

The Water Convention supporting cooperation in the Drin River Basin (South Eastern Europe)

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***Towards the
enhancement of
transboundary
cooperation among
the Drin Riparians for
the sustainable
management of the
extended Drin River
Basin***

Initiation of the
efforts to establish
cooperation at the
Drin Basin level
(2006)

Initiation of the
**Drin Dialogue
process** (2009 –
ended in 2011)

Signing of the
**Memorandum of
Understanding** for
the management
of the Drin Basin
(Tirana, 25
November 2011)



SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY



“Up / Top” –
“Driven” by the governments

“Bottom / Down” –
“Driven” by the stakeholders

Time

“Drin Dialogue Process”

“Drin Coordinated Action”

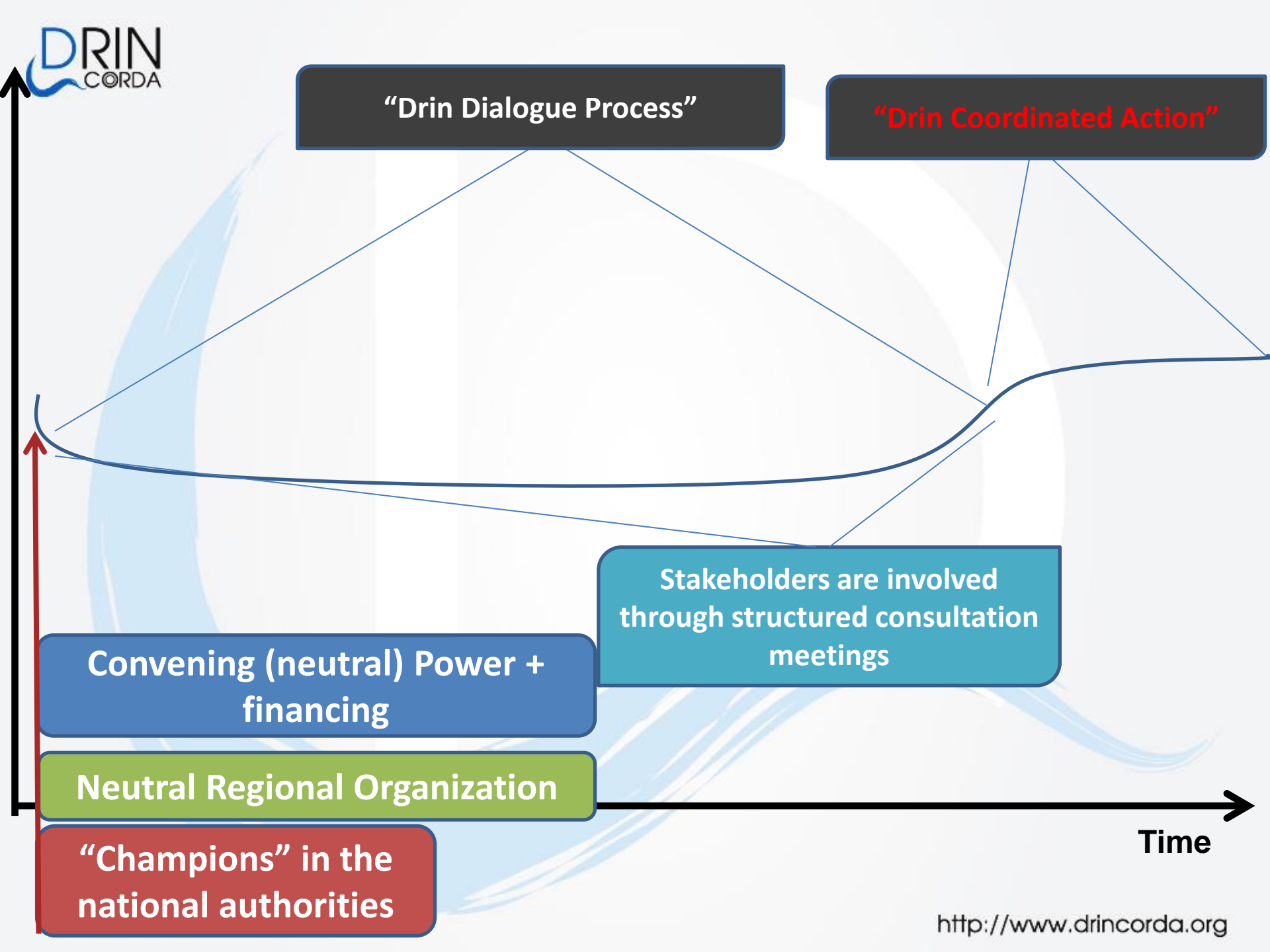
**Convening (neutral) Power +
financing**

Neutral Regional Organization

**“Champions” in the
national authorities**

**Stakeholders are involved
through structured consultation
meetings**

Time



Drin Dialogue process

Main objective: The development of a **Strategic Shared Vision** among the competent national authorities and stakeholders for the sustainable management of the Drin basin.

Drin Dialogue Process

Led by representatives of the Riparian Countries – Drin Core Group

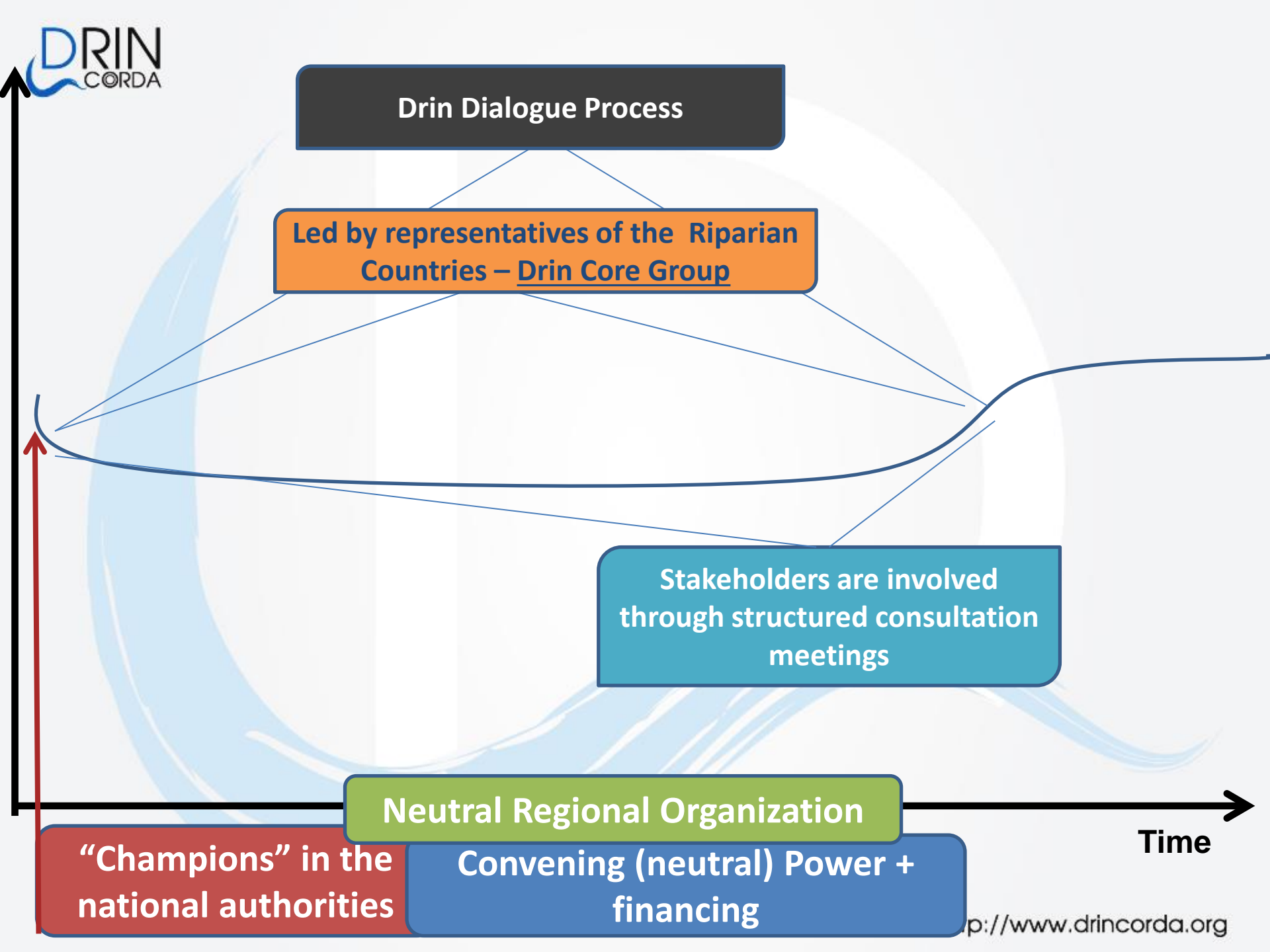
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Neutral Regional Organization

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Time



Drin Dialogue Process

- Focus on benefits

- Approach high level officials / approach medium level officials
- Explain the stakes/benefits.
- **Ownership**

- Map the stakeholders
- **Explain** the stakes/benefits.
- Secure buy in
- **Ownership**

- Reach out to the political level
- Explain the stakes/benefits.
- **Ownership**

Neutral Regional Organization

“Champions” in the national authorities

Convening (neutral) Power + financing

Time

Drin Dialogue Process

Led by representatives of the Riparian Countries

Initial Joint fact finding exercise

Stakeholders are involved through structured consultation meetings

- Focus on benefits

- Facilitate trust among parties

Neutral Regional Organization

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Drin Dialogue Process

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Situation Analysis

Identification and brief analysis of the key issues linked with water resources management of the Drin Basin

Drin Dialogue

Drin Core Group Meetings

Meeting 1

Meeting 2

Meeting 3

Meeting 4

National Consultation Meetings

Consultation Meeting at Drin Basin level

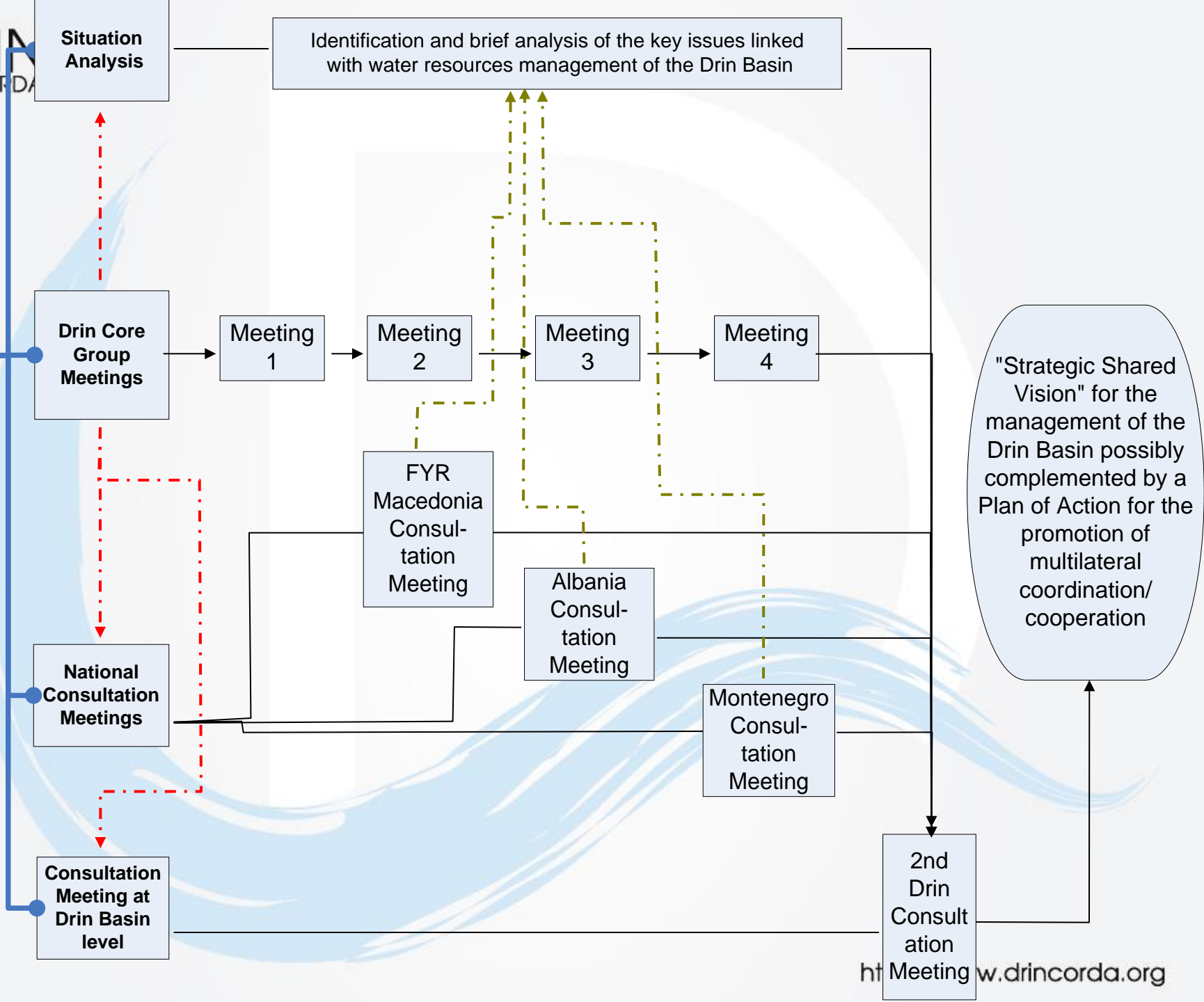
FYR Macedonia Consultation Meeting

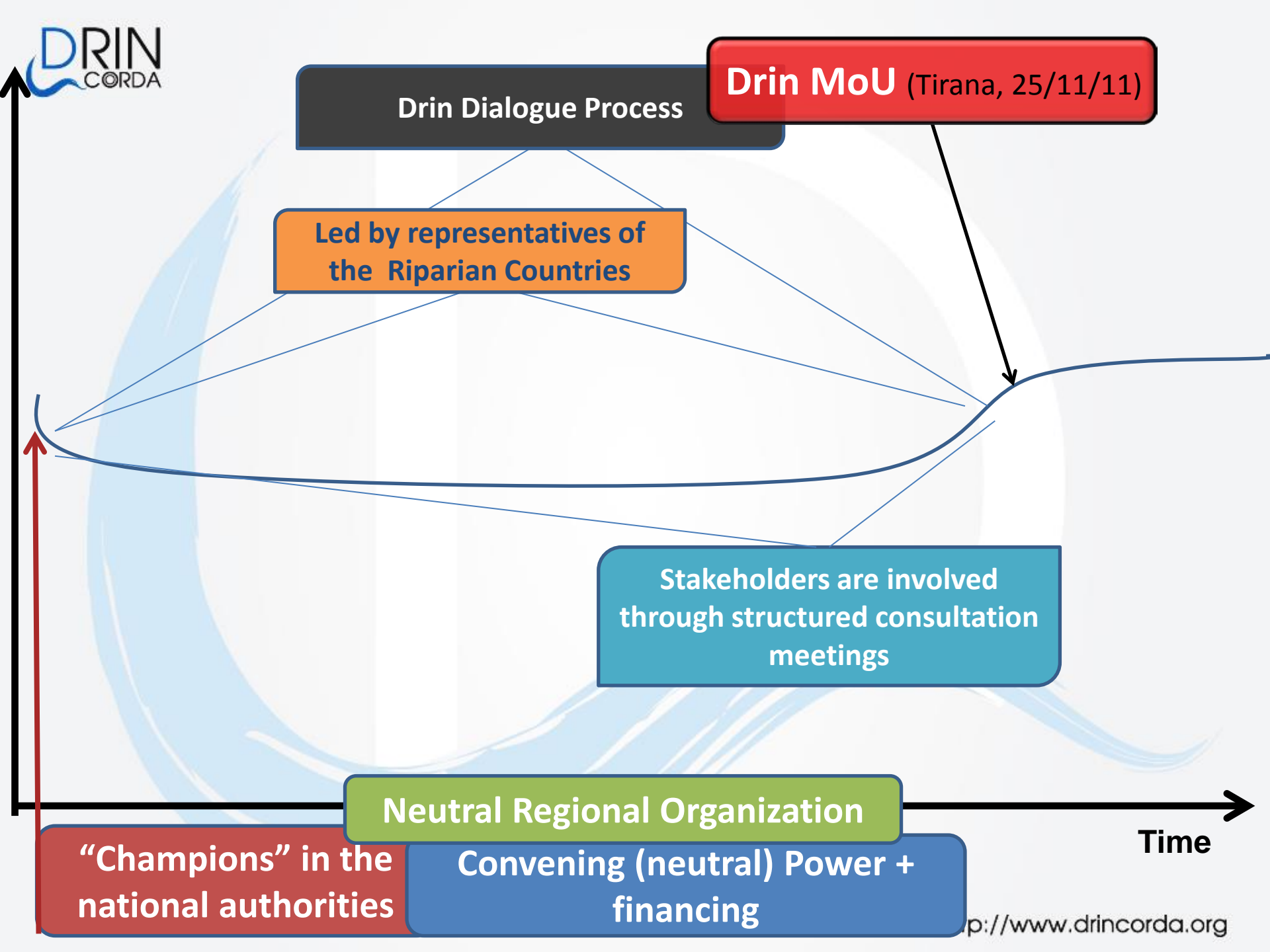
Albania Consultation Meeting

Montenegro Consultation Meeting

2nd Drin Consultation Meeting

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





Drin MoU (Tirana, 25/11/11)

Drin Dialogue Process

Led by representatives of the Riparian Countries

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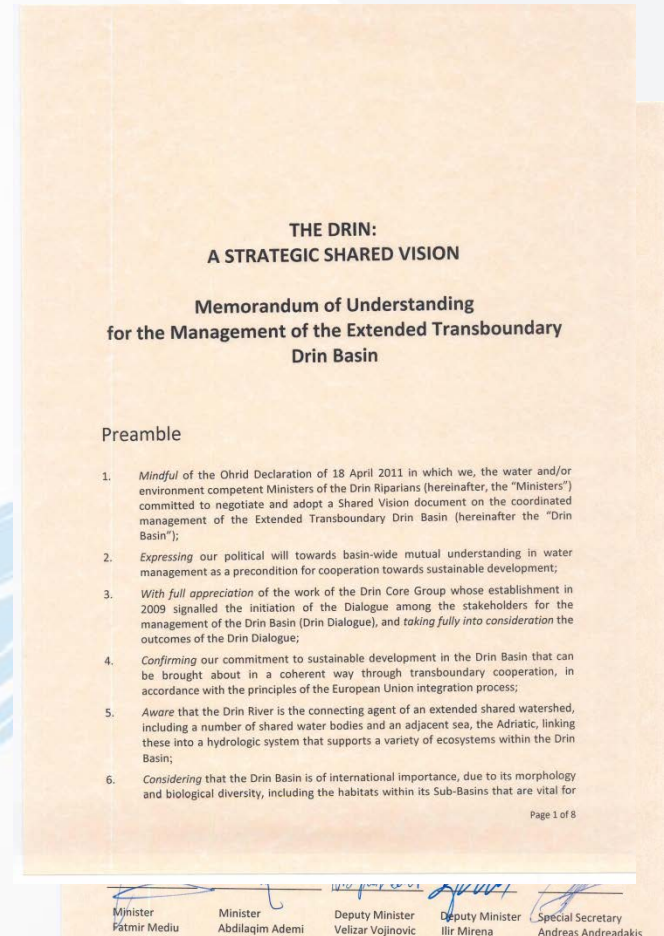
Time

Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)



Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- **Objective / Shared Vision:** *“The Parties commit to promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin”*



Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- *Provides the political framework for cooperation*
- *Defines the context of cooperation*

MoU
Governing Body

Meeting of Parties

Ministers responsible for water and environmental management

Coordinating Body

Drin Core Group

- Ministries from Riparians responsible for water and environmental management
- Prespa Park Management Committee
- Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee
- Lake Skadar-Shkoder Commission
- UNECE
- Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean
- Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development

*Drin Core Group
Secretariat*

Expert
Working
Group on
WFDI

Expert
Working
Group on
MIE

Expert
Working
Group
on
BE

Action Plan

for the implementation of the

MoU for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin

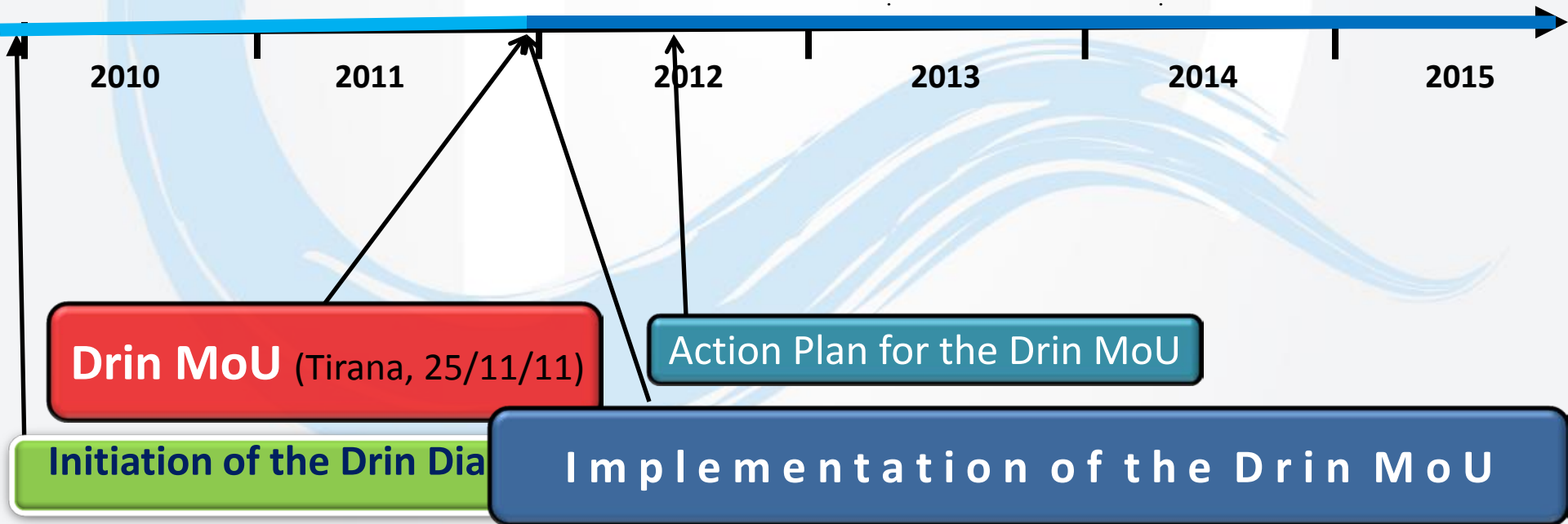
- 1. Enhancement of coordination mechanisms among the Parties**
- 2. Enhancement of the knowledge basis about the Drin Basin**
- 3. Improvement of information exchange through the establishment of a system for regular exchange of relevant information among the competent authorities of each Party**
- 4. Enhancement of cooperation in the field of flood risk preparedness, management and mutual support**
- 5. Institutional strengthening in the field of integrated water resources management**
- 6. Promotion of public participation and stakeholders engagement**

GEF project “Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Extended Drin River Basin”

- Approved by the GEF Council and endorsed by the GEF CEO
- UNDP is the implementing agency and GWP-Med (GWP) and UNECE the executing partners.
- GEF project:
 - will serve the implementation of the MoU
 - is tightly linked to the existing institutional setting
 - activities are directly linked with the activities in the Action Plan.

Implementation is expected to start on early 2015.

- Characterization of the Basin (WFD) – Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
- Monitoring – System for exchange of information
- Cooperation on flood risk preparedness and management
- Preparation of an Agreement
- Preparation of coordinated management plans (beyond 2015)
- Etc.



2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

Drin MoU (Tirana, 25/11/11)

Action Plan for the Drin MoU

Initiation of the Drin Diagnostic Analysis

Implementation of the Drin MoU



Institutional Capacity

- National Institutions “follow” the work at the DCG level
- National Institutions implement DCG decisions

Success is interlinked with the success of the overall cooperation process

Drin MoU Implementation Challenges

Working Groups operation

**Coordination with stakeholders
beyond water sector**

Institutional Capacity

- National Institutions “follow” the work at the DCG level
- National Institutions implement DCG decisions

Drin MoU Implementation Challenges

Financial Sustainability

- **Financing operation of Transboundary institutions**
- **Financing actions for the implementation of the MoU**

Stakeholders
are involved
through
structured
consultation
meetings

Led by
representatives of
the Riparian
Countries (**Drin
Core Group**)

**Facilitates the
communication of the
content and the
outcomes of the
consultation
dialogues to the
politicians**

**Drin –
Establishment
of Legal and
Institutional
Setting**

Convening
(Neutral)
Power +
Financing

**Capitalize the effort by
having the Shared Vision
reflected and interpreted in
an MoU**

“Champions”
in the
national
authorities

Regional
(Neutral)
Organization
with good
knowledge of
the Area’s
realities