

Assessing the water-food- energy-ecosystem nexus in in the Syr Darya Basin: the proposed approach



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Substantive elements of the assessment

1. A survey with a factual **questionnaire** for a preliminary identification of the main pressures and hotspots
2. A **desk review** of the available documentation
3. A **participatory workshop** at transboundary level, with the economic sectors and other stakeholders to identify the inter-sectoral linkages and trade-offs & possible synergic actions
4. **Indicator based analysis**. Limited quantification. An institutional analysis
5. Preparation of **nexus assessment report** with the analysis i.e. Sectoral characteristics including development options; Inter-sectoral linkages and priority issues; **Qualitative future scenarios** (trends, climate change); **Potential solutions** identified, policy **recommendations**



Scope of the basin assessment workshop

- A. Introduction of the nexus and examples
- B. National sectoral policies, strategies etc. presented by authorities
- C. Nexus issues specific to the basin highlighted
- D. Future predictions, especially on climate change
- E. Illustration of possible interlinkages & nexus conditions.
- F. Sectoral groups identify anticipated demands, conditions, resource availability;
- G. Mixed groups discuss and prioritise of the interlinkages identified
- H. Preparation of an inter-sectoral picture of the nexus conditions, most important interconnections/ impacts/trade-offs and indicators
- I. Discussion on synergic actions
- J. Key findings/results from the workshop and the preparatory work
- K. The necessary next steps, responsibilities, provision of information

Links: between national and transboundary levels, with NPDs

- Discussed at the EUWI-EECCA meetings in Helsinki (October 2013) and in Geneva (June 2014)
- The transboundary assessment under the UNECE Water Convention has parallels with the NPD process through which a cross-sectoral and stakeholder approach is also being implemented
- Expected that additional benefits and opportunities related to inter-sectoral coordination will also emerge at national level in the transboundary assessment process
- Discussion of preliminary results at NPD Steering Committee meetings to reflect on the (water) policy implications



Status of preparation

- National focal points nominated by the Syr Darya countries
- Potential national coordinators to support the process identified
- Cooperation with GWP in organizing the workshop and in the process agreed
- Workshop 18-20 November 2014 (tentatively)
- Preliminary approval based on a project concept from Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Synergies to be explored

- EUWI National Policy Dialogues
- World Bank's Water-Energy Nexus in Central Asia
- FAO's Aral Sea scenario work
- UNDP-GEF & UNESCO project under preparation on transboundary groundwaters in the Syr Darya
- IUCN-IWA nexus infrastructure project on the Amu Darya
- GIZ Transboundary water management in Central Asia project (phases II & III)

Next steps

- Key studies, reports, policy documents to be identified by the national focal points
- Identification of sectoral authorities and stakeholders to be involved in the process
- Contracting the national coordinators
- Formalising cooperation with GWP, engaging the workshop organiser
- Confirming the partnerships and specifying roles (FAO, UNESCO? Others?)
- Workshop preparation
- Exploring the relevant fora for reviewing and discussing the findings