

Regional Roundtable on “The path towards Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems Nexus in Southeastern Europe”

***Skopje
23-24 October 2018***

Agendaⁱ

Organized by:
**German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean**

In support of the implementation of the
South East Europe 2020 Strategy, Dimension Environment

Supported by:
**German Federal Environment Agency
GEF IW:LEARN
Austrian Development Agency**

Tuesday, 23 October 2018 – Day 1

09.00 – 09.30 *Registration and coffee*

Chair: *Mr. Ylber Mirta, Head of Department for Waters, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Tassos Krommydas, Senior Programme Officer, ADA Nexus Project Manager, GWP-Med*

09.30 – 10.30	OPENING SESSION
----------------------	------------------------

09.30 – 10.00 Welcome Address

- *H.E. Mr. Jani Makraduli, Deputy Minister of Environment and Physical Planning*
- *Mr. Thomas Stratenwerth, Head of Division "General, Fundamental, International and European Aspects of Water Management", German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)*
- *Mr. Klaus Leroch, Water and Sanitation Adviser, Austrian Development Agency (ADA)*
- *Mr. Radovan Nikcevic, Expert on Connectivity, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)*
- *Ms. Natalie Degger, Deputy Project Manager, GEF IW:LEARN*
- *Ms. Lucia De Strasser, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*
- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)*

10.00 – 10.05 Aims and objectives of the event

- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med*

10.05 – 10.30 Keynote presentation:

- **The Regional Nexus Mapping Study: Background Study for the SEE2020 Region Nexus Policy Dialogue Process**
Mr. Guido Schmidt, Policy Advisor, Fresh-Thoughts Consulting

Q & A

10.30 – 13.00	SESSION 1: Nexus actions and initiatives – experiences from the SEE2020 area and beyond
----------------------	--

Session 1 will present current actions and initiatives towards addressing interlinkages among the water, food, energy and ecosystems/environment sectors in the SEE2020; it will introduce also experience from beyond the SEE2020 area. A discussion will follow indicating lessons learned and how these can inform future action.

Moderator: GWP-Med

PART A. Economies

10.30 – 11.00 Presentations:

- **Nexus actions in Albania**
Ms. Gerta Lubonja, Director, Water Resources Management Agency

- **Nexus actions in Ohrid basin**
Mr. Ylber Mirta, Head of Department for Waters, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break

PART B. Transboundary basins

11.20 – 12.20 Presentations (continued) :

- **Assessment of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems nexus and benefits of transboundary cooperation in the Drina and Sava River Basins**
Ms. Biljana Rajic, Expert Advisor on Water Resources, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations
- **Nexus action in the Drin River Basin**
Mr. Dejan Panovski, GWP-Med
Mr. Tassos Kromydas, GWP-Med
- **Nexus actions in the UNECE region**
Ms. Lucia De Strasser, UNECE
- **Nexus actions in the North Western Sahara Aquifer System**
Mr. Rachid Taibi, Coordinator, North Western Sahara Aquifer System
Coordination Mechanism

Q & A

12.20 – 13.00 Discussion in plenary

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 17.00	SESSION 2: Pathways towards Nexus sectors integration
----------------------	--

Session 2 will discuss pathways towards addressing interlinkages among Nexus sectors and facilitating integration, focusing on the following main elements:

- Improving planning; and
- Adaptation to climate change.

PART A. Improving planning

14.30 – 15.00 Introductory presentation:

- **The Regional Nexus Mapping Study: Improving planning**
Guido Schmidt, Policy Advisor, Fresh-Thoughts Consulting

15.00 – 16.10 Experience on the ground

Representatives of ministries/insitutions from different geographical and sectoral domains will present the level and quality of coordination among Nexus sectors as well as how this can be improved.

- *Ms. Branka Knezevic, Head of Department for Primary Energy and Policy*
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations

- *Mr. Radisav Matic, Manager for Exploitation and PSPP Bajina Basta, JP EPS Belgrade*
- *Mr. Baton Begolli, Water Policy Advisor, Inter-Ministerial Water Council*
- *Ms. Milica Maras, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development*
- *Mr. Nikica Bachovski, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy*
- *Ms. Holta Copani, Specialist, Project Unit, National Agency of Protected Areas*

16.10 – 17.00 Facilitated panel discussion and interaction with the participants

End of Day 1

19.30 Evening reception dinner

Wednesday, 24 October 2018 – Day 2

09.30 – 12.45	SESSION 2: Pathways towards Nexus sectors integration (continued)
----------------------	--

09.30 – 09.40 Recap from Day 1

09.40 – 11.15 Facilitated discussion in 4 Working Groups

Participants will break into 4 Working Groups: (1) water, (2) energy, (3) agriculture/land use and (4) physical planning/ecosystems/environment. Each Working Group will engage in a facilitated discussion on the needs of each sector to improve planning including:

- What are the main benefits of improved planning to each sector?
- What is needed in terms of data from other sectors and how can accessibility to data be promoted?
- How could vertical and intersectoral cooperation between/within government authorities be improved and how could coordination and integration of different timeframes and geographic scales between sectors be optimized?
- *Moderator: Dimitris Faloutsos, GWP-Med*

Presentation of conclusions of the Working Groups in plenary and discussion

11.15 – 11.45 Coffee break

PART B. Adaptation to climate change

Moderator: Guido Schmidt, Policy Advisor, Fresh-Thoughts Consulting

11.45 – 12.45 Presentations of climate change adaptation measures as basis to enhance Nexus sectors integration.

Representatives of ministries/institutions will speak about the climate change adaptation plans and documents and how these contribute in the integration of

nexus sectors and assist in addressing linkages and interdependencies. A discussion will follow in plenary.

- *Ms. Miradije Gerguri, Senior officer for nature values – Department of Environment Protection*
- *Ms. Teodora Grncarovska Obradovic, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning*

12.45 – 13.45	SESSION 3: Roadmap towards Nexus integration
----------------------	---

The session will discuss possibilities to meet the objective of the SEE2020 Strategy to “*identify steps and measures necessary for advancing the Water, Energy and Food nexus approach at national and trans-boundary levels and investigate opportunities of launching a political process under the RCC for the enhancement of cooperation in the SEE in the field of Transboundary Waters Management*” by discussing orientations, partners, capacities and steps for the introduction of Nexus approach considerations in the basin/aquifer management frameworks.

12.45 – 12.55 Introduction

- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, GWP-Med*

12.55 – 13.45 Facilitated panel discussion

Panel members:

- *Representatives of Ministries of the economies*
- *RCC Secretariat*
- *UNECE*

13.45 – 14.00	CLOSING SESSION
----------------------	------------------------

The Rapporteur will sum-up the discussions and present the outcomes of the Roundtable.

Rapporteur: Mr. Tassos Krommydas, Senior Programme Officer, ADA Nexus Project Manager, GWP-Med

- *Mr. Ylber Mirta, Head of Department for Waters, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning*
- *Mr. Thomas Stratenwerth, Head of Division "General, Fundamental, International and European Aspects of Water Management", BMU*
- *Mr. Radovan Nikcevic, Expert on Connectivity, RCC Secretariat*
- *Ms. Lucia De Strasser, UNECE*
- *Ms. Natalie Degger, Deputy Project Manager, GEF IW:LEARN*
- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med*

14.00 – 15.00 *Lunch*

End of the open sessions of the Regional Roundtable

Closed Nexus Ministries Session for representatives of SEE2020 Ministries

15.00 – 18.00 Closed Nexus Ministries Session for representatives of SEE2020 Ministries - Meeting the SEE2020 objectives

Chair: *Mr. Ylber Mirta, Head of Department for Waters, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning*

15.00 – 15.10 Presentation of the conclusions of the Regional Roundtable on “The path towards Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems Nexus in Southeastern Europe (SEE)”
GWP-Med

PART B.

15.15 – 16.00 Facilitated discussion in plenary: Priorities and possible next steps towards meeting the Nexus related SEE2020 Strategy objectives

16.00 – 16.15 Coffee break

16.15 – 17.00 Initiatives promoting the Nexus Approach for the sustainable management of natural resources in the SEE: Introductory presentation and facilitated discussion

- **ADA NEXUS Project;**
- **GEF/UNEP-MAP MedProgram Child 2.2**

GWP-Med

19.30 Evening cocktail reception

ⁱ Funding is provided by Global Environment Facility (GEF) IW:LEARN project, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety by the Advisory Assistance Programme for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union (AAP). It is supervised by the Federal Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt, UBA). The responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors.