



CONCLUSIONS

Based on the available information delivered by the CACENA countries on the transboundary groundwater aquifers, the following conclusions can be made:

- The groundwater resources are very dominant in the CACENA countries;
- Groundwater resources are used in the CACENA region mainly for drinking water supply. Therefore, it is necessary to protect and improve both groundwater quality and quantity in the CACENA region as precondition for the sustainability of the environment and human beings' security;
- Along with agriculture, the direct water abstraction for water supply is the main use of groundwaters in CACENA countries;
- The majority of the basic measures to improve the groundwater management have not been implemented so far;
- Only scarce data are available from the transboundary groundwater monitoring programmes;
- There is a lack of water management planning approach in the transboundary bodies;
- Implementation or improvement of good agricultural practices is also needed;
- There is a need to establish transboundary institutions for proper cooperation and data exchange;
- Water management is a critical and important issue in the CACENA countries, which are focusing on the national demands rather the transboundary ones;
- There is a need for supportive policy and institutional reforms and capacity-building for the regional or transboundary institutions;
- It is highly recommended that pilot projects be prepared for the monitoring and assessment of the transboundary groundwater aquifers in the CACENA region, and that the case studies are carried out with a central focus on upgrading and building the capacity of the existing infrastructure in the monitoring and assessment of the transboundary groundwater aquifers. There is also a great need to better coordinate donors' activities.