Benefit Sharing

Principles, concepts and applications

BRIDGE

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Introducing our team

- **Diego Jara** | Legal officer, IUCN Environmental Law Centre. Bonn, Germany.
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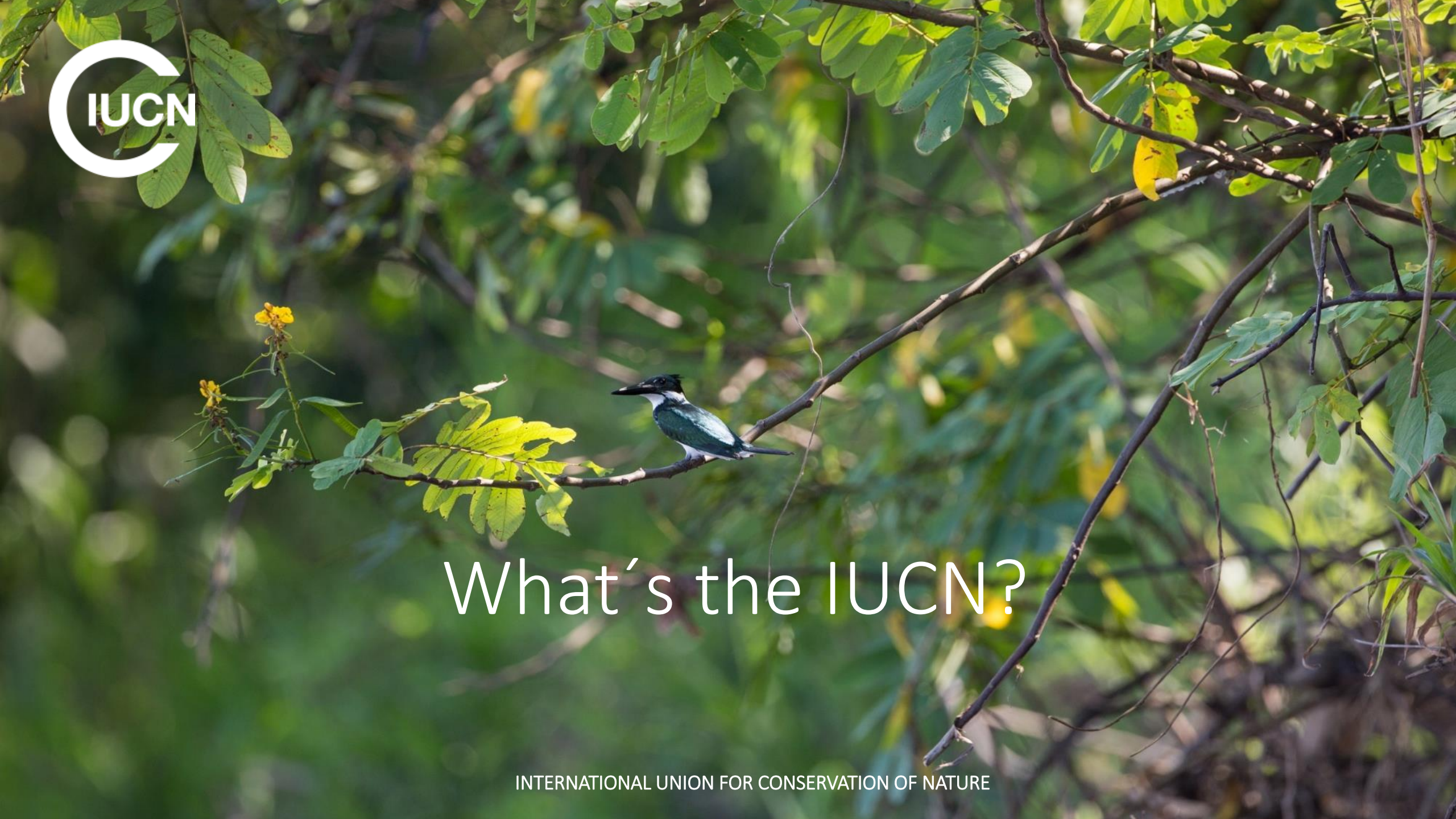


What´s the IUCN?

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

The world’s largest environmental network

Working with

- Public, private and non-governmental organisations worldwide

Providing

- Knowledge, tools and analysis
- A unique convening space
- Policy impact
- Direct benefits to people and nature

Over 1.300 member organizations

An extensive network of experts

+ 10.000

IUCN Commissions

Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Key conservation tools

- The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
  - assesses risk of species extinction
- The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems
  - assesses risk of ecosystem collapse
- IUCN World Heritage Outlook
  - assesses conservation status of natural World Heritage sites
- World Database on Key Biodiversity Areas
  - assesses sites important for biodiversity
- Protected Planet
  - provides data on terrestrial and marine protected areas
- ECOLEX
  - provides a gateway to environmental law

70 years of vision and impact

Advancing international conservation law

Convention on Biological Diversity

PATRIMONIO MUNDIAL WORLD HERITAGE PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

CITES

Ramsar CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Staying a step ahead

- **1960** – Identified climate change as a major emerging challenge
- **1980** – World Conservation Strategy established concept of 'sustainable development'
- **1996** – Recognized private sector importance in conservation
- **2012** – Pioneered idea of Nature-based solutions
- **2016** – Addressed synthetic biology, undersea mining and conservation in cities

BRIDGE Building River Dialogue and Governance

BRIDGE supports the capacities of countries sharing river basins to implement effective water management arrangements through a shared vision, benefit-sharing principles and transparent and coherent institutional frameworks. Its goal is to enhance cooperation among riparian countries by applying water diplomacy at multiple levels.

The BRIDGE initiative is financed by the Water Diplomacy Programme of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Methodology

Demonstration

Evaluation of opportunities for governance reforms

Learning

Capacity building and exchange of lessons and experiences

Dialogues

Platforms to build consensus over existing and potential challenges, as well as for the adoption of policy, legal, and institutional arrangements

Leadership

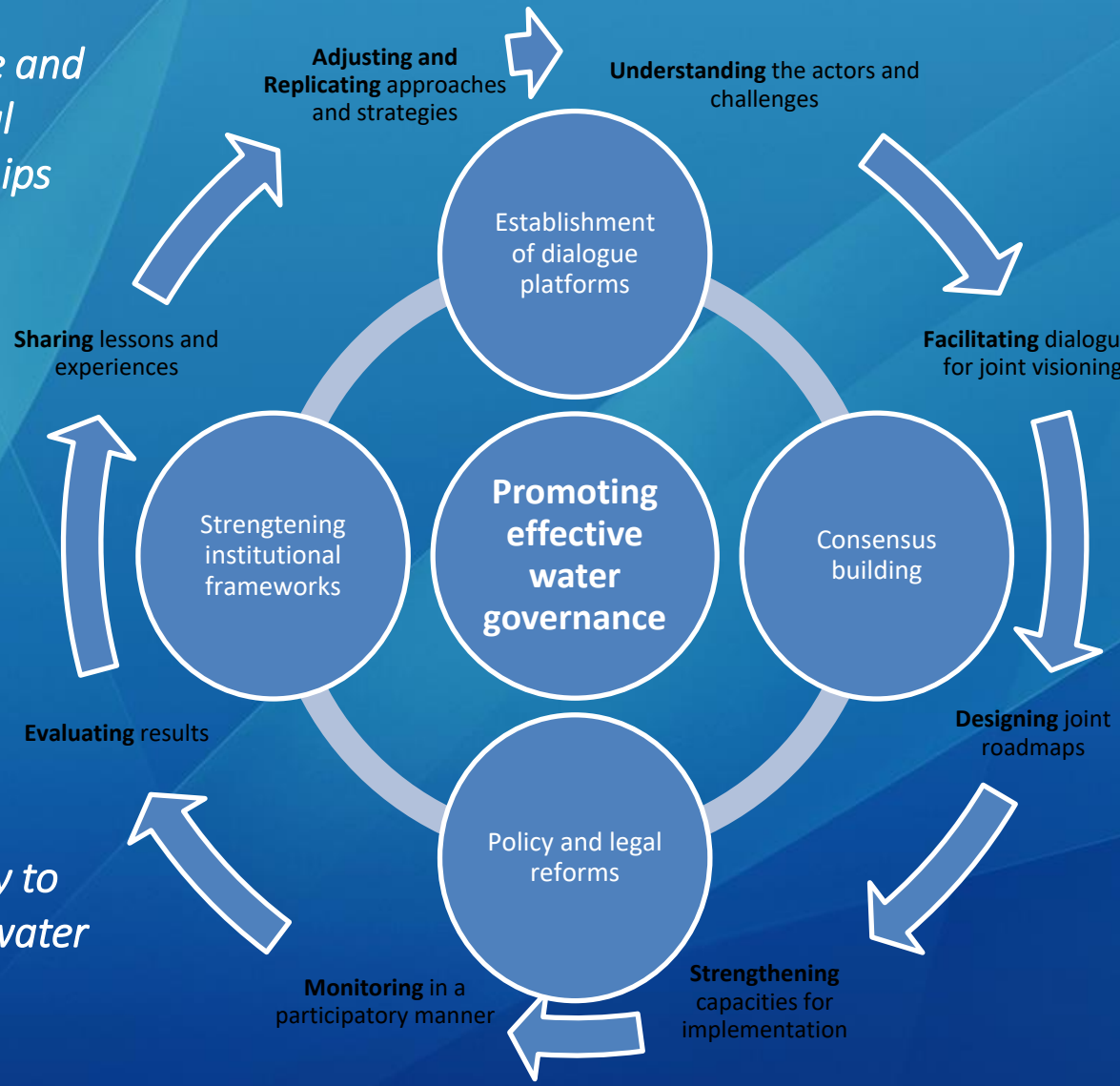
Empowerment of key actors at different levels to lead reform processes

Advice and support

Guidance for the effective reform of policies, laws/agreements and institutions

THEORY OF CHANGE

Methodology



Cooperative and peaceful relationships

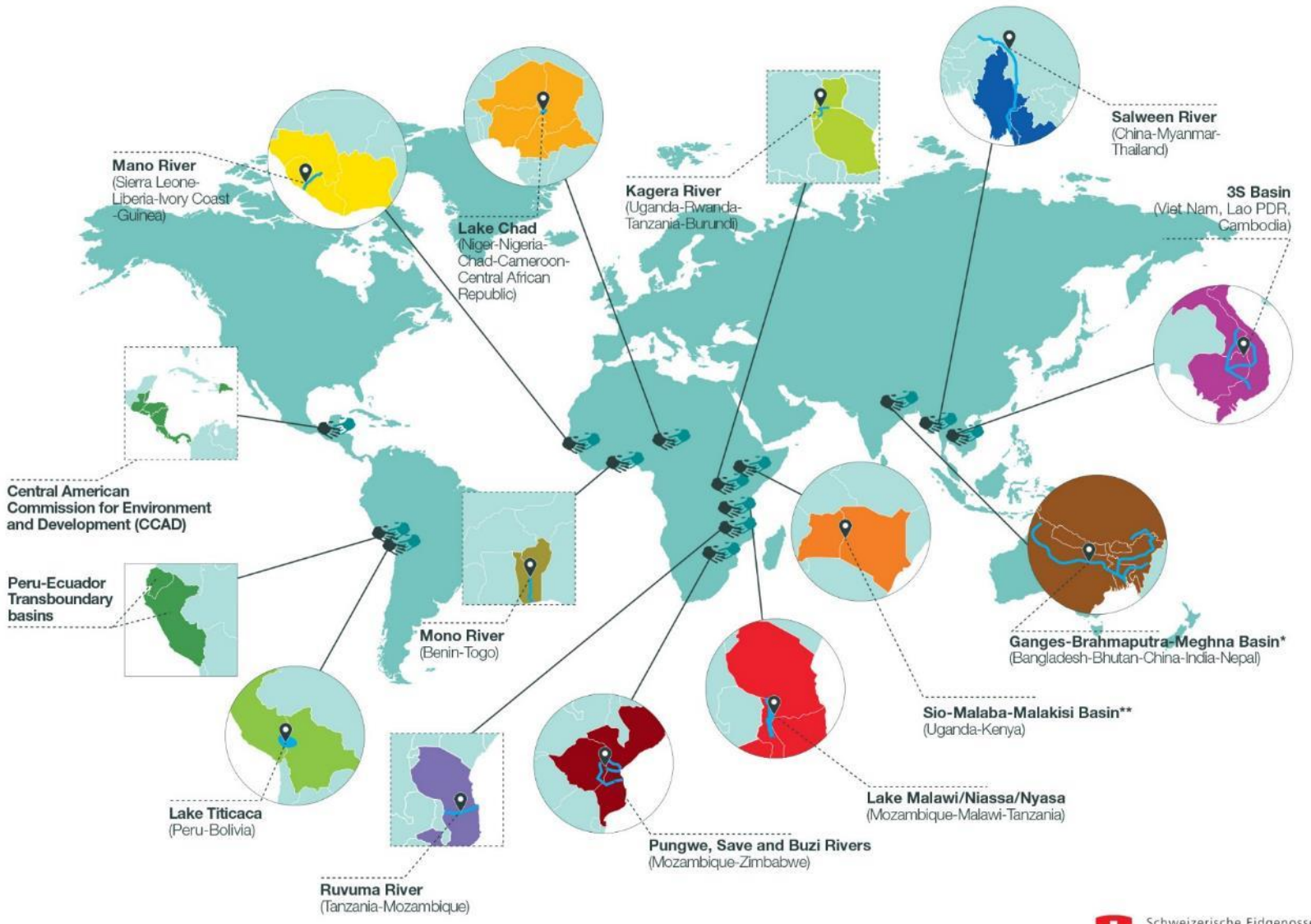
Integrity of ecosystems

Adaptation capacity to climate change and water related-hazards

Human wellbeing and sustainable use of water

BRIDGE-Building River Dialogue and Governance

Areas of Work 2019-2021



Working through regional partners.

Working through national partners.

*supported by the Transboundary Rivers of South Asia (TROSA) Programme of Oxfam Novib

**co-funded by the US State Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) 2016-2018

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

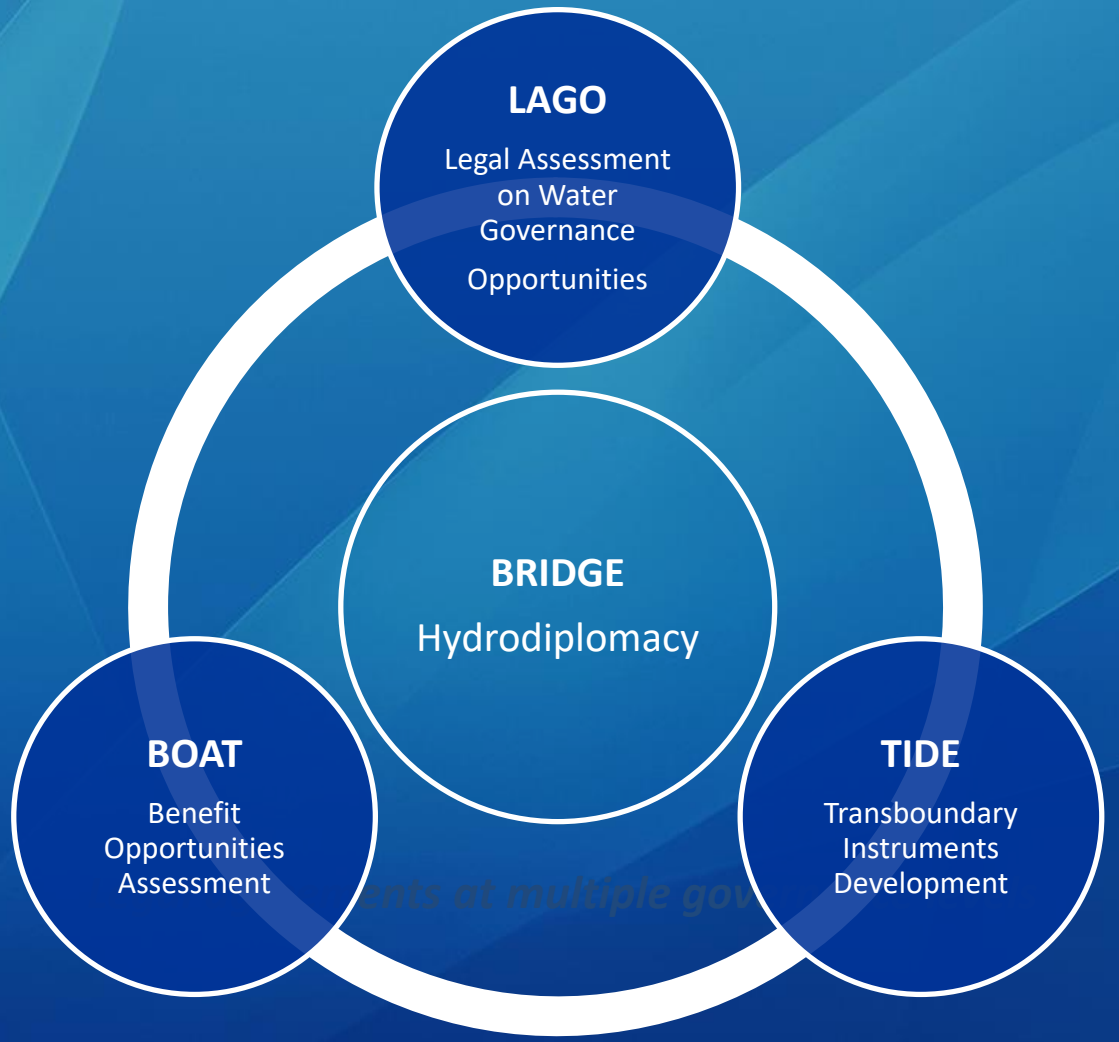
A Multilevel Approach

BRIDGE brings together an extensive network of key stakeholders to promote effective water governance arrangements at different levels

Global	***Regional***	***National***	***Local***
• Promotion of global frameworks for transboundary water cooperation	• Strengthening regional agreements and institutions	• Supporting, reviewing and reforming of national policies and laws	• Promotion of local agreements for the sustainable management of natural resources

Legal agreements at multiple governance levels

Tools


LAGO
Legal Assessment on Water Governance
Opportunities
BRIDGE
Hydrodiplomacy
BOAT
Benefit Opportunities Assessment
TIDE
Transboundary Instruments Development

Outline of the session

- Introduction: Why Benefit Sharing?
- Benefit Sharing: Principles and Concepts
- Zoom in to Step 1: Identifying stakeholders and equity issues.
- Zoom in to Step 2: Identifying benefits
- Benefit sharing in BRIDGE: How?

Benefit Sharing

An alternative approach of negotiation

Definitions

- ✓ Benefit sharing refers to any action designed to change (optimize) the **allocation of costs and benefits** associated with cooperation. (Sadoff & Grey, 2005)
- ✓ The **process** where riparians cooperate in optimising and **equitably** dividing the goods, products and services connected directly or indirectly to the watercourse, or arising from the use of its water. (Phillips & Woodhouse, 2015)

- Enables integrity in the management of a watershed.
- Promotes the efficient and equitable management of the watershed.
- It can be applied to the management of other natural resources.

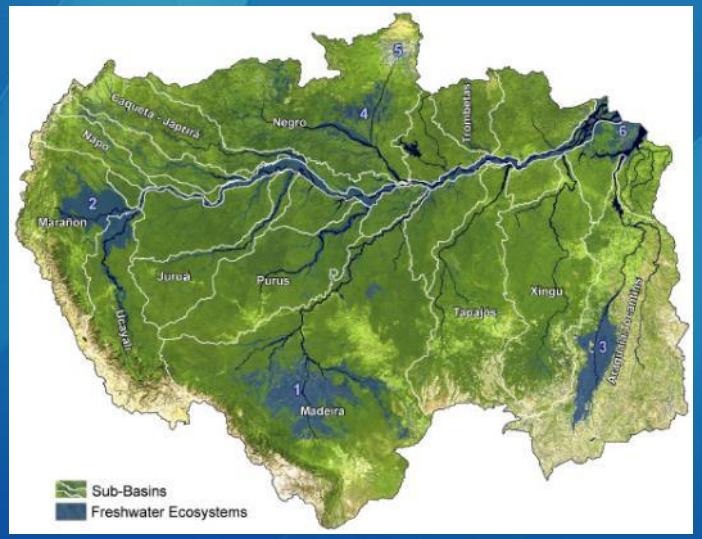
Benefit Sharing

A key instrument for good water governance

- Users will share water cooperatively when they believe it is their **best option**.
- For this, the **full range** and **true values** of benefits and costs should be recognized in the assessment of alternative options.
- BS enables **win-win outcomes** for multiple stakeholders in a basin.
- It focuses on the distribution of benefits rather than only in water allocations.

Benefits from watersheds & across watersheds

- The watershed is the most useful spatial scale for water planning and management and also for assessing benefits



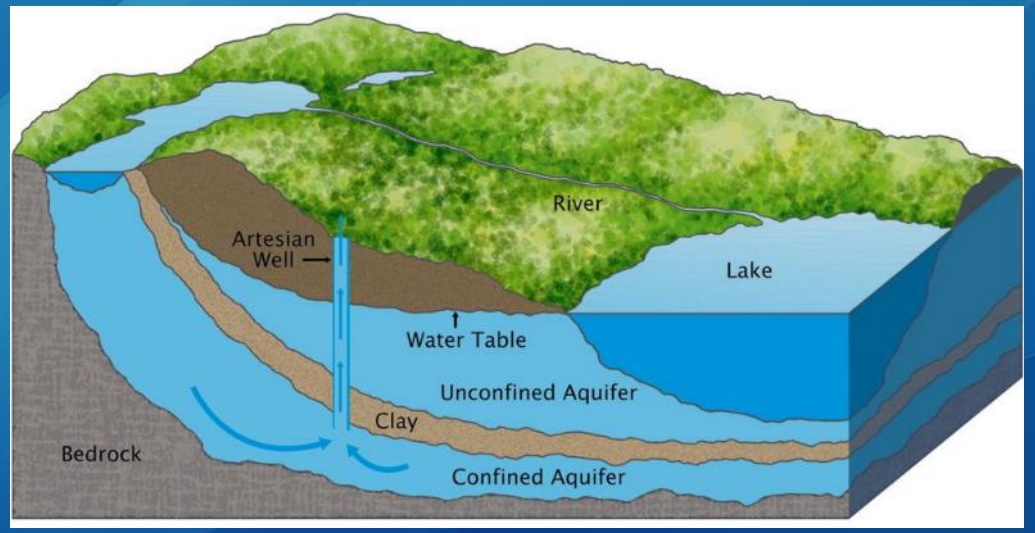
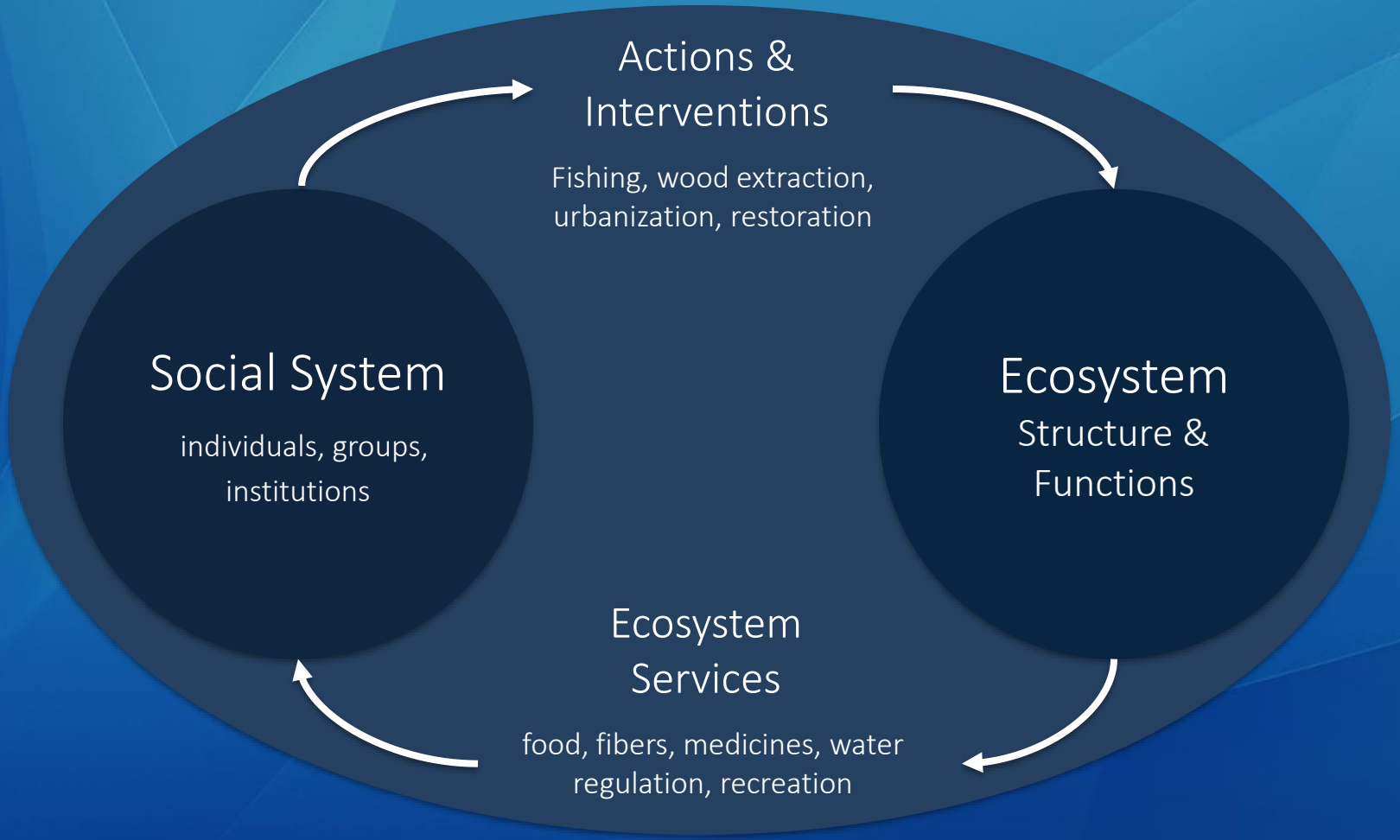


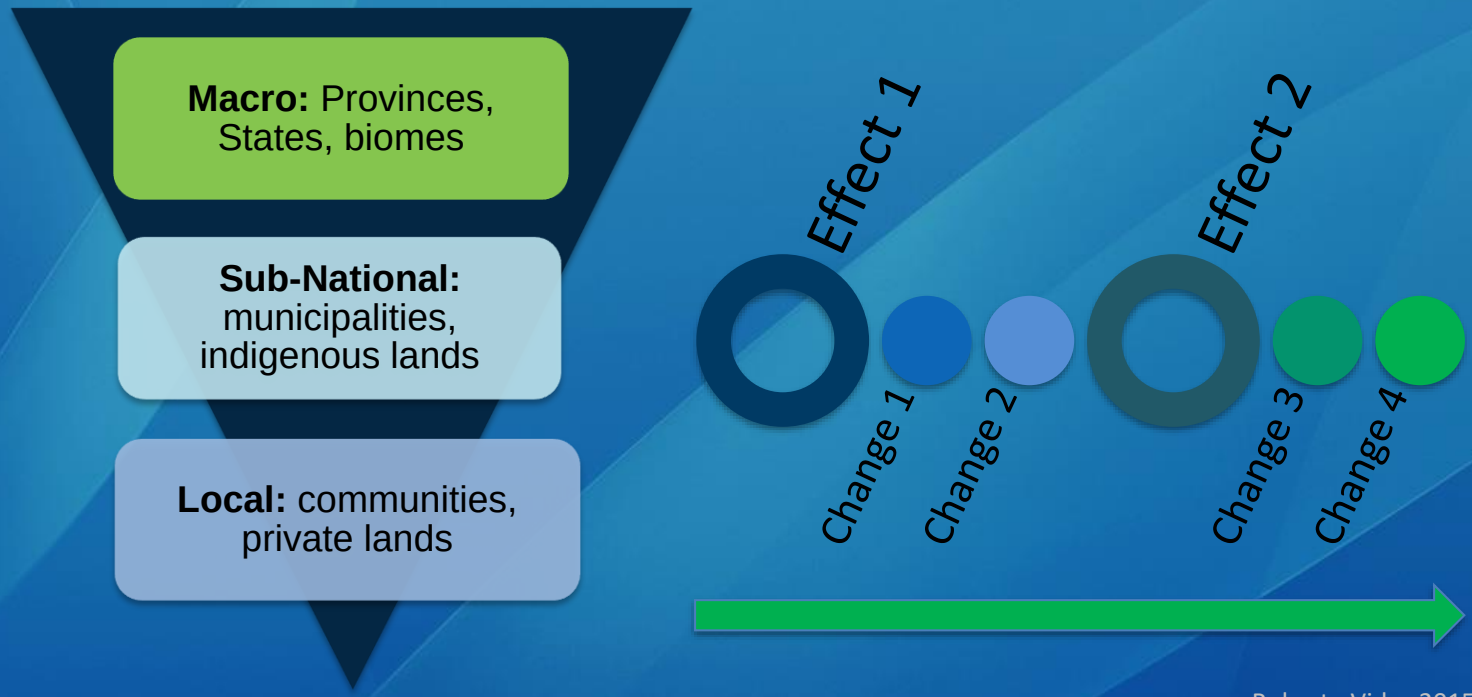
Illustration: Tim Gunther

We need to look at it from a tridimensional perspective

Watersheds are complex systems



Multiple spatial and time scales



source: Roberto Vides 2015

Watersheds are dynamic in time and space

Benefit Sharing 6 steps

1. Identifying stakeholders and equity issues
2. Identifying the array of benefits (existing and potential)
3. Building benefit enhancing scenarios
4. Quantifying costs and benefits from future scenarios
5. Negotiating benefits
6. Institutional agreements & implementation mechanisms

1. Identifying stakeholders and equity issues

Who are the stakeholders?

- Those who gather benefits, or incur impacts, from the use of water
- Those who represent water users' interests
- In different sectors (agriculture, mining, environment, etc.)
- Formal and informal

- *Local to national levels*

How to differentiate Stakeholders?

Internal (Decision Makers)	External Primary	External Secondary
RBOs…	Farmers…	CSOs
Private Sector…	CBOs…	Associations

Other typologies

Civil society vs government vs private sector

Sectoral stakeholders: e.g. energy, water, agriculture, environment

Local, province/state, national

→ Important to **overlay** different typologies for better understanding of stakes, power and influence

What happens when certain stakeholders are overlooked?

?

What happens when certain stakeholders are overlooked?

- Stakes and interests can also be overlooked = benefits and impacts (costs) are overlooked
- The relative *size* of benefits and impacts may be overlooked
- *Distributional* impacts are not adequately assessed
- Results are less *equitable*
- There is less *buy-in* to the resulting agreement

Stakeholder Engagement

Identify **Stakeholders at all levels, in all sectors**

Map stakeholder interests and power

Design the stakeholder engagement process

Use adaptive design as interests and coalitions can change

2. Identifying the array of benefits (existing and potential)

Recognizing water benefits

Key considerations

- ✓ Economic, Social, Political, and Environmental dimensions.
- ✓ Diverse economic sectors: energy, agriculture, aquaculture, industrial.
- ✓ Trade and regional integration
- ✓ Compensations for pollution, impacts, ecosystem conservation & restoration.
- ✓ Non-consumptive benefits: fisheries, navigation, recreation, habitat for biodiversity, hydropower generation.

Water volumes vs. Benefits from Water

- Share benefits rather than volumes of water allocation
- Benefits and costs at basin scale, from national to local level

→ More **efficient** and **equitable** management of the basin since it enables to separate the physical location of development from the economic distribution of costs and benefits.

Benefits Deriving from Cooperation

Types of Benefits	Challenges	Opportunities
Provide benefits *to the river/ basin* (environmental benefits)	Degraded water quality, watersheds, wetlands and biodiversity, ecosystem functions	• Flood control, drought mitigation • Erosion & sediment management • Wetlands and biodiversity conservation • Water quality & E-flows
Obtain benefits *from the river/ basin* (economic benefits)	Increasing demands for water, sub-optimal water resources management and development	• Increased yields • Enhances livelihoods, food security • Navigation, tourism, recreation • Carbon credits, PES
Derive benefits (avoid costs) *because of the river* (political benefits)	Tense regional relations and political economy impacts	• Cooperation, political stability • Policy shifts to food/energy security
Creating benefits *beyond the river/ basin* (e.g., greater cooperation in other realms)	Regional fragmentation	• Regional integration • Regional investment, development • Regional trade, market access • Diversified economies

From improved water management in the basin	**Economic benefits** • Increased activity, productivity and long-term sustainability in economic sectors (aquaculture, irrigated agriculture, mining, energy generation, industrial production, nature-based tourism) • Enhanced livelihoods and increased household incomes • Reduced cost of carrying out productive activities • Reduced economic impacts of water-related hazards (floods, droughts) • Increased value of property	**Social benefits** • Positive health impacts from improved water quality and reduced risk of water-related disasters. • Improved access to basic services (such as electricity and water supply) • Social welfare from increased employment and reduced poverty • Improved satisfaction due to preservation of cultural resources or access to recreational opportunities.	**Ecosystem benefits** • Preservation of aquatic and terrestrial habitats and biodiversity • Preservation of key bio-physical processes, e.g. e-flows • Better carbon management • Ecosystem resilience and enhancement of natural infrastructure
From enhanced trust in and beyond the basin	**Regional economic cooperation benefits** • Development of regional markets for goods, services and labor • Increase in cross-border investments • Development of transnational infrastructure networks (transport, energy) • More diversified economies	**Peace and security benefits** • Shared basin identity • Reduced risk and avoided cost of conflicts between water users and between countries • Strengthening of international law • Increased geopolitical stability and strengthened diplomatic relations	

Buzz exercise in pairs

Can you think of potential benefits arising from enhancing cooperation in the watersheds that you are working with?

20 Minutes

Provide benefits to the river/ basin: environmental benefits	A. Direct and tangible benefits: can be measured
Obtain benefits from the river/ basin: economic benefits	
Derive benefits because of the river: political benefits	B. Indirect and intangible benefits: qualitatively assessed
Creating benefits beyond the river/ basin: e.g.: greater cooperation in other realms	

2 tracks on Benefit Sharing in BRIDGE

Capacity building on the use of benefit sharing concepts and skills in cooperative transboundary water management: e.g., identifying benefits, use of the BOAT tool, legal aspects of benefit-sharing

Real basin application of Benefit Opportunities Assessment through multi-level, multi-stakeholder dialogue to analyse and select scenarios that enhance benefits for more stakeholders


IUCN
Protecting our natural waterways is key for securing the health of ecosystems and local livelihoods
Remember
Rivers represent less than 1% of the land surface, but they are the most productive and diverse ecosystems in the planet
Since 1970 we have lost **more tan 80%** of freshwater species of fish

Thanks

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