



**TRAINING**

# Water resources management for Global Gateway actions

54, Rue Joseph II (J54 building) – Brussels,  
09h00 – 12h30, 25 April 2025

INTPA.F.2, Water Team, EU Water Facility, JRC, EUDs, UNECE

# SESSION 5: INTPA WRM Tools

UNECE and INTPA.F.2 Water Team



Photo credit: Global Commission on the Economics of Water, <https://watercommission.org/>

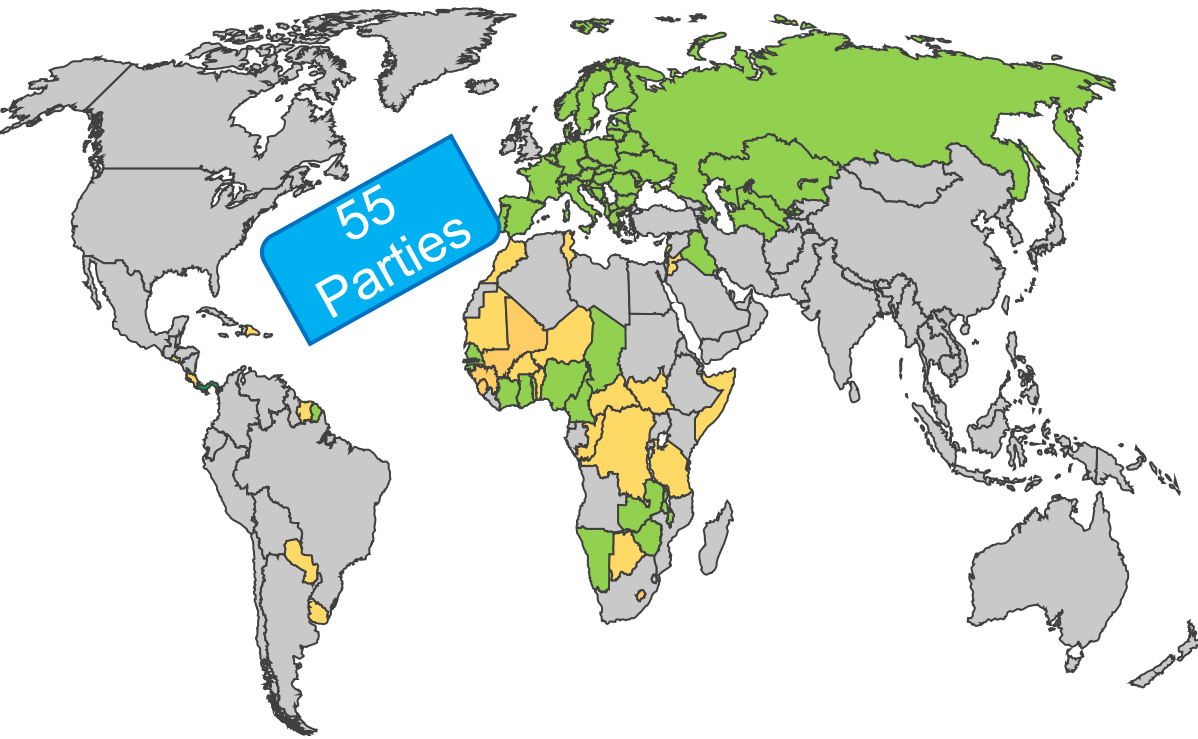


# The SMAB Case Study

**The 1992 Water Convention as a  
Practical Tool for Transboundary  
Water Cooperation**  
Komlan Sangban, UNECE



# 1. Context



## EUD best practices

- **EUD Political Advocacy** (contribute to workshops, connect with the Minister, PS etc.e.g. Lesotho, Nigeria)
- **Further political and possibly financial support to accession processes** ie Gambia approached the EU delegation, which supported a national capacity-building event for parliamentarians
- **Integration of Water Convention actions with EU investment priorities** in climate resilience, environmental governance, and sustainable development
- **Facilitation of dialogue with EU member states** for technical expertise and twinning opportunities

## Achievements

- **New countries acceded**
- **Elevated political commitment** to transboundary cooperation
- **Boosted regional cooperation** on transboundary surface and groundwater resources.
- **Unlocked donors** support in new Parties
- **Accelerated knowledge exchange and cooperation** with the EU and accession countries

## Challenges

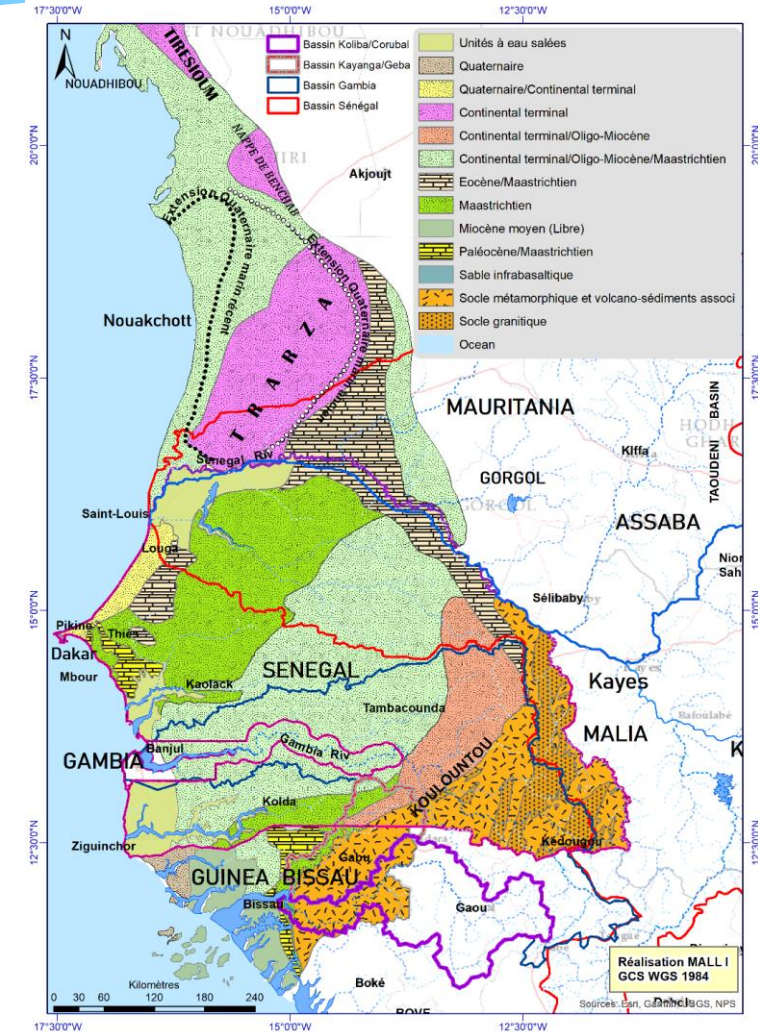
- Growing demand for support in implementing the Water Convention

## Lessons learnt

- The combination of technical activities and promotion of accession
- Continuous support and advice from the secretariat and strategic collaboration with EUD are needed
- Support regional champions

## 2. Strategy

- The **Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin (SMAB)** is shared by the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal
- **SMAB countries are over 80% dependent** on groundwater resources to satisfy their populations' needs
- **Request by Senegal** as new Party to Water Convention and following 2017 SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting exercise
- Aquifer under **pressure** from population growth and agriculture, overuse and declining water quality
- have **no** operational arrangements
- Ensuring its **sustainable management is crucial** for the stability of the region and its water security





### 3. Achievement

**2018:** Support request of international partners for a cooperation initiative on the SMAB.

**2019:** Roadmap for the development of a joint vision and of a programme establishing long term cooperation on the basin.

**2020-2021:** Establishment of a Regional Working Group for Transboundary Cooperation on the SMAB + 5 technical studies

**Partners:** Water Convention (EU Financing); GWH; IGRAC; and since 2022, World Bank, GEF/OSS/UNEP

**2021:** Ministerial Declaration on the Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin signed /Accession by Guinea Bissau

**2023:** Signature of a MoU between OMVS and OMVG for the governance of the SMAB Project / Accession by The Gambia

**2024-2026:** Negotiations on the legal agreement at the RWG meetings

**Target** to sign an agreement by 2026 Water Conference / EU and Italy partnering to support implementation through TEI



# Team Europe for transboundary water

**TEIs on transboundary water  
management**

Kevin Chrétien & Zoé Van den  
Bossche, INTPA.F.2





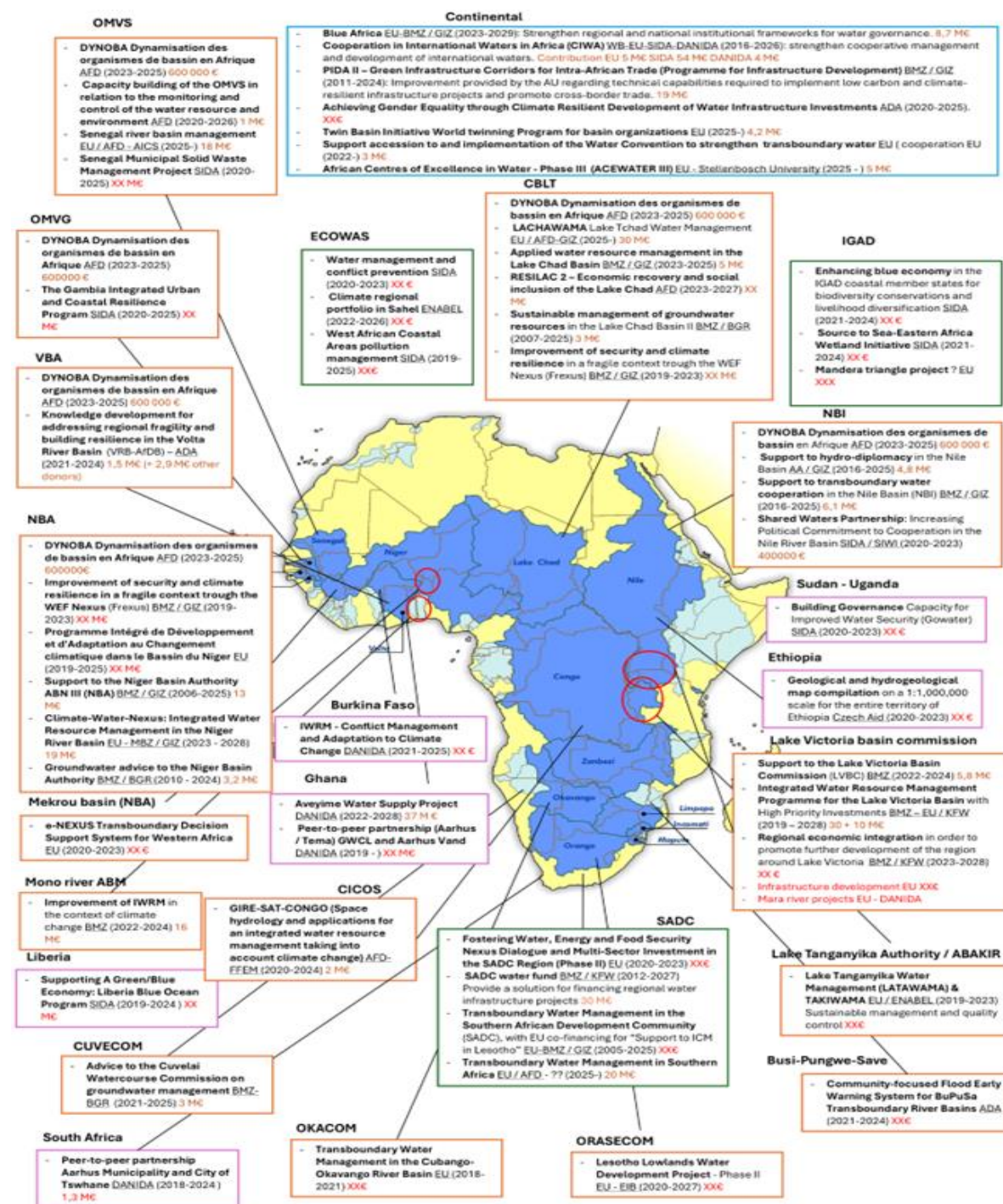
# Team Europe Initiative on Transboundary Water Management in Africa

A support to development and regional integration.

#TEAMEUROPE







# Support development and regional integration

Two layer programme:  
Continental level programme  
Sub-set of water basin programmes

	Pillar	Components	M EUR
EU	EU (Commission+EIB) subtotal		167 + X
EU MS			
	AT		6.15
	BE		tbc
	DE		145.08
	DK		40 <sup>8</sup>
	FR		40
	SE		4.5 <sup>9</sup>
	CZ		0.8
	SI		1
<b>Total</b>			<b>404,53 + X</b>



## Global

- UN Water Convention
- Support to INBO

## Continental

- Blue Africa Programme
- ACEWATER III Support to Water Center of Excellences

## EU water basin programmes

Lake Tanganyika, Lake Kivu and Ruzizi river – 2023

Senegal Gambia Rivers, and West Africa Rivers basin management – 2024

Orange/Senqu, Okavango, Kariba-Zambezi – 2024

Lake Chad basin - 2024





# Team Europe Initiative on Water, Energy and Climate Change in Central Asia

Working together for a sustainable and just blue and green  
transition

**#TEAMEUROPE**





1. Improved **regional cooperation and governance** effectively supports sustainable development in Central Asia

■ Water cooperation for sustainable development increased

■ Transition to renewable energy accelerated

■ Climate and environmental governance improved

2. Increased **investment** in a regionally integrated blue and green transition in Central Asia

■ More efficient and effective drinking water supply and sanitation

■ Greener and more integrated energy sector

■ More action on climate change and the environment



## **EU4SustainableCentralAsia: Joint Action and Coordination on Water, Energy and Climate Change (2024 - 2028)**

### **Specific Objective 1: Improved regional cooperation and governance for sustainable development in Central Asia**

- Output 1: Improved regional dialogue and coordination on (energy), water and climate

### **Specific Objective 2: Improving the coordination among TEI members and render expert and policy advise to actors in the region**

- Output 2.1: Improved coordination of the TEI activities
- Output 2.2: Improved policy and capacity development

# P2P for BO

Peer to peer learning for basin organisations

Kevin Chrétien, INTPA.F.2





## **International Peer-to-Peer project implemented by the International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO/ RIOB) and the African Network of Basin Organizations (RAOB)**

Strengthen the capacities of basin organisations by facilitating cooperation, expertise sharing, and mutual capacity building in water resources management

Promote EU water management expertise (Water Framework Directive) and/or global frameworks (UNECE Water Convention) if applicable.

INBO is in charge of matching basin organisation peers who will be allocated a sub-grant based on detailed proposals in the following regions: 70% in Africa, 20% in Asia, 10% in LAC.

# Twin Basin Initiative

General organization of the program

**Work in progress!**



**TWIN BASIN INITIATIVE**  
**WORLD TWINNING PROGRAM FOR BASIN ORGANIZATIONS**  
*Program Steering Committee*  
 INBO and financial partners: European Commission - DG INTPA, AFD-DYNOBA + ?

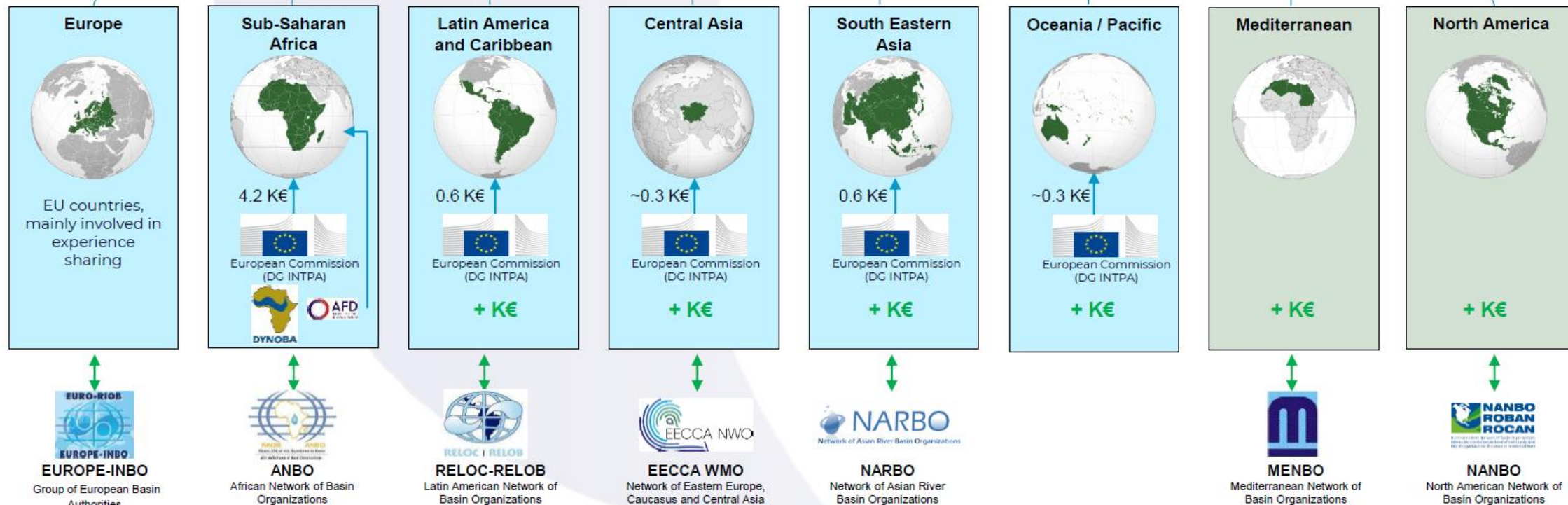


Partial funding  
 No funding

**Program work group (Financial partners)**  
 Ongoing activity: Fundraising and partnership development

**Permanent secretariat of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)**  
 International Office for Water (OiWater)

**Associated partners to be defined**  
 Ongoing activity: Fundraising and partnership development



Support from the regional networks of basin organizations: dissemination of the results of the peer-to-peer action at regional level



# SESSION 6: Wrap-up

INTPA.F.2 Water Team



Photo credit: Global Commission on the Economics of Water, <https://watercommission.org/>

# Q&A





## FOLLOW-UP CONTACTS

Water Facility:

✓ [biedler@ext.adelphi.de](mailto:biedler@ext.adelphi.de)

F2 water team

✓ [Arnaud.DE-VANSSAY@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Arnaud.DE-VANSSAY@ec.europa.eu)

✓ [Franz.HUEBNER@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Franz.HUEBNER@ec.europa.eu)

✓ [Kevin.CHRETIEN@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Kevin.CHRETIEN@ec.europa.eu)

✓ [Zoe.VAN-DEN-BOSSCHE@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Zoe.VAN-DEN-BOSSCHE@ec.europa.eu)

# JOIN US AT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURE FINANCING SEMINARS



## Global Gateway Infrastructure Seminar 30 June – 04 July

- Day 2: Sessions on green corridors and **nature-based solutions** in the afternoon
- Day 3: Discussions on **climate change and water** in the afternoon



## Investments in Nature and Green Economy Seminar 07 July – 10 July

- Day 1: Focus on **nature-based solutions** and nature positive **investments** in the afternoon
- Day 3: Emphasis on engagement with the **private sector in Water** and Circular Economy in the morning



## HOW CAN WE IMPROVE?

Please complete the following short feedback form before you leave

<https://forms.gle/2yt8ncA8Rtsqq2Li7>

