

Climate and transboundary water
cooperation:

Opportunities for mainstreaming water and transboundary aspects into global climate processes

Presentation by the
UNFCCC secretariat



I. Introduction

Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report:

Climate change has caused...

- Changes in precipitation patterns
- Melting of glaciers and ice caps
- Impacts on freshwater ecosystems

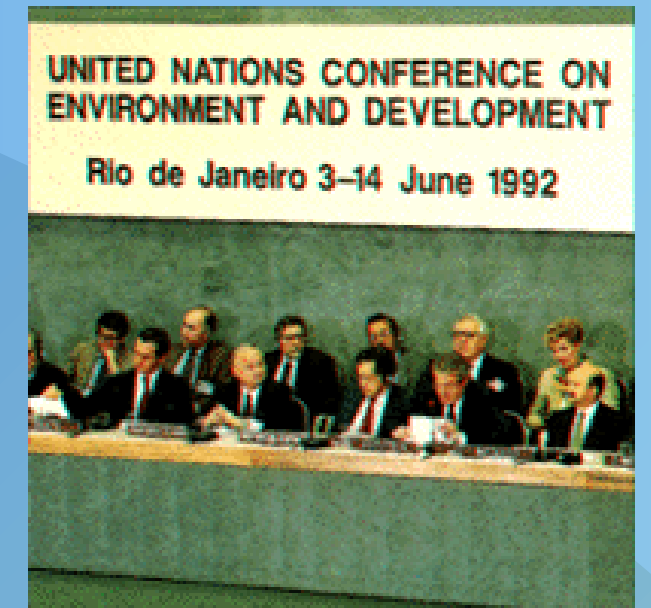
...including in areas of transboundary basins.



II. Background information

UNFCCC – entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change, established in 1992.

- **1997 Kyoto Protocol**
- **2015 Paris Agreement**



II. Background information

2015 Paris Agreement includes:

- Global Goal on Adaptation, to enhance adaptative capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change.
- Global Stocktake, every 5 years to assess the collective progress of Parties towards achieving the Agreement's long-term goals, starting 2023.



III. Importance of Water in Global Climate Processes

- COP 27 re-emphasized water's critical role in climate change adaptation.
- COP emphasized and urged Parties to integrate the protection and restoration of water and water-related ecosystems into their adaptation efforts.
- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework features effective restoration, conservation and management of inland water and coastal and marine ecosystems.



IV. Opportunities for mainstreaming Water and Transboundary aspects into global climate processes under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement

Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

- Transboundary considerations have been a key element of the GGA discussions during the workshops, as noted in the 2022 annual report and summary report of workshop 5.
- GGA still in its development phase, but workshop five highlighted that it needs to be ambitious and transformational in all aspects, including in relation to water.
- Parties and IGOs & NGOs can make submissions informing the workshops and work programme.



IV. Opportunities for mainstreaming Water and Transboundary aspects into global climate processes under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

- Water is one of the primary sectors across all national climate change adaptation documents by Parties: NDCs, NAPs, NatComs etc.
- Adaptation of water resources to climate also features as the second most sector, based on NDC synthesis and the NAP analysis.

Agriculture

- COP 27 adopted "Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security".
- Noted importance of considering sustainable land and water management for agriculture in a systemic and integrated manner.
- Parties and observers are asked to share their views on elements for the joint work and the operationalization of a new portal - submission portal remains open.



IV. Opportunities for mainstreaming Water and Transboundary aspects into global climate processes under UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement

Technology

- Technology Executive Committee (TEC) is the policy arm of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism.
- New dedicated workstream on transformative and innovative solutions in the Water-Energy-Food Systems.
- Thematic dialogue is set to take place on June 8 during the Bonn Climate Change Conference on innovative technology practices and solutions related to water-energy-food systems.

Nairobi Work Programme (NWP)

- Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) in Hindu Kush Himalayan subregion: Join the group of experts working on closing knowledge gaps in the subregion – including on water.



V. Challenges and Solutions

- Fragmentation of water governance
- Lack of data and information
- Limited funding



VI. Conclusion

UNFCCC opportunities for mainstreaming

- National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
- Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)
- Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security
- Technology
- Nairobi Work Programme (NWP)...and many more!





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Thank you!

