



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

# Blue Peace

Switzerland's water diplomacy initiative



*Jean-Gabriel Duss  
Water Advisor Eurasia  
Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation*



# Blue Peace

## WATER AND CONFLICT

### Ukraine

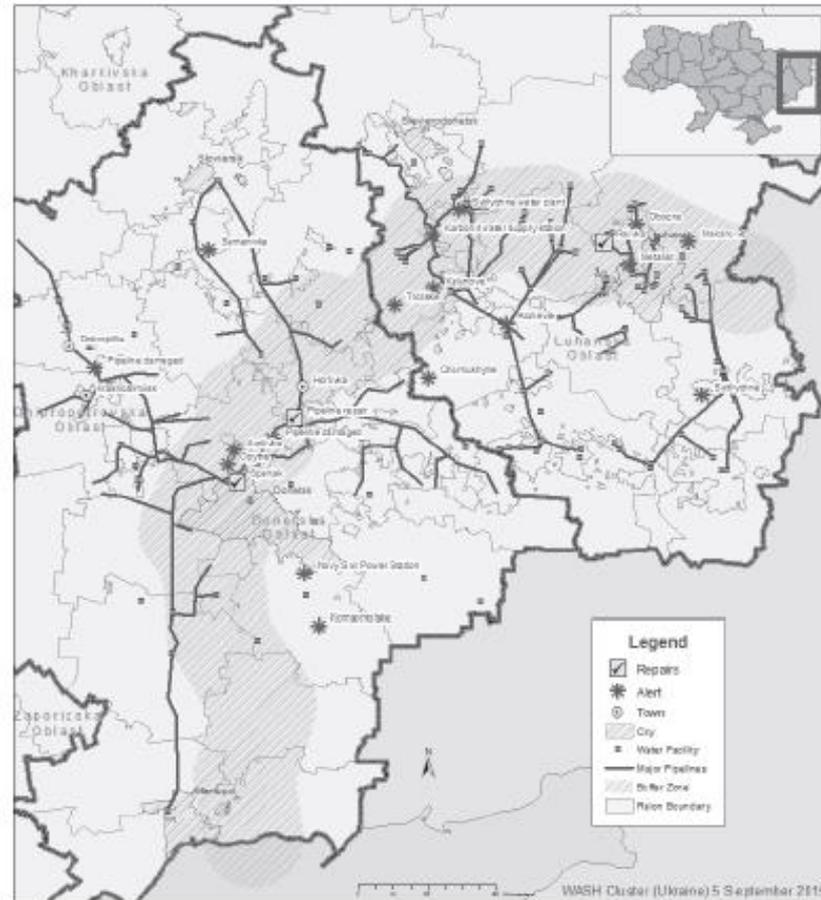
#### NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**1.6  
million**

IDPs in Ukraine  
GoU Ministry of Social Policy –  
May 2017

**3.8  
million**

People in Need of  
Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – November 2016



“The targeting of water installations as well as collateral damage resulting from the fighting has impacted the functionality of water systems. Lack of access to water and poor water quality pose a threat to human health” OSCE 2015



# Blue Peace

## PREVENTING CONFLICT AND SUSTAINING PEACE



There is a mounting global water crisis that risks undermining both development and peace.



## WATER DIPLOMACY, A PRIORITY FOR SWITZERLAND



“  
Water will be as firmly established as a peace and security issue as it has been recognised as a development issue.”

DIDIER BURKHALTER,  
SWISS FOREIGN MINISTER

Blue Peace

It is a Swiss foreign policy priority to promote transboundary water cooperation, strengthen hydro-diplomacy and leverage water as an instrument to prevent conflict and sustain peace.



## A GLOBAL WATER DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE



“  
We are all one big family,  
we are all one humanity  
and when we are talking  
about water, we are talking  
about survival as our  
common dignity and  
existence.”

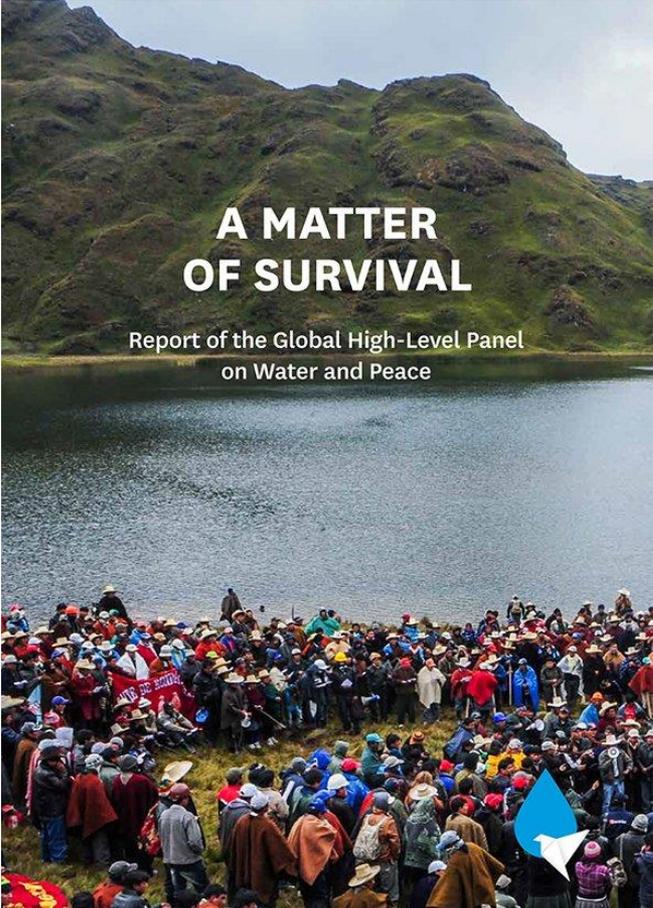
DR DANILO TÜRK,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE GLOBAL HIGH LEVEL  
PANEL ON WATER AND PEACE

Blue Peace

Recommendations of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace  
(14 co-convening countries)



## WATER AS A SOURCE OF PEACE: TOWARDS A ROADMAP FOR COMMON ACTION



### A MATTER OF SURVIVAL

Report of the Global High-Level Panel  
on Water and Peace

-> An Ounce of Prevention: International Water Law and Transboundary Water Cooperation

-> Quantity and Quality: Strengthening of the Knowledge-Based and Data-Driven Decision Making and Cooperation for Security and Peace Building

-> Financial Innovation for Water cooperation

-> In Pursuit of Agency: New Mechanisms of Water Diplomacy



# Blue Peace

## REGIONAL WATER DIPLOMACY INITIATIVES



-> Promotes transboundary water cooperation as a tool for peace-building

-> Combines policy level with technical work on the ground

>> *Blue Peace Middle East*

>> *Blue Peace Central Asia*



# Blue Peace

## CENTRAL ASIA

# W

Water Connects

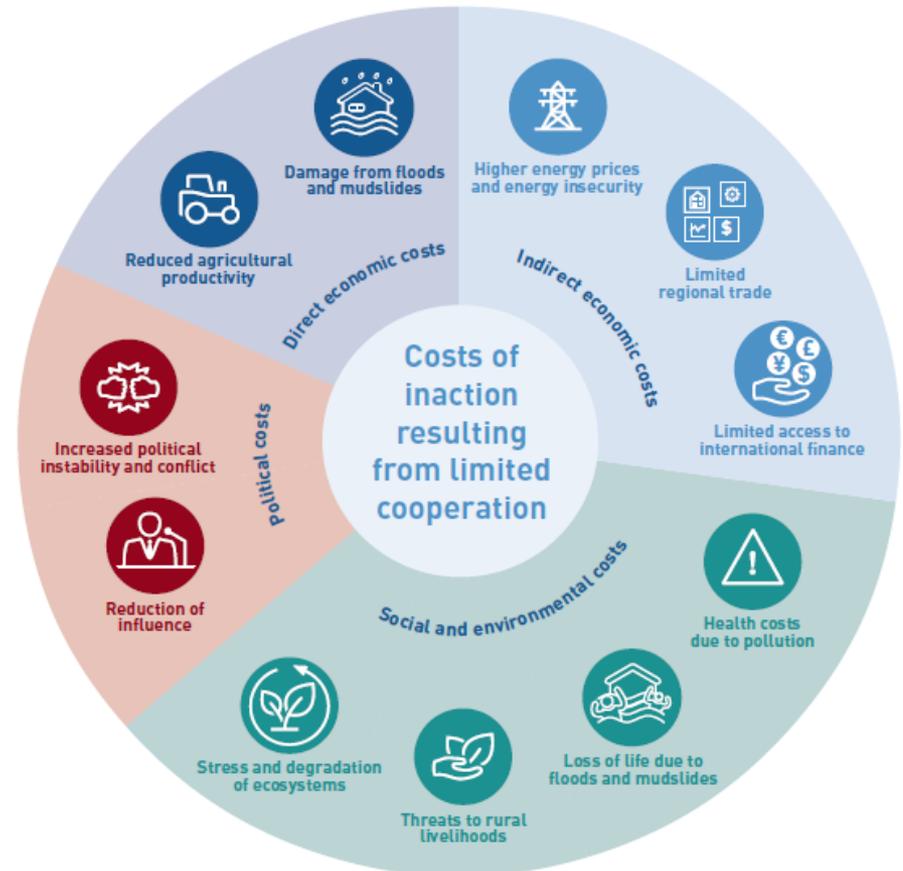




# Blue Peace

## CENTRAL ASIA

>> Cost of inaction on the rise 4.5bn USD/a



>> Status quo is not an option



### Hydro-diplomacy in motion

- High level dialogue platform

### Smart water practices

- Hydro data: improvement and sharing
- Climate change adaptation (Cryosphere)
- Water quality
- Joint infrastructure (blue investment)

### Next generation of water champions

- Education

An aerial photograph of a river system in a dry, brown landscape. The river is highlighted in a vibrant blue-green color, winding through a network of smaller channels and pools. The surrounding land is a mix of light brown and tan, with some darker patches of soil or vegetation. The overall scene suggests a semi-arid or arid environment where water is a precious resource.

**Thank you**

**Jean-Gabriel Duss**

**Water Advisor Eurasia**

**Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation**

**Blue Peace**