

7th World Water Forum: Thematic Process Issue Sessions – Reporting

Thematic Session 1.3.6 Reporting (v.20 April 2015)	
Session Title	Climate change adaptation in basins: examples and good practices
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1. The goal is to increase our success in implementing and scaling solutions for this issue. What are considered to be the most critical enabling conditions to achieve this success?	<p>The most critical enabling conditions identified to implement solutions for this issue of climate change adaptation in basins include:</p> <p>GOVERNANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International agreements regulating relations between countries of the same basin, • Up to date agreements taking into account changes in the evolving climate, <p>CAPACITY BUILDING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge and prediction capacity on climate change impacts per basin, <p>RESEARCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonized methodologies for the assessment of climate change impacts (and vulnerability of human activities) in countries of the same basin, <p>COMMUNICATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of both decision makers and the general public on the stakes behind the impacts of climate change in the basins of our rivers, lakes and aquifers.
2. What are some key global action ideas from your discussion that can help make the efforts to implement and scale solutions for this issue more successful?	<p>Implementing and scaling solutions of climate change adaptation in basins would be more successful if the following actions were undertaken at global level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the conclusion of agreements regulating relations between countries of the same basin, • Encourage the inclusion of provisions, within these agreements, detailing how to revise them when new data and information reveal significant changes in the hydrology of shared rivers, lakes and aquifers, • Finance research programs in order to improve knowledge and develop prediction capacity on climate change impacts at basin level, • Develop guidelines detailing best practices and methodologies that should be followed to carry out climate change impact assessment, vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategy, • Mobilize international organizations (UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNECE, World Meteorological Organization, etc.) to provide support to basins in need of technical assistance.
3. What are some key local action ideas from your discussion that can help make	<p>Implementing and scaling solutions of climate change adaptation in basins would be more successful if the following actions were undertaken at local level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize regular meetings between representatives (both

<p>the efforts to implement and scale solutions for this issue more successful?</p>	<p>decision-makers and technicians) of countries sharing the same basin in order to build trust and develop a basin solidarity,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include, in legal agreements regulating relations between countries of the same basin, provisions detailing how to revise them when new data and information reveal significant changes in the hydrology of shared rivers, lakes and aquifers, • Harmonize methodologies for the assessment of climate change impacts (and vulnerability of human activities) in countries of the same basin, • Produce basin-wide vulnerability assessments, involving stakeholders, • Plan and implement climate change adaptation strategy at basin level (following relevant examples: International Commission for Protection of Danube River – ICPDR ; Mekong River Commission - Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative – MRC-CCAI), • Collect and disseminate best practices for climate change adaptation (e.g.: SASS III project aiming at developing a climate change resilient agriculture in the Northwestern Sahara Aquifer System -SASS), following the relevant example of UNECE/INBO’s platform and publication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Platform for sharing experience on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins, ○ The book on “Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices”,
<p>4. Based upon the outputs from this session, how could the <u>Implementation Roadmap</u> be further strengthened?</p>	<p>The implementation roadmap could be further strengthened with inclusion of the action ideas mentioned above and a greater focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to support more basins to develop transboundary adaptation strategies, • The need to move from assessment to implementation, and to combine transboundary cooperation at intergovernmental level and concrete local adaptation measures, • The need to increase synergies and linkages between adaptation at local, national and basin level, • The need to continue exchange of information between basins working on climate change adaptation through ECE/INBO network and other fora, • The need to mainstream basin adaptation into the UNFCCC and COP 21.