

IUCN's Hydrodiplomacy Programme in Asia Strategies and Approaches

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Main goal and objectives



Goal:

Poverty alleviation, nature conservation and economic growth are enhanced in target basins through sustainable management and governance of transboundary water resources

Objectives:

Support capacities of countries in shared basins to adopt **effective water management arrangements** to ensure sustainable development and international cooperation

Promote the **achievement and implementation** of policies, laws, agreements and institutional arrangements for effective water governance at the local, national, basin and regional levels



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



IUCN Work in Asia

In Mekong

- Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE) in Lower Mekong Basins, 2011 to 2018 (3 phases)
- Mekong Water Dialogue (2012-2014)
- 3S Nexus Project (2016 2018)

In GBM

- The Ecosystems for Life: A Bangladesh-India Initiative (E4L), 2010-2014
- Water Diplomacy: Making Water Cooperation Work
- BRIDGE in Ganga Brahmaputra and Meghna basins (Sept 2016 – Aug 2017)
- Regional Capacity Building: Water Governance Project (Jan 2017 – Dec 2017)



Working with Myanmar

THE UN WATERCOURSES CONVENTION

A window of opportunity for Myanmar

Scope: Non-navigational use of 'Watercourses'

- Substantive rule: rights and duties of transboundary basin States
- Equitable and reasonable utilization
- Obligation not to cause significant harm
- Protection and preservation of ecosystems
- Cooperation

Procedural rule:practical means to implement the substantive rules

- Regular exchange of data and information
- Notification, consultation and negotiation

Road to ratification

Legal training to water and cooperation entities in the Government of Myanmar (NWRC Hydrodiplomacy Workshop, September 2015)

Awareness platforms to discuss the content of the UNWC and determine the commitments that might arise from its eventual accession

Exchange of **lessons and experiences** with countries who have ratified

Specific **legal training for judges** to substantiate the rulings of National Tribunals