

NEXUS ACTIVITIES IN THE TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS OF DRIN AND DRINA RIVERS

7th Meeting of the Nexus Task Force 12 December 2022 Tassos Krommydas, GWP-Med

Austrian Development Agency







Background

- ✓ In the framework of the ADA-funded "SEE Nexus Project" (2017-2022)
 - To advance and promote Nexus approach in SEE
 - Regional activities
 - Focus areas: Albania, Drin basin, Drina basin
 - Applying the UNECE Nexus Assessment methodology
- ✓ Building up on strong and established cooperation with UNECE



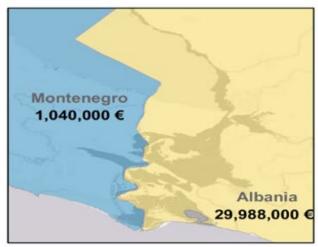
Nexus Dialogue in the Drin basin

- ✓ Building up on official institutional framework and policy priorities
 - Under Drin CORDA process, guided by DCG
 - Linked to TDA & SAP developed under GEF "Drin Project"
- ✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment
 - Hydropower & floods interface using integrated modelling
 - Interlinkages related to modern biomass & sustainable forest management
- ✓ 2 Capacity Building Workshops
 - ✓ Sustainable Forest Management
 - ✓ Hands-on training of staff/experts on integrated modelling

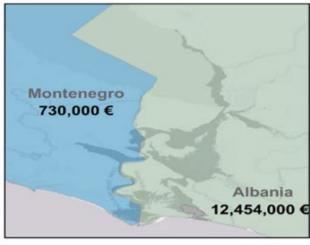


Key findings in the Drin basin

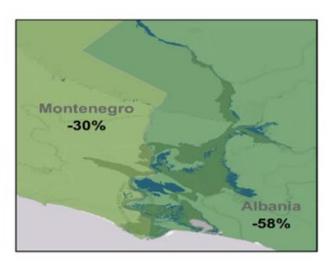
- ✓ Climate change may reduce hydro generation by 6-14% by 2040
- ✓ Allowing for 20% increased buffer volume in 2 largest HPP reservoirs leads to minimal reduction in output but significant reduction in expected flood damages for 10-yrp events



Flood damages (Euros) - Ref scenario



Flood damages (Euros) - 20%buffer scenario



Difference (%) between two scenarios

Estimates of economic damages



Nexus Dialogue in the Drina basin

- ✓ Building up on previous UNECE-led work in the Region (2014-19)
 - Sava & Drina Assessments / "Follow-up Nexus Project"
- ✓ Ad-hoc Steering Committee
 - High-level representatives from all sectors and countries a first in the basin
- ✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment
- ✓ Detailed Nexus Roadmap for the basin
 - Consulted with ISRBC Approved by SC
- ✓ Capacity Building Workshop training of staff/experts on integrated modelling



Key findings in the Drina basin

- ✓ Phase II Nexus Assessment:
 - Role of RES and Hydro in the basin, in view of climate impacts and policies
 - Legal aspects & options towards TB Agreement on Flow Regulation
- ✓ Key findings:
 - Ambitious climate policies will drastically change energy mix. Non-hydro RES competitive with coal
 - Detailed/focused studies needed to assess climate change impacts on water flows and hydro generation
 - Recommendations towards Agreement on Flow Regulation



Tangible outputs – detailed Project Documents

- ✓ Nature-based Solutions for WWT in 2 rural locations in ALB & KOS
 - Detailed to pre-feasibility study level
- ✓ Modern & efficient biomass in 2 areas in MKD & MNE
 - Sustainable biomass certification, design of heating facilities...
- ✓ Intervention to improve Sediment Management
 - Harmonised erosion maps, TB sediment monitoring system
- ✓ Outline of Climate Adaptation Strategy for the basin
 - Consulted with national Climate representatives and ISRBC
- > All linked to regional and national priorities and processes



Sustainability of results and follow-up options

- ✓ Countries have officially expressed interest for further Nexus assessments and activities
- ✓ Drin: New GEF Project to advance recommendations and finance implementation of Project proposals
- ✓ Drina: Nexus Roadmap provides countries with detailed lines of action to advance transboundary and cross-sectoral coordination
 - Exploring options for follow-up activities and for financing Project Documents
- ➤ EU accession process and Green Agenda for Western Balkans political framework facilitating coordinated and sustainable management of natural resources in the region





All materials available at: www.gwp.org/seenexus

Thank you for your attention!