

Water - Energy issues in the transboundary basins' perspective and Finland's contribution to sustainable solutions

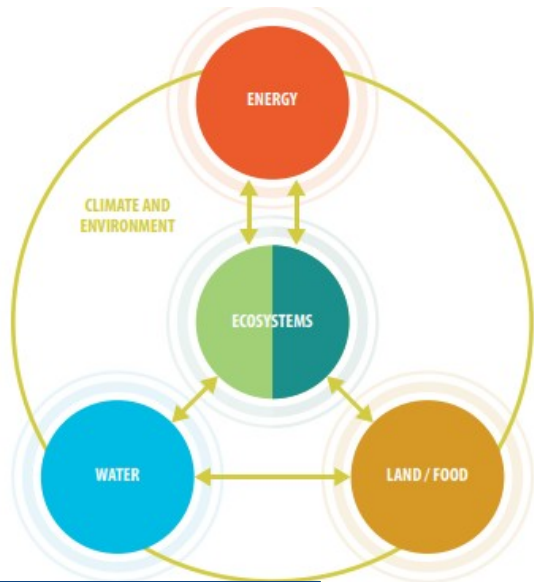
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Ecosystems Nexus (UNECE/ Water Convention)



Tackling cross-sectoral issues at the transboundary level for sustainability under the Helsinki Water Convention



Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus

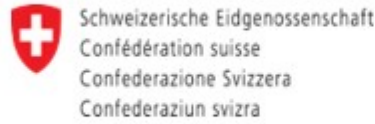
- Has overseen methodology development, transboundary assessments, taking stock of nexus solutions
- Promotes exchange of experience among Governments and experts about addressing cross-sectoral issues in transboundary basins -> better reconciling different needs for water
- Focus 2022-24 on operationalizing nexus solutions and investments
- Chaired by Finland
- Coming up: 8th Task Force meeting (7-8 December 2023; Geneva):
 - E.g. financing of nexus solutions to be discussed
 - «Sustainable Water-Energy Solutions Network» members very welcome to participate and to bring their experience.



7th meeting of the Task Force (13-14/12/2022): The most important issues on water-energy from the transboundary nexus perspective for 2023 UN Water Conference



- THERE IS a place for energy in water cooperation's regional frameworks: institutional reforms taking place in basin/regional organizations to better tackle energy issues
- Depletion of water resources has implications for the energy sector. For renewable energy to be more sustainable and impactful, it needs to account for water
- Coordination across water and energy as well as joint planning are much needed but also an underused opportunity; availability of information across water-energy is a constraint
- It is reassuring for investors that there is planning across countries
- cross-sectoral investment programmes have started to emerge in transboundary settings but the economic and financial case for nexus investments needs to be strengthened
- Climate action can bring together water and energy, and motivate joint action
- Water needs to be mainstreamed also into energy discussions



Facilitating regional dialogue: workshop on transboundary water allocation and development of cooperation on joint use of water resources in Central Asia (Astana, 2-3 Nov. 2022)

- For **ministry officials and experts from the Central Asian countries** (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan ja Turkmenistan), Regional and international organizations participated
- **Organized** by the International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC) and SYKE, under the auspices of Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan. Financing Finland and Switzerland. UNECE contributed.
- **Objective:** to promote studying, applying and discussing the international experience on transboundary water allocation synthesized in the global Handbook on Water Allocation in a Transboundary Context.
- **Outcome document with recommendations:** outlined as possible future directions e.g. strengthening water-energy cooperation, data exchange, cooperation on basin level adaptation
- Followed by the Finnish Ambassador's water diplomacy roundtable
- **JOINT ENERGY-WATER SOLUTIONS NEEDED, PARTNERSHIPS WITH INDUSTRY AND FINANCIERS! CLIMATE ACTION OFFERS SOME AVENUES FORWARD**



Intersectorality in Finland's and the Ministry's action

At the heart of
our actions

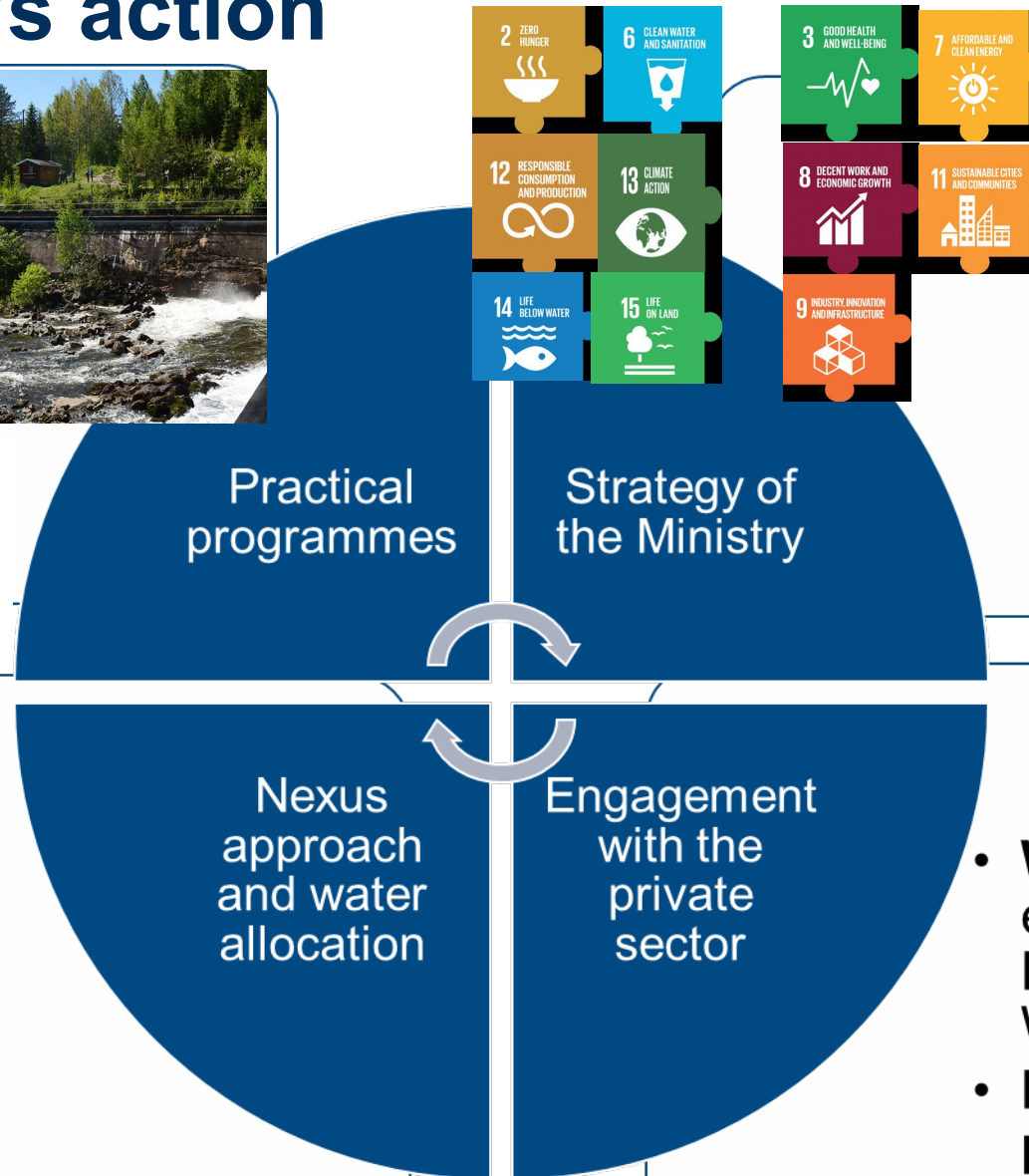
Strong
participation



- **Promote synergy and to reconcile different interests**
- Close cooperation with other authorities
- e.g. NOUSU programme: facilitating fish migration, decommissioning dams



- **International level:** Finland's International Water Strategy; water diplomacy
- **Domestic:** Better agricultural and forest management practices



Strategy's cross-SDGs nature of reflects recognizing the value of and need for a cross-sectoral approach

THE GLASGOW DECLARATION FOR
fair water footprints

- **Water stewardship engagement & Glasgow Declaration on Fair Water Footprints**
- **Funding for innovative projects** to develop innovative solutions