

Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Sharing in Transboundary Basins in Central Asia (1-2 February 2023)

**Activities under Programme Area:  
"Supporting monitoring, assessment and  
information-sharing in transboundary basins**

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# Why monitoring, assessment and data exchange activities under the Water Convention?

## Transboundary water cooperation most effective when:

- Bilateral and multilateral agreements
- IWRM
- Joint bodies (e.g. river commissions)
- Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters
- Data exchange in transboundary basins
- Consultations and exchange of information
- Elaboration of joint objectives and action programmes

⇒ The Water Convention supports basin level cooperation



# Activities on monitoring and assessment

## Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment

established in 2000

## Various guidelines on monitoring and assessment

developed in the 1990s and 2000s; tested in pilot projects on both surface waters and groundwaters

**Regional assessments:** 1st Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters (2007), 2nd Assessment (2011)

Lately monitoring and assessment has **been integrated into thematic activities**, or has been a **component in projects on the ground**

**Reporting under the Water Convention** on cooperation, including in monitoring and information exchange





# Programme of work 2022-2024

## Programme Area 2

### Supporting monitoring, assessment and information sharing in transboundary basins

*Lead Parties:* Finland and Senegal

- **Develop a publication on good practices and lessons learnt in transboundary data exchange**
- **Update *Strategies for Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters* (in AR, EN, FR, RU, SP)**
- **Up to 3 training or regional workshops/sessions on monitoring, information and data**
- **Tailored assistance** for developing joint or coordinated monitoring or information and data exchange - upon country request, pending availability of resources



# Tailored assistance (example):

## Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin (SMAB) Project

Objective: to initiate the SMAB concerted management containing knowledge and monitoring components and exploitation components

**Countries:** Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal

**Partners:** Geneva Water Hub, IGRAC, OMVS, OMVG

**Fund:** EU

- Establishment of a Regional Working Group (Countries & RBOs (OMVS, OMVG)) (April 2020)
- Produced the project document and an action plan for establishing a sustainable mechanism for concerted management of SMAB, as well as assessment reports and baseline studies to support strategic and project-related choices by the RWG.
- Monitoring and assessment as key component of the Project
- Ministers signed a ministerial declaration committing to establish a legal and institutional framework

