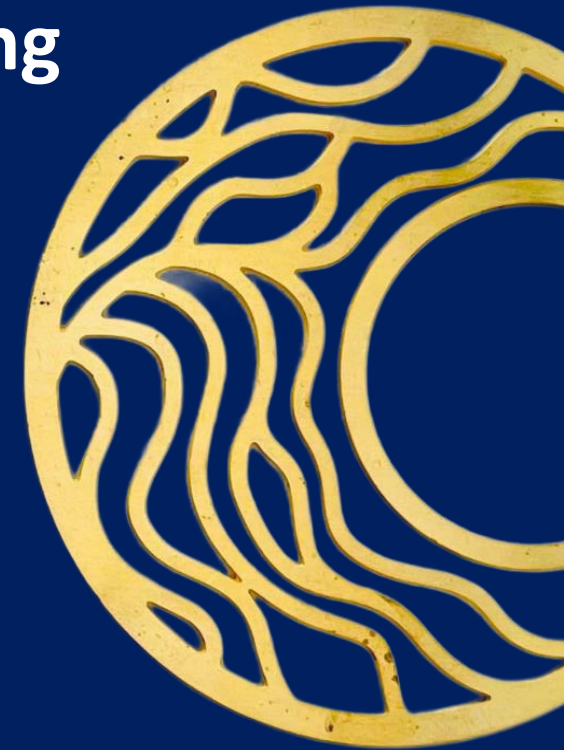
Coffee Break!

Reconvene at 15:15!



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

The role of international water law and water governance organizations in supporting and sustaining transboundary water cooperation



Dr. Susanne Schmeier,
Head of the Water Governance Department, Associate
Professor of Water Law and Diplomacy, IHE Delft



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS



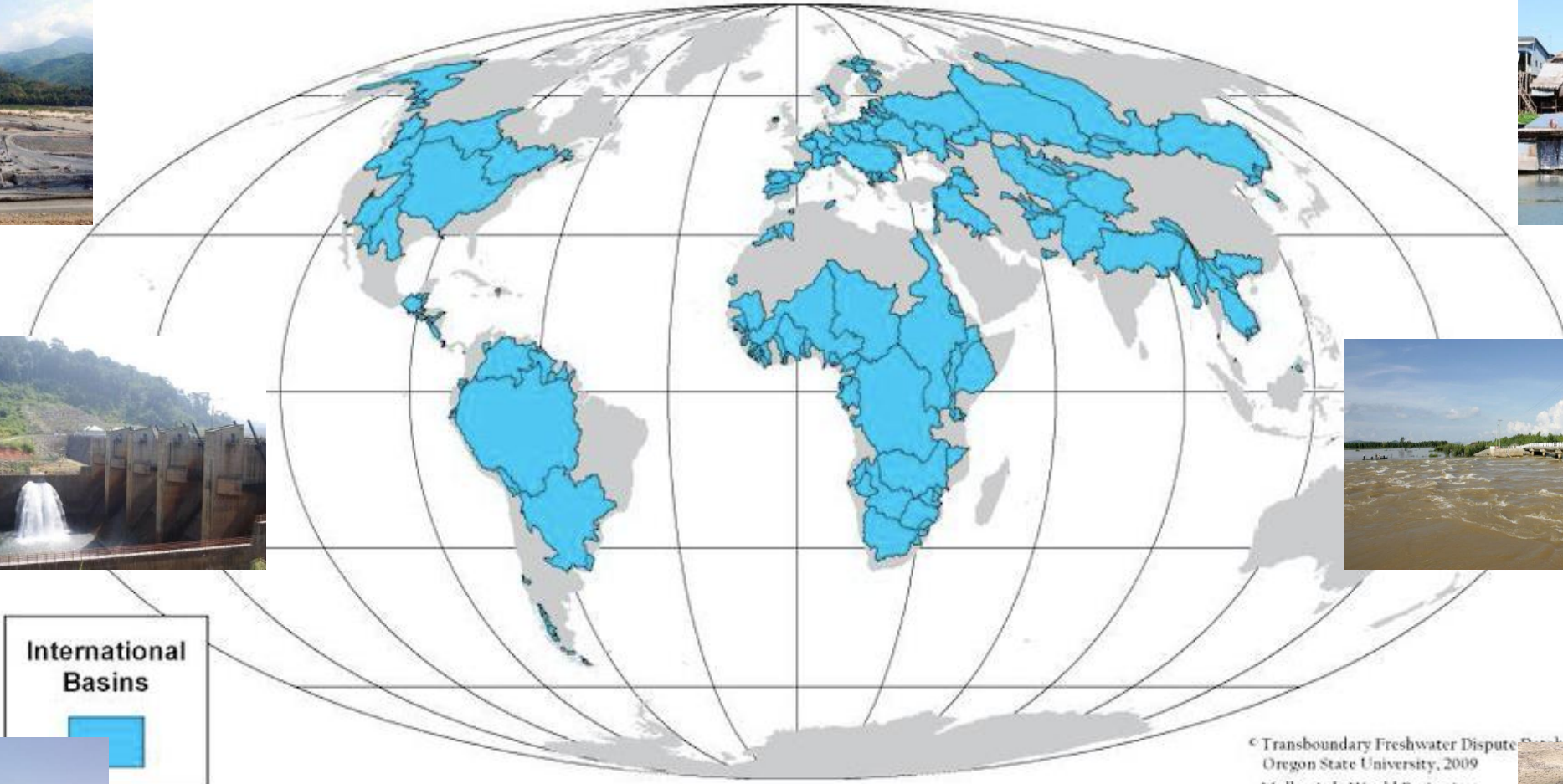
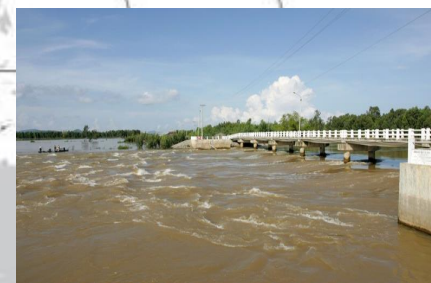
Women in Water Diplomacy South Caucasus Workshop

Water law and institutions

How to establish and enhance cooperation over shared water resources?

Dr. Susanne Schmeier, Associate Professor, IHE Delft

Internationally shared watercourses



International Basins



© Transboundary Freshwater Dispute
Oregon State University, 2009
Mollewiede World Projection
WGS 1984 Geographic Coordinate S

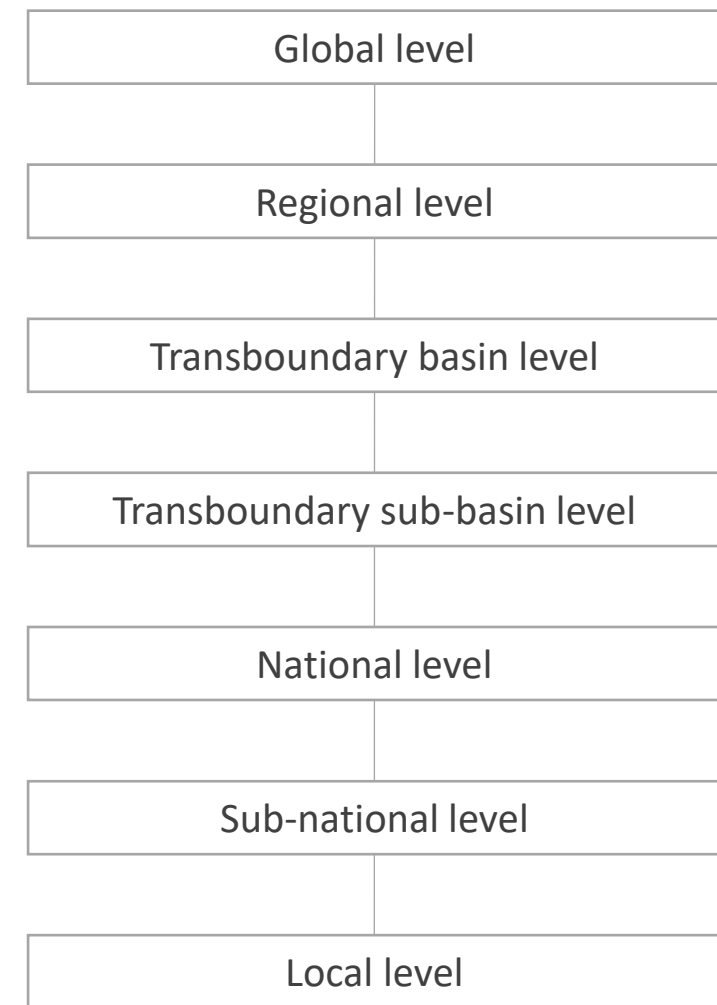


Why do we need to cooperate over shared water resources?

- Water resources do not respect political-administrative boundaries and are shared across actors, sectors and countries
- Their effective governance therefore requires cooperation to achieve environmental and socioeconomic benefits
- Conflict over shared water resources comes with considerable costs for ecosystems, people and societies
- Non-cooperation also incurs costs which cannot afford in times of increasing development needs and pressures

Multi-level institutions for water governance

- Water does not respect political-administrative boundaries
- Water law and governance required at various levels, both for
 - hydrological-ecosystem boundaries
 - Political-administrative boundaries
- Creates complex and multi-layered legal system for shared water resources



International water law principles

- Various principles of international water law have developed over time towards compromise of limited territorial sovereignty
- Two key substantive principles
 - Equitable and reasonable utilization
 - No significant harm
- Accompanied by procedural principles
 - Prior notification
 - Obligation to conduct EIAs
- Various other principles

The global water conventions – and much more...

- 1997 Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses
- 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Helsinki Convention)
- Various other environmental instruments with link to water
 - 1972 Ramsar Convention
 - 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity
 - 1992 Convention to Combat Desertification
 - 1982 UNCLOS and related marine instruments
 - ...

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE
OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES
done at Helsinki, on 17 March 1992

PREAMBLE


The Parties to this Convention,

Mindful that the protection and use of transboundary watercourses and international lakes are important and urgent tasks, the effective accomplishment of which can only be ensured by enhanced cooperation,

Concerned over the existence and threats of adverse effects, in the short or long term, of changes in the conditions of transboundary watercourses and international lakes on the environment, economies and well-being of the member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE),

Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of
International Watercourses
1997

Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 21 May 1997.
Not yet in force. See General Assembly resolution 51/229, annex, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/51/49)*.



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2008

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The regional level

- In some regions (EU, SADC), regional legal frameworks exist
- EUWFD is unique framework for water resources management worldwide
- Is legally binding and enforceable and based on strong political commitment
- Has largely focused on water quality and its different dimensions
- Newly emerging challenges will require adaptation in next years

22.12.2000 EN Official Journal of the European Communities L 327/1

I
(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**DIRECTIVE 2000/60/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 23 October 2000
establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 175(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions ⁽³⁾,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty ⁽⁴⁾, and in the light of the joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee on 18 July 2000,

Whereas:

(1) Water is not a commercial product like any other but, rather, a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such.

(2) The conclusions of the Community Water Policy Ministerial Seminar in Frankfurt in 1988 highlighted the need for Community legislation covering ecological quality. The Council in its resolution of 28 June 1988 ⁽⁵⁾ asked the Commission to submit proposals to improve

(3) The declaration of the Ministerial Seminar on groundwater held at The Hague in 1991 recognised the need for action to avoid long-term deterioration of freshwater quality and quantity and called for a programme of actions to be implemented by the year 2000 aiming at sustainable management and protection of freshwater resources. In its resolutions of 25 February 1992 ⁽⁶⁾, and 20 February 1995 ⁽⁷⁾, the Council requested an action programme for groundwater and a revision of Council Directive 80/68/EEC of 17 December 1979 on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances ⁽⁸⁾, as part of an overall policy on freshwater protection.

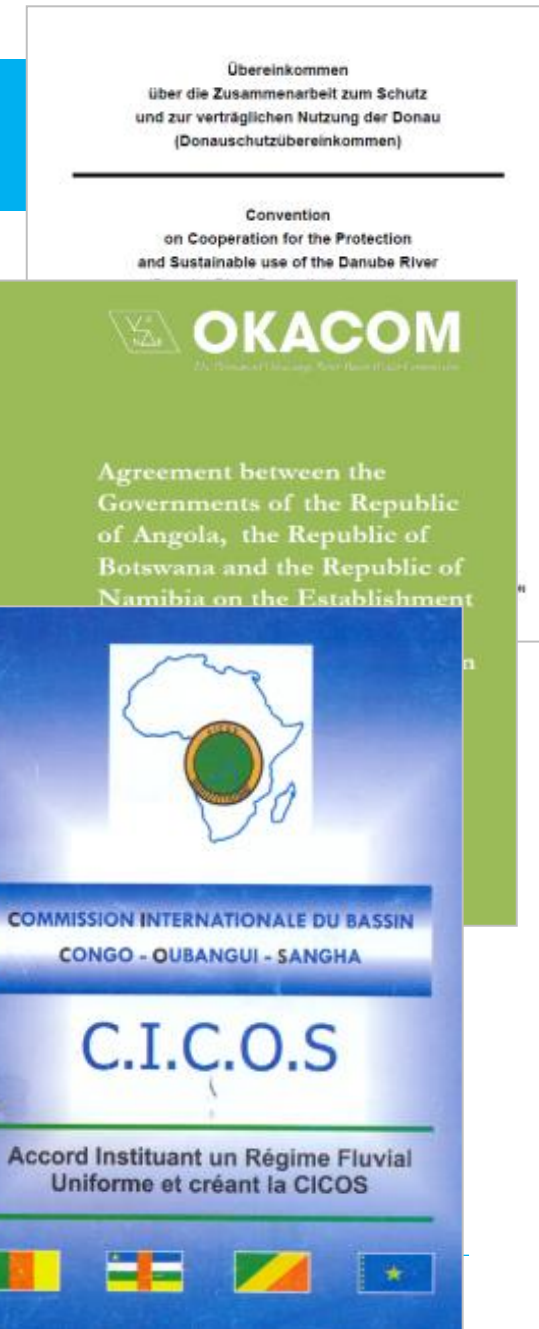
(4) Waters in the Community are under increasing pressure from the continuous growth in demand for sufficient quantities of good quality water for all purposes. On 10 November 1995, the European Environment Agency in its report 'Environment in the European Union - 1995' presented an updated state of the environment report, confirming the need for action to protect Community waters in qualitative as well as in quantitative terms.

(5) On 18 December 1995, the Council adopted conclusions requiring, inter alia, the drawing up of a new framework Directive establishing the basic principles of sustainable water policy in the European Union and inviting the Commission to come forward with a proposal.

(6) On 21 February 1996, the Commission adopted a

Basin treaties

- Need to translate global water law principles into basin specific context
- International/basin water treaties
 - Provide specific legal framework for cooperation in a specific basin
 - Are international agreements concluded by states, governed by international (water) law
 - Define the rights and obligations of riparian states specifically for the basin
 - Provide a long-term cooperation framework for the basin that allows for joint action
- Now more than 600 basin treaties worldwide – but important basins remain without



Basin organizations

- Basin treaties provide basis for institutionalized cooperation, but need to be actively implemented
- Basin organizations institutionalize cooperation further by
 - Providing permanent platforms for exchange and negotiations
 - Developing joint basin management and development activities
 - Preventing and mitigating disputes in pre-defined manner
 - Providing platform for data and information exchange, technical assessments, etc.



But disagreements can (re-)occur any time...

- Disagreements or disputes will (re-)occur in basins, even with institutionalized cooperation in place
- While these disputes are typically well below the threshold of violence, they can have negative repercussions on
 - Countries' and communities' water-based development
 - Riparian states political and economic relations
 - Regional cooperation and integration
 - Regional stability and peace
- Therefore, various dispute-resolution mechanisms have been established at different governance levels

International courts and the resolution of disputes

- Relies in help of courts and tribunals for resolving water conflicts
- Provides for pre-defined and structured resolution process
- Judicial dispute resolution is not very common for shared waters, but landmark cases exist
 - 1997 Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros
 - 2010 Pulp Mills
 - 2013 Kishenganga

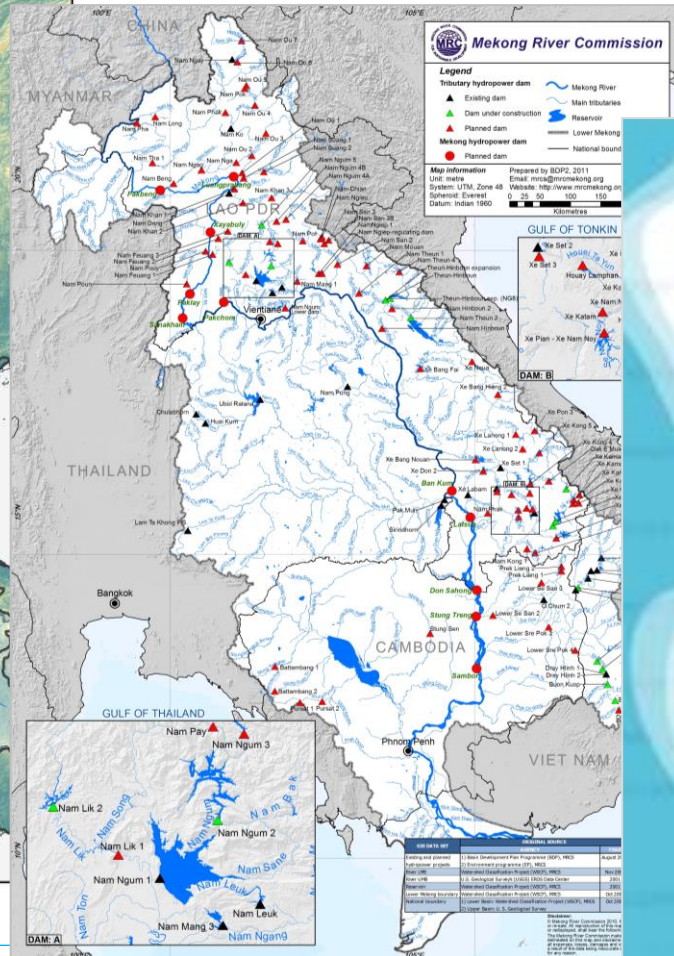
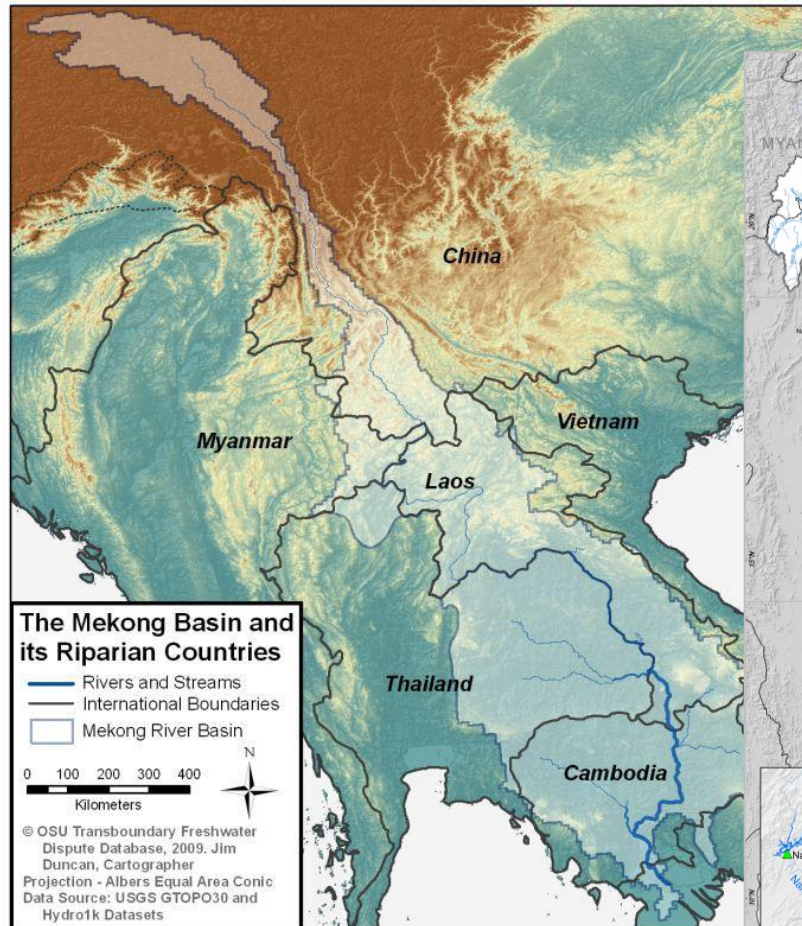


Water diplomacy

- Refers to processes employing foreign policy means to manage relations between states over shared waters
- Is different from transboundary water management and water cooperation (in terms of tools but also objectives)
- Often not with an explicit focus on water, but on regional cooperation, stability and peace
- Can happen on different (interdependent) tracks – track 1, track 1.5, track 2 and track 3



Cooperation in the Mekong River Basin



Mekong River Commission

1995 Mekong Agreement and Procedural Rules

Meeting the Needs, Keeping the Balance



Cooperation in the Rhine River Basin

Convention on the Protection of the Rhine

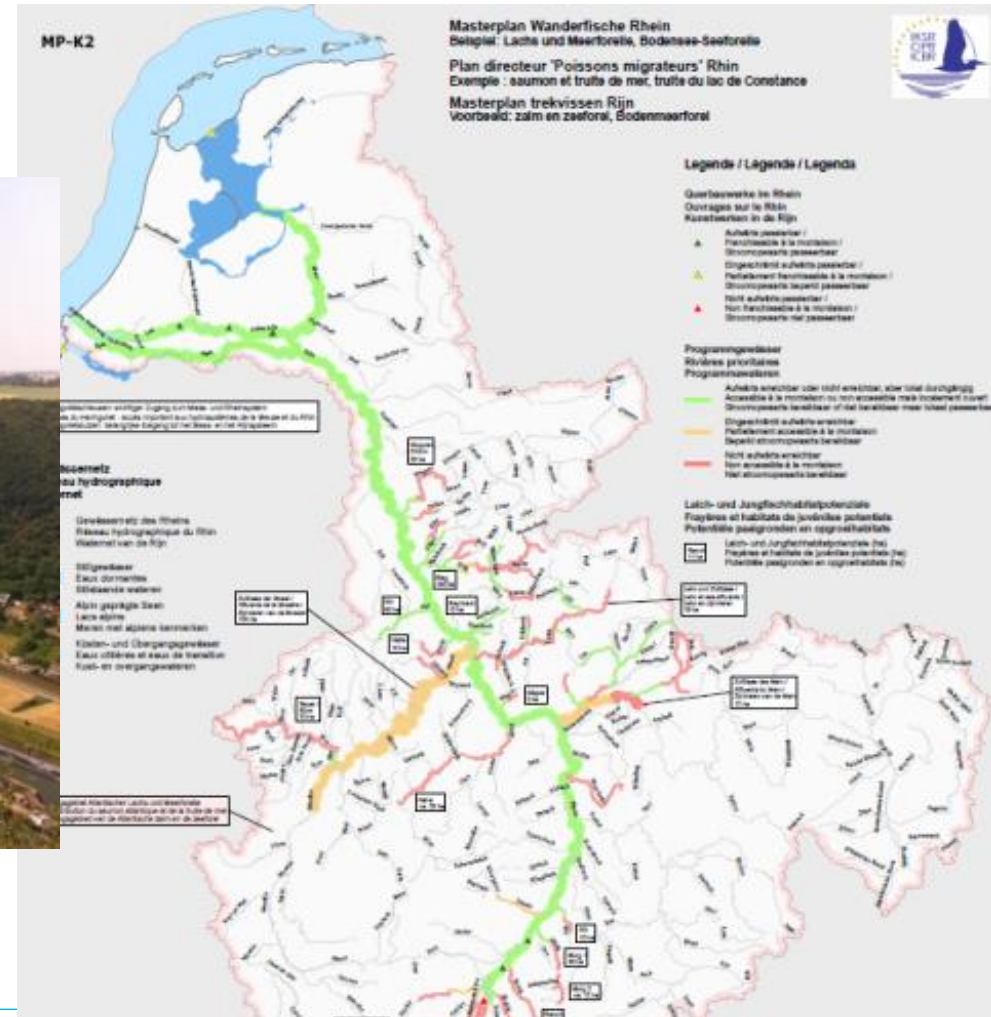
Bern, April 12th, 1999



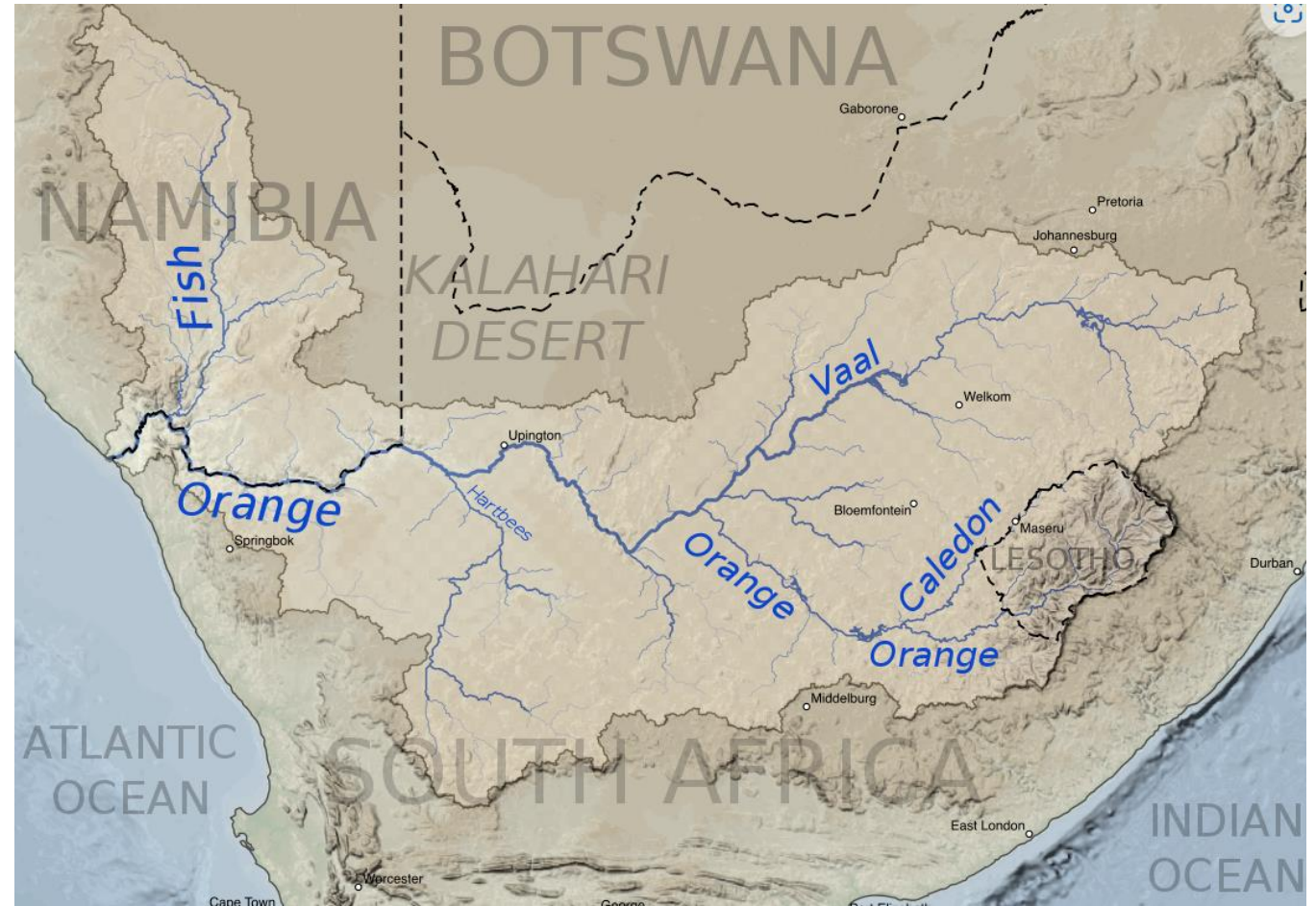
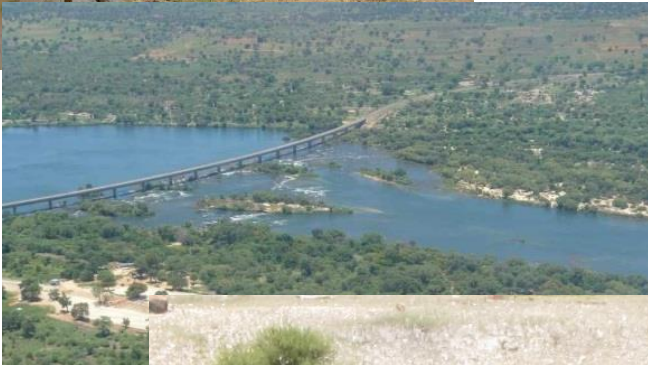
Internationale
Kommission zur
Schutz des Rheins

Commission
Internationale
pour la Protection
du Rhin

Internationale
Commissie ter
Bescherming
van de Rijn



Cooperation in the Orange River Basin



What does the future hold?



Ensuring resilient institutions for future cooperation

- Research shows that conflicts are more likely if change in a basin exceeds the institutional capacity to deal with this change
- Institution building/strengthening is thus crucial for resilience – but not easy and often context-dependent
- Resilience in light of future challenges means
 - Knowledge of and awareness for newly emerging issues
 - Commitment of states and other actors to address a newly emerging issue
 - Technical capacity to address new issues
 - Organizational and financial capacity to change
 - Willingness to change
 - ...

Conclusions

- Shared nature of water resources requires cooperation between actors and states sharing them
- Comprehensive framework of legal instruments has been developed at various governance levels to guide cooperation and prevent conflict
- Basin organizations can further institutionalize cooperation and foster real joint action
- Nonetheless, conflicts can (re-)occur at any time – especially if change in basin exceeds institutional capacity to deal with change
- Requires effective dispute resolution mechanisms but also constant adaptation and resilience to change



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www.un-ihe.org

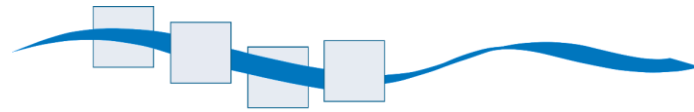
The Sava River Basin – Case Study



Tanja Miškova,
Ambassador-at-Large for Water Diplomacy, Ministry of
Foreign and European Affairs, Slovenia



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

**Women in Water Diplomacy Network
South Caucasus Inception Workshop**

Sava River Basin

Tanja Miškova

Ambassador-at-Large & Deputy Commissioner of Slovenia to the ISRBC

Jovana Rašeta Bastić

ISRBC Secretariat

March 27, 2024

Sava River Basin-general information

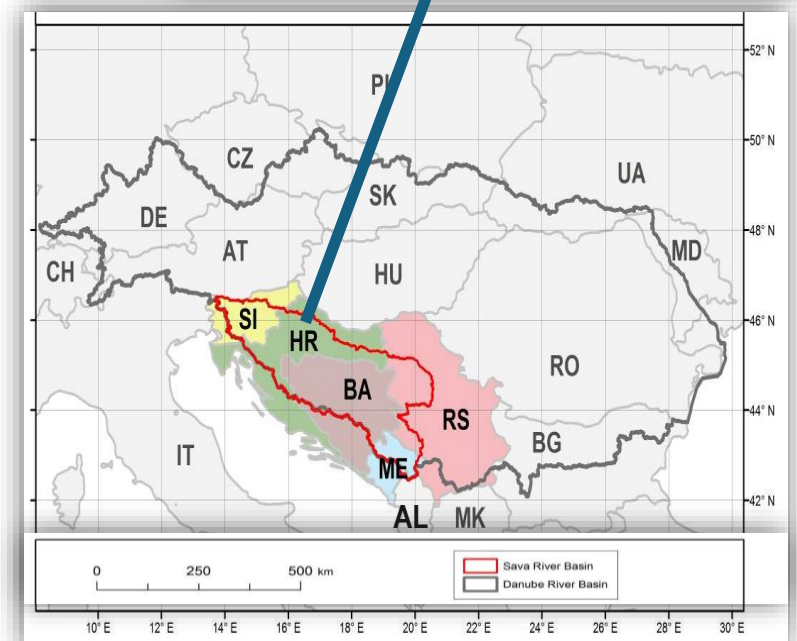
Main facts & figures







Area $\approx 97\,700\text{ km}^2$ (2nd Danube sub-basin; share: 12%)

River length: 945 km (594 km of which is the waterway)

Discharge (mouth) $\approx 1700\text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ (1st Danube tributary; contr. 25%)

Population: approx. 8 million



Country		Share of the basin (%)	Share of the country territory in the basin (%)
Republic of Slovenia	(SI) 	12,1	57,9
Republic of Croatia	(HR) 	26,1	44,9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	(BA) 	39,4	75,0
Republic of Serbia	(RS) 	15,6	17,1
Montenegro	(ME) 	6,7	46,7
Republic of Albania	(AL) 	0,2	0,7

Legal basis for cooperation

Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin

➤ *The first **development oriented**, multilateral agreement in the **region**, after the establishment of the **new states***

➤ **Key objective:** Sustainable development of the region through transboundary water cooperation

➤ **Specific goals:**

international regime of **navigation** on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries

sustainable **water management**

sustainable management of **hazards** (floods, ice, droughts, accidental pollution)

➤ **Fundamental principles of cooperation**

➤ **sovereign equality, territorial integrity, common benefit** and cooperation in a **good faith, reasonable and equitable** use, securing **integrity** of the water regime, elimination or reduction of **transboundary impacts**, and **no harm** rule

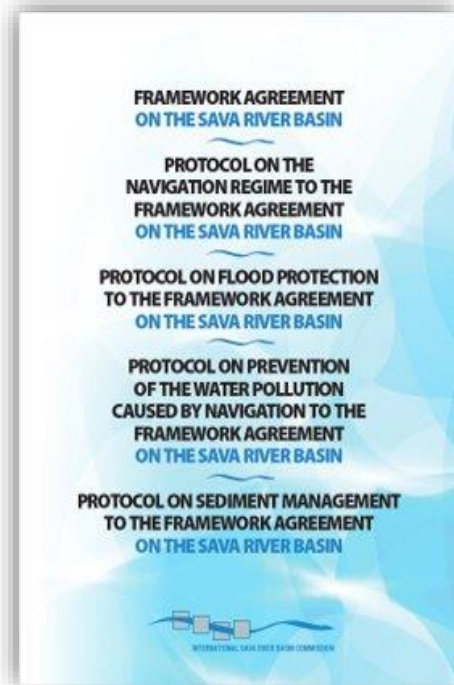
➤ **Flexibility: capacity to accommodate changes, adaptations, or modifications over time**

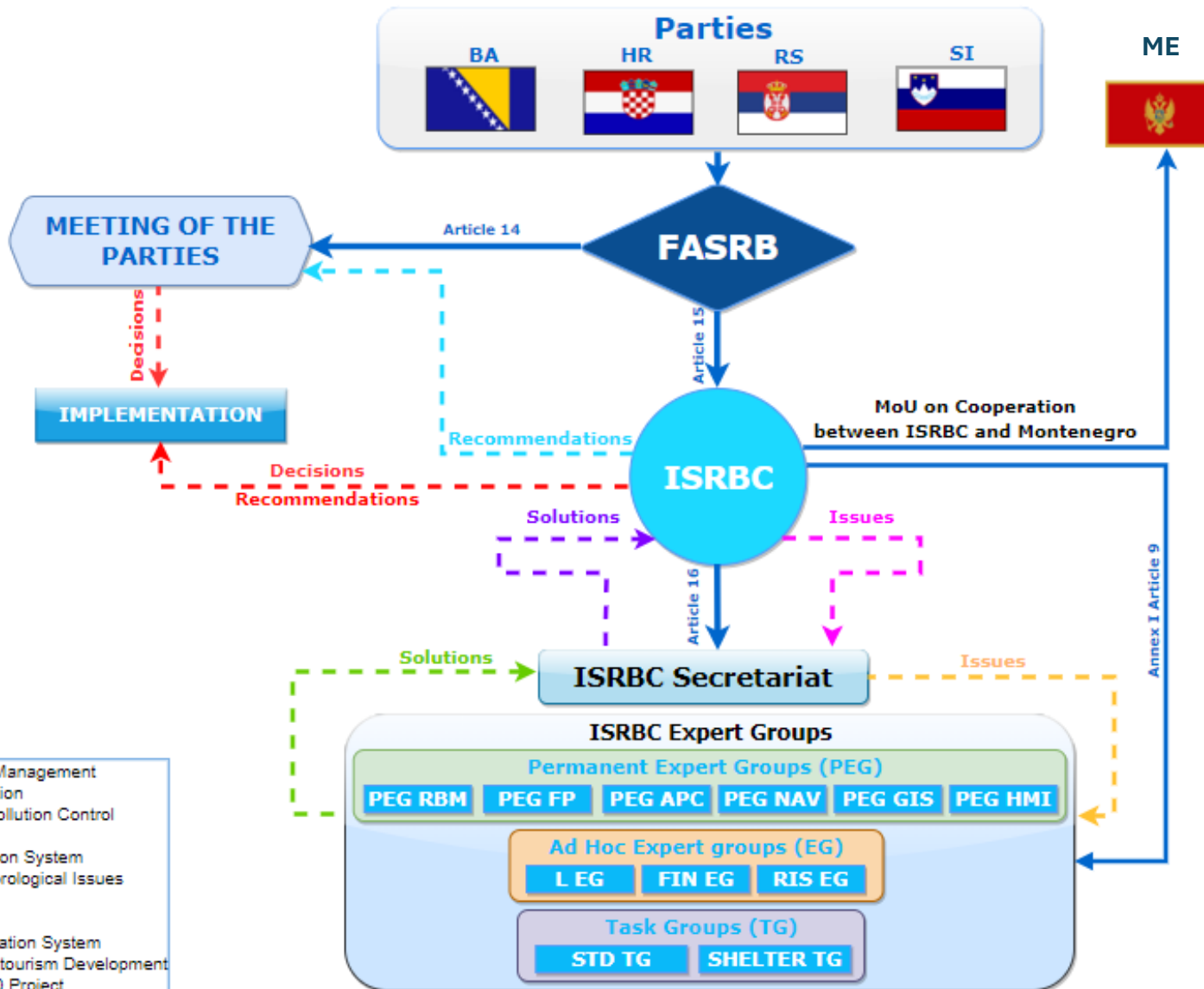
➤ Contains review mechanism, to evaluate effectiveness (every 2 years)

➤ Allows consideration and adoption of proposals and amendments

➤ Allows consideration and adoption Protocols (for specific issues of concerns)

➤ **Defined National competent authorities, established ISRBC**





ISRBC principal scheme of functioning

1	International multilateral agreement-Framework Agreement on the sava River Basin (FASRB)
4	Countries (Parties to the FASRB)
21	National institutions responsible for FASRB implementation
4	Protocols regulating specific cooperation issues
11	Expert groups (permanent, ad-hoc, task)
>150	Experts involved in groups work
1	International commission established for FASRB implementation (ISRBC)
1	Secretariat of the ISRBC

RBM	River Basin Management
FP	Flood Protection
APC	Accidental Pollution Control
NAV	Navigation
GIS	Geoinformation System
HMI	Hydro meteorological Issues
L	Legal
FIN	Financial
RIS	River Information System
STD	Sustainable tourism Development
SHELTER	Horizon2020 Project



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Milestones in cooperation towards established goals

FASRB

Protocol on Navigation Regime

ISRBC Permanent Expert groups

Secretariat ISRBC

Hydrological Yearbook publishing

MoU between ISRBC and Montenegro

Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment (Pilot project)

2004

2006

Strategy on FASRB Implementation

2008

Background paper of the first Sava RBMP "Climate change and RBM planning"

Protocol on Flood Protection

Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System

MoU on Sava FFWS regular functioning

2005

2007

2009

2013

Sava GIS/HIS Platform established

The Sava River Hydraulic model

2020

2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan

ISRBC

Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin

Sava GIS Strategy

2012

Sava Youth Parliament

Water and Climate Adaptation Plan (WATCAP)

Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures

GEF GRANT AGREEMENT SIGNED- SDIP Implementation

2015

2018

2014

Hydrometeorological Data Exchange Policy

Sava River Basin Management Plan

2017

Sava Hydrological Model

Protocol on Sediment Management

Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin

2019

Flood Risk Management Plan in the Sava River Basin

2022

Joint Statement on Regional Cooperation on Development of Sustainable Tourism in the SRB

Protocol on Prevention of Water Pollution Caused by Navigation

Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development

- Based on the priority areas in basin wide cooperation defined in Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin (2017)

Priority Area 1	Strengthening the Sava river basin planning to accelerate economic integration and investments
Priority Area 2	Improving the navigability of the Sava water way
Priority Area 3	Improving flood management and monitoring
Priority Area 4	Developing sustainable river tourism
Priority Area 5	Protecting environment and adapting to climate change

➤ GEF SAVA AND DRINA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

(World Bank, GEF grant)

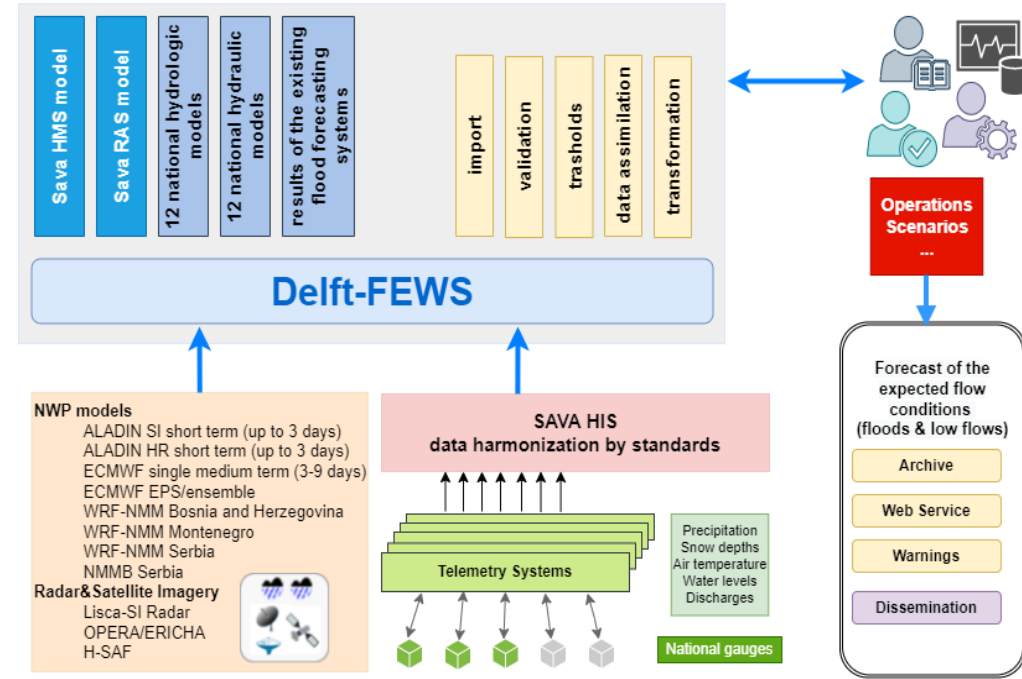
- 2 phases - 10 years (1st phase until July 2026)
- National and regional (basin-wide) components
- **Implementation of the Regional Component-ISRBC**
 - substantially contributes to the implementation of the FASRB– aimed at:
 - Supporting regional **policy dialogue** and consultations
 - **Joint planning** and *sustainable* management and *development* of water resources
 - **Building resilience** to climate shocks

Hydrological Study for the Sava River Basin
Sediment, Water, Biota Study Sediment Management Plan
Upgrade of existing data exchange platforms Sava GIS, Sava HIS
Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
River Basin Management and Flood Risk Management Plans update
Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development
Advanced flood and low-flow monitoring, forecasting and management systems (Sava FFWS upgrade)
Other unspecified activities aimed at filling the gaps in transboundary water management
Joint statement on Navigation and Environmental protection update
Groundwater in the Sava River Basin (in the preparation)

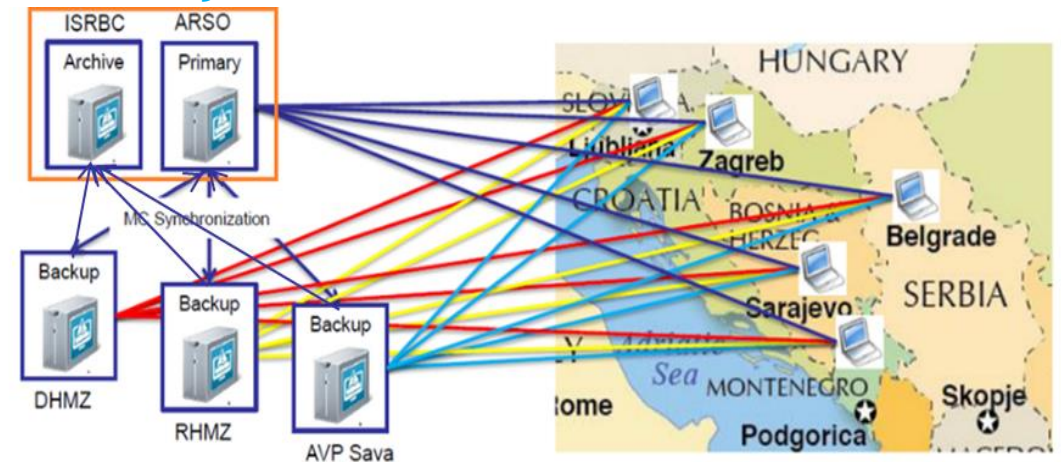
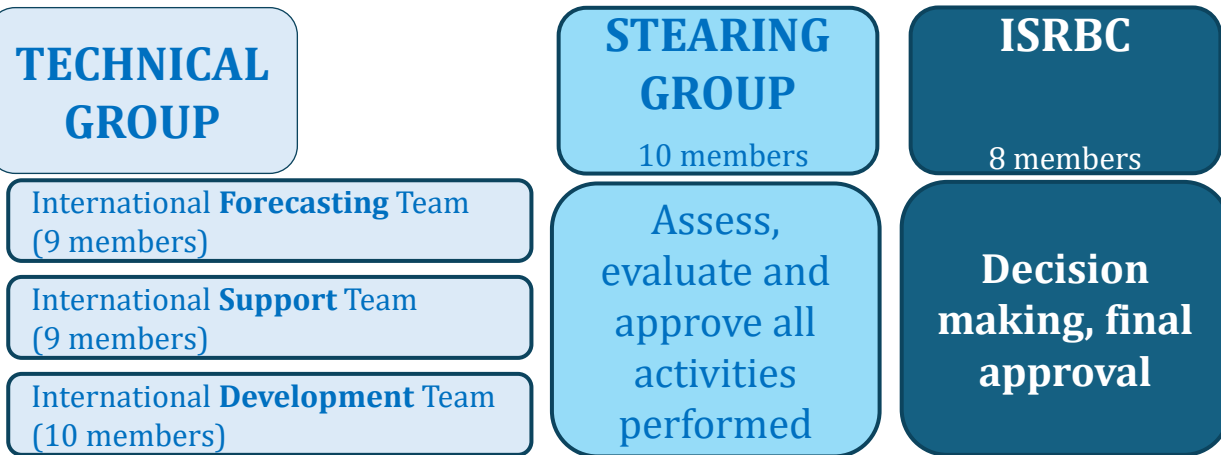
Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System

MoU on cooperation on regular functioning and maintenance of Sava FFWS, 2020

- Joint hosting and maintenance
- Using and forecasting (with individual warnings per countries)
- Evaluation and assessment of the work performed
- Joint financing (by contribution of the countries, on equal basis)
- Real costs of all activities at the international level in accordance with the System roles and responsibilities
- Further developments, regular training of the engaged personnel



Organizational structure (representatives of 5 countries and ISRBC)



Sustainability of the FASRB-thinking about the future Sava Youth Parliament

- Established in **2012**
- Special example and **world unique** basin wide transboundary youth organisation
- Ensures sustainability-**Future oriented**
- **Voice of youth**
- Yearly meetings-specific topics

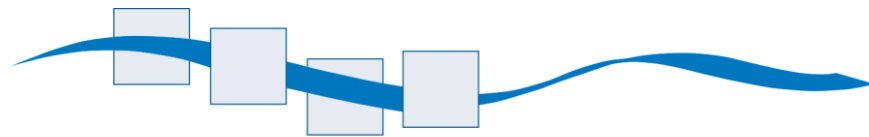


No	WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT ABOUT?
1 st	2012	Lonjsko Polje (HR)	Cross border cooperation in water management
2 nd	2013	Zasavica (RS)	Defining the working arrangements
3 rd	2014	Ljubljana (SI)	Flood protection
4 th	2015	Bihać (BA)	Sustainable development
5 th	2016	Lonjsko Polje (HR)	Ecological value of the Sava River Basin
6 th	2017	Belgrade (RS)	Climate change
7 th	2018	Bohinj (SI)	Tourism potential in the Sava River basin
8 th	2019	Border region HR/SI	Transboundary stakeholder involvement
9 th	2021	Banja Luka (BA)	Cultural heritage and floods
10 th	2022	Belgrade (RS)	Emergency Situations (accidental pollution&floods)
11 th	2023	Ljubljana (SI)	Nature Based Solution in Water management

Web page: <http://sava-youthparliament.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SavaYouth/>





INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

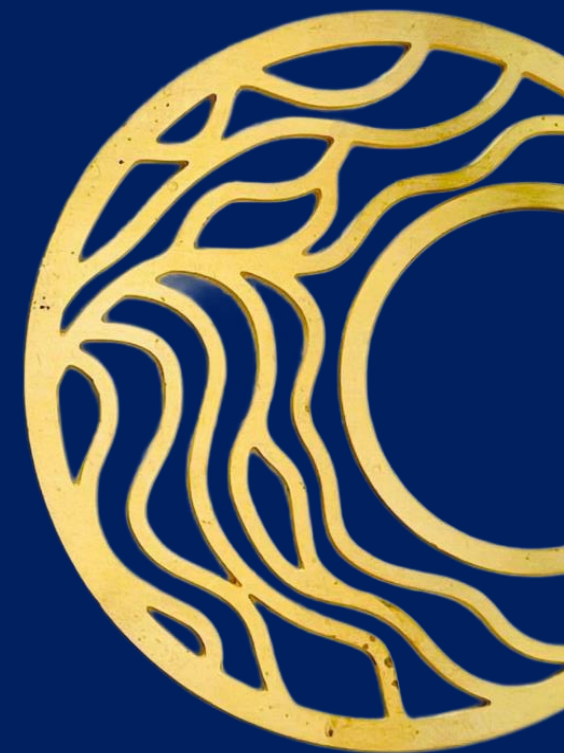
International Sava River Basin Commission

Kneza Branimira 29/II
10000 Zagreb, Republic of Croatia
Phone: +385 1 488 6 960
e-mail: isrbc@savacommission.org
web site: www.savacommission.org

SHARED BASIN - SHARED DESTINY: THE CASE OF THE ICPDR & THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN

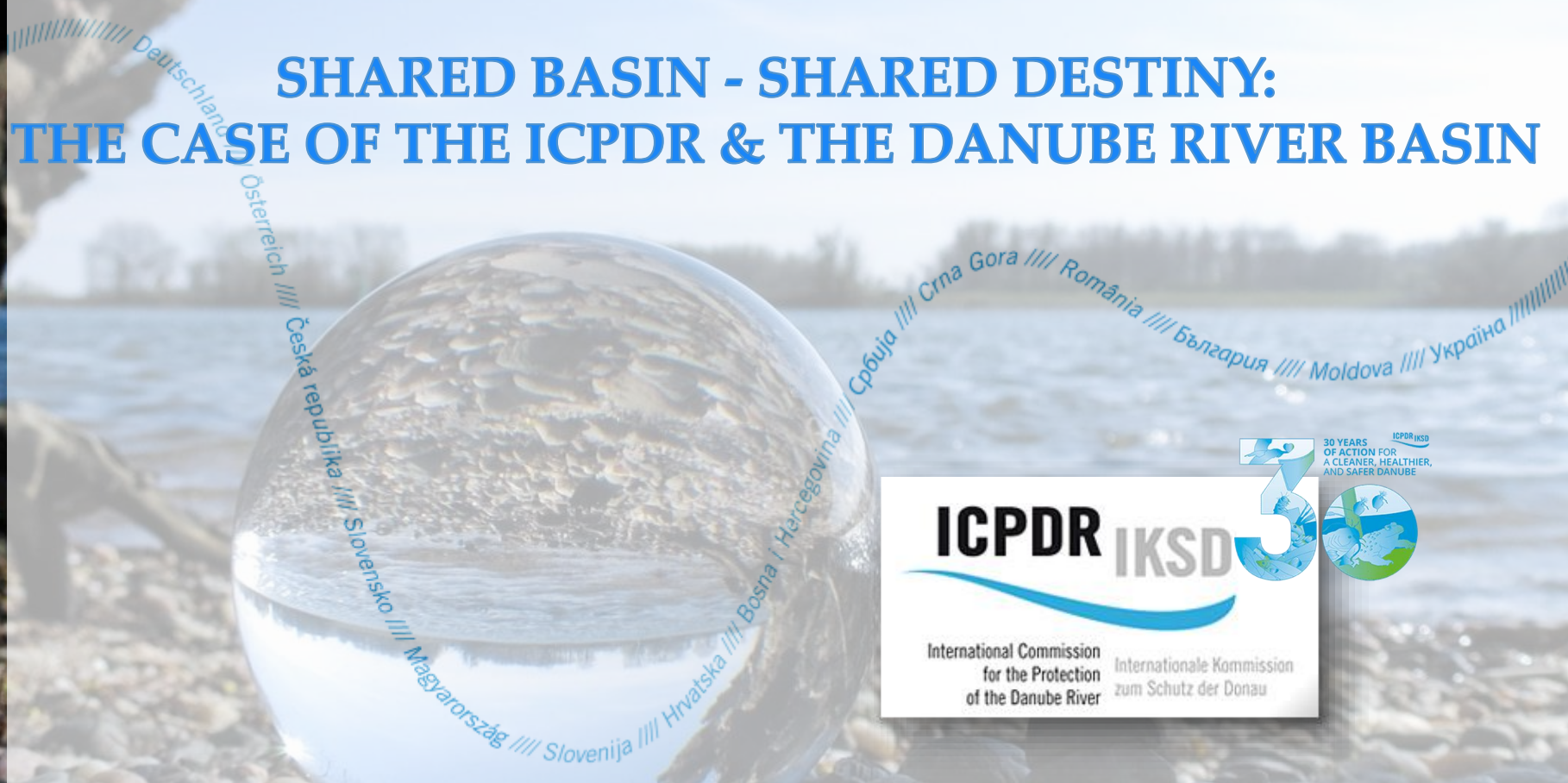


Hélène Masliah-Gilkarov, International
Commission for the Protection of the Danube River



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

SHARED BASIN - SHARED DESTINY: THE CASE OF THE ICPDR & THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN



ICPDR IKSD  

30 YEARS OF ACTION FOR A CLEANER, HEALTHIER, AND SAFER DANUBE

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River / Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Donau

Welcome to the most *international* River Basin in the World!



ICPDR Countries



Germany



Austria



Czech Republic



Slovakia



Hungary



Slovenia



Croatia



Bosnia & Herzegovina



Serbia



Montenegro



Romania



Bulgaria



Rep. of Moldova



Ukraine



European Union



EU Member States (9)

Non-EU Member States (5)

The Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC)

- Full name:
Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube
- Main objective:
ensure that surface waters and groundwater within the Danube River Basin are managed and used sustainably and equitably.
- Scope:
legal instrument for co-operation and transboundary water management in the Danube River Basin
 - Came into force in October 1998 when ratified by the 9th signatory
 - 11 Danube countries are signatories
 - 15 Contracting parties (14 countries that have more than 2000 km² of the basin and the European Commission)

The Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC)

Based on the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses (Helsinki, 1992)

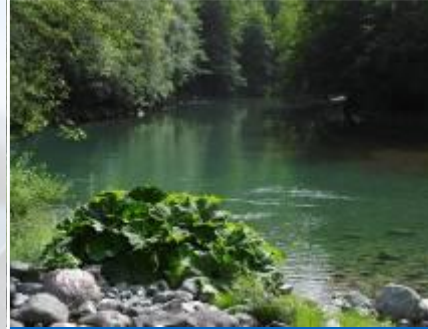
- A document that involves:
 - the establishment of the ICPDR
 - the mandate for the ICPDR to:
 - ensure conservation, improvement and rational use of surface waters and groundwater
 - reduce inputs of nutrients and hazardous substances
 - establish preventive measures and control hazards
 - set up measures to reduce the pollution loads entering the Black Sea from sources in the Danube River Basin



The DRPC as the Legal Mandate of the ICPDR



Sustainable & equitable use of water



Protection of water & ecological resources



Reduce nutrients & hazardous substances



Manage floods & ice hazards

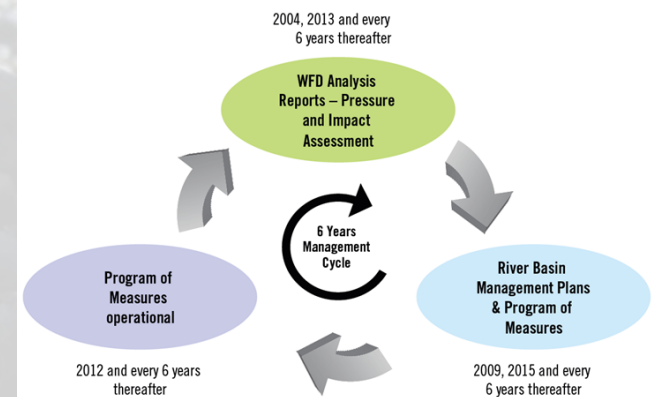
ICPDR: platform for **transboundary cooperation** on water management:

- Implementation of the **DRPC**(1998)
- Coordination of the implementation of EU **Water Framework** Directive (2000) & EU **Floods** Directive (2007)

EU Water Framework Directive – Key Principles

- Integrated water management, taking into account and addressing all pressures and impacts
- Management unit is the hydrological river basin
- Achievement of environmental objectives (good water status/potential) is a legal requirement
- Development of River Basin Management Plans including Programme of Measures for achieving WFD objectives
- 6 years management cycle
- Public participation requirements

Main implementation steps for the EU Water Framework Directive *FIGURE 1*



EU Floods Directive – Key Principles

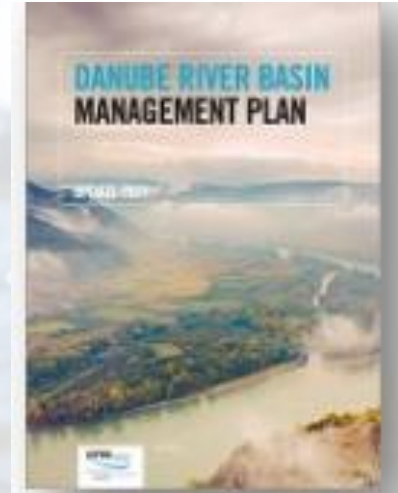
- The aim of the Directive is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
- Management unit is the hydrological river basin.
- Development of Flood Risk Management Plans.
- 6 years management cycle.
- Public participation requirements.



Two Management Plans for the Danube River Basin

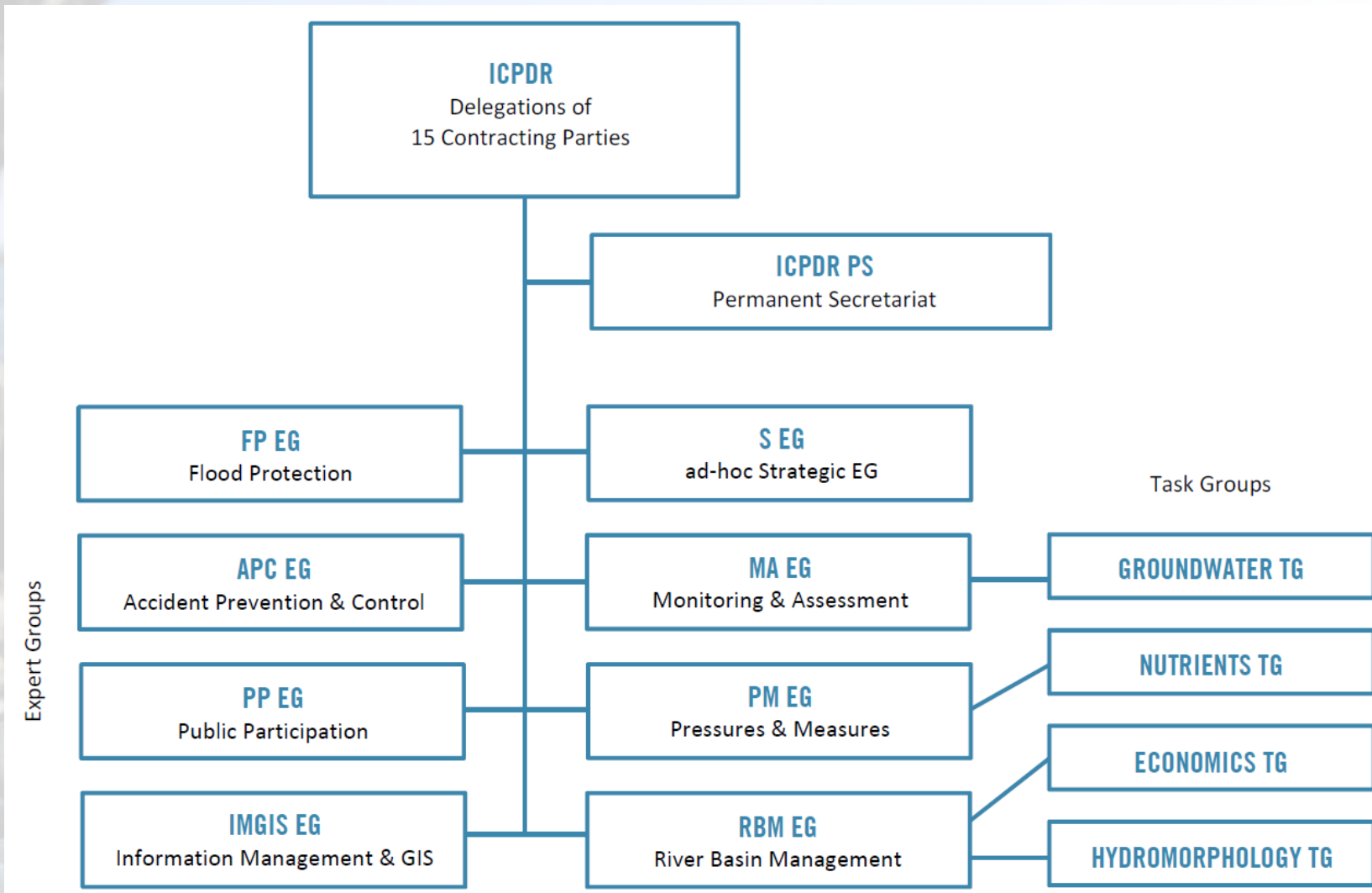


Danube River Basin
Management Plan
Update 2021



Danube Flood Risk
Management Plan
Update 2021

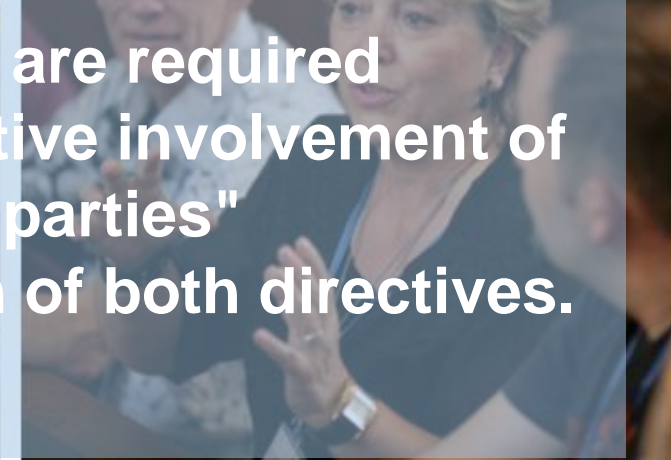




Public Participation & Transparency



Art. 14 (WFD)
Art. 9 & 10 (EFD)



member states are required
"to encourage the active involvement of
interested parties"
in the implementation of both directives.

The ICPDR Public Participation Toolbox

- ❑ 24 Observer Organisations
- ❑ A dedicated Public Participation Expert Group
- ❑ Outreach activities across a broad spectrum
- ❑ Educational tools and flagship events (Danube Day)
- ❑ Public information
- ❑ Stakeholder consultation
- ❑ Social Media
- ❑ Inter-sectorial dialogue
- ❑ Branding campaigns
- ❑ **3 Pillars for our action**



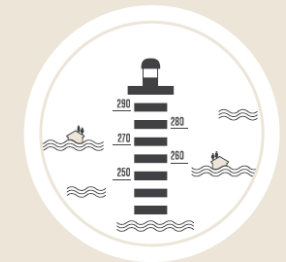
Cleaner

cleaner water



Healthier

a healthier home for aquatic
animals and plants



Safer

a safer environment for people to
live without the fear of floods



Lessons learned from the Danube River Basin

- **Benefits of cooperation in our basin include:**
- **accelerated economic growth,**
- **increased human well-being,**
- **Better access to information**
- **enhanced environmental sustainability,**
- **increased political stability.**

The higher the level of transboundary water cooperation, the greater the benefits.





Lessons learned from the Danube River Basin

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) plays an important role in promoting cooperation by requiring member states to develop joint river basin management plans for transboundary rivers.

ICPDR Membership has become an important tool towards EU accession.

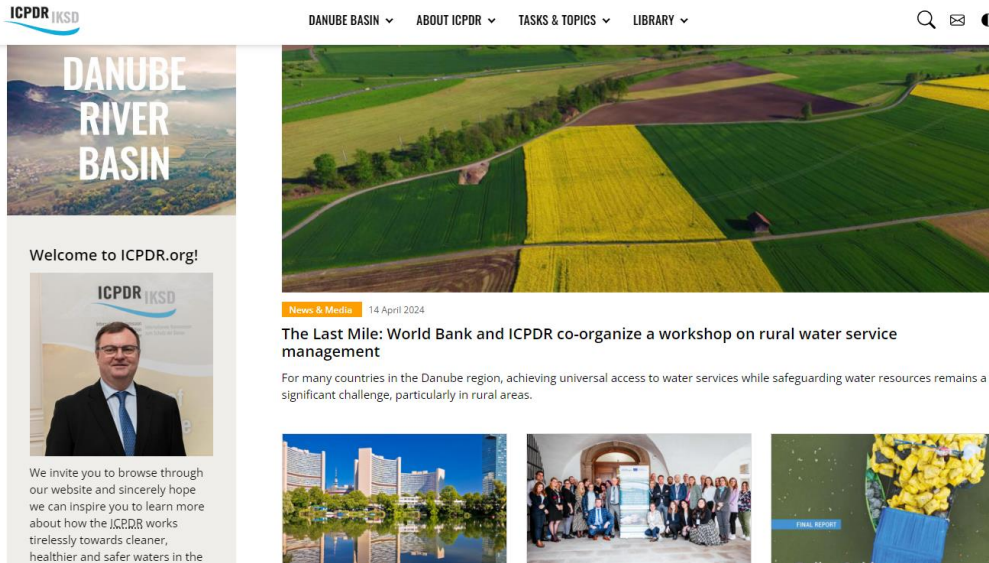


Lessons learned from the Danube River Basin

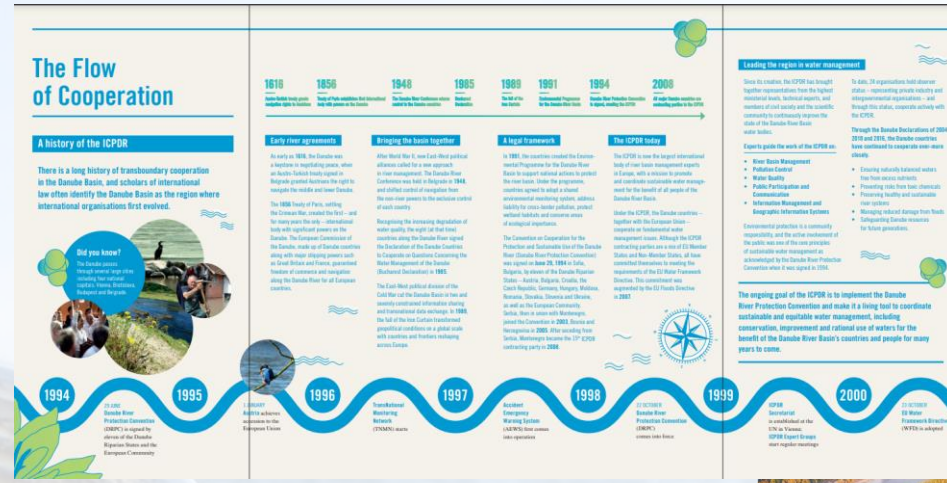
Processes for intensified cooperation include information sharing, coordination, collaboration and joint action in a cyclical process, a given for us with the WFD.

30 years of cooperation have shown that challenges to cooperation such as different levels of economic development among contracting parties do exist, but data and information sharing helps tremendously bridge the gaps.

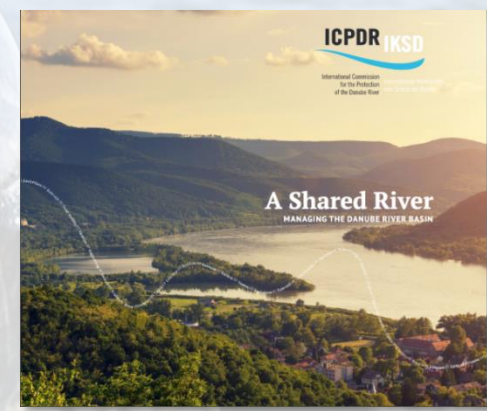
Find out more...



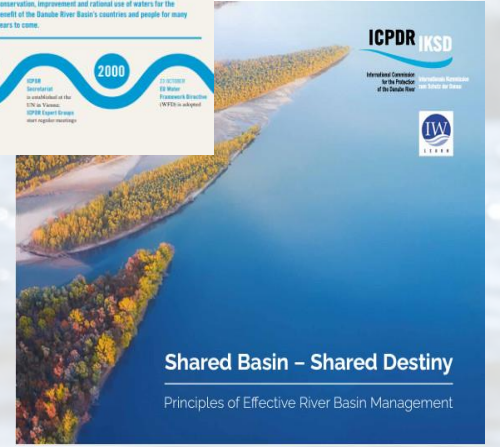
The screenshot shows the ICPDR website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation menu with 'DANUBE BASIN', 'ABOUT ICPDR', 'TASKS & TOPICS', and 'LIBRARY'. Below the menu is a large banner image of a river landscape with the text 'DANUBE RIVER BASIN'. A 'Welcome to ICPDR.org!' message is followed by a photo of a man in a suit. Below this is a news article titled 'The Last Mile: World Bank and ICPDR co-organize a workshop on rural water service management' dated 14 April 2024. The article text states: 'For many countries in the Danube region, achieving universal access to water services while safeguarding water resources remains a significant challenge, particularly in rural areas.' At the bottom of the news section are three small images: a city skyline, a group of people, and a 'FINAL REPORT' document.



The infographic 'The Flow of Cooperation' details the history of ICPDR. It features a central timeline from 1910 to 2006. Key milestones include: 1910 (Treaty of Commerce and Navigation), 1948 (Treaty of Commerce and Navigation), 1956 (Treaty of Commerce and Navigation), 1994 (Treaty of Commerce and Navigation), and 2006 (Treaty of Commerce and Navigation). The infographic is divided into sections: 'A history of the ICPDR', 'Early river agreements', 'Bringing the basin together', 'A legal framework', and 'The ICPDR today'. It also includes a 'Did you know?' section and a 'Leading the region in water management' section. The infographic is visually appealing with a blue and green color scheme and a wavy timeline.



The book cover for 'A Shared River: Managing the Danube River Basin' features a scenic view of a river flowing through a valley. The title 'A Shared River' is prominently displayed in a large, white font, with the subtitle 'MANAGING THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN' below it. The ICPDR logo is visible in the top right corner. The cover also includes the text 'International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River'.



The book cover for 'Shared Basin - Shared Destiny: Principles of Effective River Basin Management' features a scenic view of a river flowing through a valley. The title 'Shared Basin - Shared Destiny' is prominently displayed in a large, white font, with the subtitle 'Principles of Effective River Basin Management' below it. The ICPDR logo is visible in the top right corner. The cover also includes the text 'International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River'.

Visit us: www.icpdr.org

Follow us:

Twitter: https://twitter.com/ICPDR_ORG

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/icpdr-international-commission-for-the-protection-of-the-danube-river>

Further reading & ICPDR publications



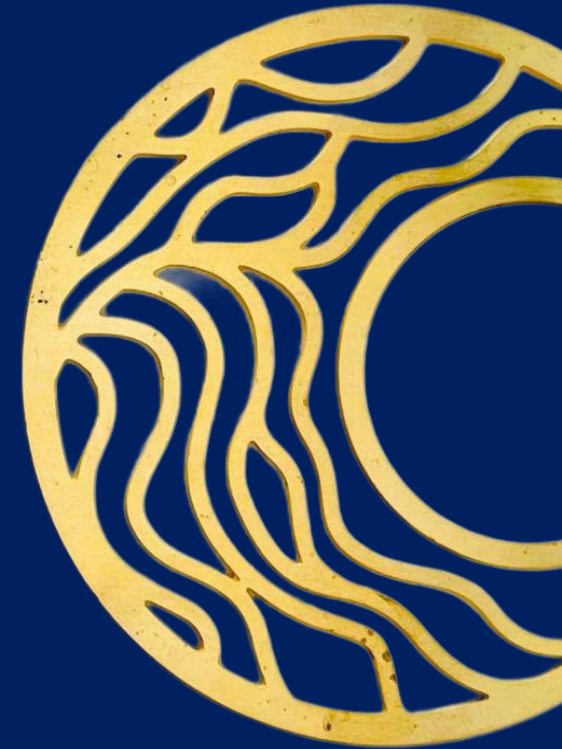
The graphic '30 Years of Action for a Cleaner, Healthier, and Safer Danube' features a large, stylized number '30' in blue. The '0' is composed of various icons representing water, nature, and human activity. To the right of the '30' is the text '30 YEARS OF ACTION FOR A CLEANER, HEALTHIER, AND SAFER DANUBE' and the ICPDR logo. Below the '30' is a circular graphic showing a river with a fish and a frog, symbolizing a healthy ecosystem.

Wrap Up and Closing Reflections

Facilitated by:

Dr. Róisín Burke,
Assistant Professor of Public International Law,
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights,
Utrecht University

Lilit Baghdasaryan,
Country Water Partnership



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Morning Welcome – Day 2

Facilitated by:

Dr. Róisín Burke,

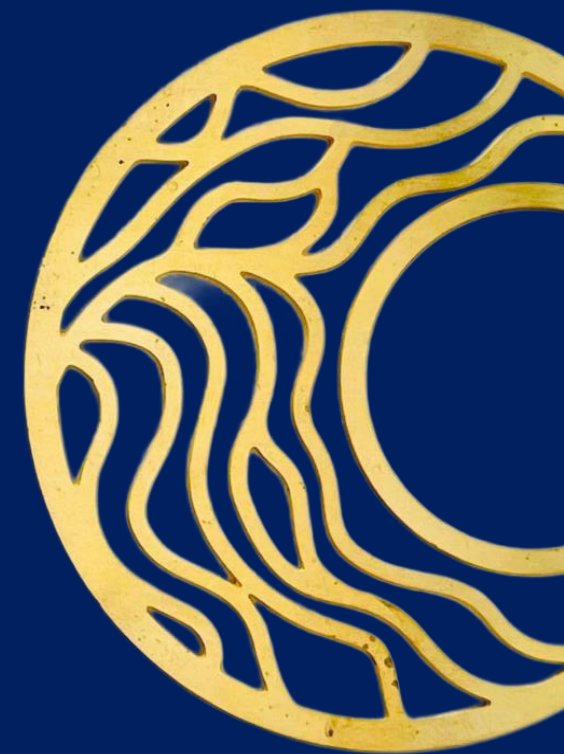
Assistant Professor of Public International Law,
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Utrecht University

Jeyhuna Mammadova,

Hydrologist and Water Resources Management

Dr. Elina Bakradze,

Deputy Head of Department, National Environmental Agency



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Introduction to the USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program & Opportunities to support South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Eric Viala,
Chief of Party, USAID



Dr. Jeanene Mitchell,
Senior Transboundary
Stakeholder Engagement
Advisor, USAID



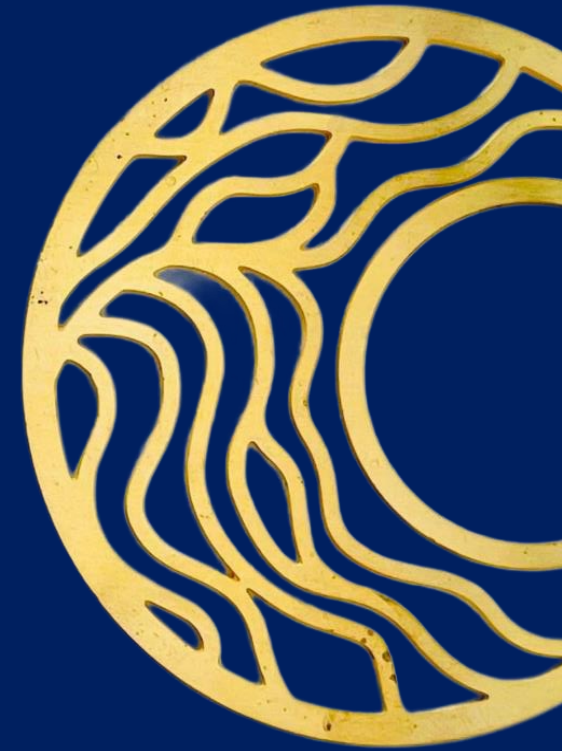
Salome Kobalava,
Gender Equity & Social
Inclusion Specialist,
USAID



Introduction to the USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program & Opportunities to support South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Eric Viala,
Chief of Party, USAID





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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program (SCRWM) + Water Security + WRM today.

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OVERALL GOAL: support effective regional cooperation on water management in SC

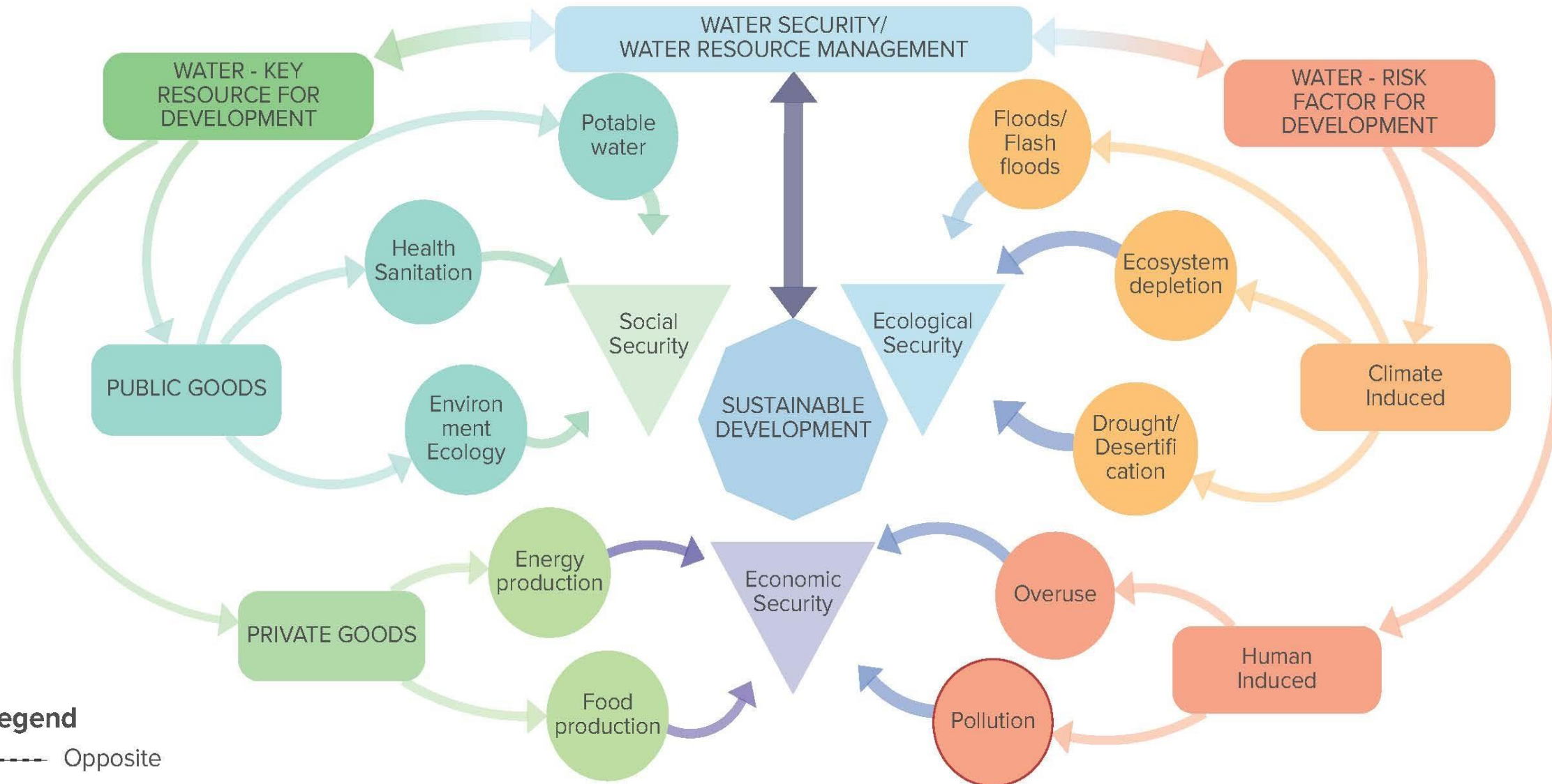
By:

1. ***Strengthening/creating regional forums/platforms/groups*** that discuss water/environ./climate change issues
2. ***Improving & harmonizing*** water governance (legislation, policies, institutions)
3. ***Incentivizing*** local communities to address water issues through cooperative & innovative approaches

Water Security – one definition (among others)

Water Security is the adaptive capacity to safeguard the sustainable availability of, access to, and safe use of an adequate, reliable and resilient quantity and quality of water for health, livelihoods, ecosystems and productive economies.

Water Security



Legend

----- Opposite

Water Security Improvement vs IWRM

Water Security Improvement Process	IWRM
Goal-oriented	Approach
Pragmatic	Principled
Focused	Exhaustive
Results-oriented	Ambitious

The WSI Process



Confirm and initiate



STEP 1
Define geographic/
technical/institutional/
temporal space (Toolkit #1)



STEP 2
Assess water risks
(Toolkit #2)



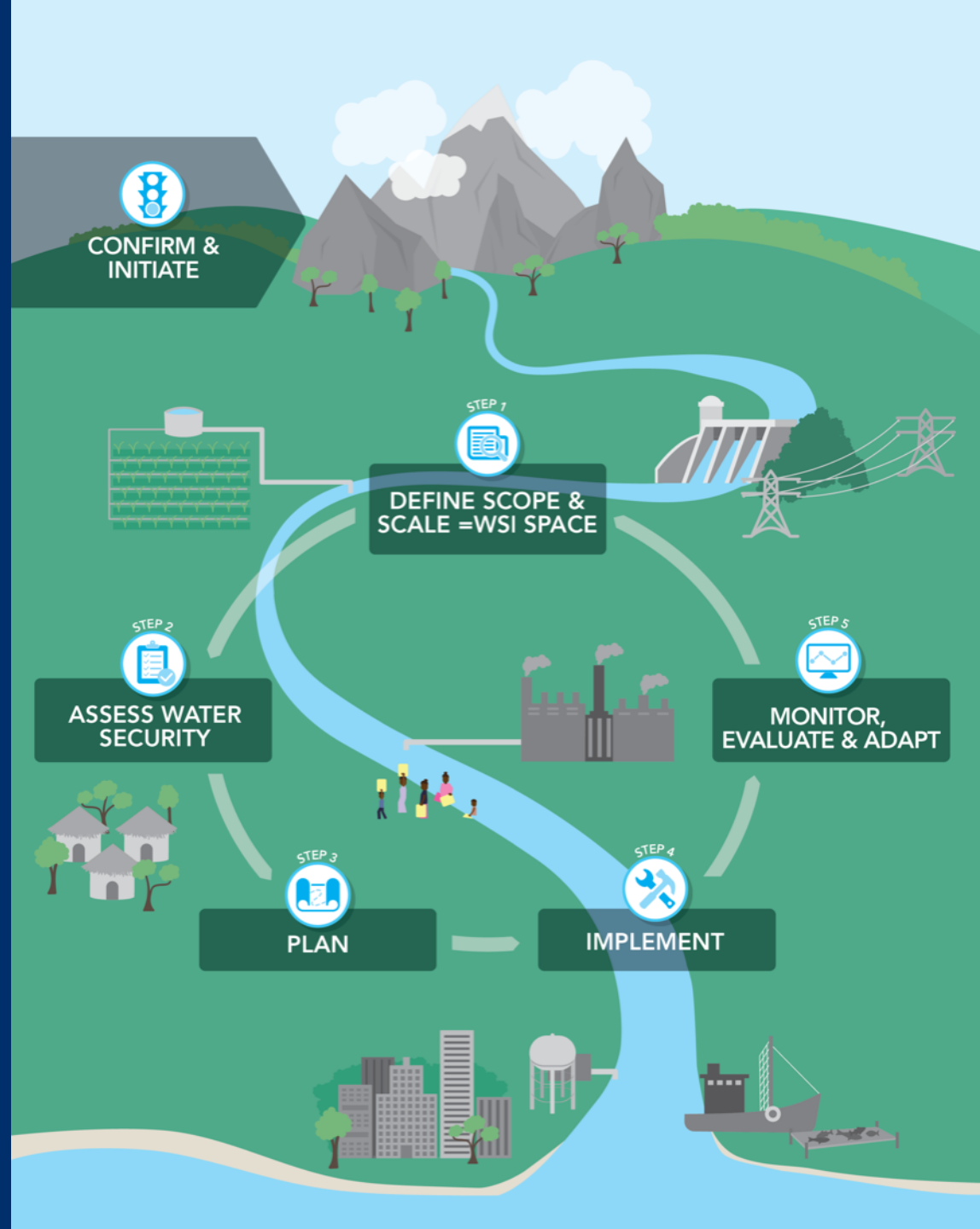
STEP 3
Prepare water security
action plan (Toolkit #3)
and fund it (Toolkit #4)



STEP 4
Implement water security
actions (Toolkit #5)



STEP 5
Monitor, evaluate and
adapt (Toolkit #6)



8 WSI guiding practices

1. Pragmatic focus on specific water risks
2. Engagement and mobilization of water users
3. A “Systems thinking” approach
4. Robust decision-making to address uncertainties
5. Science-based, negotiated solutions
6. Integrated solutions to produce tangible benefits
7. Adaptive management to improve over time
8. Sustainability through economic efficiency, environmental soundness, and social equity

Water Resources Management

1. Is not engineering!
2. Is about water users' behaviors/practices!
3. Is about paying for water services!

1. WRM is not engineering!

- WRM used to be supply: get water to people.
- Today:
 - Water is finite, in many places are at ceiling, so need to manage demand(s)
 - Past solutions may not work anymore
 - Social, economic, institutional, environmental dimensions
 - Water problems complex (difficult to evaluate & solve)

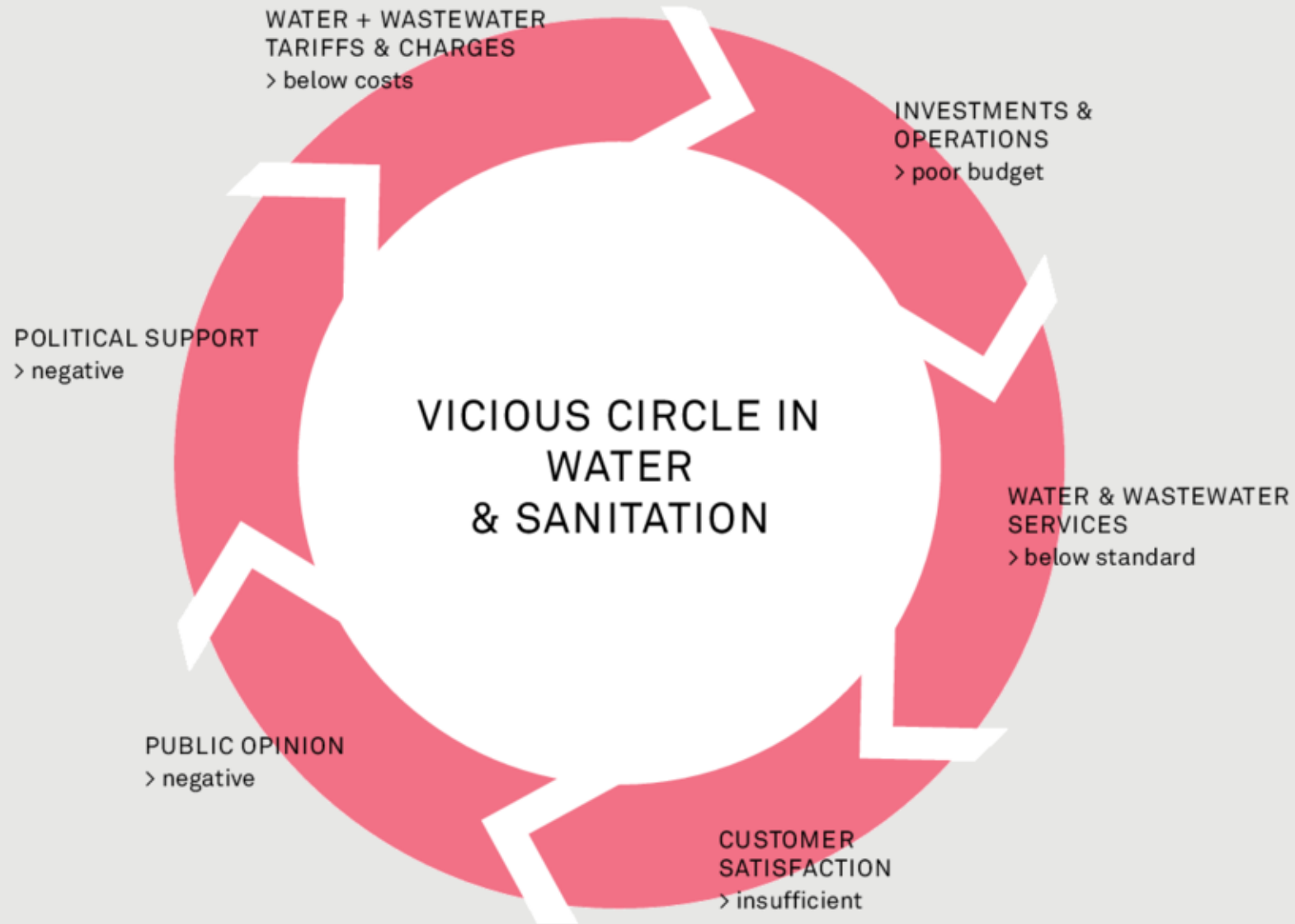
2. WRM is about WU behaviors

People waste & pollute out of ignorance

Changing behaviors is critical



3. WRM is about paying for water services



Water Resources Management

1. Is not engineering! **Most engineers are men**
2. Is about water users' behaviors/practices! **Main water users are women.**
3. Is about paying for water services! **Women pay when kids are sick or when walk far for water.**

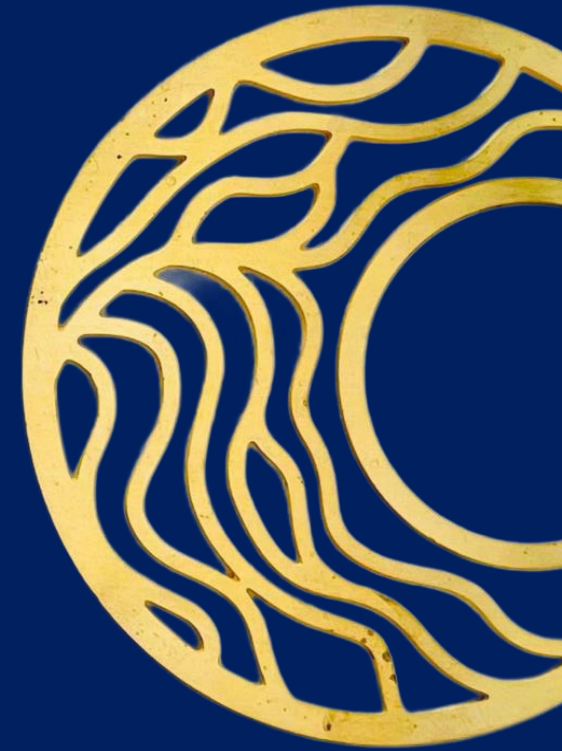
THANK YOU



Introduction to the USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program & Opportunities to support South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Salome Kobalava,
Gender Equity & Social Inclusion Specialist, USAID





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Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in SCRWM

Water security becomes possible with the meaningful engagement
of women and excluded social groups

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Water is a matter of a broad socioeconomic, environmental, and political concern, rather than just engineering one.





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“Women and girls are the primary providers, managers, and users of water; however, **women make up less than 17%** of the water, sanitation, and hygiene labour force in developing economies and a fraction of the policymakers, regulators, management, and technical experts...” *International Water Association.*

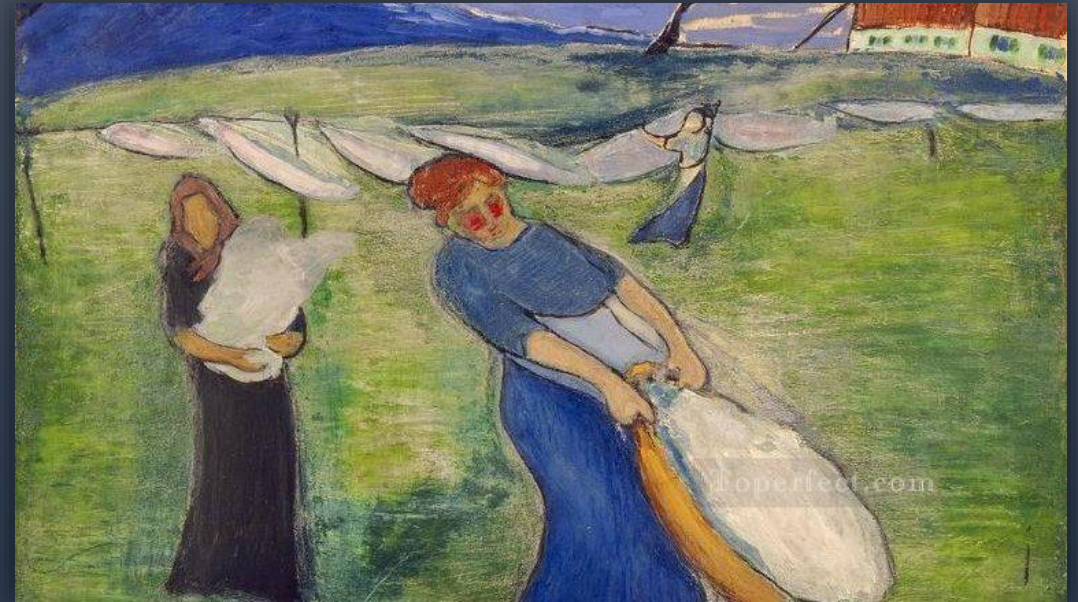




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Common barriers to meaningful participation and decision-making by women in water management in the South Caucasus

- Gender hierarchies & gendered domestic work
 - Underrepresentation in leadership & decision-making
 - Lack of technical training
 - Lack of gender sensitivity in water policies & regulations
- ⇕
- Lack of sex-disaggregated data and water-related gender statistics



Painting by Marianne von Werefkin



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Way forward for SCRWM to support GESI mainstreaming in regional water management and water security

- Support women, youth and local communities in building regional networks in water space
- Bolster technical skills of women, youth and excluded groups in water management and governance at national and regional level
- Support SC governments in mainstreaming GESI-sensitive approaches in water policies





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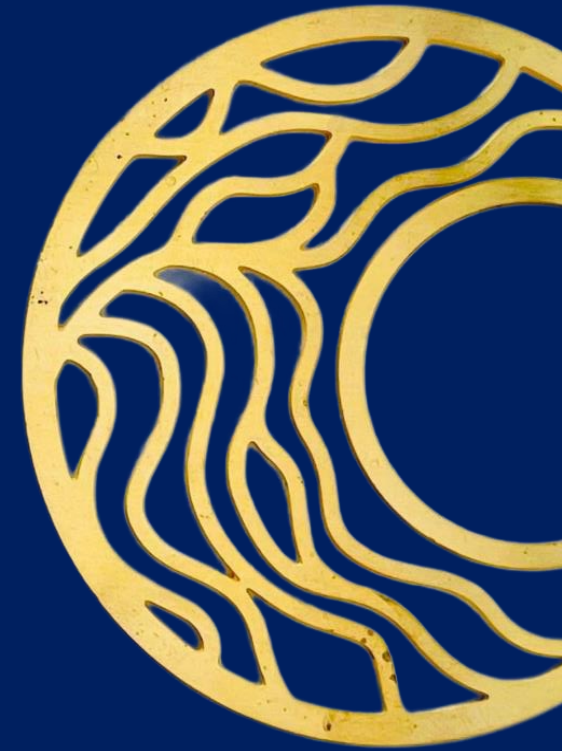
Thank you

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Introduction to the USAID South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program & Opportunities to support South Caucasus Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Dr. Jeanene Mitchell, Senior Transboundary Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, USAID





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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program (SCRWM)

Annual Program Statement
(APS)

For the Award of Grants

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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program (SCRWM) is a five-year project funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support effective transboundary water cooperation and dialogue between the South Caucasus countries and improve water security and water resource management.

The program implements four cross-related objectives:

- Objective 1. Transboundary environmental and water management networks developed at various levels across the South Caucasus.
- Objective 2. South Caucasus stakeholders take a harmonized approach to transboundary water governance.
- Objective 3. Communities incentivized by introducing new technologies, approaches, and economic models to rationally use water in a manner that demonstrates the benefits of improved water resource utilization across boundaries.
- Objective 4. Responding to emerging opportunities for regional environmental cooperation.



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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

The Grants Program under the SCRWM Program aims to foster collaborative efforts and innovative solutions towards:

- improved water security
- improved water resource management
- effective environmental cooperation within the South Caucasus region.

Through targeted funding opportunities, the program seeks to catalyze grassroots and community-led initiatives, support capacity-building efforts, and promote inclusive approaches to address shared water security and water-related climate change challenges.

Project concepts should contribute to at least one of the SCRWM Program objectives described above.



Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

Grant Amount:	Max. \$50,000
Duration of Activities:	Max. 12 months
Deadline:	March 27, 2025 (awards will be issued on a regular basis. Applicants do not need to wait for the submission deadline to receive funding)
Who can apply:	<p>For-profit or non-profit entities, legally established in Armenia or Georgia</p> <p>Eligible Recipients include entities, either for-profit or non-profit, legally established in Armenia or Georgia, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), associations, private or public education institutions (including Legal Entities of Public Law - LEPLs), research institutions, non-entrepreneurial non-commercial legal entities (NNLEs), private companies, and other legally recognized entities.</p>



Illustrative activities:

- Build Organizational Capacity
- Strengthen Transboundary Cooperation
- Harmonize Water Governance
- Develop and deploy initiatives that improve the legal, policy, institutional background for water management
- Improve Community-Level Water Utilization:
 - Design and implement awareness raising activities
 - Establish processes or technologies for monitoring water bodies
 - Provide relevant vocational and skill training for women and youths on water related jobs
 - Propose other innovative approaches and community engagement initiatives to improve drinking water, wastewater, or irrigation services delivery for a wide range of people, including downstream communities.
- Address water security concerns

Note: These examples are for illustrative purposes only. The recipient may develop other concepts or ideas that align with SCRWM objectives.



Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

The key review criteria for concept papers are:

1. Is the proposed activity consistent with the objectives of the APS as outlined in Section II, and does it contribute to SCRWM's expected results?
2. Does the applicant organization demonstrate adequate capability to implement the proposed activity, and does it have previous relevant experience?
3. Does the proposed activity benefit multi-ethnic communities or communities across borders or a wide array of people including women, youths, and other disadvantaged groups?

If the Concept Paper is selected, the Applicant will be formally notified and will have the opportunity to submit the full application .



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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

Information regarding the APS No. 1 including detailed announcement, application forms and instructions can be found at:

<https://jobs.ge/en/?view=jobs&id=536245>



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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

Any questions regarding the APS or its contents should be sent to grants@scrwm.org.

Online information sessions will also be organized for interested entities. Such entities should sign up using the link provided: <https://forms.office.com/e/gQ0dyMf0fV> to be notified in advance of the date and time on the online information sessions.

Phone calls will not be accepted.



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South Caucasus Regional Water Management Program

Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1

The grant process includes two successive steps:

1. Preparation and submittal to SCRWM of a concept paper, using the provided template, and
2. After successful review and instruction from the SCRWM program, preparation and submittal of a full application, using again the compulsory templates.

English is the preferred language for both concept papers and applications, but Applicants can also submit in their local/state language.

Coffee Break!

Reconvene at 11:00!

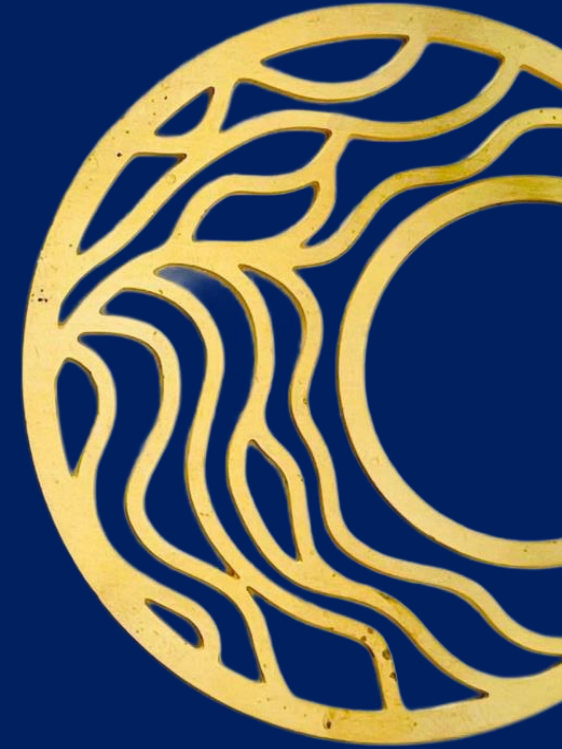


WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Interactive Exercise: *Envisioning a South Caucasus* *Women in Water Diplomacy Network*

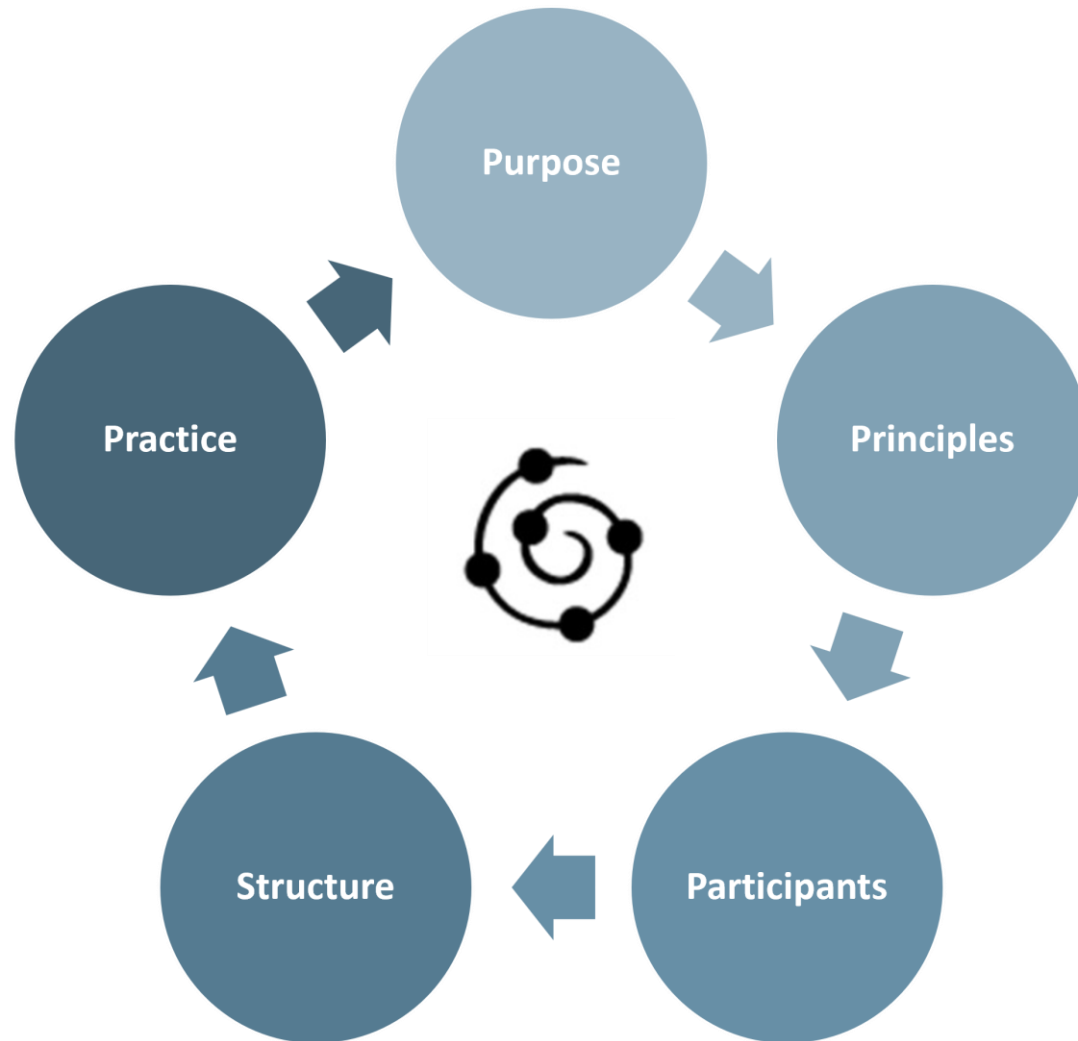


Elizabeth A. Koch,
Environmental Law Institute; Network Process Support Team



Purpose-To-Practice (P2P) Approach:

Co-creation design process – 1.5 hours!



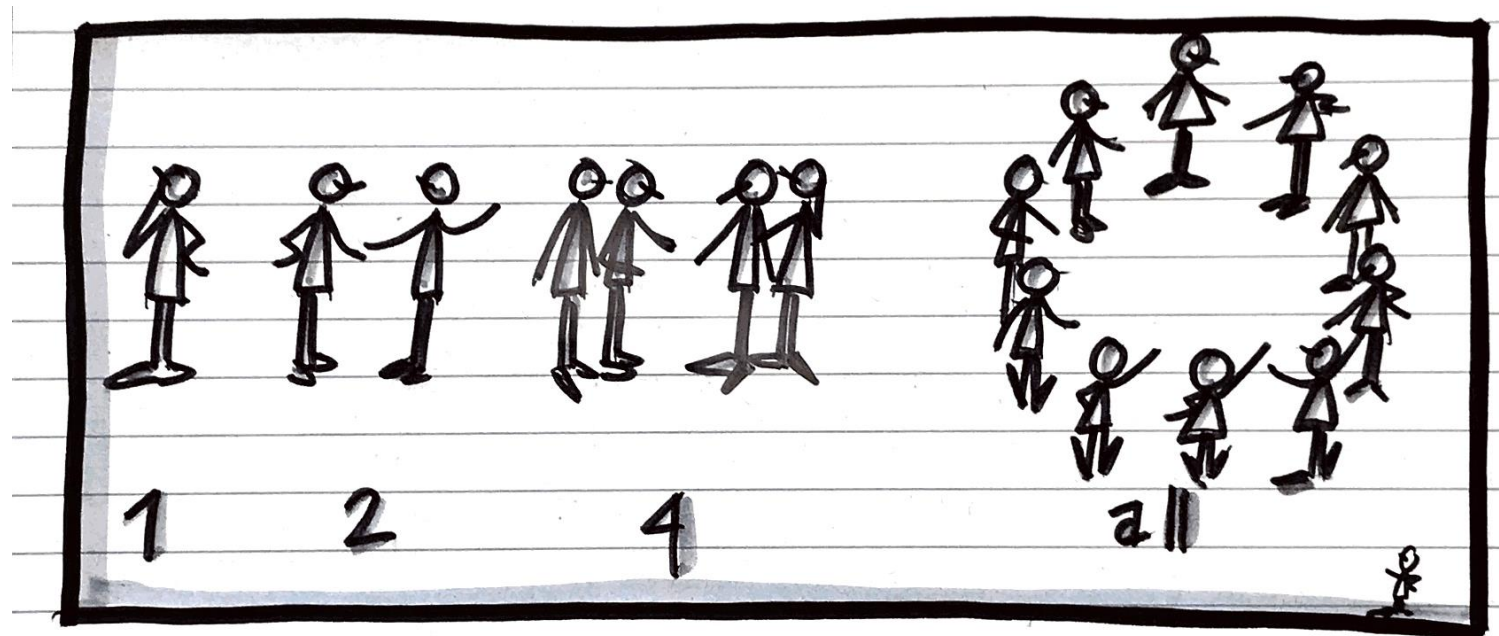
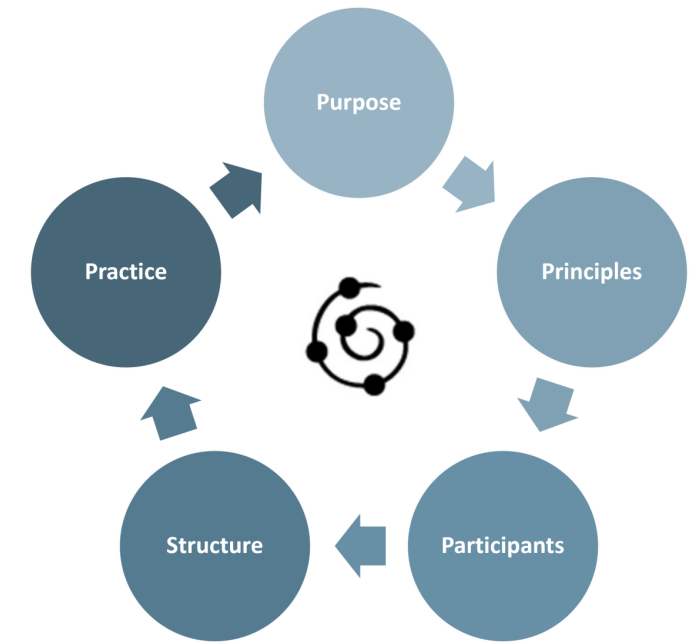
For each stage: 1-2-4-All Method

1: Silent self-reflection - 1 minute

2: Discuss in pairs - 2 minutes

4: Share and develop ideas from your pair in foursomes, identify one idea that stood out in your conversation – 4 minutes

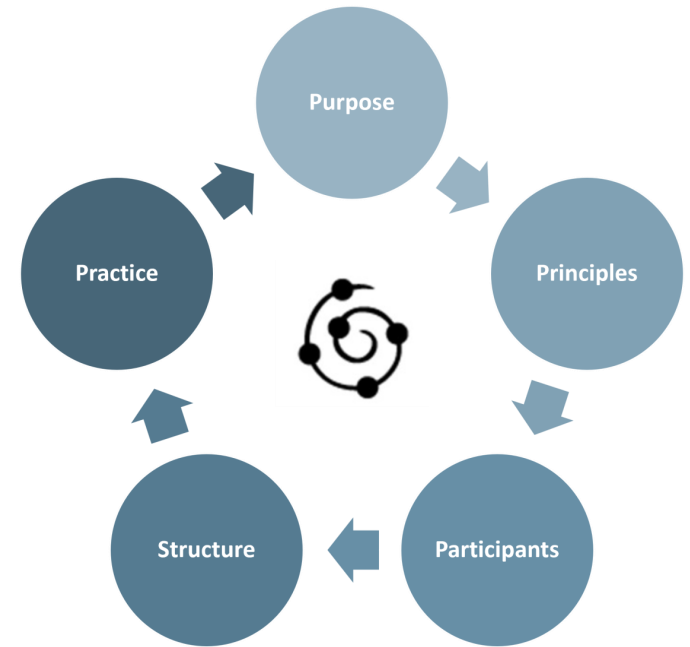
All: Each group shares one important idea with all - 5 minutes



Purpose:

Why is supporting women water diplomats in the region important to each participant and the larger community?

Consider: A purpose may be expressed as something positive you are going to start/create or something negative you are going to stop.

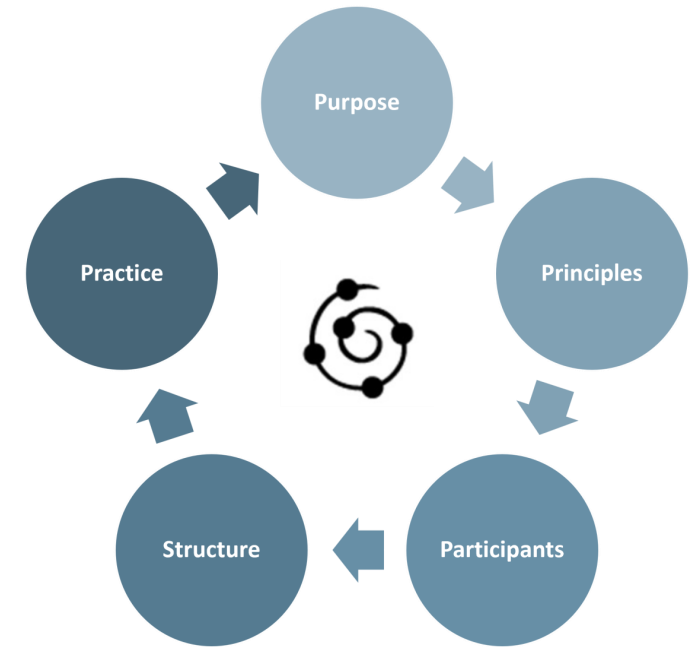


Women in
Water
Diplomacy
Network
Mission:

To improve gender equality in high-level decision making in transboundary basins with focus on women's leadership in regional dialogues around shared waters - with resultant positive implications for regional peace and human security.

Principles:

What values and guiding principles must we support to succeed in achieving our purpose?



Consider: *Must dos and must not dos often come from lessons learned, previous experiences.*

Core Values and Guiding Principles



DO NO HARM



SHARE SCARCE
RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY,
EFFECTIVELY & EQUITABLY



CO-CREATION



SYSTEMS THINKING

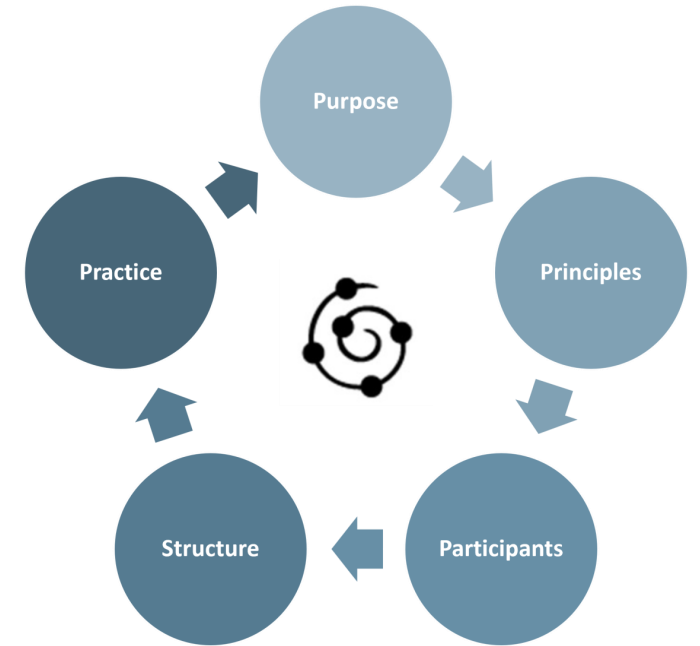


URGENCY OF
ACTION

Participants:

Who can contribute to achieving our purpose and must be included?

Consider: Nomination? Self-identification? Size of group? Formal and informal water diplomats?



Structure:

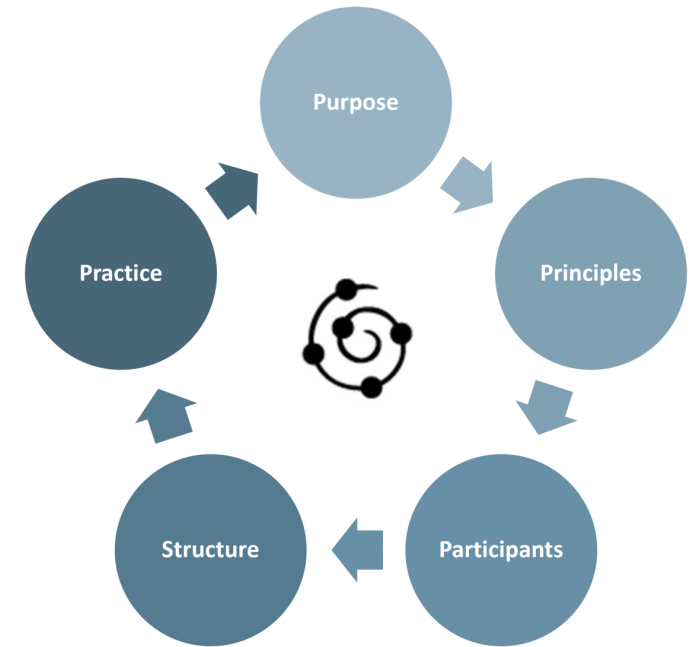
How must we organize to achieve our purpose?

Consider:

Regional implementation partners?

Process Support Team?

Leadership Council?

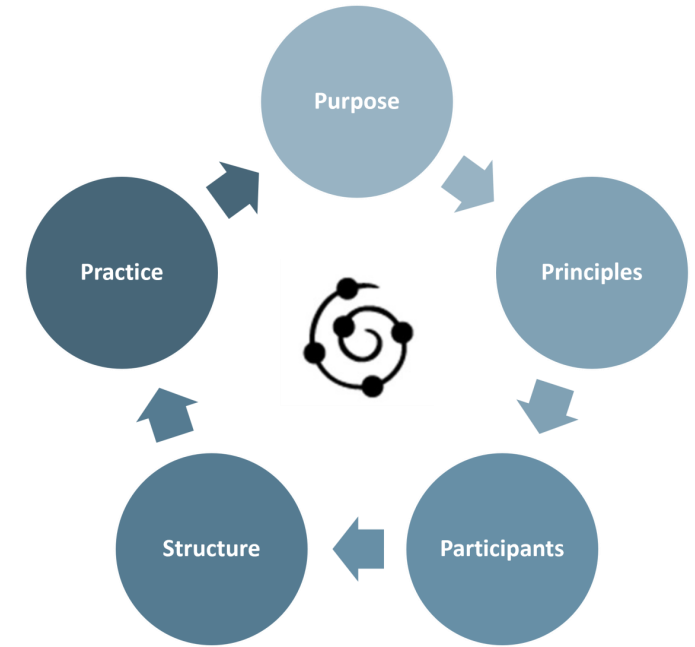


Practices:

What are we going to do together?

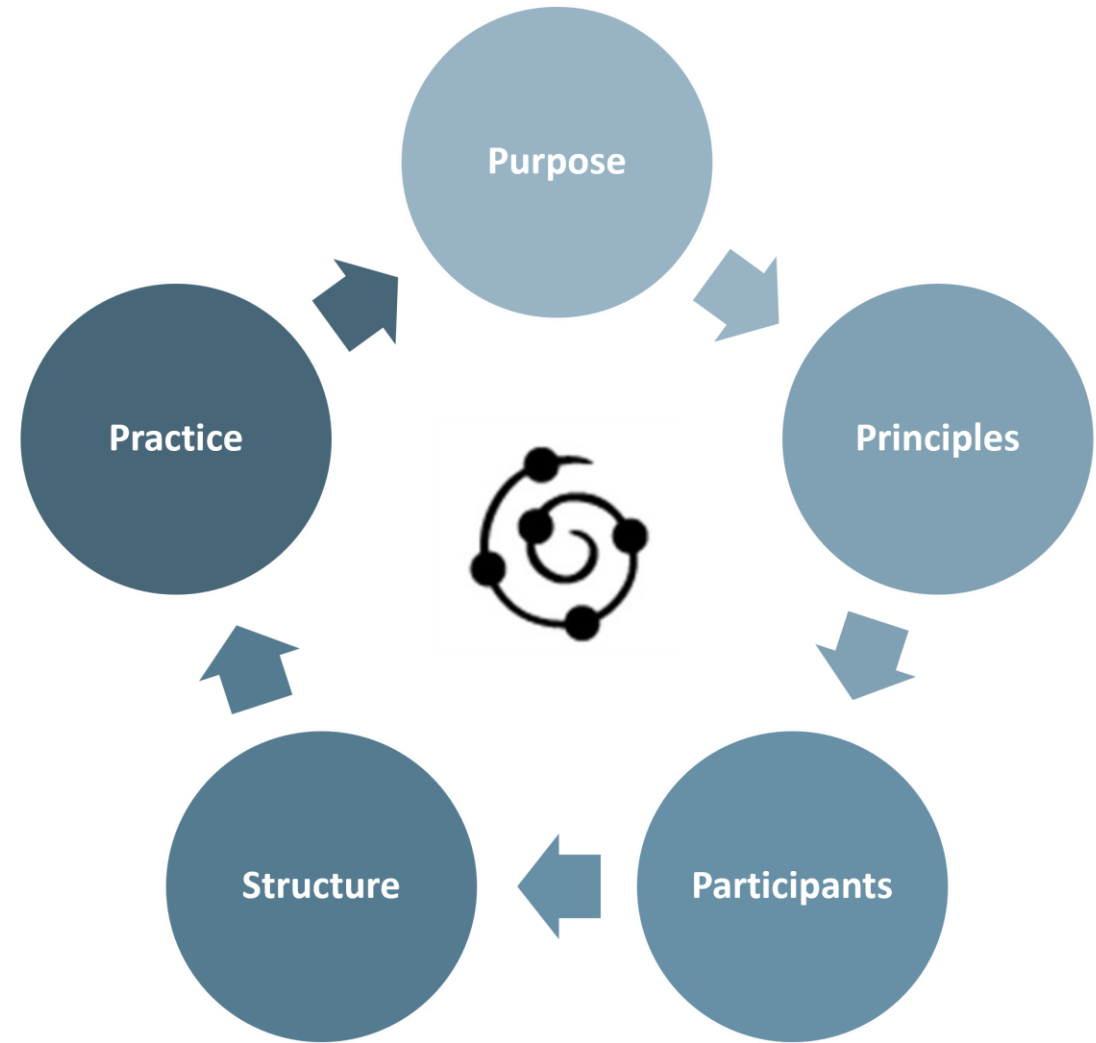
Consider:

- Activities across the pillars of the Network's Global Strategy.
- Identify critical policy events/processes to link with in the region and globally?
- How to reach women water experts at different scales – local, national, regional, international?



Final Reflections

Note: After Action Report from this workshop will include harmonized inputs from exercise.



Lunch Break

Group Photo

Reconvene at 14:15!



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

The role of water in tensions within and between countries



Dr. Susanne Schmeier,
Head of the Water Governance Department, Associate Professor of
Water Law and Diplomacy, IHE Delft



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

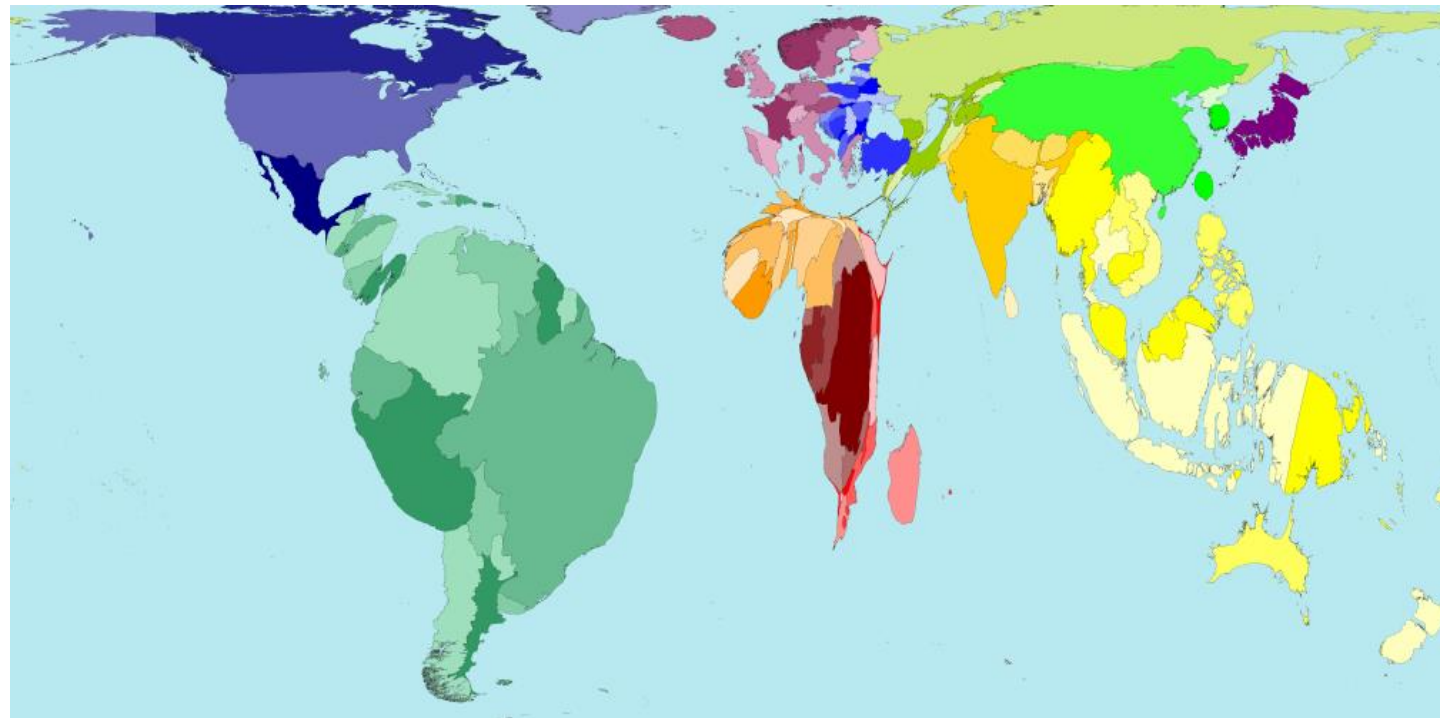
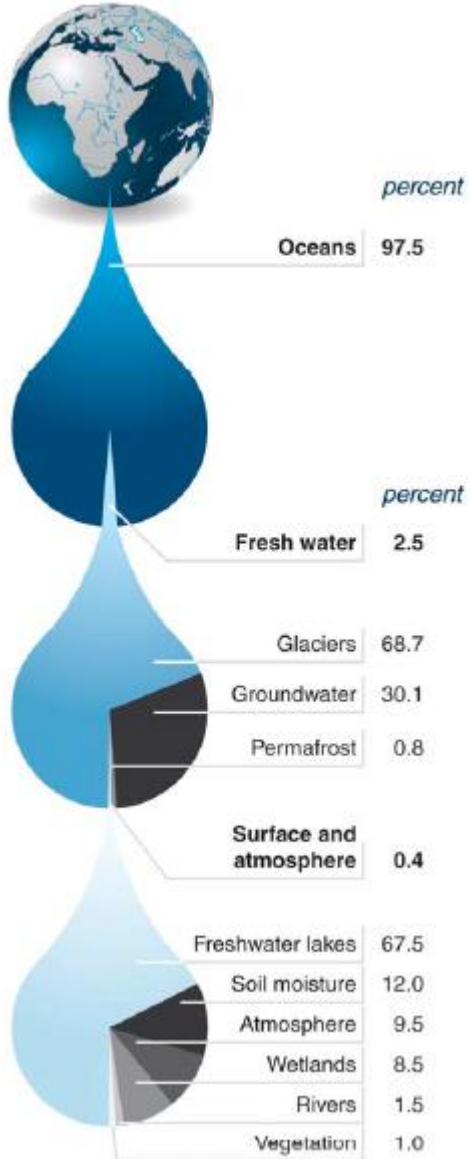
Women in Water Diplomacy South Caucasus Workshop

Water conflict?

An introduction to the linkages between water and conflict

Dr. Susanne Schmeier, Associate Professor, IHE Delft

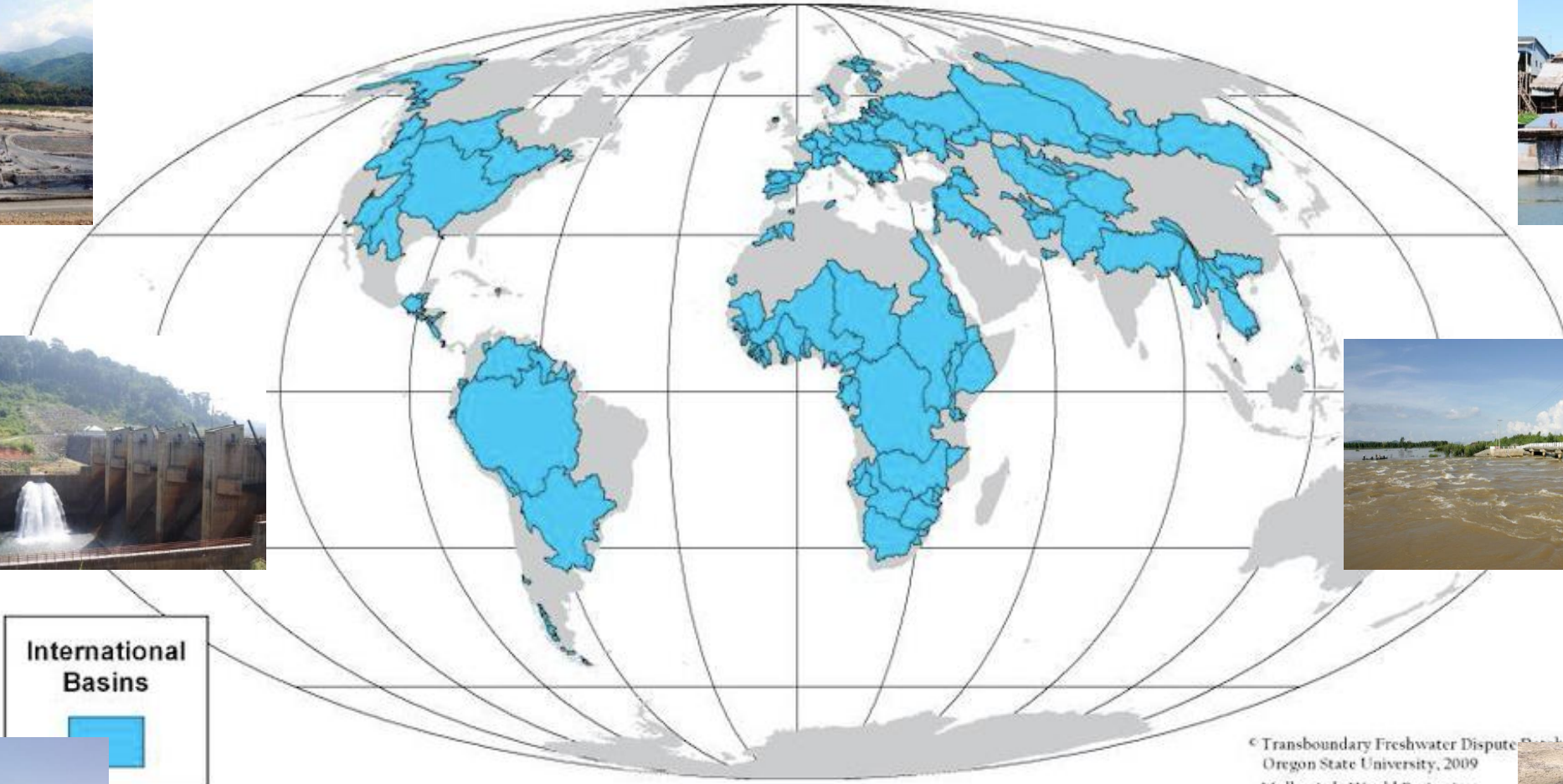
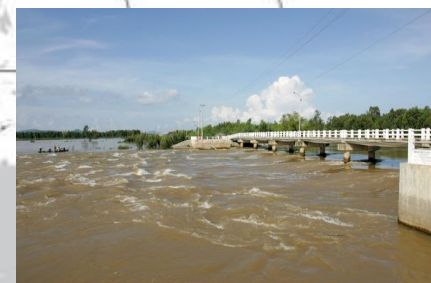
Water resources are vital



Why is this a challenge?

- Interests of different users and sectors are not always compatible, sometimes conflicting
- Inadequate intersectoral and integrated planning can lead to competition between users
- Costs and benefits of use of water resources are usually unequally distributed between users
- Institutions for governing shared water resources are often weak and have insufficient capacity

Internationally shared watercourses



International Basins



© Transboundary Freshwater Dispute
Oregon State University, 2009
Mollewiede World Projection
WGS 1984 Geographic Coordinate S



How could Ethiopia's dam dispute escalate?

U.S. intelligence sees global water conflict risks rising

Water Experts Warn of Conflict Over Mekong Dams

In the Mekong Basin, an 'unnecessary' dam poses an outsized threat

Turkey's Dam-Building Could Create New Middle East Conflict

Balochistan Minister: Dam on Kunar River Could Lead to Conflict

Risk of water wars rises with scarcity
Almost half of humanity will face water scarcity by 2030 and strategists from Israel to Central Asia prepare for strife.

Preventing a water war in Asia

China's extensive dam-building would give it control of Southeast Asia's rivers

China's Mekong River Dams Expected to Worsen Southeast Asian Economies During Drought

Insecurity Springs From Afghan Dam Projects

The controversy over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

Water wars in Central Asia Dammed if they do

Mekong River Countries Face 'Make or Break Moment' Over Lao Dams

Water Wars? Think Again: Conflict Over Freshwater Structural Rather Than Strategic

Spats over control of water roil an already unstable region

The Congo River Interbasin Water Transfer: Lake Chad's Salvation or Its Misjudgement?

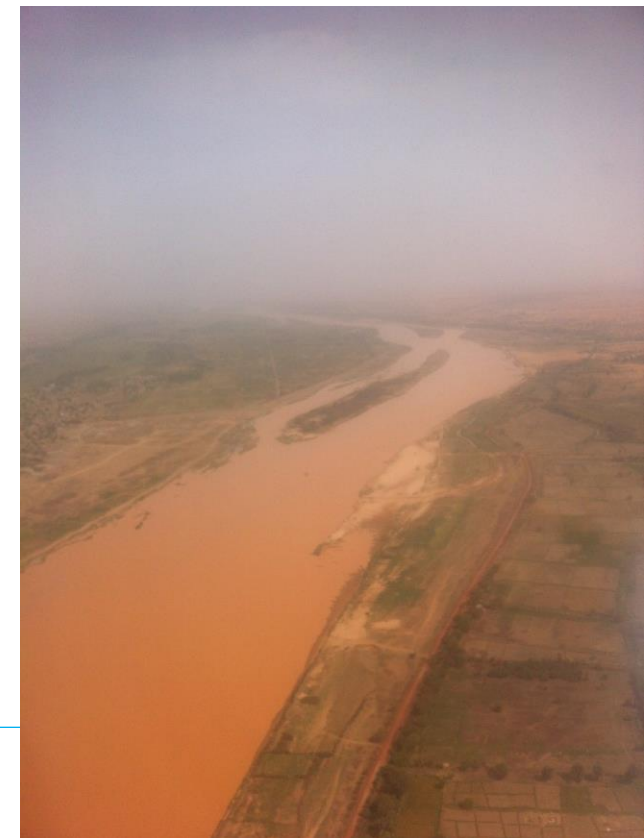
Local water conflicts in Iraq

- Severe water crisis within country and broader basin
- Inefficient water management and ever-growing demand
- Environmental and social impacts on people
- Led to violent protests and delegitimization of government
- Conflict also at basin level with upstream states



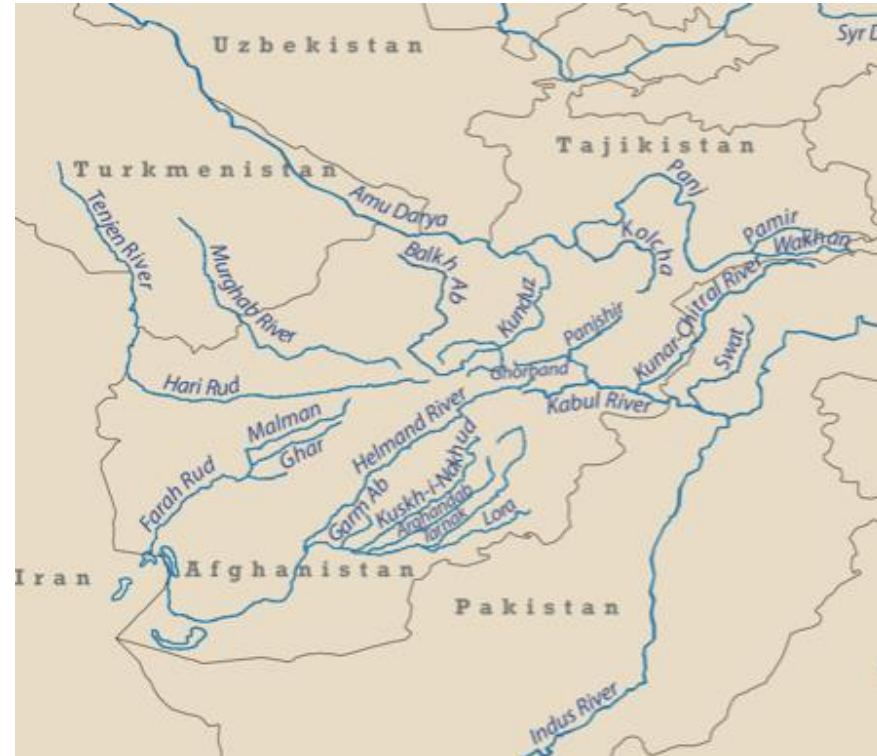
Multi-level conflict around Lake Chad

- Lake located in arid area with limited water availability
- Lake has been shrinking since 1960s, depriving people of livelihoods
- Led to surge in illicit and extremist groups – provide alternative livelihoods but also manage water
- Inability of governments to address crisis has led to further delegitimization
- Some proposed solutions (Congo transfer) might trigger new conflicts elsewhere



Conflicts on the Harirud and Helmand Rivers

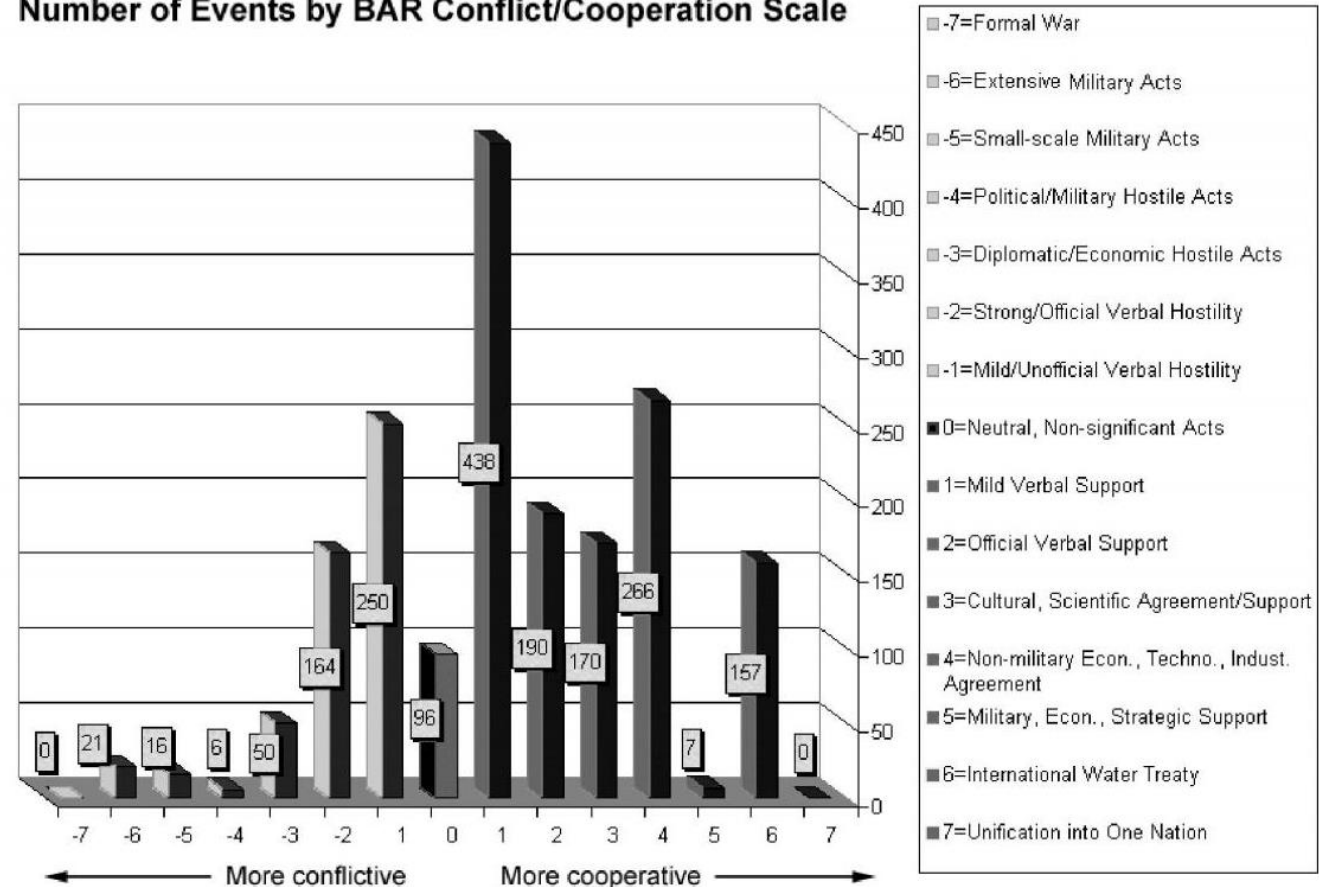
- High development pressure on water in Afghanistan
- High demand and domestic water crisis in Iran
- Led to conflict between countries
- Has also affected relations between countries more broadly



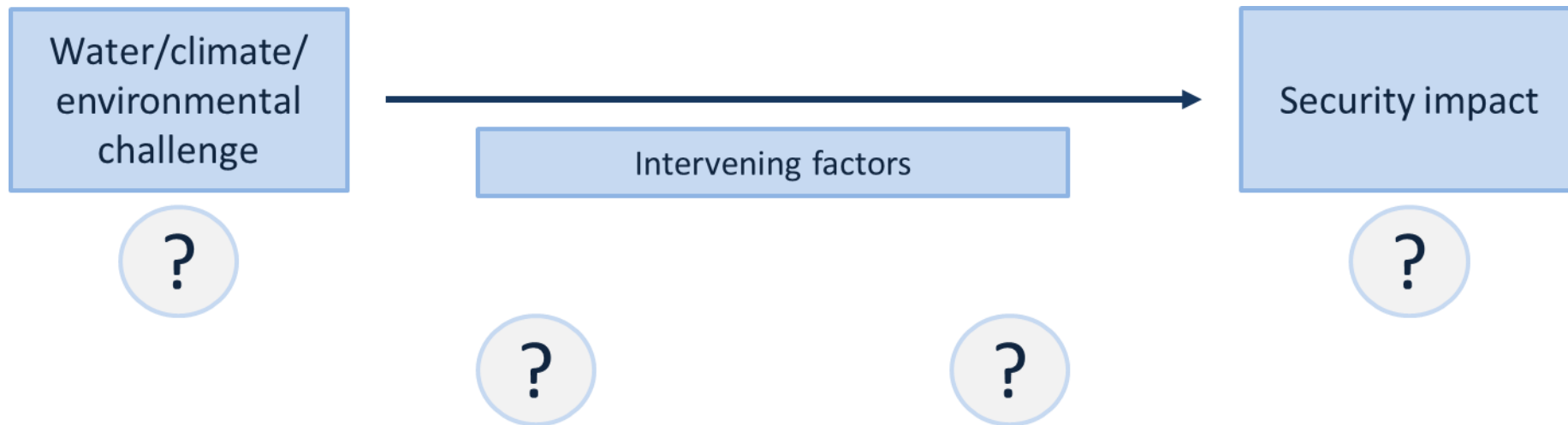
But: cooperation prevails!

- Cooperation is much more common than conflict
- If conflict occurs, it is typically of low intensity
- Some issues and regions are more prone to conflict than others
- But: any form of conflict affects people, ecosystems and societies

Number of Events by BAR Conflict/Cooperation Scale



The link between water and conflict



Water challenges

Too little



Too much



Too dirty



What is conflict anyway?

Individual violence



Disruption of economic relations



Delegitimization of government



State fragility



Inter-state war



Terrorism



Disruption of diplomatic ties



(violent) protest



Illicit activities



Hybrid warfare



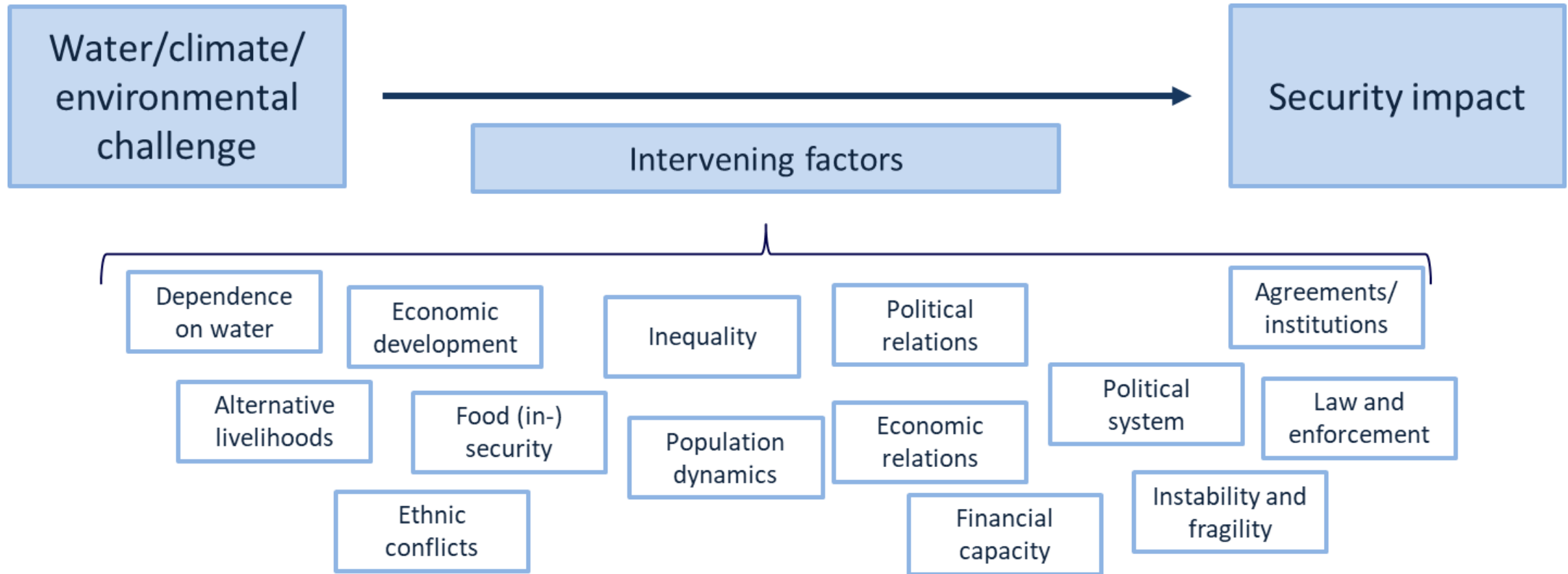
Displacement



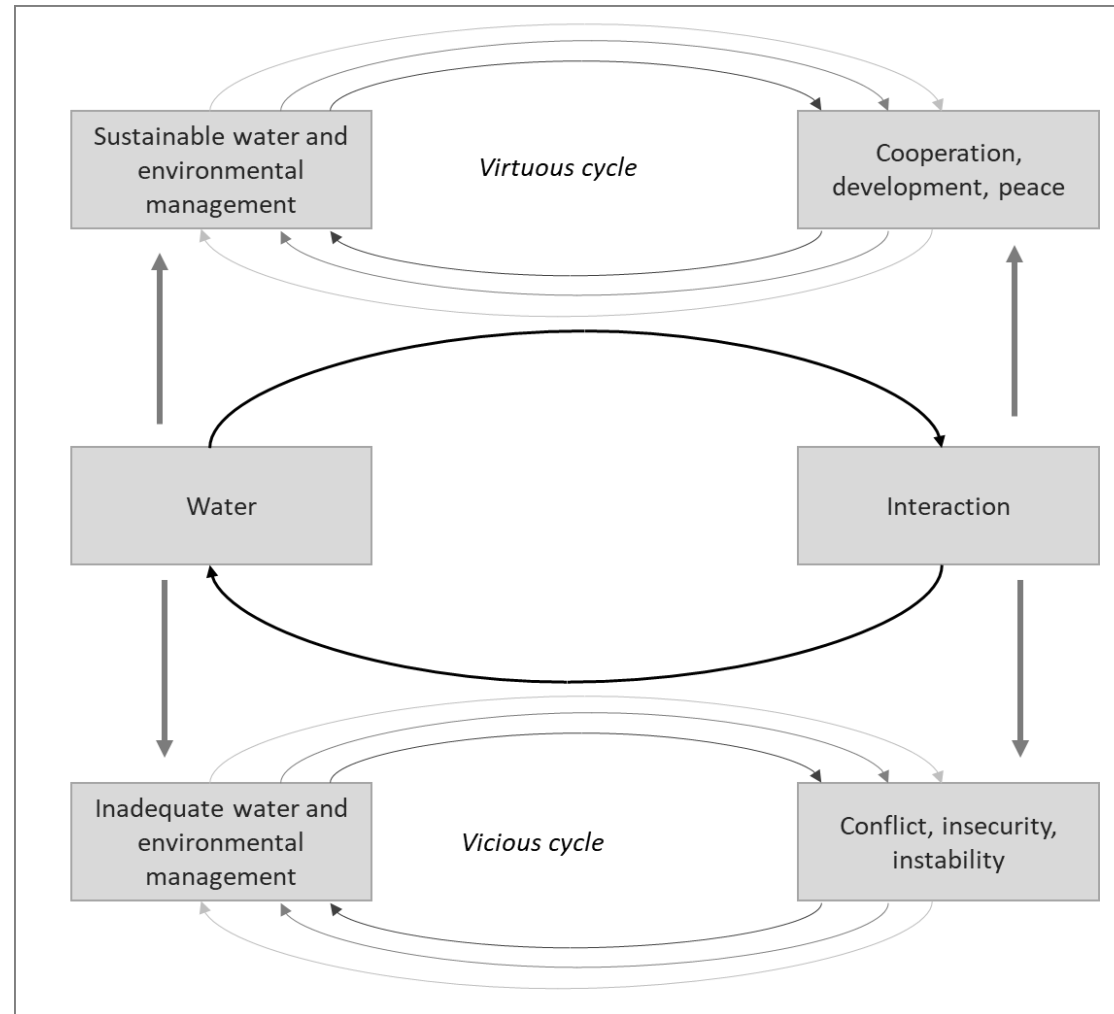
Ethnic tensions



What links water and conflict



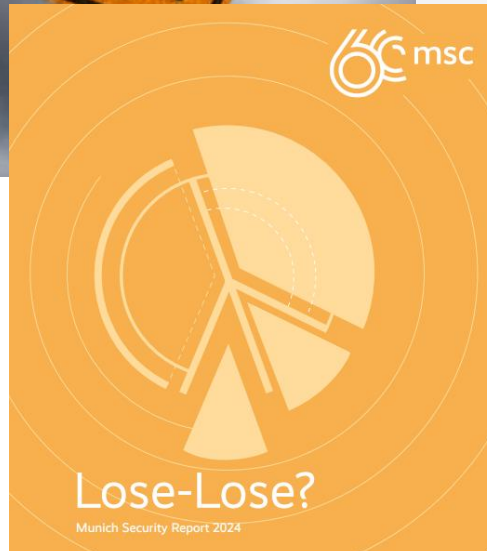
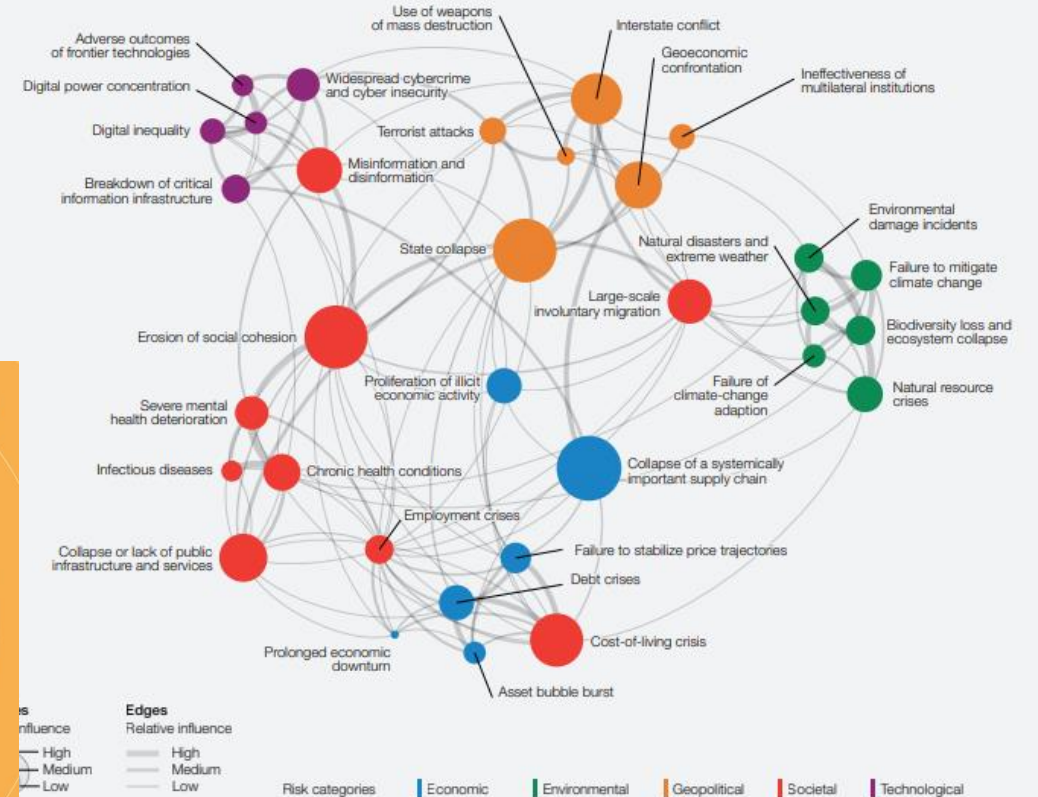
Vicious vs virtuous cycles of water and conflict/cooperation



Will the future look like the past?



What else shapes the future of conflict and cooperation?



10 Conflicts to Watch in 2024

Conclusions

- Cooperation is more common than conflict and if conflict occurs it is typically at low levels
- Water is hardly ever the sole or the main cause of conflict – water is a threat multiplier
- Pathways between water and conflict are very complex, multifaceted and context-dependent
- Reasons why water-related challenges lead to conflict are still insufficiently understood
- Water conflict – even at low intensity – incurs costs for ecosystems, people and countries
- Conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution are therefore crucial – institutions are key to this



s.schmeier@un-ihe.org

www.un-ihe.org

Coffee Break!

Reconvene at 15:45!



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

***‘Experience Exchange:
Climate change and
preparing for an
uncertain future’***

Facilitated by:

Dr. Róisín Burke,
Assistant Professor of Public
International Law,
Netherlands Institute of
Human Rights,
Utrecht University


Expert Panelists:

- **Marian Makarova,** Head of Water Division, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia
- **Dr. Lusine Hambaryan,** Associate Professor, Yerevan State University; Senior Researcher, Institute of Hydroecology and Ichthyology NAS RA, Armenia
- **Hajar Huseynova,** Energy and Environmental Policy Researcher and Project Management Specialist, Institute for Development and Diplomacy, Azerbaijan
- **Nino Rostomashvili,** Gender and Social Engagement Officer, REC Caucasus

Water Governance and Gender Integration (Georgia)

**Women in Water Diplomacy Network South Caucasus Inception Workshop,
April 26-27 2024, Tbilisi, Georgia**

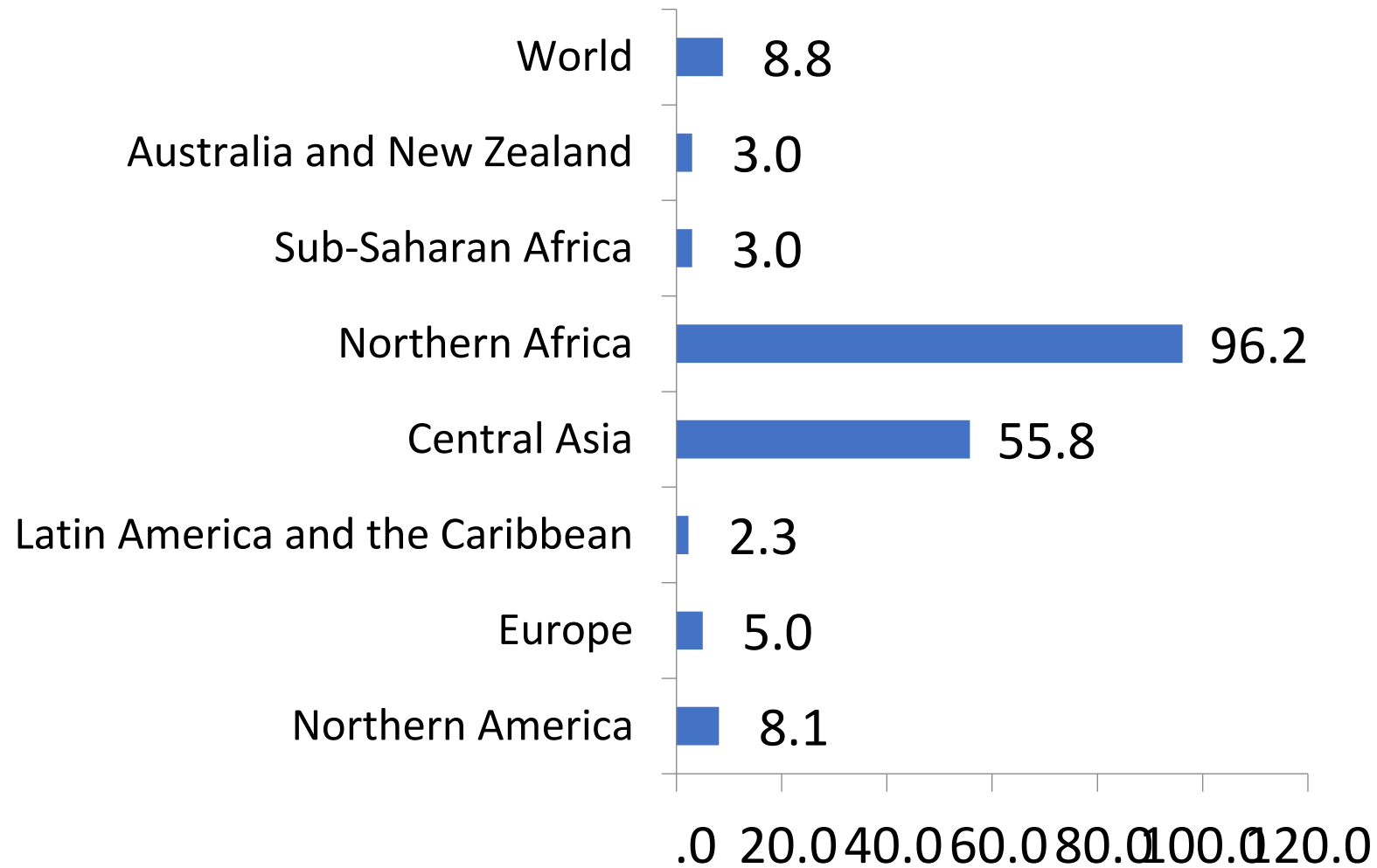
Mariam Makarova,
Head of Water Division,
Departments of Environment and Climate Change,
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia





- Georgia has an abundance of fresh water resources - rivers, lakes and springs, due to the country's mountainous territory and the abundance of precipitation. The country mean annual precipitation is 1,338 mm, an annual amount of renewable fresh water per capita of 14,000 m³.
- There are over 26,000 rivers with total channel length of some 60,000 km, 99.5% of which are rivers with a length less than 25 km, largely short mountain rivers with an average length of 2.3 km. here are very few rivers with a long channel length or large basin size - only 273 rivers are more than 25 km long). Rivers in Georgia have good potential for all types of water uses (industry, agriculture, hydropower, fisheries etc.)

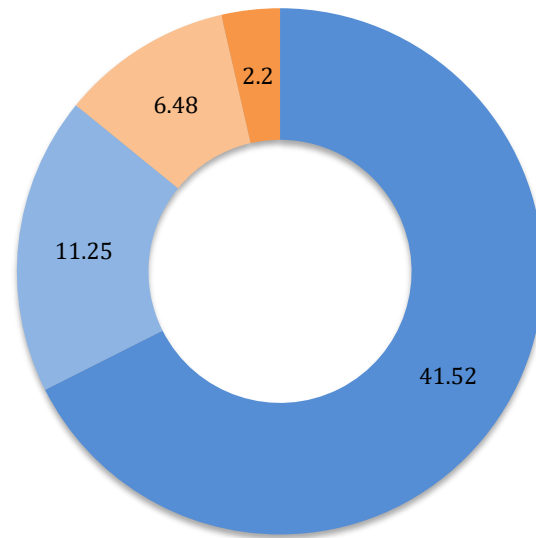
SDG Indicator 6.4.2 “Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources”, AQUASTAT



Water Stress Indicator for Georgia, %, (AQUASTAT)

1988-1992	2003-2007	2020
5,5	2,9	5,39

Balance of water resources in Georgia, local and transboundary flow, billion m³



■ Local Flow, Western Georgia ■ Local Flow, Eastern Georgia ■ Transboundary Flow, Western Georgia ■ Transboundary Flow, Eastern Georgia

Main Challenges in the field of Water Resources Use and Protection

1

Access to safe drinking water for population

2

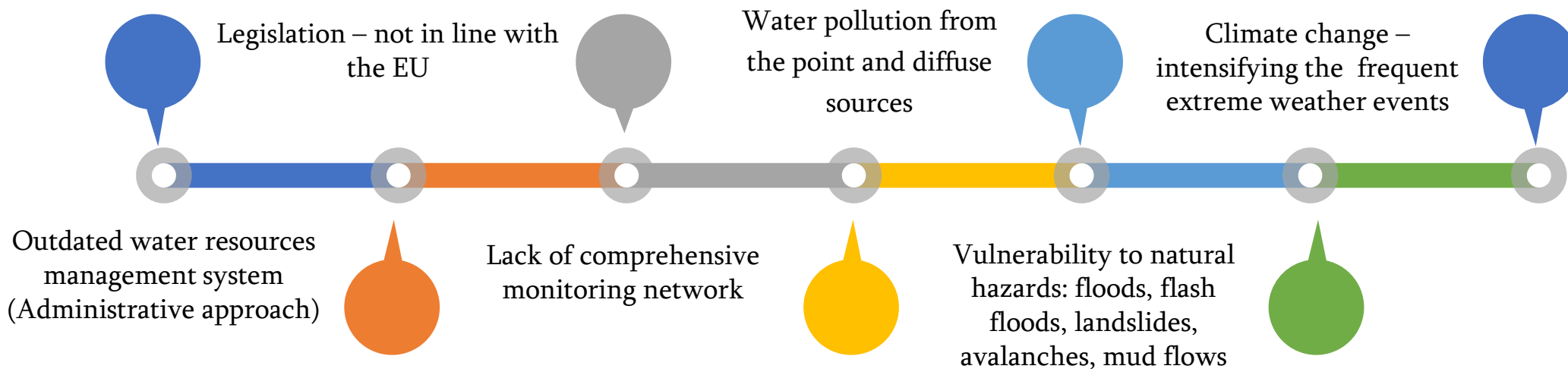
Pollution of surface and groundwaters

3

Unsustainable use of
ground and surface water, water losses



Situation in Georgia



New Law on Water Resources Management (June 2023)

- The purpose of the Law is to establish legal framework for water resources management in the country to ensure implementation of a unified state policy in the field of water resource protection, citizens' right of access to clean water, creation of a life and health friendly environment, as well as conservation and sustainable use of water resources in line with the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles.

Water Management in Georgia - International Obligations

The EU-Georgia Association Agreement

01 Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy

01

02 Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks

02

03 Directive 91/271/EEC on urban waste water treatment

03

04 Directive 98/83/EC on quality of water intended for human consumption

04

05 Directive 91/676/EC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources

05

06 Directive 2008/56/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of marine environmental policy

06



**Assessment of the gender impact of the draft law of Georgia "On Water Resources Management"
(Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Parliament of Georgia, 2020)**

In terms of assessing the gender impact of the draft law, the report focused on three main challenges:

- Access to water resources and its impact on women's economic status and gender equality.
- Different risks of negative effects of water on women and men.
- Involvement of women in water resources management.

Gender Integration in Legal and Policy Documents

- Normative Acts (by-laws)
- River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs)
- Strategies on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND AGRICULTURE OF GEORGIA

Ms. Mariam Makarova
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of Human Rights

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN WATER DIPLOMACY EMPOWERING CHANGE FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

Lusine Hambaryan, PhD, Associate Professor
SC of Zoology and Hydroecology
YSU Chair of Ecology and Nature Conservation



What does the concept of water diplomacy include?

Water diplomacy aims to resolve or reduce disagreements and conflicts over shared water resources to promote cooperation, regional stability, and peace. Water covers approximately 70,9 % of the Earth's surface.

Why do we need it ?

We need water diplomacy because water is a common resource, at various levels, from local to global ones

- Because peaceful, effective and sustainable use and management of water needs cooperation, conflict prevention and conflict resolution
- Water diplomacy aims at ensuring that water, as a limited and common resource, is managed and used in a way that supports sustainable socio-economic development while simultaneously preventing and resolving conflicts that might arise from its misuse or mismanagement
- Water diplomacy is largely a preventive diplomacy



Definition of water diplomacy and its importance in the management of transboundary water resources, including rivers, lakes and aquifers

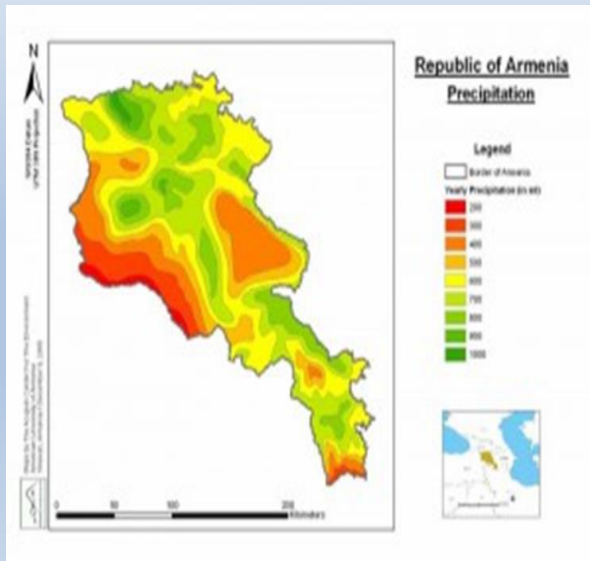
The South Caucasus countries are located within the Kura-Aras river basin.

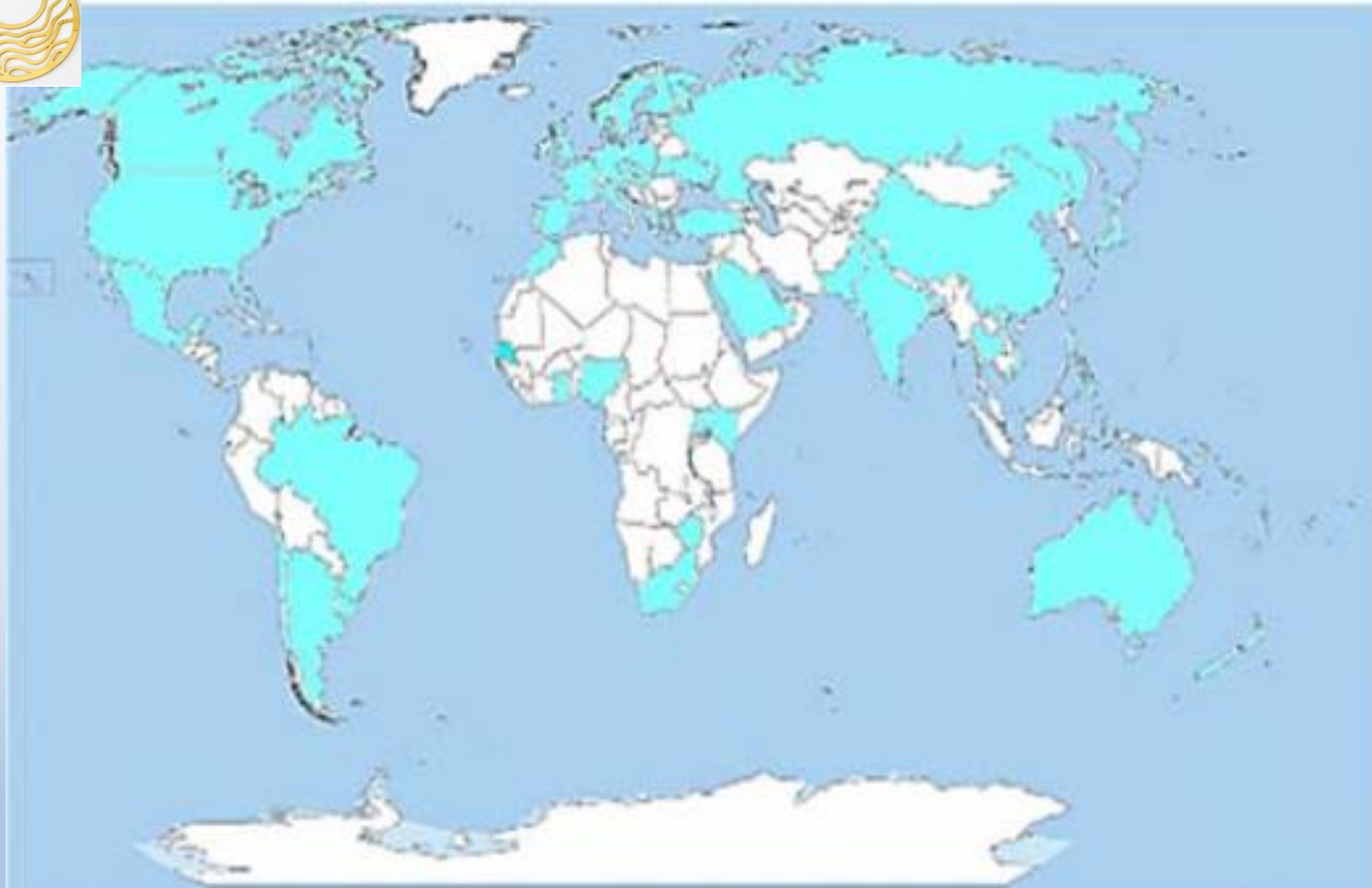




What general environmental issues should be taken into account when building water diplomacy?

- global climate change
- persistent water pollution
- eutrophication of lakes
- low public awareness of water policy issues



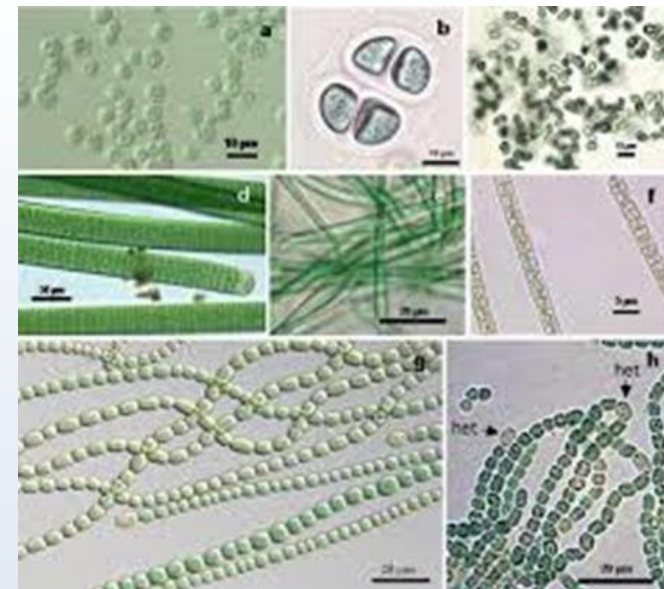
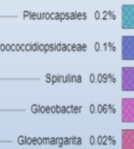
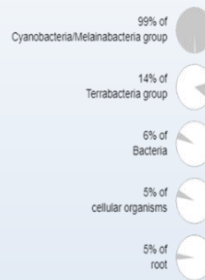
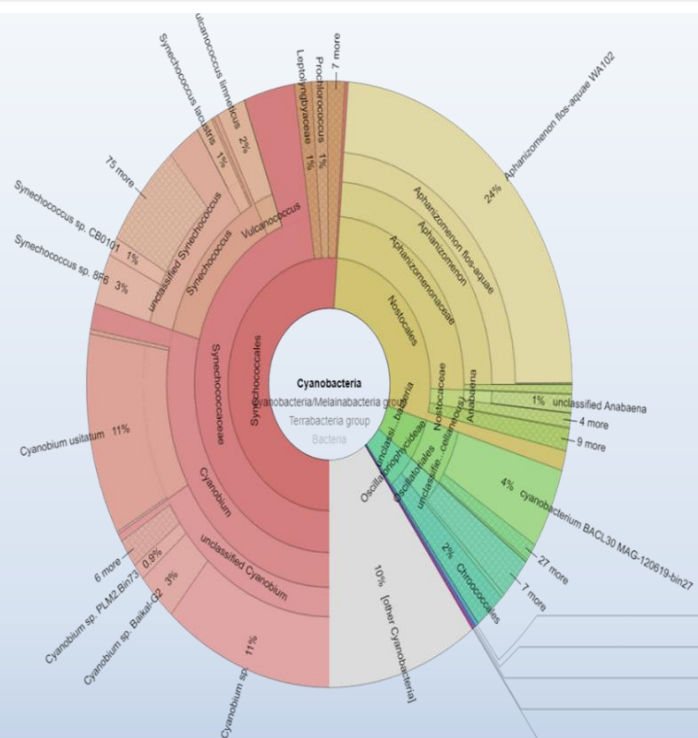


Countries with cyanobacterial blooms and cyanotoxins content data collected



Sample3Prokka

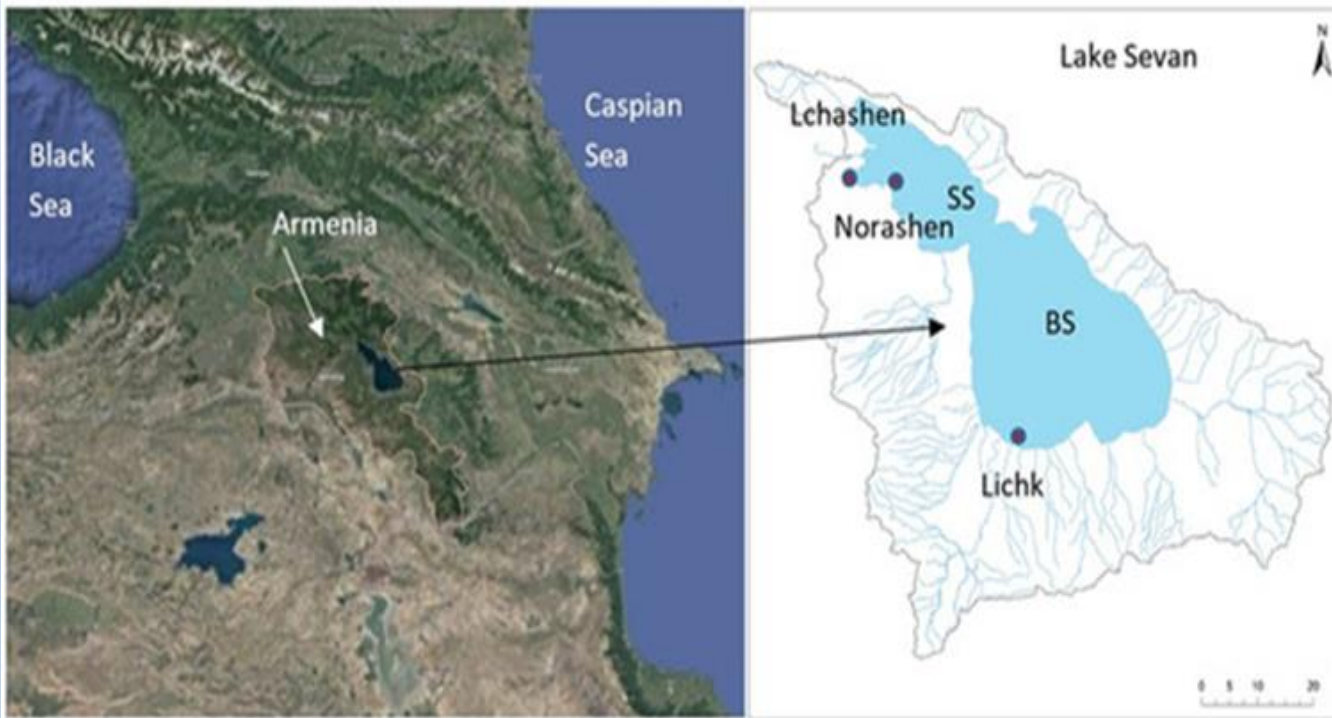
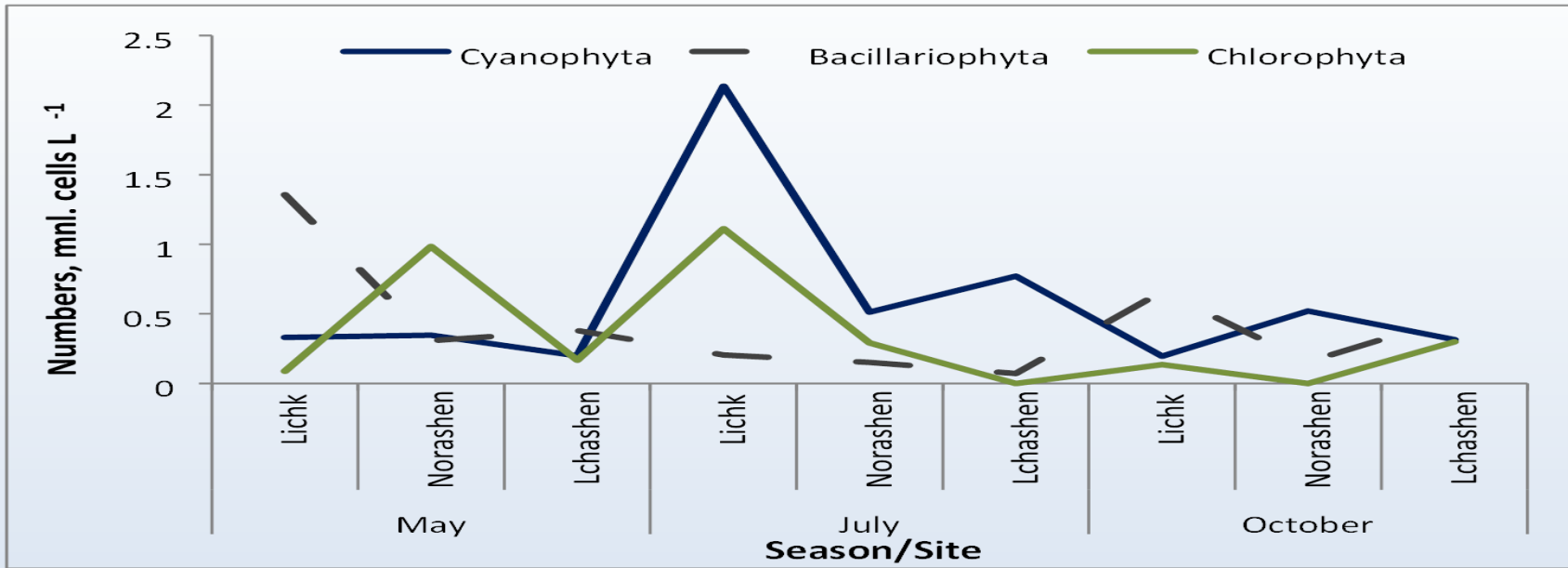
KBaseMetagenomes.AnnotatedMetagenomeAssembly-1.0



Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, are a group of photosynthetic bacteria that live in a wide variety of habitats (e.g., freshwater and marine, plankton vs. mats). Cyanobacterial harmful algal blooms (cyanoHABs) are blooms with the potential to harm aquatic ecosystems or human health.

As a WHO report the concentration of microcystin in quantity of 1 mg/L - very dangerous for water habitat and hydrobionts







Cyanophyta

Anabaena flos-aquae (Lingb.) Breb. (P; β ; k)/

Dolichospermum flos-aquae

Aphanothece clathrata Wet. G.S. West. (P; β ; k)

Aphanizomenon flos-aquae

Chamaesiphon fuscus (Rost.) Hansg.

Gloetrichia sp.

Gloeothece linearis Nag.

Lynbya limnetica Lemm.

Microcystis aeruginosa (Kutz.) Elenk. (P; o- α)

M. pulverea (H.C. Wood) Forti

Merismopedia tenuissima Lemm.

Oscillatoria limnetica Lemm.

Os. brevis (Kutz.) Gom.

Os. sp.

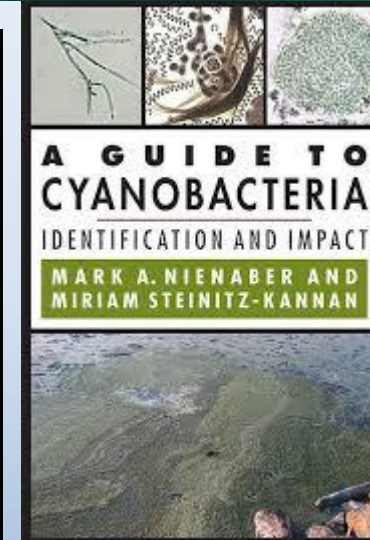
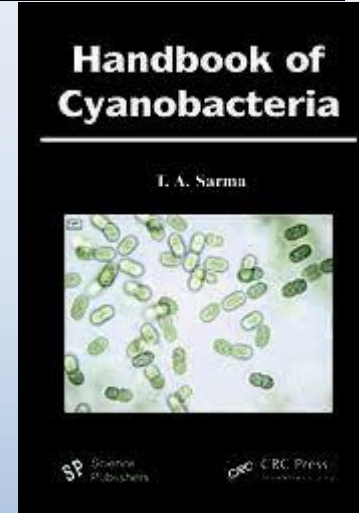
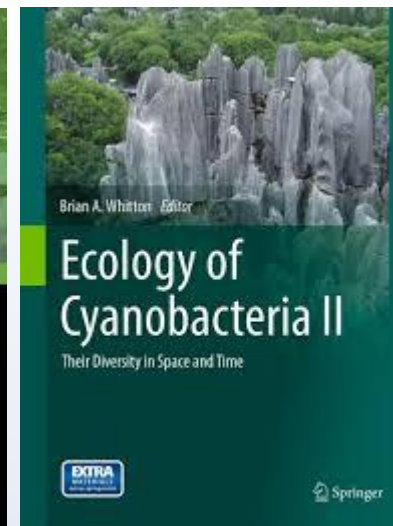
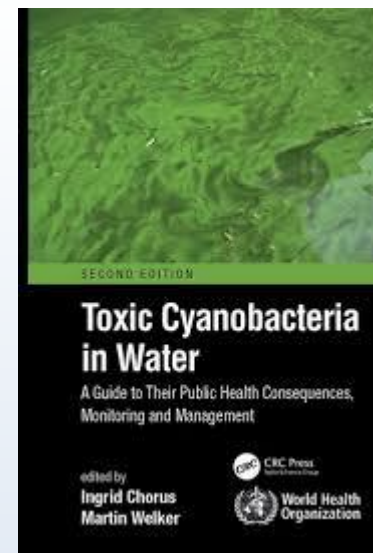
Phormidium foveolarum Gom.

Ph. inundatum Kutz.

Ph. tenue Gom.

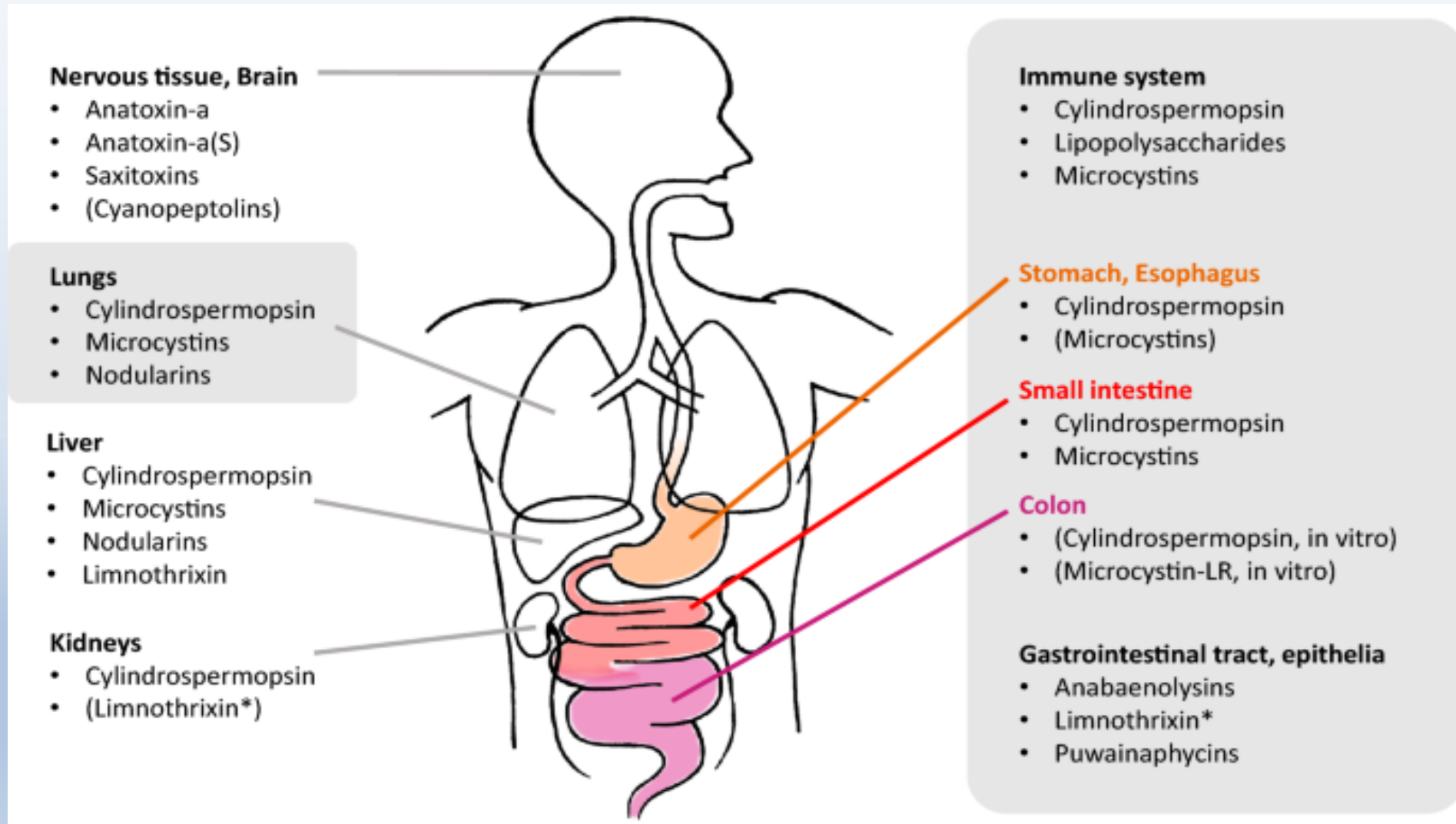
Rivularia sp.

Spirulina sp.





Toxins occurrence by cyanobacteria





Importance of gender-inclusive approaches in water diplomacy

‘Water, peace and security are inextricably linked’, was the opening line of the UN Secretary General Mr. António Guterres said in the meeting.

- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/357206135_Water_and_Women's_Participation
- women manage of household water use
- women need to be included in broad discussion, research, and decision-making process when it comes to environment, human health and security
- women play a big role in the health of the family and the younger generation safety.



Data shows that many women run households while working in agriculture. Many countries are within arid zones: India, Egypt, Africa, etc. Women are fighting more to improve water conditions; the woman must be persistent and strong. In other words, a woman from a semi-arid region knows what drought is and what its consequences are, both environmental and social.





Why is this a women's issue?

More and more women have professional education and experience in the field research

They are experts/professionals – but not very often included in decision-making process

They perform tasks where they can influence water use: work as health care workers, facility managers, educators, etc.

They often successfully manage their own (small) businesses





What's the difference? Female ambassadors tend to focus on underlying factors of larger problems, bringing issues such as poverty, family structures, health care and the lack of safe drinking water into discussions.

Diplomacy is needed in environmental problems, women are willing to consider options more carefully for a longer period of time until the right way is finally found

Women are good negotiators. They can find correct solutions and they have natural ability to be patient in listening, natural kindness and wisdom – they can be a good start in resolving conflicts.



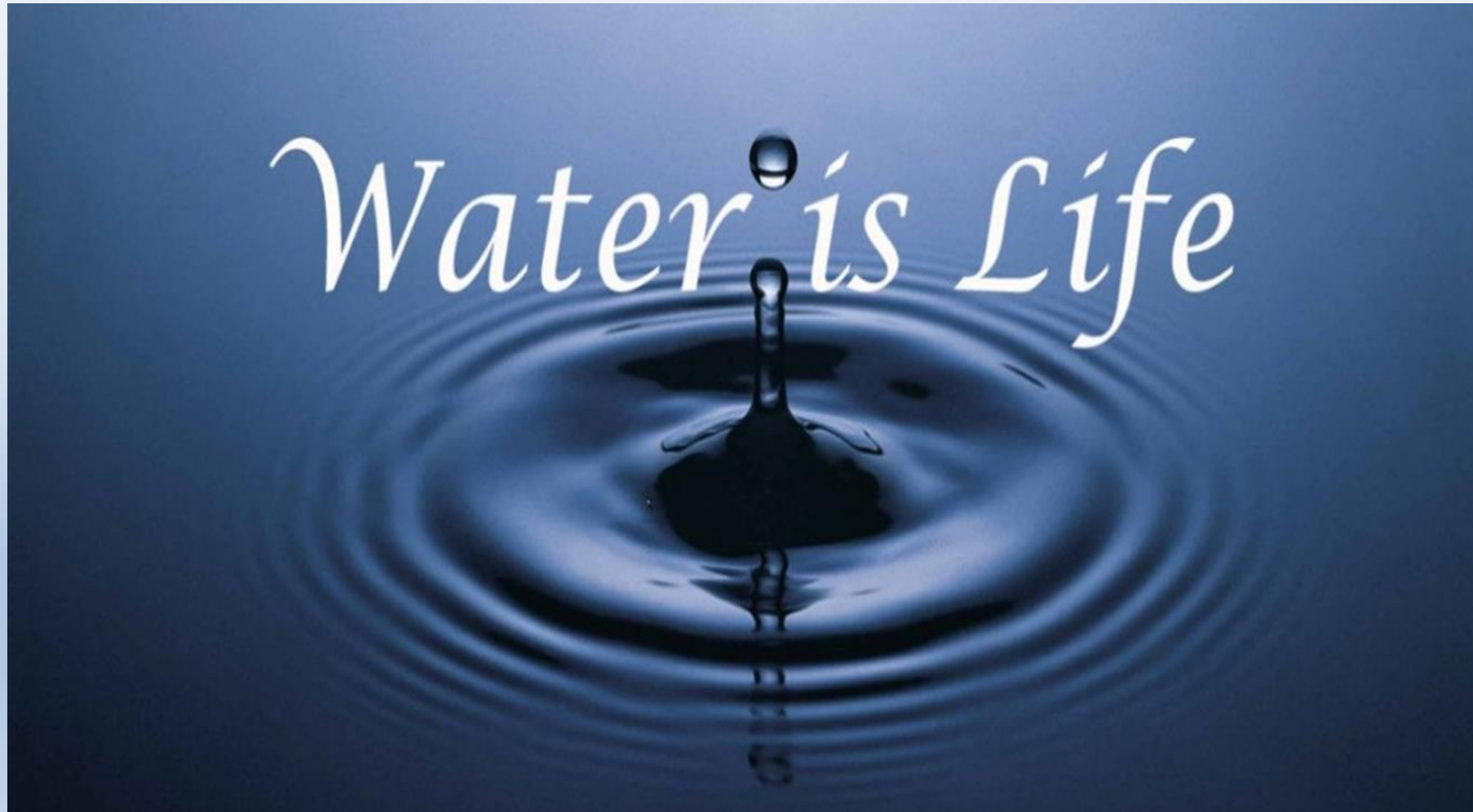
The role of women in regulating water resources is enormous. Women's participation is crucial but rarely considered in water policy development.

Evidence shows that women's participation in rural water projects leads to better outcomes for both women and society as a whole.

Using various types of data, the role of women in household water management was highlighted, examining changes that are taking place in society, and especially the impact on women's everyday lives.



Thank you
Please share your experience



Climate Change and preparing for uncertain future

Hajar Huseynova

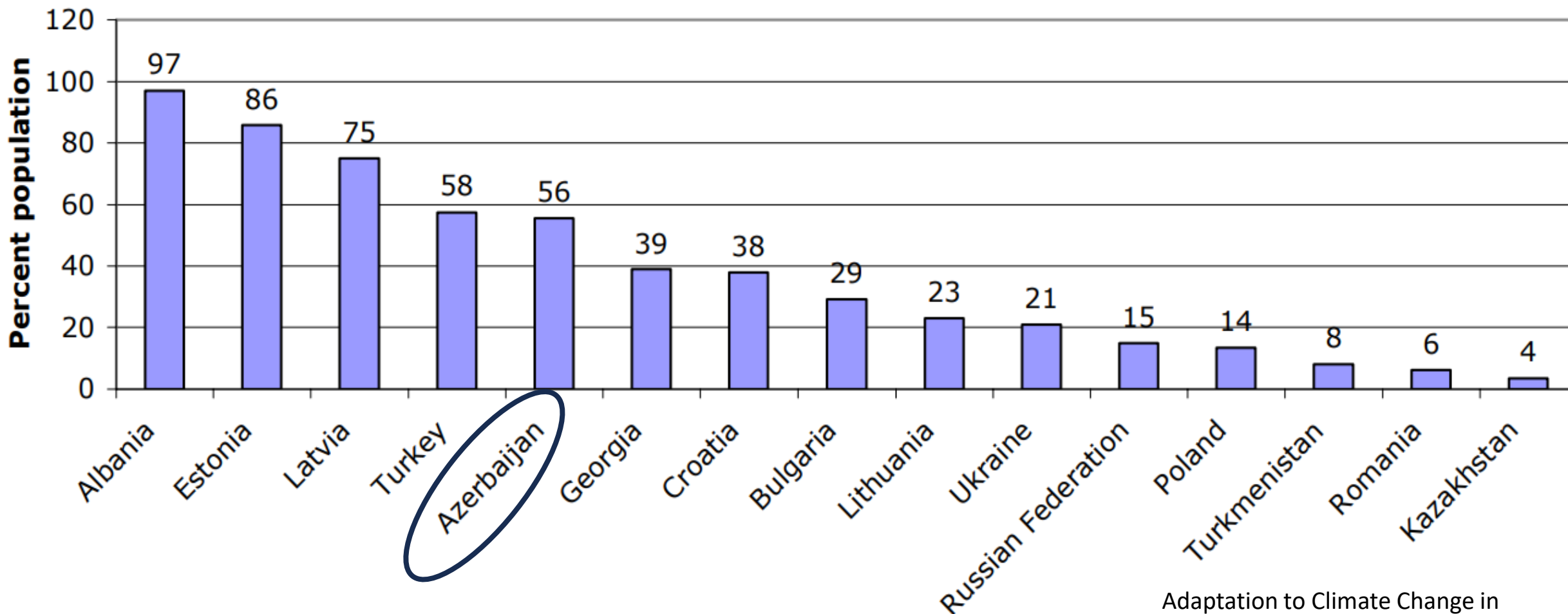
Senior Research Fellow

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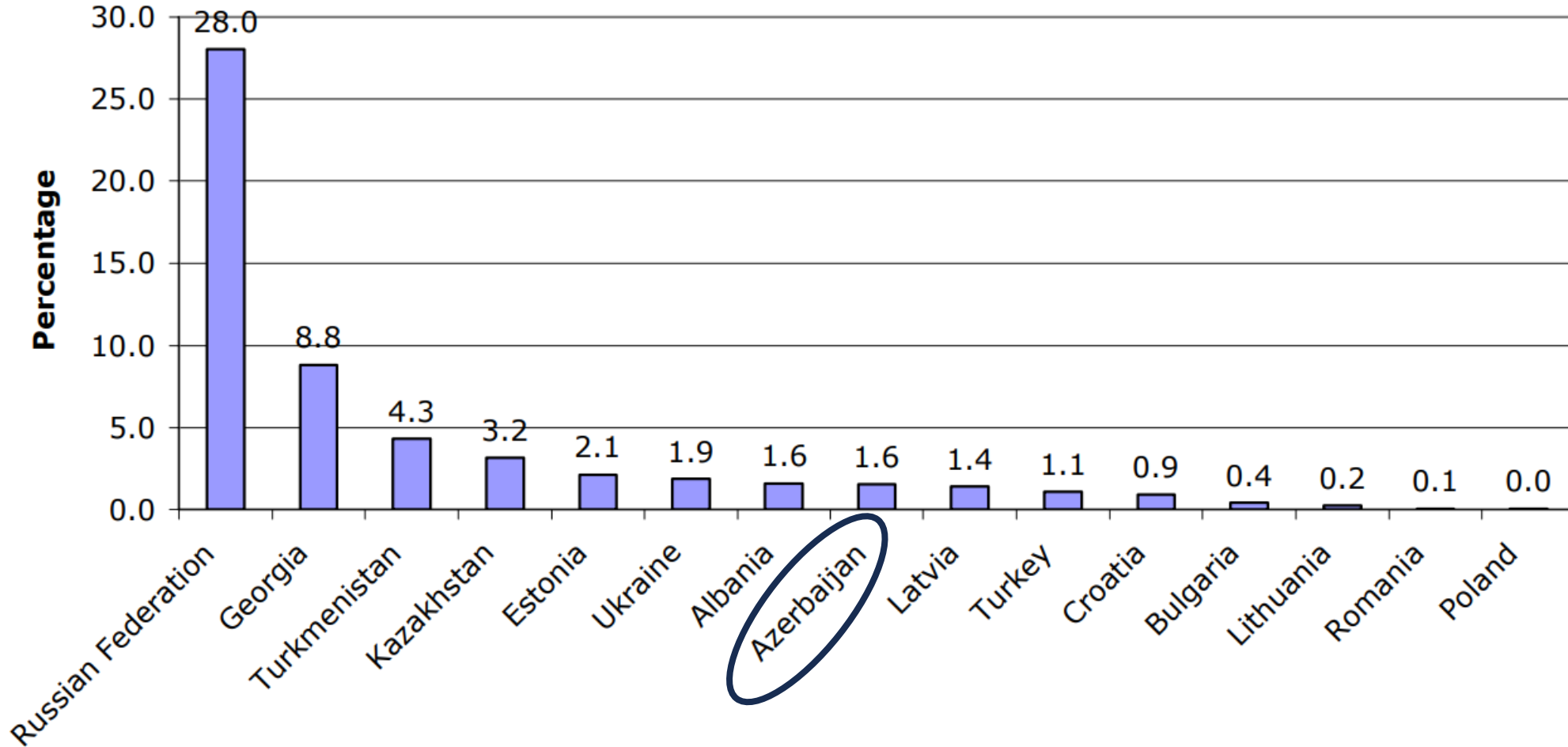
Azerbaijan

Percent population within 100 km coasts



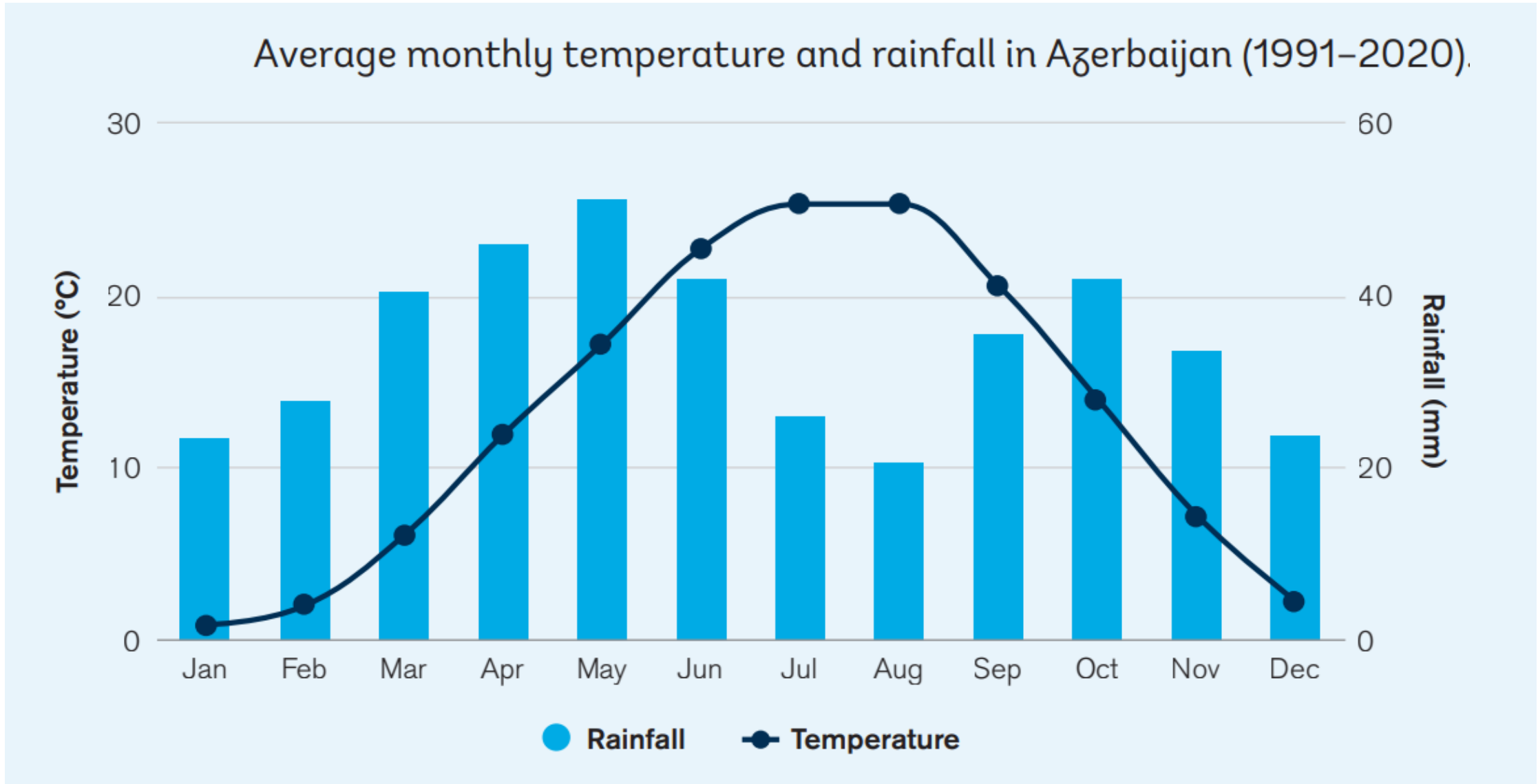
ESP as a percentage of national GDP

ESP as Percentage of GDP



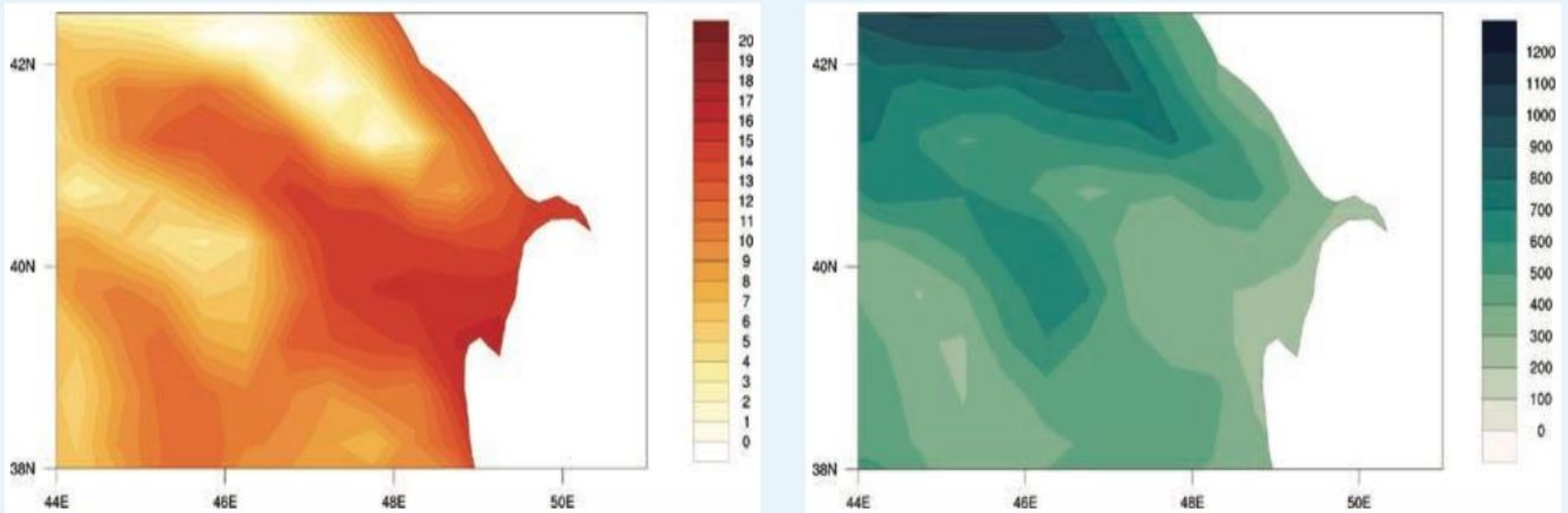
Ecosystem services product (ESP) as a percentage of national GDP. ESP represents the non-market value of ecosystem goods services delivered by the coastal zone.

Climate Baseline - Azerbaijan



Climate Baseline- Azerbaijan

(Left) annual mean temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), and (right) annual mean rainfall (mm) in Azerbaijan over the period 1991–2020.



Maps present the coordinates of Azerbaijan: latitude $44^{\circ}59'09''\text{E}$ – $50^{\circ}20'24''\text{E}$ and $41^{\circ}16'36''\text{N}$ – $38^{\circ}28'10''\text{N}$.

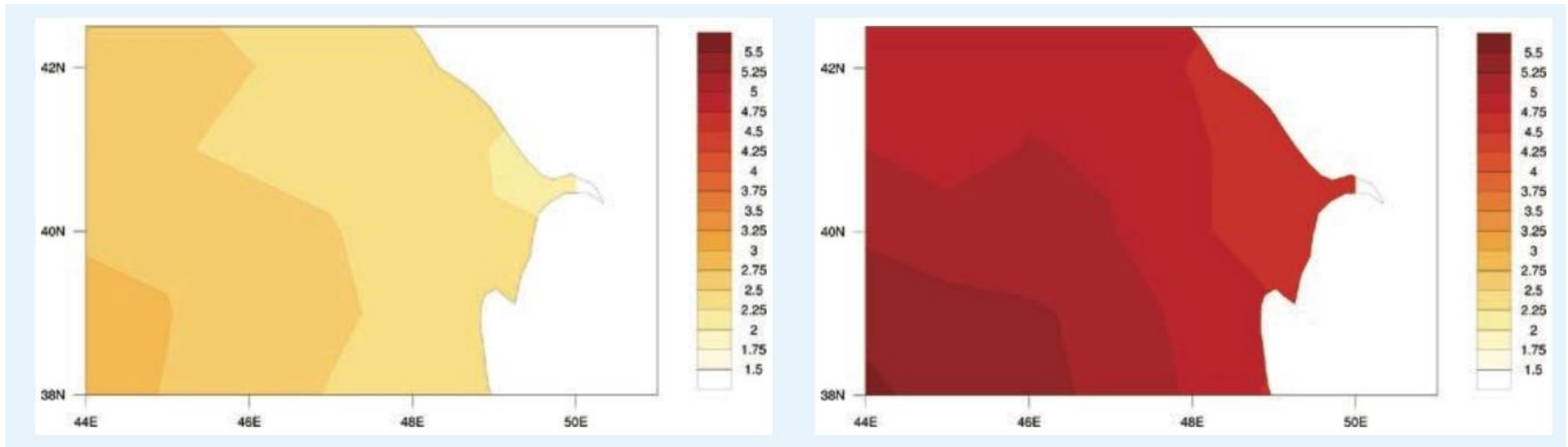
Climate Projections - Azerbaijan

Projected anomaly (changes °C) daily temperatures in Azerbaijan

Scenario	Average Daily Maximum Temperature		Average Daily Temperature		Average Daily Minimum Temperature	
	2040–2059	2080–2099	2040–2059	2080–2099	2040–2059	2080–2099
RCP2.6	1.3 (-1.1, 3.8)	1.2 (-1.0, 3.8)	1.3 (-0.7, 3.4)	1.2 (-0.6, 3.3)	1.3 (-0.6, 3.1)	1.1 (-0.5, 3.2)
RCP4.5	1.8 (-0.6, 4.2)	2.5 (0.3, 5.2)	1.7 (-0.5, 3.8)	2.3 (0.4, 4.7)	1.7 (-0.3, 3.6)	2.2 (0.3, 4.6)
RCP6.0	1.6 (-0.2, 3.7)	3.2 (1.1, 5.5)	1.6 (0.0, 3.4)	3.1 (1.2, 5.1)	1.5 (-0.2, 3.3)	2.8 (0.9, 4.8)
RCP8.5	2.4 (-0.1, 4.9)	5.0 (2.5, 7.6)	2.3 (0.1, 4.5)	4.7 (2.5, 7.1)	2.2 (0.1, 4.3)	4.6 (2.4, 6.9)

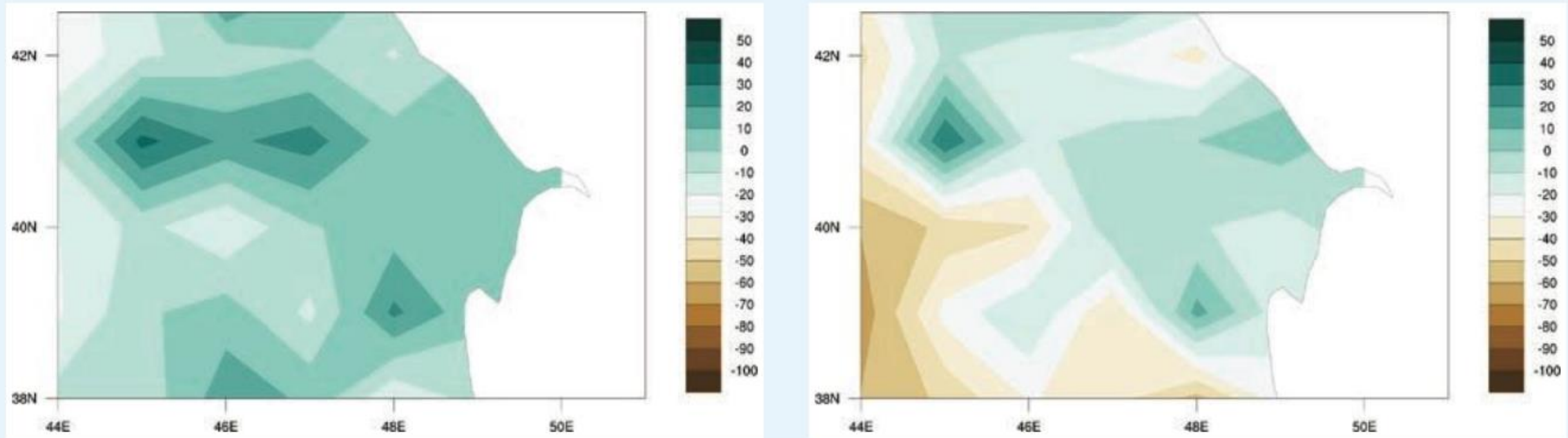
Climate Projections- Azerbaijan

Projected change in annual temperature by 2040–2059 (left) and by 2080–2090 (right) relative to 1986–2005 baseline under RCP8.5



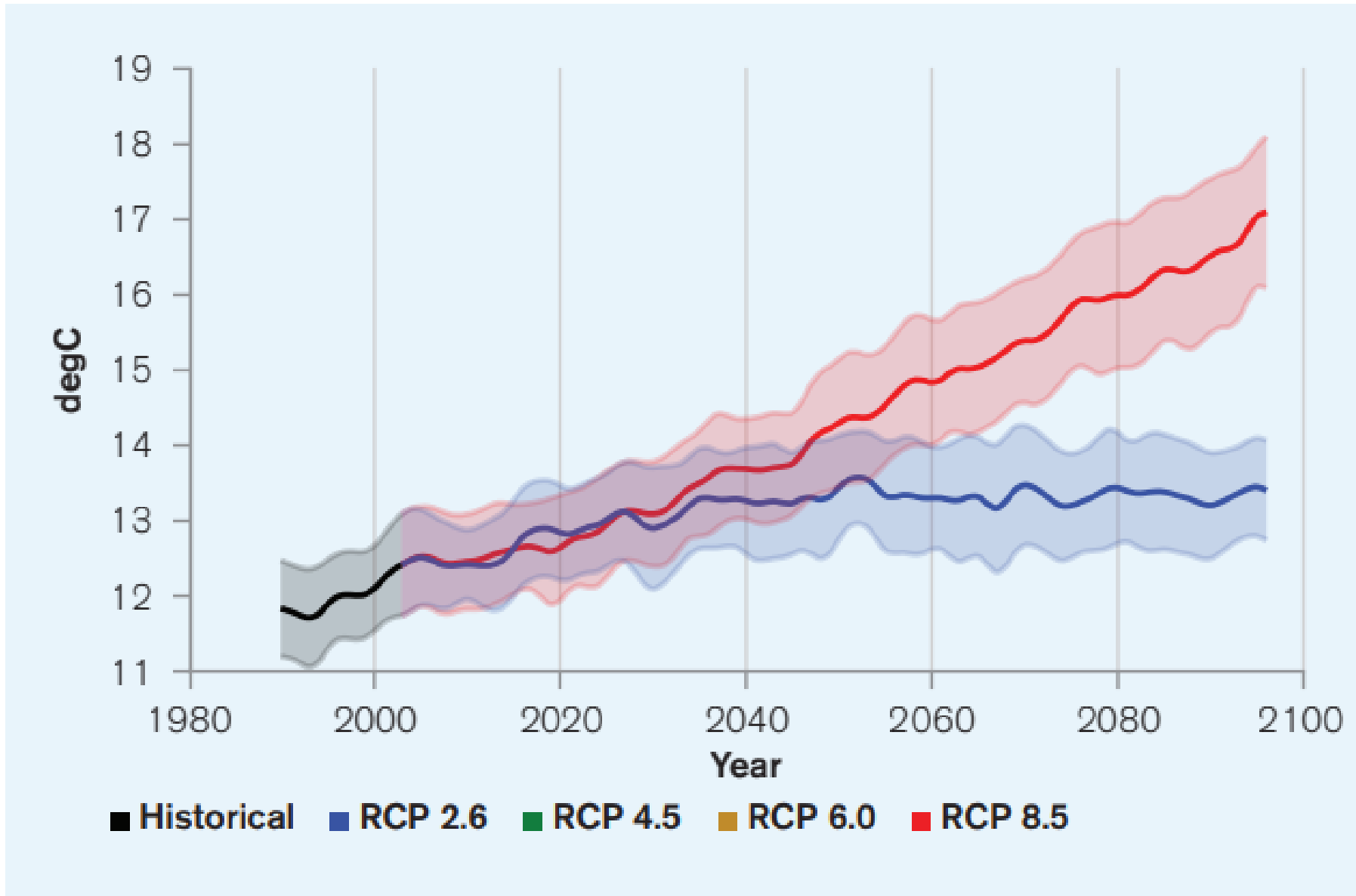
Climate Projections - Azerbaijan

Projected change in annual precipitation by 2040–2059 (left) and by 2080–2090 (right) relative to 1986–2005 baseline under RCP8.5



Maps present the coordinates of Azerbaijan: latitude 44°59'09"E – 50°20'24"E and 41°16'36"N – 38°28'10"N.

Climate Projections- Azerbaijan



Climate Related Natural Hazards - Azerbaijan



Azerbaijan faces significant disaster risk levels and is ranked 61st out of 191 countries by the 2020 Inform Risk Index.

Azerbaijan has relatively high exposure to natural hazards such as flooding, including, riverine, flash, and coastal, and relatively low institutional strength to combat increased risks and natural hazard exposure.

The country's risk is enhanced particularly by high levels of drought risk (ranked 35th), but also by its moderate levels of flood risk and social vulnerability.

Natural Hazards (0–10)	Hazards & Exposures (0–10)	Institutional Strength (0–10)	Socio-Economic Vulnerability (0–10)	Lack of Coping Capacity (0–10)	Overall Inform Risk Level (0–10)	Rank (1–191)
4.9	5.0	6.4	2.2	2.3	4.7	61

INFORM Index for Risk Management for Azerbaijan

Climate Related Natural Hazards- Azerbaijan

Flood

Azerbaijan's water resources depend primarily on two key river basins, that of the Kur and Aras rivers. The future hydrology of their basins, including the greater and lesser Caucasus mountain ranges, will likely determine fluvial flooding trends.

Flooding typically occurs in late spring and early summer in higher altitude areas of the country (above 1,500 m in altitude), whereas in lower areas, flooding may occur in spring or autumn.

Severe floodings occurred in Azerbaijan in 1995, 2003 and 2010.



Climate Related Natural Hazards

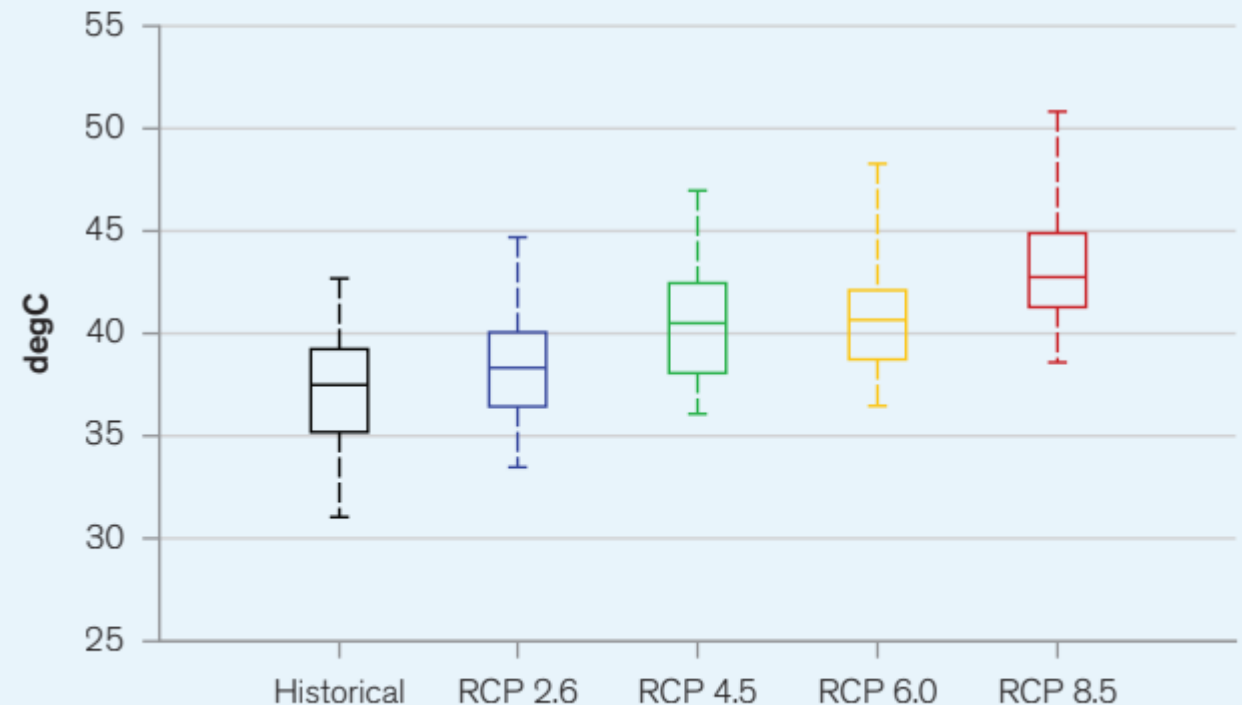
Azerbaijan

Heatwaves

As shown in Figure, under three of the four emissions pathways, Azerbaijan is projected to experience temperatures above 40°C on an annual basis by the 2090s.

In all emissions pathways except for RCP4.5, the probability of a heat wave is significantly higher than its historical (1986–2005) level. This increase in the probability of heat waves is projected to affect all parts of the country equally. However, to a large extent, this rise reflects the impact of general long-term warming, which moves the ambient temperature further away from the baseline upon which heatwave conditions are based. Overall, climate change is likely to mean that heat stress becomes a much more regular occurrence.

Boxplots showing the historical and projected annual maximum of daily maximum temperatures in Azerbaijan for the period 2080–2099 over four emissions pathways.²¹



Climate Related Natural Hazards

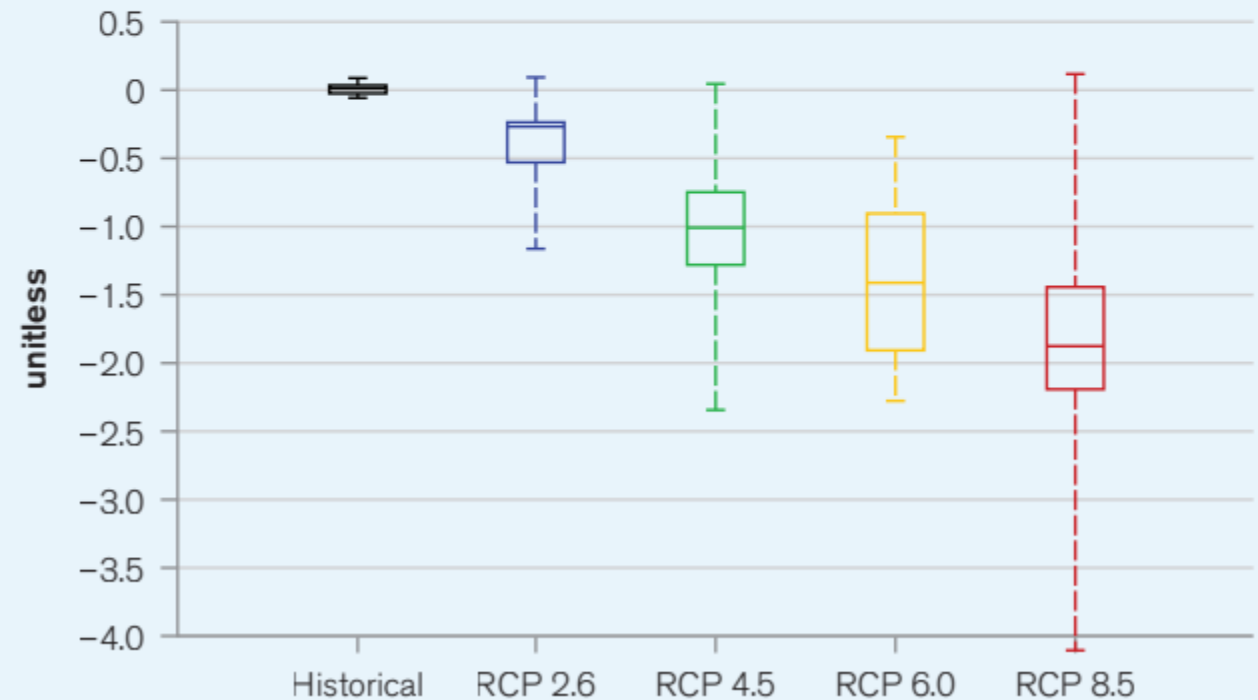
Azerbaijan

Drought

Two primary types of drought may affect Azerbaijan, meteorological (usually associated with a precipitation deficit) and hydrological (usually associated with a deficit in surface and subsurface water flow, potentially originating in the region's wider river basins).

In combination with local land and crop management practices, these may also lead to agricultural drought

Boxplots showing the annual probability of experiencing a 'severe drought' in Azerbaijan (-2 SPEI index) in 2080–2099 under four emissions pathways.²¹



Climate Related Impacts to Natural Resources Azerbaijan

Water

Water supply poses a challenge in Azerbaijan, due to uneven distribution of water resources both seasonally and spatially.

In addition to distributional issues, the country's aggregate water resources per capita are relatively low and 70%–75% of this water supply comes from sources that originate outside Azerbaijan's borders. Although uncertainty exists regarding the projected levels of precipitation in Azerbaijan in future decades, increased temperatures are likely to lead to greater evaporation of water resources and reduced river flows, putting pressure on one of Azerbaijan's main sources of freshwater



© by NASA Earth Observatory

Climate Related Impacts to Natural Resources- Azerbaijan

Coastal Zone

Azerbaijan's coastal areas were home to approximately 4 million, as well as the country's largest cities, and 75% of its industrial resources. Baku which sits on the Caspian Coast, accounted for approximately 70% of the country's GDP.

The Caspian Sea level fell by an average of 6.7cm per year between 1996 and 2015, evaporation played a dominant role in this sea-level reduction.

As average temperatures in the region increase in the coming decades, this decrease in the level of the Caspian Sea is expected to continue. Studies shows declines in the range of 4–5 m by the end of the 21st century.



Bilgah, Azerbaijan

Climate Related Impacts to Natural Resources- Azerbaijan



Land and Soil

It is estimated that approximately 42% of the country's territory is negatively affected by soil erosion, while approximately 7% of the country's area is subject to salinization.

These processes have contributed to the low productivity that prevails in Azerbaijan's agriculture sector.

As climate change increases the frequency of drought in the country, the process of desertification may accelerate in the absence of sufficient mitigation measures.



The National Adaptation Plan Process



Sectors:

Agriculture

Water resources Management

Coastal areas

Public health

Other

Financing, insurance, service sector, education,

Concept of Vulnerability

Climate vulnerability is the degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes. Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of climate variation to which a system is exposed, its sensitivity, and its adaptive capacity.

$$**RISK = Hazard x Exposure x Vulnerability x (1- Adaptive Capacity)**$$

Case Study - Azerbaijan

Alazani/Ganykh River basin

In the north-west Azerbaijan and the north-east Georgia agriculture plays a dominant role as an important source of income for local population and a major contributor to the national economies. Due to the projected decline in precipitation and increase in temperature, stream flow of the transboundary Alazani-Ganykh River is projected to decline. This may become a major limiting factor for agriculture and energy development in the region. Exposure to increased risks of natural disasters (flash floods, mudflows and landslides) is also likely to affect the security of this area.

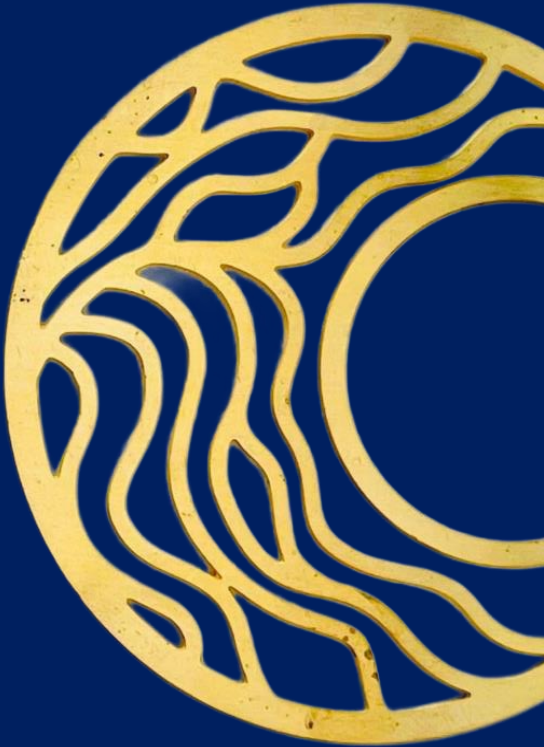


Awarding of Certificates!



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS

Workshop Evaluation and Closing Remarks



Women in Water Diplomacy
Network South Caucasus
Inception Workshop Evaluation

A QR code is centered on a dark grey rectangular background. The QR code is black and white, and it is surrounded by a white border. The background of the rectangle also features a faint, larger version of the stylized globe graphic seen on the right side of the slide.

WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS