

Revised Governance Methodology for Nexus Assessment



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Objectives of Governance Assessment

- To gain a better understanding of the context in which nexus sectors of activity operate
- To generate understanding of instruments, actors and institutions aimed at transboundary cooperation to achieve sustainable integration of the different sectors
- To achieve a better understanding of a complex system, of its performance, strengths and weaknesses at different scales and entry points

The Task

- “Revise the governance component of the nexus assessment methodology covering all the four sectors/resources (water, energy, land/agriculture and ecosystems) and work out an improved general governance assessment framework with supporting aids such as a matrix or a check list of features by sector and/or a governance survey.”

Complexity

Governance in the context of nexus has several problematic aspects –

- 1. differences in governance structures, institutions and cultures across sectors
- 2. differences in geographical scale of policy and decisionmaking/ - global/regional/river basin, transboundary/national/subnational
- 3. differences in decision-making processes and differences in planning cycles (timing)
- 4. Changes in global/international governance context

The Revised Governance Methodology

Provenance

- 1. Diagnostic audit methodology (e.g., Tisza River Basin, REC)
- 2. Preliminary draft governance methodology (C. Bréthaut, University of Geneva), tested within a research project regarding the Rhone River basin
- 3. Practical adaptation and provisional application in several basins
- 4. UNECE, “Reconciling resource uses in transboundary basins: assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus” (particularly, the chapter on “Nexus assessment methodology and its development process” and Annex V: “Guide to the Governance Analysis”)
- 5. *Water* article by de Strasser et al.
- 6. Feedback

The Revised Governance Methodology

Considerations

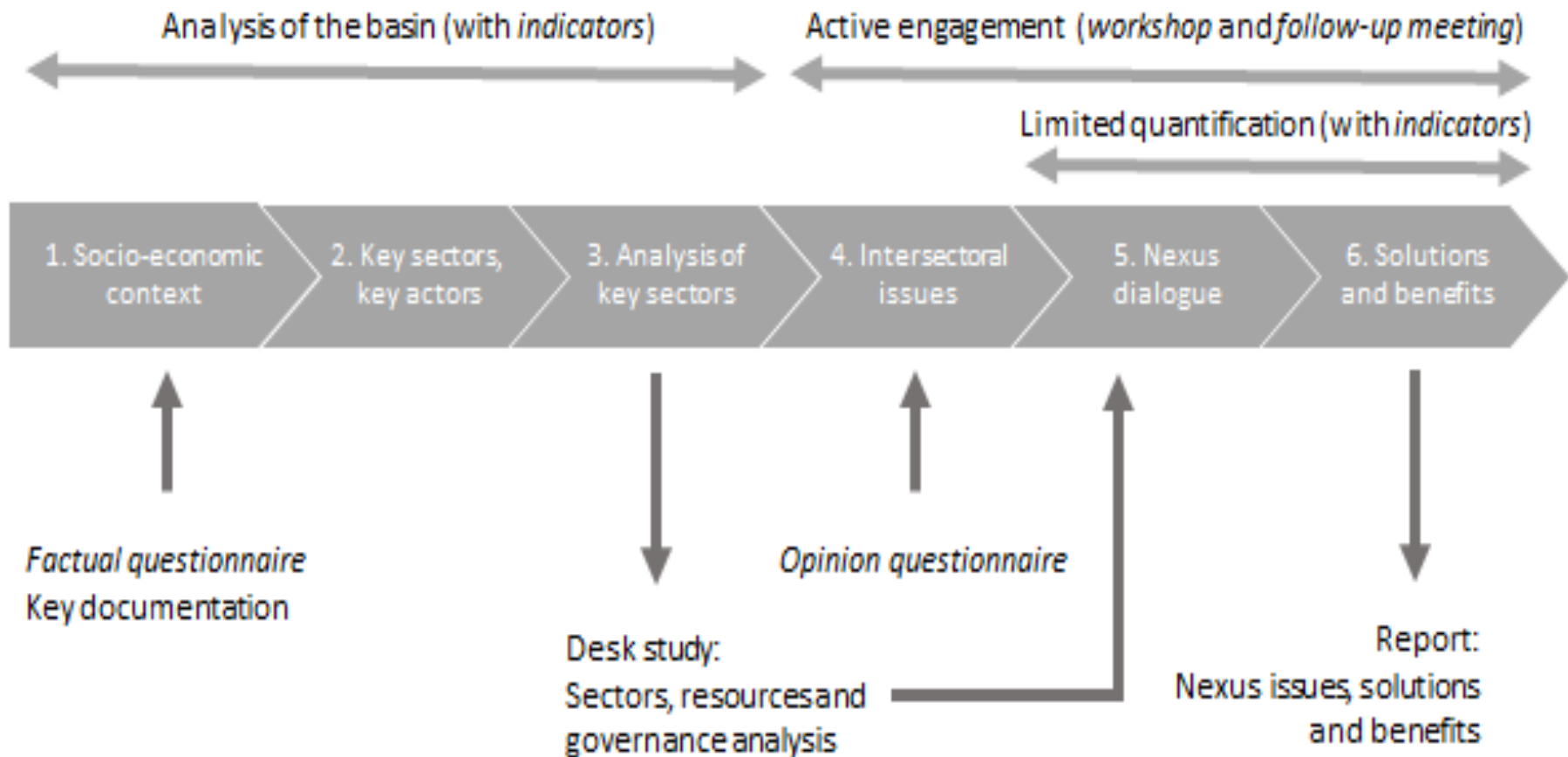
- 1. Take into account lessons learned
- 2. Acknowledge variation in basins
 - Geophysical, socioeconomic, geopolitical, cultural
- 3. Allow for adaptation
 - RGM has to be elemental and flexible
- 4. Ownership and need for updating on national level

The Revised Governance Methodology

Overview

- 1. Background
- 2. Rationale
- 3. Assumptions
- 4. Governance entry points in overall methodology
 - Socioeconomic context
 - Key sectors and actors/mapping
 - Sectoral analysis
 - Intersectoral analysis
 - “Nexus dialogue”
- 5. Solutions and benefits

Stages in Nexus Assessment



Governance Assessment Methodology

- *Some key elements:*
 - *Global/regional/transboundary policy frameworks*
 - *Strategic decisions/implementation and acceptance*
 - *Scope of transboundary cooperation/institutions*
 - *Gaps and conflicts*
 - *Conditions (effective institutions, ROL, SH engagement, transparency, capacities, corruption)*

Framework for Environmental Governance: Global

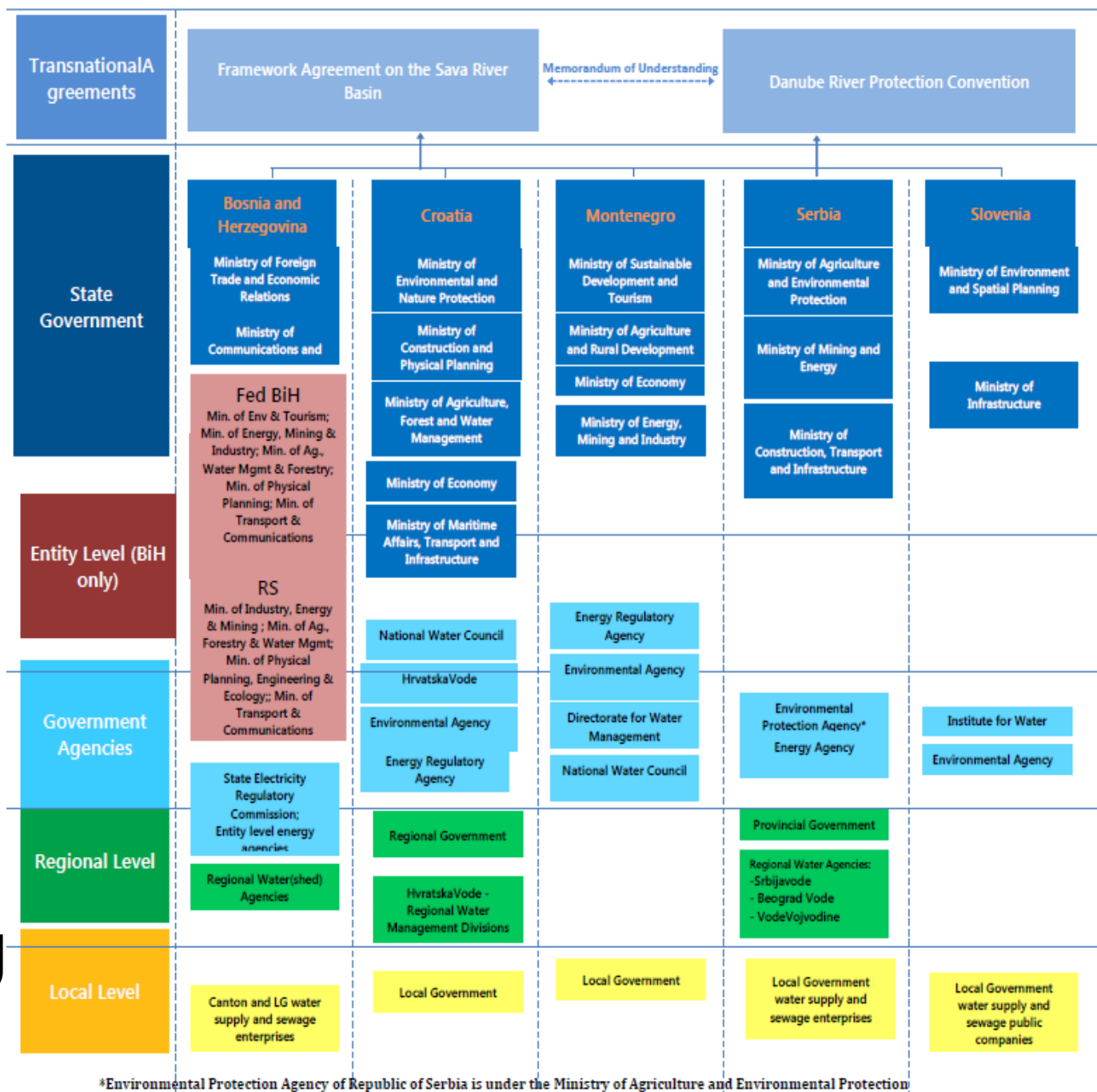
- **Global Conferences** (Stockholm, Rio, Jo'burg, Rio+20, trade/development conferences)
- **2015 SDGs** – Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030 (e.g., SDG 16)
- **Paris Agreement**
- **Sendai Framework** on DRR

Governance Context in Brief (Sava and Drina examples)

- Global SDGs, MEAs, declarations, etc
- Regional MEAs, e.g., Water Convention, Espoo, SEA
- EU membership - WFD, CAP etc
- European Energy Community
- Basin-level organizations - Danube and Sava
- Bilateral arrangements

National Governance Assessments

- *Sectoral and intersectoral*
- *Mapping institutions and actors*
- *Legislative/regulatory frameworks*
- *Governance cultures by sector*
- *Can be analyzed according to: extent, coherence, robustness, flexibility*
- *Geographical scale of decisionmaking*
- *Identification of “hot spots”/conflicting uses/rivalries*



*Environmental Protection Agency of Republic of Serbia is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

Intersectoral coordination on national level

- Mapping of authorities
- Legislative framework overview
- National framework for EU accession
- Application of SEA on national level
- Integrated permitting/EIA
- Inspection and enforcement
- Aarhus Convention principles

General Governance Issues

- Rule of law
- Absence of corruption
- Financial and human capacities
- Stakeholder engagement

Kinds of findings

- Mapping of institutions and actors
- Inventory of policies and legislation (assessment of adoption of state of the art)
- Mapping contact points (timing, processes)
- Assessment of mechanisms for horizontal coordination
- Assessment of stakeholder engagement and cultural aspects

Actions/Solutions

Improvement of data platforms

Acceptance of instruments

Integration

Engagement and dialogue

Feedback (monitoring, inspection, enforcement)

Kinds of Proposed Policy Options/Solutions

Aimed at governance aspects of specific 'interventions' (cross-sectoral/multi-sectoral) and also aimed at overall Governance Framework

- Governance issues considered in each chapter
- Filling gaps in transboundary governance framework/ Strengthening instruments for cooperation
 - Explore development of a [TBA] nexus platform, possibly under auspices of existing cooperative framework, extending contacts w/ other processes
- In-depth national level nexus governance assessments carried out by each government
 - Potential to better align policy timelines and related planning cycles
 - National level capacity building, public education campaigns
 - Enhancing national intersectoral coordination
- Pilot assessment tools (such as sustainability impact assessment) w/ nexus framework

Mechanism for Nexus Cooperation:

Broadening & developing scope of cooperation

Must take into account:

- Basin and other geographical scales
- Planning cycles
- Scope
- Degree of regionalization/globalization
- Points of contact between processes

Should aim at:

1. Harmonization, strengthening, inclusion.
2. Making nexus assessment continuous and sustainable.
3. Expanding the use of instruments aimed at integration.
4. Continuous capacity-building and awareness-raising.

THANK YOU!



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