

DRAFT

6th World Water Forum

TSG – 1.5 – T4

**Increasing the number of institutions
within the transboundary basins or aquifer systems
capable of ensuring sustainable management of
water resources**

**Thursday 15 March 2012
08h30 – 10h30**

Coordinator: INBO

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	.....	3
2. Background and rationale of the PFA/CS	.....	3
3. Target action plan and commitments	.....	5
4. Solutions	.....	12
5. Recommendations for follow-up post 2012	.....	13
6. Session Outlines	.....	15
7. Annex 1	.....	19

1. Introduction

The global objective of the target 4 is to increase the number of basin institutions at transboundary scale – both for surface water or aquifer systems - capable of ensuring sustainable management of water resources

The topic is not only about the creation of basin organisations but it concerns also the enhancement of institutional capacity, the development of dialogue among riparian countries to go towards a joint of water resource management.

To develop water cooperation in areas where water is shared by several countries, It is indispensable to set up appropriate and efficient transboundary basin organisations in charge of joint water management, taking into account the status of the water management and policy in each riparian country, and to reinforce the existing transboundary bodies established for addressing shared water resources.

2. Background and rationale of the Condition of Success

Surface and ground waters have to be managed according to hydrological boundaries, that is to say, based on river or lake basin units or aquifer system basins.

That is particularly true and crucial for the transboundary waters, shared by several riparian countries, which finally use and impact the same basin water resource.

To be efficient, this basin management (transboundary river, lake, aquifer) has to be carried on by a specific institution, or transboundary basin organization, which must facilitate the cooperation among the riparian countries, the emergence and the implementation of common strategy addressing both water uses and water protection, the joint elaboration and implementation of long term management plans.

According to the context, the basin organisations can take various forms, such as international basin commission, basin or district authority with a broad mandate given by the governments. The important thing is to get a clearly identified entity, including a secretariat with enough staff and finance means for ensuring the coordination between the riparian countries and to facilitate the implementation of concerted water policy. It is clear that institutions, whatever their form, are key to the successful and long-term cooperation.

Today, on 286 transboundary river and lake basins, and 274 transboundary aquifers in the world, the number of qualified transboundary basin organisations ensuring the water shared management is still very low.

Therefore, the setting up of transboundary basin organisations becomes a priority for making progress in water cooperation, reduction of conflicts linked to water resource, facilitating a concerted approach on the water uses, and the sharing of benefit resulting from an integrated water resource management at transboundary scale.

The target is as following: **By 2018, increase by 30% the number of institutions within transboundary basins and/or aquifer systems capable of ensuring sustainable management of water resources**

The ministerial statement of the Istanbul WWF 5 emphasise the need for the riparian States to take « the appropriate, tangible and concrete measures to improve and promote cooperation on sustainable use and protection of transboundary water resources through coordinated actions, in conformity with existing agreements. (...). The States will work to strengthen existing institutions and develop new ones ...».

Where a Transboundary Basin Organisation exists, it can be necessary to define the means, and the conditions to realise the relevant strengthening (if necessary) and to get a qualified Transboundary Basin Organisation, capable to ensure its management mission and mandate (road map of basin organisation).

In particular, most of the existing institutions in charge of river / lake basin management need to enhance their capacity and improve their expertise to study, assess and manage groundwater resources, in order to be able to expand their mandate to the groundwater resource. Indeed, where surface and groundwater resources are used together, they should be managed conjunctively. According to the context, the management of transboundary aquifers should be incorporated into existing hydrological transboundary institutions or done by specific transboundary aquifer institutions, with coordination mechanisms between both types of institutions.

Where any institution exists at basin level, initiatives for more intensive dialogue among all riparian countries have to be developed and supported for confidence building and mutual understanding of issues, accompanied with capacity development activities at the level of the most concerned authorities. It will be necessary to identify the basins where a political will exists between the riparian countries to cooperate and to build a step by step work.

In the specific case of transboundary aquifers which are not directly linked to surface water or related to an international river basin, principally the deeper confined ones, the setting up of specific aquifer institutions should be considered by the riparian countries to develop a common groundwater management.

The transboundary basin organisation development has to be based on the known experiences around the world, through which tools and concrete solutions must be identified.

3. Target action plans, and commitments

The reflection started mainly with the January 2011 WWF 2nd stakeholders' meeting in Paris. The target was defined first among the group of the theme coordinators: UNESCO and INBO.

After the target description note and action plan designed in June 2011, a general communication was done, by the WWF6 website and through the INBO network to collect relevant initiatives on the topic.

Several international conferences and meetings such the UNECE conference in Geneva, in May, EURO INBO group general assembly in Porto, in September were used as instrument for disseminating the target objective and identify case studies.

The action plan should be detailed thanks to the session, in particular for the percentage of increasing of basin institutions and the deadline.

End of January 2012, according to the WWF6 website, 18 solution proposals have been identified, and presented with the formal template.

Commitments :

The commitments will be identified during the session.
Already three commitments have been identified.

- One is about the **“Global Pact for a better Basin Management”** to be presented and signed by countries and basin organizations during the Forum (SE on Friday 16 March – 13:15 – 14:15). The draft of this Pact is in Annex 1. The Pact will be the opportunity for volunteer countries and Basin Organizations to commit themselves for creating or reinforcing basin organizations, namely at transboundary scale, and to use the existing solutions for it. This commitment is also related to the CS1 T3 and should be mentioned during the session of CS1 T3.
- In the same way, the six French Basin Commission Presidents will sign a specific commitment - **“the Commitment of the six Basin Commission Presidents”** - to promote water democracy with institutional partners and to contribute meeting the MDGs.
- Moreover, several key international organizations such as INBO, UNESCO, UNECE, GEF, GWP are involved in a commitment to elaborate the practical **“Handbook for Integrated Water Resource Management in Transboundary**

Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers". This handbook will be launched during a Forum in an official side event (Wednesday 14 March – 13:15 – 14:15).

The Target action plan

	<u>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET</u> Expected results & Indicators of Success	<u>PRACTICAL STEPS</u> Activities to be done/	<u>RESPONSIBLE PARTIES</u>		<u>KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ASUMPTIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED BUDGET</u> (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of funding
			Lead institution	Main partners		
<u>Milestone 1</u> : Get the worldwide picture of the transboundary basins						
August 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Get the picture of the transboundary basins (surface and ground water):<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. basin with well organized institution, information about structure, running and mandates ...2. basin with embryo institution or sleeping institution3. basin without any organization- Identification of potential new partners (in addition of the current list)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Among the TSG, exchange of information about transboundary basin organizations (surface and groundwater): existing or not existing, mandates, activities , ...- Submit Target Action Plan	INBO	TSG members , Regional INBO networks Basin org. and international commissions		

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			Lead institution	Main partners		
September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To precise the target deadline and the number or percentage of transboundary basin organizations to be reinforced or created by the deadline (SMART target) - Draft Target finalized by the TSG - Framework for inventory of status of transboundary basins, namely aquifers that are related to international river basins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inventory of potential new basin organizations according to the political and cooperation context within the transboundary basins - Rough evaluation of the potential reinforcement needs of the existing transboundary basins (aquifer and river / lake) - Inventory of transboundary or national aquifers related to international river basins - Use existing regional and global networks to implement the inventory (INBO, UNESCO) 	INBO	<p>TSG members Basin organization and international commissions</p> <p>Existing regional and global networks to implement the inventory</p>		
September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main documentation about Transboundary Basin Organizations (TBO) identified and collected and posted on dedicated website - Creation of a framework to identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing institutions, which could then be used as an internal tool to improve performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inventory of useful documentation - Dissemination of the “strength – weakness framework” 	INBO	TSG TBOs		

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			Lead institution	Main partners		
<u>Milestone 2:</u> By 2012, identification of the relevant solutions for developing Basin Organizations within the transboundary basins (river, lake, aquifer)						
October 2011	- Case studies for identification of concretes or innovative solutions collected	- Framework for collecting the case studies prepared in July, and organization of the work, distribution of tasks - Collect case studies thanks to networks, relationships, documents	INBO	TSG members INBO Networks		

	<u>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET</u> Expected results / Indicators of Success	<u>PRACTICAL STEPS</u> Activities to be done/	<u>RESPONSIBLE PARTIES</u>		<u>KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ASUMPTIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED BUDGET</u> (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of funding
			Lead institution	Main partners		
November 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of case studies and best practices by an ad hoc working group of diverse partners such as UNESCO ISARM & PCCP, INBO, GEF, IAH, IGRAC, AFD - Identification of Solutions from the analysis of the relevant case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of the case studies for relevance, prioritization, usefulness (for session or for document ...) - Analysis of eventual connections with other themes / regional process and decision on the responsibility during the forum - From case studies, generate the practical solutions that would be the base for the reinforcement, the development or the creation of basin organisations (focus on practical solution on joint management of surface / ground water, and on transboundary aquifer) 	INBO	Working group of diverse partners such as UNESCO, INBO TSG members		
January 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design Forum Target session - Design draft of action program for the period 2012 – target deadline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format, speakers, chairs, links with side events, documentation - Action program contains : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of transboundary basins with potential for setting up Basin Organization 2. List of existing TBOs where reinforcement is possible according their weakness 	INBO	TSG members		

	<u>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET</u> Expected results / Indicators of Success	<u>PRACTICAL STEPS</u> Activities to be done/	<u>RESPONSIBLE PARTIES</u>		<u>KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ASUMPTIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED BUDGET</u> (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of funding
			Lead institution	Main partners		
WWF 6	- Target session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation and debate of solutions - Presentation and discussion on the action program draft - First commitments from donors to support the action program - First commitments from riparian countries (and or Basin Organization) to be part of the action program (reinforcement / dialogue) - After the Forum, dissemination of the outcomes (guideline? book ?) 	INBO	TSG members TBOs Donors		

	<u>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET</u> Expected results / Indicators of Success	<u>PRACTICAL STEPS</u> Activities to be done/	<u>RESPONSIBLE PARTIES</u>		<u>KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ASUMPTIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED BUDGET</u> (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of funding
			Lead institution	Main partners		
<u>Milestone 3:</u> By 2018, the number of efficient institutions within transboundary basins and/or aquifer systems, capable of ensuring sustainable management of water resources has increased by 30 %						
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Finalization of the action program- Financial support is identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Case by case, identification of weakness of existing TBOs (using the framework designed in end 2011) and based on the solutions coming from WWF 6, definition of road map for each volunteer TBO- Case by case, identification of the needs for creating TBO where it is necessary and possible (political dialogue, exchange process, capacity development and awareness raising)- Communication on the action program	INBO	INBO- Regions TBOs Relevant riparian countries		
2013 – 20XX	Implementation of the action program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Following up	INBO	INBO – Regions TBOs and concerned countries		
TOTAL						€

4. Solutions

The following solutions are in progress; their deep analysis will be done during December with exchange among the TSG members and the Theme coordinators.

1. Capacity and knowledge building of African Basin Organizations
2. Development of IWRM project in South-East Asia
3. ECOWAS initiatives for the sound development of dams in transboundary context
4. IWRM coordination in transboundary basin in Caucasus
5. Project on Key Performance Indicators (KPI) – 2nd KPI project of IOWater for transboundary basin management
6. Sharing costs and benefits of common infrastructure
7. Support to the Mekong river commission to establish a reliable regional hydrological observation system
8. Support to the Volta Basin Authority
9. Operationalizing cross-border cooperation along small transboundary tributaries of the Syr Darya river
10. Environmental cooperation for decreasing challenges in transboundary waters in Iran – Afghanistan
11. Transboundary cooperation in the lower Jordan river basin
12. Support to CBLT (Chad lake Commission) to contribute to economic development strategy
13. Transboundary cooperation for the management of the Bug basin water resources
14. Setting up technical coordination mechanism to support IWRM in the Kura-Aras river basin countries and prefigure the creation of a coordination body
15. Coherent simulation, forecasting and coordinated management of water resources tools in a transboundary multi-purpose dams context in Niger basin
16. Handbook for IWRM in transboundary basins
17. International boundary and water commission with US and Mexico, an institution fostering cooperation and dialogue on Mexico-US border rivers
18. Common large hydraulic infrastructures shared between countries

5. Recommendations for follow-up post 2012

- It is expected during the forum and the momentum created at this stage (say March to June 2012) to identify the countries and the transboundary basins where there is willingness to develop Basin Institutions and reinforce existing organizations.
- The side event about the signature of the Global Pact for a Better Basin Management is also a basis for building commitment, involvement and following up of the Forum.
- The side event on Transboundary Basin Organization on Wednesday 14 will also contribute to identify new activities to be developed after the forum.
- One key recommendation is to collect during the debate of the session and the related side events all ideas which can contribute to develop actions after the Forum; in order to do it, students from the Nantes Mines National School should be present during the session (at this stage, idea is accepted by the School Manager).

6. Session Outline

Part 1:

Reference number	PfA 1.5 T4	
Target(s)/PFA/CS/Region	By 2018, increase by 30% the number of institutions within transboundary basins and/or aquifer systems capable of ensuring sustainable management of water resources	
Session title	More efficient Basin Organisations in the world for a better sustainable water management	
Session teaser/description	<p>To be effective and efficient, the water management, at transboundary scale needs to be based on transboundary basin institutions which can coordinate the national water policies, develop joint activities and realise the joint water management on whole basin.</p> <p>The session will identify and analyse the various solutions for developing basin institution according to the context, to overcome the institutional problems, to ensure the stakeholder involvement in the process and to reinforce the existing basin organisations.</p>	
Duration	2 hours	
Contact details of the Coordinator(s) convening the session	<p>Jean-François DONZIER jf.donzier@wanadoo.fr</p> <p>Daniel VALENSUELA d.valensuela@oieau.fr</p>	
Objectives and outputs	<u>General objectives of the session</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enhance the topic of transboundary Basin institution development 	<u>Expected outputs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - finalise target action plan for 2012 – 20xx for the creation of new basin organisations and strengthening existing basin organizations - commitments from countries and regions to develop

		transboundary institutions, namely based on the Pact of basin organizations and the commitment of the French basin commission presidents	
Format/Logistics request <i>(please note that room settings that are not standard cinema seating reduce the overall number of seats available in the room)</i>	<u>Estimated number of seats needed</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Less than 400 <input type="checkbox"/> 400-800	<u>Preferred room set-up</u> <i>(not guaranteed by the IFC)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Oval/Square seating <input type="checkbox"/> Roundtable seating <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Standard cinema seating	<u>All rooms will be equipped with:</u> - a computer - a video projector - a screen - 2 microphones - simultaneous translation in French and English
Extra requirements for innovative sessions (professional facilitation, additional technical requirements, etc)			

Part 2:

Session plan detailing its schedule	Time	Descriptions of items/presentations	Speakers
	5 mn	Welcoming and Opening speech	Ould MERZOUG, High Officer OMVS
	10 mn	Key Note: keynote focusing on the importance of basin organisation as crucial intuitional arrangement for transboundary water management and addressing the key questions related to the subject and what we want to have out of this meeting	J. SICHERMAN, former president of the ICPR (Rhine commission) and president of the Meuse commission
	1st Round table : Solutions about setting up a transboundary basin organisation		
	30 mn	1st round table: Solutions about Setting up a transboundary basin organisation 1 moderator 1 reporter 5 panellists Each panellist address in 5 mn one key issue related to the creation of basin organisation at transboundary scale	Moderator: Walter MAZZITTI , President of EMWIS Panellists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon SAKIBEDE, General Secretary CICOS cicos_inst@yahoo.fr • Antonio DE BRITO, ARH President, Guadiana Basin agbrito@arhnorte.pt • Charles BINEY, Executive Secretary, Volta Basin Authority secretariat.abv@gmail.com • Francis BOUGAIRE, AfDB f.bougair@afdb.org • Hans GUTTMAN, CEO of MRC Secretary guttman@mrcmekong.org
	10 mn	Interactive debate with participants	

	2nd Round Table : Solutions about Strengthening existing transboundary basin organisation		
	30 mn	2nd round table: Solutions about Strengthening existing transboundary basin organisation 1 moderator 1 reporter 5 panellists Each panellist address in 5 mn one key issue related to the reinforcement of existing basin organisation at transboundary scale	Moderator: Fadi COMER, IPEMED, DG Libanon Panellists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahaman CHAIBOU, Planning Director, CBLT lcbe@intnet.td • Abdou GUERO, NBA • Hai River project • IBWC / CILA • ORASECOM • Inocent OUEDRAGO, CCCE,
	25 mn	Interactive debate with participants	
	10 mn	Conclusions from the two reporters Closing	Reporters Chair
Targeted audience in view of commitments	Basin organisations, Bodies involved in water management at basin level, stakeholders involved in basin management		
Other Information			