



Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Task Force on Water and Climate
Sixth meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 27 June 2013

Concept note on the collection of lessons learnt and good practices

Prepared by the lead countries and the secretariat

I. Background and introduction

1. At the 6th session of the Meeting of the Parties in Rome, November 2012, it was decided to include the following activities in the programme of work of the UNECE Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) for 2013-2015 regarding adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins:

(a) Compile, analyse, publish and disseminate lessons learnt and good practices from the programme of pilot projects under the Convention and other similar initiatives;

(b) Promote cooperation in the development of adaptation strategies and in their implementation in transboundary basins, in particular within the programme of pilot projects and the global network of basins on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins;

(c) Provide a global platform for exchanging experience, lessons learnt and good practices regarding adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins.

2. The collection of Lessons Learnt (a) will be developed as a complement to the *Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change*. This collection will be a compilation, analysis and synthesis of existing knowledge, experience, lessons learnt and good practices on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins, based on the Convention's pilot projects and other similar activities. The final product will be made available in electronic form, on the Internet or web platform, and in a printed publication. The collection of lessons learnt and good practices will be elaborated and published in cooperation with partner organizations, such as the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and others. The development of the collection of lessons learnt and good practices was also an outcome of the sixth World Water Forum (target 3.3.2) and it will be presented to the next World Water Forum in 2015 in the Republic of Korea.

Questions for discussion by the Task Force:

1. How should the collection of lessons learnt and good practices be organized?
2. Which partners should be involved?

II. Proposed content of the publication

3. The collection of Lessons learnt and good practices will consist of three parts:
 1. Overview of lessons learned regarding climate change adaptation in transboundary basins
 2. Case studies connected to the lessons learned
 3. Conclusions/summary/way forward

4. Many lessons were learnt in the pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins, implemented since 2010 under the Water Convention. Some of them have already been identified in earlier meetings and progress reports. Additional lessons learnt can be added from the new basins worldwide which have joined the global network of basins working on climate change adaptation since 2012. Furthermore, a series of 4 workshops has been held under the Task Force on Water and Climate since 2010, targeting transboundary adaptation to climate change. Several 'lessons learned' have been derived from these workshops. These lessons will be collected from the workshop reports, the progress reports of the pilot projects and the meetings of the core group of pilot projects and put in perspective. This will be complemented with a literature survey to identify additional lessons and additional context to the lessons already identified.

5. The proposed content of this part is:
 - Introduction
 - Overview of lessons learned:
 - Description of the problem situation
 - Lesson learned to overcome the problem

6. For each of the lessons learned, a number of case studies will be included that provide information about the practical implementation of the lesson. In addition to the experiences of the pilot projects, a significant number of cases have been presented during the Task Force workshops, often connected to one or more of the lessons learned. An inventory will be made of additional cases for each lesson. A maximum of four cases per lesson will finally be selected according to criteria such as effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, replicability, etc.

7. The content of this part is:
 - For each lesson learned 1-4 cases:
 - Short description of the case situation:
 - Geographic, demographic and hydrological information
 - Problem situation, including climate change
 - Some administrative information; organizations involved
 - More detailed description of how the problem situation was solved or mitigated, i.e. how the lesson learned worked in practice
 - Recommendations for others

Questions for discussion by the Task Force:

1. What approach should be followed to identify the lessons learned, and which criteria should be used to select good practices linked to each lesson learned?
2. Are there any comments on the proposed structure of the publication?

III. Organisation of work for preparation of the publication

8. A drafting group will be established to perform the work. The drafting group will be composed of members of the Task Force, experts from governments as well as International and Non-Governmental Organizations (such as WMO, AGWA, UNFCCC, UNESCO, IUCN, INBO ...). They will serve in their personal expert capacity. The drafting group will consist of max. 10-15 members and will work in English. It will mainly work by email, with one or two face-to-face meetings and phone or video conferences when needed.

9. The tasks of the members of the drafting group will consist of, among others, developing the detailed structure of the publication, identification and selection of lessons learned and good practices related to them, providing draft text, reviewing of drafts, contacts with the case study authors, etc. On the basis of the lessons learned, a call for proposals for good practices will be issued. The drafting group will prepare the call and the format for proposals.

10. The progress will be regularly reviewed by the Task Force on Water and Climate and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management under the UNECE Water Convention. For example, following the preparation of a first outline and the identification of lessons learnt by the drafting group the outline will be shared with all Task Force members for comments.

Questions for discussion by the Task Force:

1. Who should be part of the drafting group, how to select the members?
2. Are there any comments on the process? And on the timeline (see below)?

IV. Proposed timeline

April-June 2013	Preparation of a first concept note
25-27 June	Presentation and discussion at the workshop on water and climate and the sixth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate
July- September	Revision of the concept note
August 2013	INBO General Assembly, consultations with basins with potential good practices
31 October-1 November 2013	First meeting of the drafting group to discuss outline and selection of good practices
by end of 2013	Call for proposals for cases to be included
End of January 2014	Selection of examples to be included
18-19 February 2014	Fourth meeting of the core group of pilot projects/ global network of basins: discussion of the progress, selected cases etc.
March-May	Authors to provide their draft contributions
June- August	Compilation of the first draft, if needed drafting group meeting
8-10 October 2014	Presentation of the draft at the next workshop and Task Force
October – December 2014	Finalization of the document, if needed drafting group meeting
January-February 2015	Translation, layout, printing
March 2015	Launch and presentation at the seventh World Water Forum
February/ March/ April 2015	Flood workshop organized by Germany and Task Force on Water and Climate meeting

May 2015	Core Group of pilot projects/ global network of basins meeting
November 2015, Hungary	Seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention
