



# EU Water International Policy: Water Diplomacy and Water initiative

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# Outline

- ***Drivers of EU Water international policies***
  - Cooperation
  - Development
- ***Tools***
  - Multilateral Agreements and Legislation
  - Financial Instruments
  - Policies (Water Diplomacy)
- ***Regions***
  - EU Strategic partners
  - Neighbourhood
  - Developing countries

# Drivers of EU Water international policies

- *Water is essential for life, environment and economic and social development*
- *Water conflicts in specific regions*
- *Water Diplomacy*
- *Reducing Poverty*
- *Limit conflict*
- *Multilateral, Global Engagements and EU External policy.*
- *Political and economic interest*

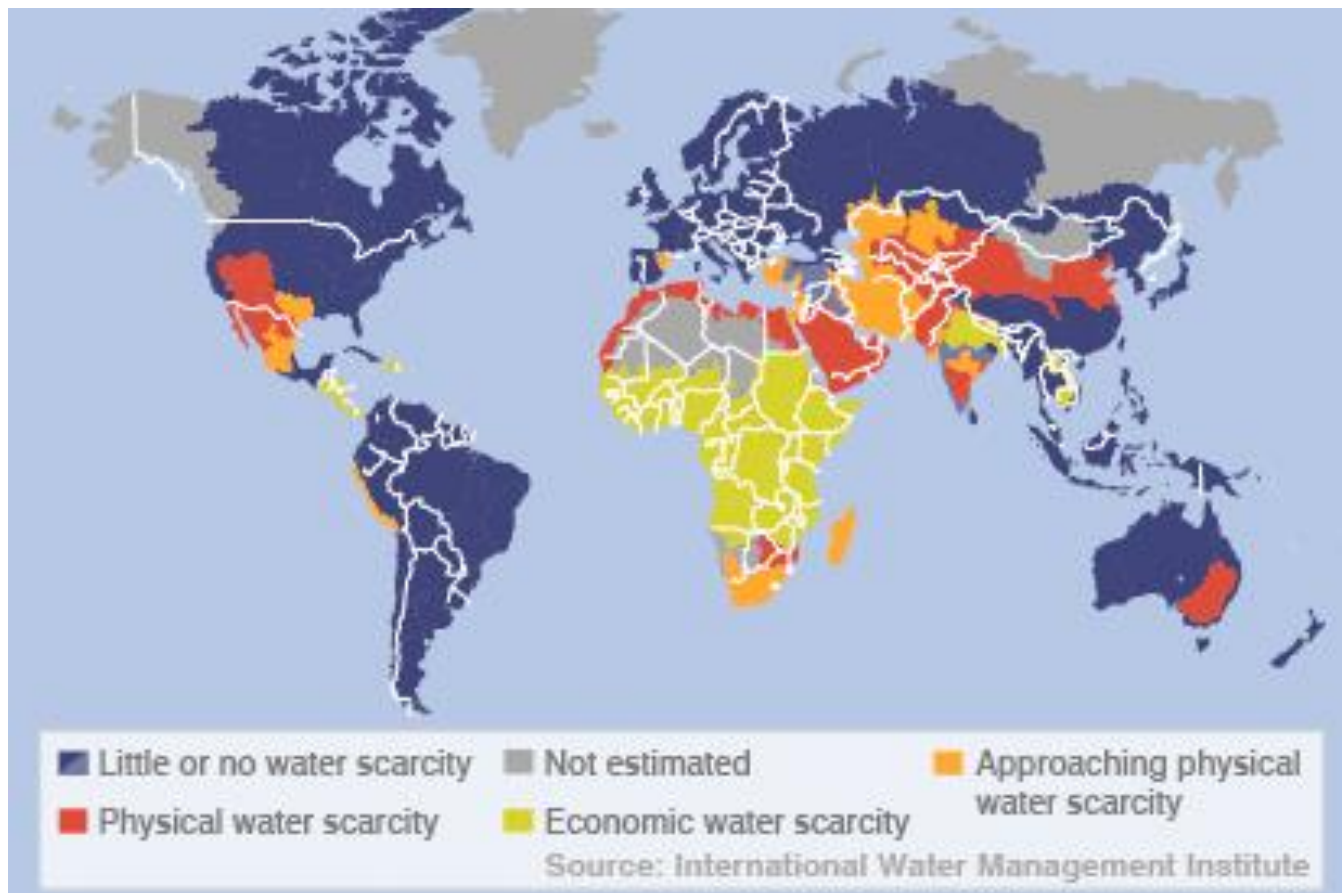
# Why water Diplomacy?

- ***Environmental damage**, together with **climate change**, is driving the **water-related crises** around the world.*
- *Water represents very sensitive and vulnerable resource, and to many it seems to be an endless resource. However, **accelerated economic development** and **pollution** are the reasons for many of the water supply problems we face today.*
- ***Water scarcity** affects every continent and was listed in 2015 by the World Economic Forum as the largest global risk in terms of potential impact over the next decade*
- *Humanity may face a **water crisis**, with demand expected to outstrip supply by 40% in 2030, if current trends continue.*

# European Water Policy

- **Water Framework Directive** (2000/60/EC):
  - overall framework for integrated management
  - ambitious objectives (e.g. good status by 2015)
  - basic measures (**directives on urban wastewater, nitrate pollution, industry pollution** and others)
  - protected areas (**directives on bathing water, habitats, drinking water** and others)
- **Completing the framework:**
  - Groundwater (2006/118/EC)
  - Priority Substances (publication pending)
  - Intercalibration (2005/646/EC, results end 2008)
- **Extending the scope:**
  - Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)
  - Marine Strategy Directive (2008/56/EC)
  - Communication on Water Scarcity and Droughts (2007)
  - Upcoming regulation on water reuse

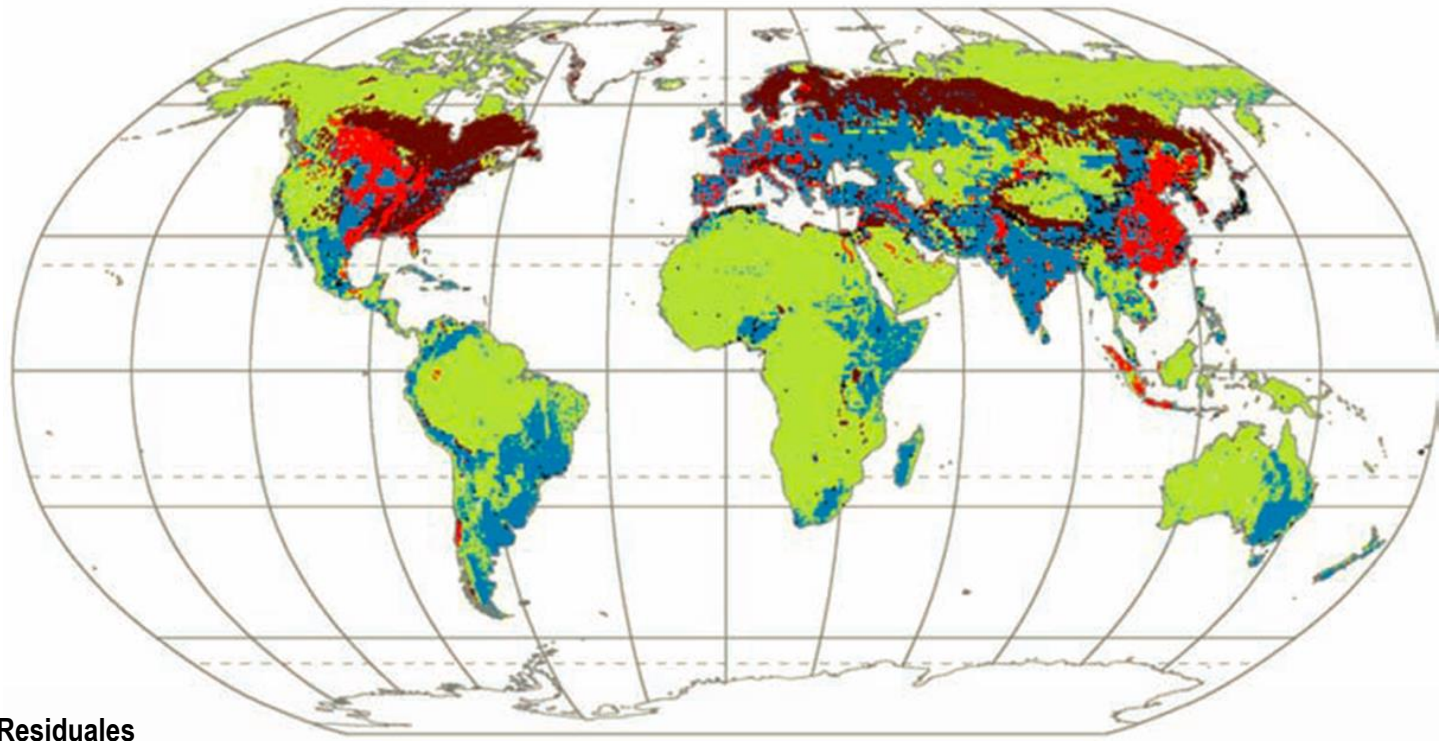
# Economic and physical water scarcity



# World population density



# Pollution coming from Nitrates



**Aguas Residuales**

**Fijación**

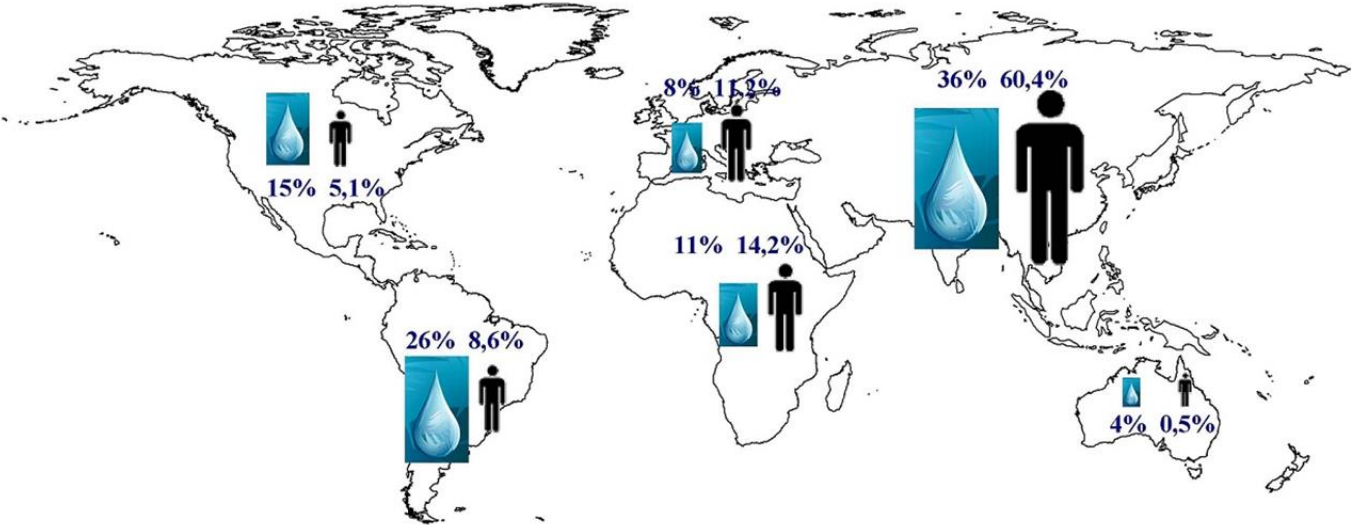
**Ganado**

**Deposición**

**Fertilizantes**



# Water and population density



# Transboundary water cooperation

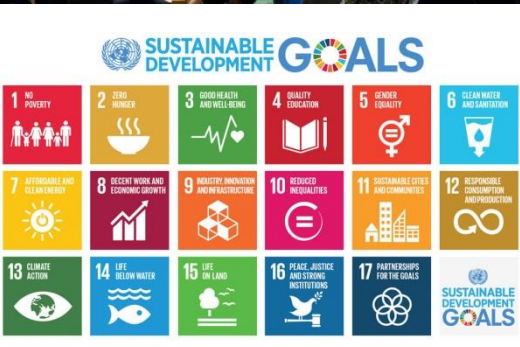
- *60% of freshwater resources are transboundary*
- *Some 40 % of the world's population lives in river and lake basins that cross national borders.*
- *Over 260 international river basins cross the political boundaries of two or more countries, only 1/3 is covered by a cooperative management mechanism.*

# Transboundary water cooperation

- *Cooperative management of transboundary waters must be strengthened to reconcile competing interests and prevent political tensions, instability or even conflicts related to the use and management of water resources.*
- *Development of transboundary water cooperation arrangements will strengthen a rules-based international system and promotion of sustainable development.*
- *The EU has vast and longtime experience of the management of transboundary waters in Europe, from which our partners across the world can benefit.*

# International Engagements and others

- *Paris Agreement*
- *Agenda 2030 and SDGs*
- *Report of the Global High Level Panel on Water and Peace*
- *2017 UNEA3 Resolution on pollution*
- *Water Conventions*



## Water in the World We Want

- The 2030 Development Agenda adopted in New York on 25 Sept 2015 by Heads of State and Government give a new framework for action.
- The agenda includes 17 goals and 169 targets (126 outcome targets and 43 MOI targets)
- SDG 6 on "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all": 6 outcome targets and 2 MOI targets.

# International Engagements

## Agenda 2030: SDG6

***SDG6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all***

- *The **United Nations High-level Political Forum** on Sustainable Development (HLPF) has the mandate to review the implementation of the SDGs*
- *In July 2018, SDG6 will be reviewed*

Target	Indicator	Tier	Custodian
drinking water	Ppn of population using safely managed drinking water services	1	WHO/UNICEF
sanitation	Ppn population using safely managed sanitation incl hand washing facility	1	WHO/UNICEF
Water quality	Ppn wastewater safely treated; Ppn water bodies good ambient quality	3	HABITAT/WHO/UNSD
		3	UNEP
Water use efficiency	Change in WUE over time; Level of water stress	3	FAO
		2	FAO
IWRM	Degree of IWRM implementation; Ppn transboundary basin area with operational plan for cooperation	2	UNEP
		3	UNESCO/UNECE
Water-related ecosystems	Change in extent over time	3	UNEP
International cooperation	Watsan related ODA in govt plans	1	OECD
Participation local communities	Ppn local admin with policies and procedures for participation LC	1	WHO/UNEP

## **SDG6 EU Indicators:**

- *Share of total population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household.*
- *Population connected to urban wastewater treatment with at least secondary treatment*
- *Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers*
- *Nitrate in groundwater*
- *Phosphate in rivers*
- *Water exploitation index*





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# Linkages with other goals



# International Legislation: Helsinki Convention

- ***The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)***
- *It aims to protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation.*
- *It provides an intergovernmental platform for development of transboundary cooperation.*
- *As of 1st March 2016, it is opened to all UN countries.*

# 1992 Water Convention

- *It prescribes the content of specific agreements, by detailing the information subject to exchange and joint assessment as well as by providing detailed guidance on water quality objectives and best available technology.*
- *The UNECE Water Convention establishes an institutional mechanism based on the Meeting of the Parties*
- *In many cases bilateral and multilateral basin agreements have followed the principles of the UNECE Water Convention.*

# Legislation : Helsinki Convention

- *The **UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health** aims to protect human health and well-being by better water management and by preventing, controlling and reducing water-related diseases.*
- *It provides a sound framework for the translation into practice of the human right to water and sanitation.*

# Legislation: 1997 Water Convention

- *The **UN Watercourses Convention***
- The UNWC is a global treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1997. It is a framework convention governing international watercourses.
- Entered into force in 2014.
- The Convention details factors relevant to equitable and reasonable utilization, by providing the procedures for consultations on planned measures and by describing the consequences of the occurrence of transboundary impact.

# International Legislation: Water Conventions

- *Both conventions provide international legal regimes, based on the principles of international customary law with regard to transboundary water cooperation:*
- *Equitable and reasonable utilization*
- *Obligation not to cause significant harm*
- *Sovereign equality, territorial integrity, mutual benefit and good faith*

# 2013 FAC Conclusions on Water Diplomacy

- *In July 2013, the FAC adopted Council Conclusions on EU Water Diplomacy.*
- *It is a list of concrete actions to be taken.*
- *One of them is the promotion of international agreements on water cooperation.*
- *In the Conclusions the Council acknowledges that the UNECE Water Convention and the UN Watercourses Convention are important instruments for equitable, sustainable and integrated management of transboundary water resources.*
- *They state that the EU water diplomacy should develop systematic promotion of these and other international agreements, using all external instruments.*

# Policy and Financial Instruments supporting its implementation

## *Development*

- *The overall framework of the EU development policy is the "European Consensus on Development" , a shared vision and framework for action for development cooperation for the EU and its Member States.*
- *The Consensus takes account of a range of **global challenges** and the changes brought about by the **Lisbon Treaty**. It takes account of the **2030 Agenda**, including using the structure of the **5P's**: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.*
- ***Poverty eradication** remains the primary objective of development policy under the new Consensus. It also integrates the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development underlining the links with other policies.*



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# Main aspects of the new Consensus

**Integrate**  
systematically  
the social,  
economic and  
environmental  
dimensions of  
sustainable  
development



Address the  
crucial **nexus**  
with external  
policies

Migration Security



Humanitarian Climate

Address **cross-cutting**  
elements

-  youth
-  gender equality
-  mobility and migration
-  sustainable energy and climate change
-  investment and trade
-  good governance, democracy, the rule of law and human rights
-  innovative engagement with advanced developing countries
-  mobilising and using domestic resources

# EU WI

- *It supports the achievement of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and takes a partnership approach with national governments, donors, the water industry, NGOs and other stakeholders.*
- *A key operational tool of the EUWI is the Water Framework Directive (WFD) which can be tailored to respond to local conditions and priorities*

# EU WI

## *Objectives*

- *Legislation, policy development and institutional strengthening,*
- *Supporting and improving monitoring systems,*
- *Development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans,*
- *Public awareness*

*Regional approach: Med, Africa, Latin America, Eastern Neighbourhood and central Asia, China*

# EU WI+ for Eastern Partnership

- *The project helps Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine **bring their legislation closer to EU policy** in the field of water management, with a main focus on the management of trans-boundary river basins.*
- *It supports the development and implementation of **pilot river basin management plans**, building on the improved policy framework and ensuring a strong participation of local stakeholders.*

# EU WI+ Eastern Partnership

*It aims to:*

- ***improve the management** of water resources, in particular trans-boundary rivers, developing tools to improve the quality of water in the long term, and its availability for all.*
- *to support partner countries in bringing their **national policies and strategies into line with the EU Water Framework Directive** and other multilateral environmental agreements.*

# EU External Investment Plan

- *It will encourage investment in our partner countries in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood region.*
- *It will promote inclusive growth, job creation and sustainable development and so tackle some of the root causes of irregular migration.*
- *It is adapted to the specific needs of partner countries and builds on the 'Juncker Plan'*

# EU External Investment Plan

- *The EU and its Member States are collectively the world's biggest providers of development assistance, providing €75.5 billion in 2016, or almost 60% of global assistance.*
- *But development cooperation needs to evolve. Traditional assistance in the form of grants remains essential – but must be complemented with other tools and sources of finance in order to reach the ambitious targets set by the SDGs.*
- *The international community agreed in 2015 on an innovative agenda on financing for development.*



# Implementation of Water Diplomacy: Cooperation with strategic partners

- *Eastern neighbourhood*
- *Southern Neighbourhood*
  
- *China CEWP*
- *India EU India Partnership*
  
- *Iran, Brazil and others*

# EU interest

- Policy influence
  - National
  - International/transboundary
- Technical development /pilot projects
- Business cooperation

# Water Diplomacy: Key areas of work

- *Integrated Water Resources Management*
- *Water Governance: River basin Commissions*
- *WASH*
- *Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems Nexus*
- *Efficiency*
- *Implementation of economic instruments*

# European Water Policy

## The WFD objective: Good water status by 2015

- **Status** considers ecological , chemical and quantitative aspects
- **Coordination:** transboundary and cross-sectorial
- **Programs of Measures** should cover the gap between the current situation and the good status
- Use of **economic instruments** to incentivize efficient use and raise funds for necessary investments
- The **Common** Implementation Strategy process

# EU River Basins



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# Opportunities outside EU's borders

- The water sector in Europe is already delivering a good service to European citizens: virtually **all European citizens receive safe, drinkable water at home. More than 85% of European bathing waters are in excellent conditions.**
- The **know-how and technologies owned by European water industries** are renowned world-wide.

# Opportunities outside EU's borders

- Water sector is a **priority** for all candidate countries.
- EC+ other donors and financial actors are very active in **supporting** countries.
- **Governance** needs to be strengthened

# Opportunities outside EU's borders

- **Water sector** is a priority in the neighborhood East and in the neighborhood South.
- Implementation of **policies, and enforcing legislation** requires prioritization
- High demographic and economic **pressure to improve water services**
- **Governance** needs to be strengthened
- Joint strategies on water with EC and the EU: **EUWI+ and UfM Water Agenda.**
- Cooperation with **strategic partners**



# NEW EU RULES ON DRINKING WATER



IMPROVE ACCESS TO WATER FOR ALL  
.....  
UPGRADE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS  
.....

INCREASE TRANSPARENCY  
TO EMPOWER CONSUMERS

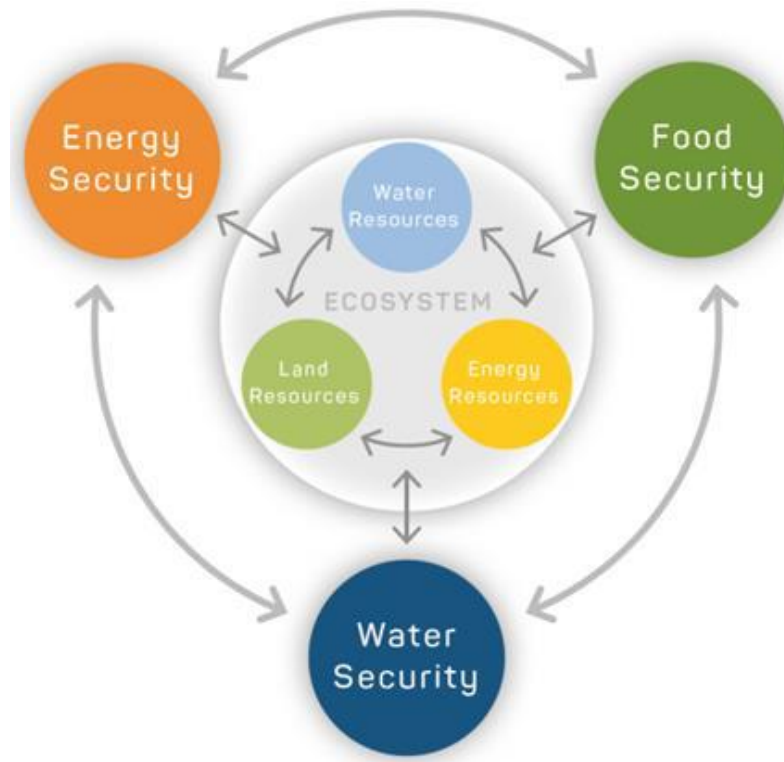
#DrinkingWaterEU



[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-drink/review\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-drink/review_en.html)



# The Nexus Approach



# Nexus Dialogues Programme

- *The Nexus Dialogues Programme Phase I (2016-2018) is designed to stimulate **five Nexus Regional Dialogues (NRDs)***
- *It involves various **stakeholders**, including national and regional policy-makers, the private sector, academia and civil society.*
- *% regions are targeted:*
  - Africa (Southern Africa and the Niger Basin),
  - Latin America,
  - Central Asia (the Aral Sea region)
  - and the MENA region.
- *The dialogues aim to develop **Nexus policies and action plans** at the national ministerial and regional policy levels.*