SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION

Reporting on global SDG indicator 6.5.2

TEMPLATE of the fourth reporting exercise

Content of the template

The template is divided into four parts:

- Section I - Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2
- Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins
  - Danube - *Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River; Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Austria, on the other, on cooperation on management of water resources in the Danube Basin, Regensburg*
  - Elbe - *Convention between the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the European Economic Community on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe; Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation on Transboundary Waters*
  - Oder/Odra - *Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution; Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management at Border Waters*
  - Maas/Meuse - *International Agreement on the River Meuse*
  - - Mosel/Moselle-Saar/Sarre - *Protocol concerning the constitution of an International Commission for the Protection of the Saar against Pollution; Complementary protocol to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Mosel against pollution relating to the establishment of a joint secretariat; Complementary protocol No. 2 to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Mosel against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, and to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Saar against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, as well as to the complementary protocol to those two protocols, signed at Brussels on 22 March 1990; Convention on the Protection of the Rhine*
  - Rhine - *Convention on the Protection of the Rhine; Protocol concerning the constitution of an International Commission for the Protection of the Saar against Pollution; Ministerial decision on the Coordinating Committee for the Water Framework Directive; Agreement on the Protection of Lake Constance against Pollution*
  - Ems - *Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands in which they agree to implement the EU Water Framework Directive (8 October 2002 and 26 February 2003) and the EU Floods Directive (17 March 2009 and 5 May 2009) in the river basin of the Ems*
  - Vidaa/Wiedau; - Eider; - Schlei/Trave - *Joint declaration of the environment ministries of Denmark and Germany on the coordination of the management of the transboundary catchments of the Wiedau, Krusau, Meynau and Jadelunder Graben*

- Elbe - *Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation on Transboundary Waters; Convention between the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the European Economic Community on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe; Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution*
- Ems - *Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning arrangements for co-operation in the Ems estuary (Ems-Dollard Treaty); Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the course of the common frontier, the boundary waters, real property situated near the frontier, traffic crossing the frontier on land and via inland waters, and other frontier questions (Frontier Treaty); Additional protocol on cooperation in water and nature management (Ems-Dollard Environmental Protocol) to the Agreement of 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on cooperation in the Ems Estuary*
- Oder/Odra - *Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management at Border Waters; Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution*
- Danube; Deep Thermal/Lower Bavarian-Upper Austrian Molasse Basin (GK 100158 TGWK) - *Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Austria, on the other, on cooperation on management of water resources in the Danube Basin, Regensburg; Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River*
- - Lake Constance - *Agreement on the Protection of Lake Constance against Pollution*

- Section III - General information on transboundary water management at the national level
- Section IV - Final questions

Country name: Germany

Signed date: 2026-09-15

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Methodology

1. Using the information gathered in section II, the information gathered in section I allows for the calculation of Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.

2. The step-by-step monitoring methodology for indicator 6.5.2, developed by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of UN-Water, should be referred to for details on the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation. [a]

3. The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary basins (river and lake basins and aquifers) that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the area obtained by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both river and lake basins, and aquifers).

4. Transboundary basins are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.

5. An "arrangement for water cooperation" is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.

6. For an arrangement to be considered "operational" all the following criteria need to be in place in practice:

a. There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g., a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation (criterion 1);

b. There are regular (at least once per year) formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings (either at the political or technical level) (criterion 2);

c. Joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan, or an action plan have been agreed upon by the riparian countries (criterion 3);

d. There is a regular (at least once per year) exchange of data and information (criterion 4).

[a] Available from the UN-Water website: www.unwater.org/our-work/integrated-monitoring-initiative-sdg-6/indicator-652-proportion-transboundary-basin-area (updated version "2020").

Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

7. Please list in the tables in section I the transboundary basins (rivers and lakes and aquifers) in your country's territory and provide the following information for each of them:

a. The country/ies with which the basin is shared;

b. The surface area of the basin (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in square kilometres (km 2));

c. Whether a map and/or a geographical information system (GIS) shapefile of the basin has been provided;

d. Whether there is an arrangement in force for the basin;

e. The verification of each of the four criteria to assess operationality;

f. The surface area of the basin within the territory of your country which is covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria.

8. In case an operational arrangement is in place only for a sub-basin or a portion of a basin, please list this sub-basin just after the transboundary basin it is part of. In case there is an operational arrangement for the whole basin, do not list sub-basins in the table below.

Section I - Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

Table 1 - Transboundary river or lake basins

Name	*Type*	*Countries shared with*	*Surface area of the basin/sub-basin within the territory*	*Map and/or GIS shapefile provided*	*Covered by an arrangement (see sect. II question 1)*	*Criterion 1 (see sect. II question 3)*	*Criterion 2 (see sect. II question 3(i))*	*Criterion 3 (see sect. II question 4)*	*Criterion 4 (see sect. II questions 6 (a) and (b))*	*Surface area of the basin/sub-basin covered by an operational arrangement within the territory*
Rhine	Basin	Austria, Belgium, European Union, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Switzerland	105,420	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	105,420
- Mosel/Moselle-Saar/Sarre	Sub-basin	France, Luxembourg	9,631	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	9,631
- Lake Constance	Sub-basin	Austria, Switzerland	536	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	536
Maas/Meuse	Basin	Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	3,977	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3,977
Ems	Basin	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	15,490	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15,490
Elbe	Basin	Austria, Czechia, Poland	97,175	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	97,175
Danube	Basin	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, European Union, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine	56,184	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	56,184

Oder/Odra	Basin	Czechia, Poland	9,705	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	9,705
Vidaa/Wiedau	Basin	Denmark	18,555	No	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	18,555
- Eider	Sub-basin	Denmark	9,337	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	9,337
- Schlei/Trave	Sub-basin	Denmark	9,218	Yes	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	9,218

(A) Total surface area of transboundary basins/sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km²)	306,506
(B) Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km²)	306,506

Additional information

Lake Constance: Frontiers not agreed, no km² indication available.
Ems: 482 km² of the surface establish the International coordination area Ems-Dollart. No frontiers agreed with the Netherlands in this area.

Table 2 - Transboundary aquifers

Name	*Type of aquifer*	*Countries shared with*	*Surface area of the aquifer within the territory*	*Map and/or GIS shapefile provided*	*Covered by an aquifer specific arrangement (see sect. II question 1)*	*Covered within an arrangement not specific to the aquifer (see sect. II question 2(b))*	*Criterion 1 (see sect. II question 3)*	*Criterion 2 (see sect. II question 3(i))*	*Criterion 3 (see sect. II question 4)*	*Criterion 4 (see sect. II questions 6 (a) and (b))*	*Surface area of the aquifer covered by an operational arrangement within the territory*
Deep Thermal/Lower Bavarian-Upper Austrian Molasse Basin (GK 100158 TGWK)	confined aquifer with no or limited relation with surface water	Austria	4,250	Yes	No	Entirely	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4,250

(C) Total surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km²) 4,250

(D) Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km²) 4,250

Additional information

Concerning other transboundary aquifers/groundwater bodies no km² data availability. All of them are covered by operational agreements of which the Federal Republic of Germany is part of.
There are no transboundary groundwater bodies in the Ems, Eider, Schlei-Trave, Elbe and Oder basins. There is one transboundary German-Polish aquifer on the island of Usedom.
In the Elbe river basin management plan it is explained that transboundary effects concerning groundwater bodies – in case they exist – are only local and are therefore covered by the bilateral commissions of the relevant countries. No km² data available.
Rhine basin: Groundwater bodies are coordinated at the borders. No transboundary groundwater bodies as such (legal reasons). No km² data available. See map K 5 in the Rhine maps (link above).
Mosel/Saar sub-basin (Rhine basin): Transboundary aquifers exist, e.g. between Germany and France. Groundwater bodies are coordinated at the borders, no transboundary aquifers or groundwater bodies designated. No km² data available. See map A 4 in the Mosel/Saar maps (link above).
Meuse basin: Transboundary groundwater bodies, see annexes 3 and 4 of the Meuse river basin management plan in the Meuse maps (link above). No km² data available.
Even though no km² data on transboundary aquifers or transboundary groundwater bodies are available for the whole of Germany, all groundwater bodies Germany shares with other countries or groundwater bodies at the borders are covered by the agreements mentioned in the files concerning section II (see 13 separate section II files Germany filled in accordingly).
Groundwater bodies are covered by the EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). The river basin districts under this Directive cover the area of land and

sea, made up of one or more neighbouring river basins together with their associated groundwaters and coastal waters. The WFD does not require km² data on water bodies. Delineations are visible in the maps on groundwater bodies, but km² cannot be calculated easily from them.
Maps of UNESCO (IHP, ISARM IGRAC), TWAP Groundwater, European Environment Agency or maps of national institutions (e.g. of the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources) cannot be used in this regard, because they are neither complete with regard to EU transboundary aquifers/groundwater bodies or they present not only transboundary aquifers/groundwater bodies nor do any of them include km² data or km² data for the German part of an aquifer or groundwater body.

Indicator value for the country

Surface waters:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes covered by an operational arrangement:

A/B x 100 = **100**

Aquifers:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by an operational arrangement:

C/D x 100 = **100**

Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins covered by an operational arrangement:

((A + C)/(B + D)) x 100 = **100**

Spatial information

Shape files

Map_Danube basin.docx
Map_Elbe Basin.docx
Map_Meuse basin.docx
Map_Oder basin.docx
Map_Rhine basin.docx

Links

Map_Ems basin
Map_Mosel_Saar-Sub basin
Map_Eider basin
Map_Schlei_Trave-Basin
Information on German-Austrian thermal water aquifer

Additional information

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

There are no transboundary groundwater bodies in the Ems, Eider, Schlei-Trave, Elbe and Oder basins. There is one transboundary German-Polish aquifer on the island of Usedom.
In the Elbe river basin management plan it is explained that transboundary effects concerning groundwater

bodies – in case they exist – are only local and are therefore covered by the bilateral commissions of the relevant countries. No km² data available.
Rhine basin: Groundwater bodies are coordinated at the borders. No transboundary groundwater bodies as such (legal reasons). No km² data available. See map K 5 in the Rhine maps (link above).
Mosel/Saar sub-basin (Rhine basin): Transboundary aquifers exist, e.g. between Germany and France. Groundwater bodies are coordinated at the borders, no transboundary aquifers or groundwater bodies designated. No km² data available. See map A 4 in the Mosel/Saar maps (link above).
Meuse basin: Transboundary groundwater bodies, see annexes 3 and 4 of the Meuse river basin management plan in the Meuse maps (link above). No km² data available.
Even though no km² data on transboundary aquifers or transboundary groundwater bodies are available for the whole of Germany, all groundwater bodies Germany shares with other countries or groundwater bodies at the borders are covered by the agreements mentioned in the files concerning section II (see 13 separate section II files Germany filled in accordingly).
Groundwater bodies are covered by the EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). The river basin districts under this Directive cover the area of land and sea, made up of one or more neighbouring river basins together with their associated groundwaters and coastal waters. The WFD does not require km² data on water bodies. Delineations are visible in the maps on groundwater bodies, but km² cannot be calculated easily from them.

Agreements or arrangements

Does your country have transboundary agreements or arrangements for the protection and/or management of transboundary waters (i.e., rivers, lakes or groundwater), whether bilateral or multilateral?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, list the bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements (listing for each of the countries concerned)

- Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning arrangements for co-operation in the Ems estuary (Ems-Dollard Treaty) (The Hague, 08-04-1960)
- Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the course of the common frontier, the boundary waters, real property situated near the frontier, traffic crossing the frontier on land and via inland waters, and other frontier questions (Frontier Treaty) (The Hague, 08-04-1960)
- Agreement on the Protection of Lake Constance against Pollution (Steckborn, 27-10-1960)
- Agreement concerning the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (Repealed by 1999 Convention) (Bern, 29-04-1963)
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution (Repealed by 1999 Convention) (03-12-1976)
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution with Chlorides (Bonn, 03-12-1976)
- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Austria, on the other, on cooperation on management of water resources in the Danube Basin, Regensburg (Regensburg, 01-12-1987)
- Convention between the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the European Economic Community on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe (Magdeburg, 08-10-1990)
- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management at Border Waters (Warsaw, 19-05-1992)
- Complementary protocol No. 2 to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Mosel against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, and to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Saar against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, as well as to the complementary protocol to those two protocols, signed at Brussels on 22 March 1990 (Maria Laach, 13-11-1992)
- Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River (Sofia, 29-06-1994)
- Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation on Transboundary Waters (Dresden, 12-12-1995)

- Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution (Wrocław, 11-04-1996)
- Additional protocol on cooperation in water and nature management (Ems-Dollard Environmental Protocol) to the Agreement of 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on cooperation in the Ems Estuary (Delfzijl, 22-08-1996)
- Convention on the collection, deposit and reception of waste generated during navigation on the Rhine and other inland waterways (CDNI) (Strasbourg, 09-09-1996)
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine (Bern, 12-04-1999)
- Ministerial decision on the Coordinating Committee for the Water Framework Directive (Strasbourg, 29-01-2001)
- International Agreement on the River Meuse (Ghent, 03-12-2002)
- Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands in which they agree to implement the EU Water Framework Directive (8 October 2002 and 26 February 2003) and the EU Floods Directive (17 March 2009 and 5 May 2009) in the river basin of the Ems (17-03-2009)
- Joint declaration of the environment ministries of Denmark and Germany on the coordination of the management of the transboundary catchments of the Wiedau, Krusau, Meynau and Jadelunder Graben (01-01-2005)

Additional comments

Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution with Chlorides is still in force. It was not repealed. Correct title of the Meuse agreement is `International Meuse Convention`.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Danube

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Albania; Austria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czechia; Germany; Hungary; Italy; Montenegro; North Macedonia; Poland; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Switzerland; Ukraine

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

7 %

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River (Sofia, 29-06-1994)
- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Austria, on the other, on cooperation on management of water resources in the Danube Basin, Regensburg (Regensburg, 01-12-1987)

If any, additional information

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If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

Countries with small parts of the basin (less than 2,000 km²) are not part of the agreement (Albania, Italy, North-Macedonia, Poland and Switzerland).

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

( ) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Austria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czechia; Germany; Hungary; Montenegro; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Ukraine

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Main groundwater bodies in the basin according to the EU Water Framework Directive, in the third WFD river basin management plan of the ICPDR: https://www.icpdr.org/main/sites/default/files/nodes/documents/drbmp_update_2021_-_all_maps.pdf (Map 4) https://www.icpdr.org/main/sites/default/files/nodes/documents/drbmp_update_2021_final_annex_8_-_groundwater.pdf (Annex 8)

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (◉) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [X] Navigation
- [X] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments

- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [X] Other

  Concerning navigation, there is a cooperation in place between the ICPDR and the Danube Commission (https://www.danubecommission.org/dc/en/) based on the Joint Statement for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection (https://www.icpdr.org/tasks-topics/water-users/navigation/joint-statement-navigation-environment).

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [X] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievements of ICPDR have been to provide a platform for joint and focused actions, political decisions, for cooperation and exchange of experiences, for awareness raising and for convening of agreements across sectors. These joint efforts have resulted in improved ecological and chemical quality of the Danube and its basin. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures and the development of joint river basin management plans. Also, the flood management has improved, via the joint flood risk management plan. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been good cooperation at technical and political level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin. Also non-EU countries have agreed to implement the EU basin related directives in the Danube basin, a great sign of trust and joint efforts.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable use of the Danube River (Danube River Protection Convention)

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- ( ) Bilateral commission
- (●) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Austria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czechia; Germany; Hungary; Montenegro; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Ukraine

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

Albania; Italy; North Macedonia; Poland; Switzerland

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◉ Other

  Their share of the basin is very small, thus regular cooperation not needed. Data are provided as needed.

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☒ A secretariat

  If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
  Permanent joint secretariat

- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  See ICPDR organigram: http://www.icpdr.org/main/sites/default/files/nodes/documents/icpdr-organigram.pdf

- ☒ Other features

  Regular ministerial conferences

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- ☒ Identification of pollution sources
- ☒ Data collection and exchange
- ☒ Joint monitoring

- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Setting emission limits
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- [X] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [X] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [X] Policy development
- [X] Control of implementation
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [X] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [X] Consultations on planned measures
- [X] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [X] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [X] Joint communication strategy
- [X] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [X] Governance issues

  Coordination of some upstream/downstream issues not always easy, EU Member States and non-EU countries

- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (•) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. (f) above

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (•) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Ukraine, Romania and Bulgaria as coastal states are parties in the ICPDR. Additionally, there is a cooperation of ICPDR with the Black Sea Commission.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

- Updated River Basin Management Plan: http://www.icpdr.org/main/publications/danube-river-basin-management-plan-drbmp-update-2021
- Update Flood Risk Management Plan: http://www.icpdr.org/main/publications/danube-flood-risk-management-plan-dfrmp-update-2021
- Danube Declaration 2022: https://www.icpdr.org/main/sites/default/files/nodes/documents/danube_declaration_2022.pdf
- Joint Statement on Navigation and Environment: http://www.icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/joint-statement-navigation-environment
- Guiding Principles on Sustainable Hydropower: http://www.icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/hydropower
- Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change: http://www.icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/climate-change-adaptation

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

- [X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction
- [X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [X] Other measures

  - See River Basin Management Plan under 4. above.
  - All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working and expert groups of the ICPDR.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

- Joint monitoring program
- Results of those monitoring program are discussed in the relevant working and expert groups and on

strategic/political level also with regard to follow-up steps.
- Every six years Joint Danube Surveys: Joint monitoring campaigns at the same time on the Danube and main tributaries, based on jointly agreed parameters and methods. Evaluation per parameter in the same laboratory. Testing of new monitoring or analytical methods. See https://www.danubesurvey.org/jds5 with regard to the current survey.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [X] Other subjects

  - Flood protection measures and their possible effects // - Accidents with possible transboundary effects on water bodies

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:

https://www.icpdr.org/about-icpdr/databases

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [x] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability
- Inspiration concerning emerging substances
- Good basis for joint planning
- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems
- Trust building

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☒	☒	☒
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

☒ National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

☒ Joint and agreed methodologies

☒ Joint sampling

☒ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

- Transnational Monitoring Network, Joint Danube Surveys, see link below .
Instead of lengthy descriptions see the TNMN yearbooks: http://www.icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/tnmn-transnational-monitoring-network
(they are published two years later, as the data has to be compiled and evaluated, first)
- Diverse methodologies depending on the parameter, partly methodologies agreed on EU level due to the EU Directives.
- Biological parameters are fish, benthic invertebrates, macrophytes/ phytobenthos, phytoplankton, thus, the biological quality elements of the EU Water Framework Directive. Also, invasive species are looked at.
- Chemical substances list is updated regularly. New substances are added, not any longer problematic ones deleted. Substances of the EQS Directive (daughter directive to the Water Framework Directive).
- Joint Danube Surveys, see http://icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/joint-danube-survey

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.
The up to now 5 Joint Danube Surveys have significantly improved the knowledge on the main stream and tributaries as well as on methodologies (see Joint Danube Surveys, see link above in 7. b).

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

- Updated River Basin Management Plan, see link under 4. above
- Joint Danube Survey 5: https://www.danubesurvey.org/jds5/

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

According to the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives on priority substances and groundwater

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Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [x] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [x] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction

- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Several bilateral treaties, independent from the Danube Convention. They deal with the transboundary cooperation in case of disasters, e. g. on who cooperates how.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[X] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[X] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Private sector organisations or associations	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Water user groups or associations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Women organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Youth organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Academic or research institutions	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Other non-governmental organisations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
General public	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

- ICPDR has a public participation expert group, see http://icpdr.org/main/icpdr/public-participation-expert-group
- German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention: https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Elbe

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Austria; Czechia; Germany; Poland

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

65.54 %

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Convention between the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the European Economic Community on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe (Magdeburg, 08-10-1990)
- Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation on Transboundary Waters (Dresden, 12-12-1995)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Austria; Czechia; Germany; Poland

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

See chapter 1.2 and map 1.4 in the river basin management plan, link below.

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

(●) All water uses

( ) A single water use or sector

( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [x] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of ICPE has been a significant improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the Elbe and its basin. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been good cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe (EEC Translation) (unofficial English version)

Vereinbarung über die Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Elbe

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe River

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- ( ) Bilateral commission
- (●) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Czechia; Germany

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

Austria; Poland

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ( ) No cooperation
- ( ) They have observer status
- (●) Other

Poland and Austria are not parties to the agreement due to their small parts of the basin, but they are members of the International Coordination Group (ICG) in order to implement all EU basin related directives, see working structure below.

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- [X] A secretariat

  If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
  Permanent joint secretariat

- [X] A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)
- [ ] Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

see ICPE organigram: https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/E/02_ICPER/02_Struktur/03_Organigramm/Scheme%20ICPER_September14.jpg

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- [X] Identification of pollution sources
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Setting emission limits
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- [X] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [X] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [X] Policy development
- [X] Control of implementation
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [X] Settling of differences and conflicts

- [X] Consultations on planned measures
- [ ] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [X] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [X] Joint communication strategy
- [X] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [ ] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( )

Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

◯ Yes ◉ No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany is coastal state and party to the ICPE Convention.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

If yes, please provide further details:

- 3rd International River Basin Management Plan:
https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/D/06_Publikationen/01_Wasserrahmenrichtlinie/2021_IKSE-IntBewiPlan_2022-2027_Web.pdf
- 2nd International Flood Risk Management Plan:
https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/D/06_Publikationen/02_Hochwasserschutz/2021_IKSE-IHWRMP_Aktualisierung.pdf
- Sediment Management Concept:
https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/D/06_Publikationen/01_Wasserrahmenrichtlinie/2014_IKSE-Abschlussbericht%20Sediment.pdf (only available in German and Czech)
English executive summary:
http://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/E/06_Publikationen/01_Wasserrahmenrichtlinie/2015_ICPER-Infomation-Sheet_Sediment.pdf
Implementation status:
https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/D/06_Publikationen/01_Wasserrahmenrichtlinie/2024_IKSE-Infoblatt_Sediment.pdf

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

☐ Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

☐ Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [X] Other measures

  See River basin Management Plan under 4. above.
  All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working and expert groups in the ICPE.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings of working groups and via email exchange, in workshops and seminars.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information

- [x] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:

https://mkol.chmi.cz/ords/chmi_app/r/iemp/home?tz=2:00

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

Different national standards with regard to data.

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability
- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☐	☐	☐
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

☒ National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

☒ Joint and agreed methodologies

☒ Joint sampling

☒ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

-

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Comparability of data due to different national methodologies and standards

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Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

- International River Basin Management Plan, see link under 4. above
- ICPE monitoring programme 2026, see: https://www.ikse-mkol.org/fileadmin/media/user_upload/D/04_Themen/02_Gewasserguete/Dokumente_IMPE/IMPE/IKSE-Messprogramm_2026.pdf

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Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

According to the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives on priority substances and groundwater

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Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [x] Other

  Emergency tool to keep back floating dangerous substances, at Hřensko on the Elbe

- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [x] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [x] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

☒ Other

Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction

☐ No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaties, independent from the Elbe Convention. It deals with the transboundary cooperation in case of disasters, e. g. on who cooperates how.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

☒ Availability of information to the public

☒ Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

☒ Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☒	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☒	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☒	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐

General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention:
https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Oder/Odra

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Czechia; Germany; Poland

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

8 %

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution (Wrocław, 11-04-1996)
- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management at Border Waters (Warsaw, 19-05-1992)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Czechia; Germany; Poland

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

(●) All water uses

( ) A single water use or sector

( )

Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [x] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of ICPO has been an improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the Oder and its basin. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been good cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Oder

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commission on the Protection of the Oder against Pollution (ICPO)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- ( ) Bilateral commission
- (●) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Czechia; Germany; Poland

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ( ) No cooperation
- ( ) They have observer status
- ( ) Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

☒ A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
Permanent joint secretariat

☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

See ICPO organization chart: https://www.mkoo.pl/index.php?mid=1&aid=3&lang=EN

☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

☒ Identification of pollution sources

☒ Data collection and exchange

☒ Joint monitoring

☒ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

☐ Setting emission limits

☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

☒ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease

☐ Water allocation and/or flow regulation

☒ Policy development

☒ Control of implementation

☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States

☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

☒ Settling of differences and conflicts

☒ Consultations on planned measures

☒ Exchange of information on best available technology

☐ Participation in transboundary EIA

- [X] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [X] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

◯ Yes ◉ No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany and Poland (coastal states) are parties to the Oder Convention. There are contacts to the Baltic Sea Commission.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

If yes, please provide further details:

- Third river basin management plan: http://mkoo.pl/index.php?mid=28&aid=693&lang=DE
- Second flood risk management plan: http://mkoo.pl/index.php?mid=28&aid=952&lang=DE
- Strategy on the joint solution of significant water management issues in the international Oder river basin district: https://www.mkoo.pl/index.php?mid=4&aid=1068&lang=DE
(available in German, Polish and Czech)

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

☐ Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

☒ Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

☒ Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

☒ Water-related species and habitats protection

☒ Other measures

See River Basin Management Plan under 4. above.
All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working and expert groups of the ICPO.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings and in between via emails etc.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:
https://geoportal2.mkoo.pl/client/?applicationId=3686

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- ☐ Frequency of exchanges
- ☐ Timing of exchanges
- ☐ Comparability of data and information
- ☐ Limited spatial coverage
- ☐ Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- ☐ Other

Additional comments:
-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability
- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☐	☐	☐

Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [X] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- [X] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [X] Joint sampling
- [ ] Common monitoring network
- [X] Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

A basic network, on surface water, based on EU provisions. Thus, agreed parameters and methodologies. Joint sampling in irregular intervals and on one site to compare methods and monitoring results on one parameter.

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that allow joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.
In the ICPO, there are practical joint exercises on sampling and analysing to compare national methods.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Comparability of data

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Assessment is done in the framework of the international river basin management plans, see link under 4. above.

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

According to the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives on priority substances and groundwater.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [x] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction

- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaties, independent from the Oder Convention. They deal with the transboundary cooperation in case of disasters, e. g. on who cooperates how.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[X] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[X] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Private sector organisations or associations	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Water user groups or associations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Women organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Youth organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Academic or research institutions	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other non-governmental organisations	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
General public	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention: https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Maas/Meuse

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Belgium; France; Germany; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

11.5%

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- International Agreement on the River Meuse (Ghent, 03-12-2002)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Belgium; France; Germany; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (●) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [ ] Consultation on planned measures
- [ ] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [X] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure

- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main achievement of IMC has been improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the Meuse and its basin. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures e.g. through improving the ecological connectivity. Also, the flood management has substantially improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Internationales Maasübereinkommen

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Meuse Commission (IMC)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

( ) Plenipotentiaries

( ) Bilateral commission

(●) Basin or similar commission

( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Belgium; France; Germany; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

( ) No cooperation

( ) They have observer status

( ) Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

[X] A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
Permanent joint Secretariat

☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

See IMC organigramme: https://www.meuse-maas.be/Organigramme.aspx?lang=en-US

☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

☒ Identification of pollution sources

☒ Data collection and exchange

☒ Joint monitoring

☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

☐ Setting emission limits

☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

☒ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease

☐ Water allocation and/or flow regulation

☒ Policy development

☒ Control of implementation

☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States

☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

☒ Settling of differences and conflicts

☒ Consultations on planned measures

☒ Exchange of information on best available technology

☐ Participation in transboundary EIA

☒ Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

☐ Management of shared infrastructure

- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

The Netherlands are the relevant coastal state and party to the Meuse Convention.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

3rd river basin management plan
http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/PUBLICATION-PFPG-mars-2022/PFPG_Maqua_21_14def_en.pdf

2nd Flood risk management plan
http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/PGRI-dec-2021-en-anglais/Roof_Report_Mregie_21_1def_en.pdf

Master Plan Migratory Fish
http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/EspacePublic-Documents/Publications/2011/Rapport_Masterplan_octobre2011_d.pdf

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

[X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

[X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

[X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

[X] Water-related species and habitats protection

[X] Other measures

See River Basin Management Plan under 4. above.
All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working and expert groups of the IMC.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (•) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings and in between.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [ ] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- ( ) Yes
- (•) No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- ☐ Frequency of exchanges
- ☐ Timing of exchanges
- ☐ Comparability of data and information
- ☐ Limited spatial coverage
- ☐ Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- ☐ Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability
- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☒	☐	☒
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [X] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- [X] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [ ] Joint sampling
- [X] Common monitoring network
- [X] Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

Stations, methods and parameters according to EU legislation

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that allow joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

- See River Basin Management Plan, link under 4. above

- Report on the homogenous monitoring network (main stream) 2020 – 2022: https://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/Documents-AssembleePleniere/R%c3%a9union%20du%2013%20d%c3%a9cembre%202024/APPROVED_Rapport-triennal-2020-2022_Mmonitor_23_7def_d.pdf

- Report on the development of Maas temperature (1999 – 2019) http://www.meuse-maas.be/CIM/media/PUBLICATION-Rapport-temp-dec-2022/Rapport_Evolution-de-la-temperature-de-la-Meuse_d.pdf

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Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives

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Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [x] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction

- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Several bilateral treaties. They deal with the transboundary cooperation in case of disasters, e.g. on who cooperates how.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[ ] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[ ] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Private sector organisations or associations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Water user groups or associations	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Women organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Youth organisations or groups	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Academic or research institutions	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other non-governmental organisations	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
General public	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention: https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

- Mosel/Moselle-Saar/Sarre

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Belgium; France; Germany; Luxembourg

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

34%

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Protocol concerning the constitution of an International Commission for the Protection of the Saar against Pollution (Paris, 20-12-1961)
- Complementary protocol to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Mosel against pollution relating to the establishment of a joint secretariat (Brussels, 22-03-1990)
- Complementary protocol No. 2 to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Mosel against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, and to the Protocol concerning the constitution of an international commission for the protection of the Saar against pollution, signed at Paris on 20 December 1961, as well as to the complementary protocol to those two protocols, signed at Brussels on 22 March 1990 (Maria Laach, 13-11-1992)
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine (Bern, 12-04-1999)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

The protocols are rather old (1961), have never been updated, but are interpreted to cover the whole basins of Mosel and Saar.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

France; Germany; Luxembourg

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

–

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (◉) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [ ] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [X] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of ICPMS has been an improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the Mosel and the Saar. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has substantially improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and

a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin.
This basis allows to be flexible and take up new issues like e.g. low water monitoring http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/2000120/

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Moselprotokoll

Saarprotokoll

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commissions for the Protection of the Moselle and Saar Rivers (CIPMS)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- ( ) Bilateral commission
- (●) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

France; Germany; Luxembourg

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

Belgium

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ○ No cooperation
- ◉ They have observer status
- ○ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☒ A secretariat

  If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?

  Permanent joint secretariat of both commissions

- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  see https://iksms.rlp-umwelt.de/servlet/is/20131/

- ☒ Other features

  Adaptive working structure. Expert groups are established, if needed, often with a time limited mandate.

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- ☒ Identification of pollution sources
- ☒ Data collection and exchange
- ☒ Joint monitoring
- ☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- ☐ Setting emission limits
- ☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- ☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

- [X] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [ ] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [ ] Policy development
- [X] Control of implementation
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [X] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [X] Consultations on planned measures
- [X] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [X] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events

- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany as the relevant coastal state is party to the ICPMS and to the ICPR (Rhine).

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

River Basin Management Plan 2022 – 2027
http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/20228/PdG_MS_2022_2027_annexes%20comprises.pdf?command=downloadContent&filename=PdG_MS_2022_2027_annexes%20comprises.pdf (French version)

2nd Flood Risk Management Plan
http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/20228/2e%20PGRI%20Moselle-Sarre.pdf?command=downloadContent&filename=2e%20PGRI%20Moselle-Sarre.pdf (French version)

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

- [X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction
- [X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [X] Other measures

  See River Basin Management Plan under 4. above.
  All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working and expert groups of the ICPMS.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

- Joint monitoring programme
- exchange, compilation of monitoring data
- joint assessment
- e.g. report on the development of water status in the sub-basin 2000 – 2015: http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/20086/Wasserbeschaffenheit.pdf?command=downloadContent&filename=Wasserbeschaffenheit.pdf (French version)

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources

- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

(•) Yes ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

(•) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:

http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/20081/

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability

- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

---

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(◉) Yes ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☒	☐	☒
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

☒ National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

☒ Joint and agreed methodologies

☒ Joint sampling

☒ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

- Longstanding joint monitoring networks
- Parameters of the EU Water Framework Directive. Biological parameters are fish, benthic invertebrates, macrophytes/ phytobenthos, phytoplankton. Also, invasive species are looked at.
- Chemical substances as in the EQS Directive (daughter Directive to the Water Framework Directive)
- See interactive maps mentioned in 6 f) and report mentioned in 6.c) above

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

- River Basin Management Plan (link see 4. above)
- Report on the development of water status in the sub-basin (link see 6. c) above)

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives set for priority substances and priority hazardous substances and for groundwater.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction; Agreement on the flood information system in the basin of the Mosel http://www.iksms-cipms.org/servlet/is/20044/Regierungsabkommen_01101987.pdf?command=downloadContent&filename=Regierungsabkommen_01101987.pdf

- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

There are bilateral agreements mainly between neighbouring countries with regard to mutual assistance in case of catastrophes.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

- [x] Availability of information to the public
- [x] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans
- [ ] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	[x]	[ ]	[ ]
Private sector organisations or associations	[x]	[ ]	[ ]
Water user groups or associations	[x]	[ ]	[ ]

Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention
https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Rhine

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Austria; Belgium; France; Germany; Italy; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the); Switzerland

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

53,4%

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine (Bern, 12-04-1999)
- Protocol concerning the constitution of an International Commission for the Protection of the Saar against Pollution (Paris, 20-12-1961)
- Ministerial decision on the Coordinating Committee for the Water Framework Directive (Strasbourg, 29-01-2001)
- Agreement on the Protection of Lake Constance against Pollution (Steckborn, 27-10-1960)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

-

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

( ) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

The Convention on the Protection of the Rhine covers only the main stream and only with regard to some issues the whole basin (if problems there have effects on the main stream). In order to cover the whole basin and to involve AT, BE (Walloon region) and Liechtenstein as well as Italy, the other countries in the basin, the so called Coordinating Committee has been established via a decision of a ministerial conference. There are special rules of procedure (Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations for the Cooperation of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) with the Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine). Thus, there is an international platform to coordinate the basin related implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Flood Risk Management Directive.
Italy provides data if needed.

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Austria; Belgium; European Union; France; Germany; Italy; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the); Switzerland

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Groundwater, which is in connection with the Rhine (Article 2 of the Rhine Convention) and all groundwater in the Rhine basin due to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (●) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [X] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [X] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [X] Other

Concerning navigation, cooperation exists between the ICPR and the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (https://www.ccr-zkr.org), which deals with navigation issues from a transport/technical perspective.

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [X] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [ ] No significant difficulties
- [X] Other

  Upstream/downstream issues are not always easy to coordinate.

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of ICPR has been a tremendous improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the Rhine and later also its tributaries. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures, e.g. through improving the ecological connectivity and spawning grounds. Also, the flood management has substantially improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical and political level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries along the river and in the basin.
This basis allows to be flexible and to take up new issues like climate change and its effects, low water monitoring etc. The programme “Rhine 2040” proves this:
https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Sonstiges/EN/ot_En_Rhine_2040.pdf

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Rhine Convention

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ◯ Plenipotentiaries
- ◯ Bilateral commission
- ◉ Basin or similar commission
- ◯ Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ◯ Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ◉ Yes
- ◯ No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Austria; Belgium; European Union; France; Germany; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Netherlands (Kingdom of the); Switzerland

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◯ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☒ A secretariat

  If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
  Permanent joint secretariat

☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

See ICPR organigram: https://www.iksr.org/en/icpr/about-us/organisation

☒ Other features

-Adaptive working structure. Project and expert groups are established as needed, often with a time limited mandate
- Regular ministerial conferences

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

☒ Identification of pollution sources

☒ Data collection and exchange

☒ Joint monitoring

☒ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

☐ Setting emission limits

☒ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

☒ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease

☐ Water allocation and/or flow regulation

☒ Policy development

☒ Control of implementation

☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States

☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

☒ Settling of differences and conflicts

☒ Consultations on planned measures

☒ Exchange of information on best available technology

☐ Participation in transboundary EIA

☒ Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

☐ Management of shared infrastructure

- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [X] Joint communication strategy
- [X] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Relevant coastal states are Parties to the ICPR or the Coordination Committee (France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany).
Contacts exist with OSPAR Convention (North Sea, North East Atlantic) and Baltic Sea Convention.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

- Internationally coordinated river basin management plan 2021 according to the EU Water Framework Directive
https://www.iksr.org/en/eu-directives/european-water-framework-directive/river-basin-management-plan-2021-1
- Internationally coordinated flood risk management plan 2021:
https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/BWP-HWRMP/EN/bwp_En_2d_IFRMP_2021.pdf
- Assessment of Programme Rhine 2020
https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Broschueren/EN/bro_En_Assessment_%E2%80%9CRhine_2020%E2%80%9D.pdf
- New Programme Rhine 2040
https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Sonstiges/EN/ot_En_Rhine_2040.pdf
- Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine (updated 2018)
https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Fachberichte/EN/rp_En_0247.pdf
- Sediment Management Plan
https://www.iksr.org/en/topics/water-quality/surface-waters/sediments
- Climate change adaptation strategy for the IRBD Rhinehttps://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Fachberichte/EN/rp_En_0219.pdf
- Low water monitoring
https://www.iksr.org/en/topics/low-water/low-water-monitoring

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

[X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

[X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

[X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

[X] Water-related species and habitats protection

[ ] Other measures

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

Examples:
- Joint monitoring programmes on dangerous substances, special monitoring programmes in case of emerging substances like micropollutants. Monitoring programmes are jointly discussed and agreed on within the ICPR in due time before their start. Results of those monitoring programmes are discussed in the relevant working and expert groups and on strategic/political level also with regard to follow-up steps.
- Exchange on national projects which might have transboundary effects.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:

https://iksr.bafg.de/iksr/

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [x] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- Better overview on the whole basin
- Comparability
- Inspiration concerning emerging substances
- Good basis for joint planning
- Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
- Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☒	☐	☒
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☒	☐	☒

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

☒ National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

☒ Joint and agreed methodologies

☐ Joint sampling

☒ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

Longstanding joint monitoring networks (chemistry and biology), see also answer on 6. c) and links on 6. f) above.
Description would be lengthy, for details see publication of those programmes or their results on the ICPR website (not everything is translated into English as English is not an ICPR language):
- https://www.iksr.org/en/topics/water-quality/monitoring-of-the-state
- https://www.iksr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/DKDM/Dokumente/Fachberichte/EN/rp_En_0280.pdf
Biological parameters are fish, benthic invertebrates, macrophytes/ phytobenthos, phytoplankton, thus, the biological quality elements of the EU Water Framework Directive. Also, invasive species are looked at.
Chemical substances list is updated regularly. New substances are added, not any longer problematic ones deleted. Substances of the EQS Directive (daughter directive to the Water Framework Directive), but also other substances.

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

See publication of the monitoring programmes or their results on the ICPR website (links under 7 b above) and internationally coordinated river basin management plan according to the EU Water Framework Directive (link under 4. above)

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on quality objectives that the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives set for priority substances and priority hazardous substances, for groundwater, and Rhine river specific pollutants.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

- [X] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [X] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

There are international bilateral agreements mainly between neighbouring countries with regard to mutual assistance in case of catastrophes.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

- [X] Availability of information to the public
- [ ] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans
- [X] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	X		
Private sector organisations or associations			
Water user groups or associations	X		
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	X		
Women organisations or groups			
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups			
Youth organisations or groups			
Academic or research institutions	X		

Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

German implementation report for the Aarhus Convention
https://aarhusclearinghouse.unece.org/national-reports/reports?field_nr_report_language_aux_2_value=en&field_nr_report_language_aux_value=en&field_nr_q_year_target_id_verf%5B%5D=18900&field_nr_party_target_id_verf%5B%5D=17480&combine=&field_nr_answer_file_file_target_id%5B1%5D=1

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Ems

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

84%

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Exchange of letters between the Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands in which they agree to implement the EU Water Framework Directive (8 October 2002 and 26 February 2003) and the EU Floods Directive (17 March 2009 and 5 May 2009) in the river basin of the Ems (17-03-2009)

If any, additional information

Ministerial letters are not publicly available.

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Germany; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

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If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

(●) All water uses

( ) A single water use or sector

( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [ ] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [ ] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [ ] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [ ] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [ ] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [ ] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [x] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main concrete achievement of cooperation in the Ems basin has been an improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the water bodies. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures, e.g. through improving the ecological connectivity. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

-

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

Ems Secretariat (International steering group and International coordination group)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

( ) Plenipotentiaries

( ) Bilateral commission

( ) Basin or similar commission

(●) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points

( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

( ) No cooperation

( ) They have observer status

( ) Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

[X] A secretariat

If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?

Permanent joint secretariat

☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

coordination committe and regional working groups, see https://www.ems-eems.de/fge-ems/zusammenarbeit-in-der-fge-ems

☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

☒ Identification of pollution sources

☒ Data collection and exchange

☒ Joint monitoring

☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

☐ Setting emission limits

☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

☐ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease

☐ Water allocation and/or flow regulation

☐ Policy development

☒ Control of implementation

☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States

☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

☐ Settling of differences and conflicts

☒ Consultations on planned measures

☒ Exchange of information on best available technology

☐ Participation in transboundary EIA

☒ Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

☐ Management of shared infrastructure

☒ Addressing hydromorphological alterations

- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [ ] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [x] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (•) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer to question 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (•) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany as the relevant coastal state is already part fo the Ems cooperation.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

International River Basin Management Plan
https://www.ems-eems.de/wasserrahmenrichtlinie/berichte
(available in German and Dutch)

International Report on the Coordination of the Flood Risk Management Directive in the Ems Basin
https://www.ems-eems.de/hochwasserrichtlinie/berichte
(available in German and Dutch)

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

[X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

[X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

[X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

[X] Water-related species and habitats protection

[X] Other measures

See River Basin Management Plan under 4. above.
All of those measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchange is guaranteed in the working groups of the Ems cooperation.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (◉) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):
In connection with meetings and in between.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [ ] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [ ] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:
-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (◉) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- ( ) Yes
- (◉) No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

• Better overview on the whole basin
• Comparability
• Improved possibilities for early warning and alarm system
• Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☒	☐	☒
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [x] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

- [X] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [ ] Joint sampling
- [ ] Common monitoring network
- [X] Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

• Monitoring stations, methods and parameters according to EU legislation
• Exchange and joint assessment of monitoring data

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

See River Basin Management Plan, link see answer to question 4 above

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Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Environmental quality standards of the EU Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives

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Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [x] Other

  Close cooperation with regard to accidental pollution in coastal water bodies
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [x] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Coordination of the implementation of the EU Flood Risk Management Directive = Joint disaster risk reduction
- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on transboundary cooperation in case of disasters, e.g. on who cooperates how.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

- [x] Availability of information to the public

☐ Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

☐ Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

Each state involves stakeholders on national level according to EU water legislation, also with regard to international plans.

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Vidaa/Wiedau; - Eider; - Schlei/Trave

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Denmark

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

94.5 % of the Eider basin, biggest part of the Schlei/Trave baisn

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Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Joint declaration of the environment ministries of Denmark and Germany on the coordination of the management of the transboundary catchments of the Wiedau, Krusau, Meynau and Jadelunder Graben (01-01-2005)

If any, additional information

The declaration covers transboundary cooperation concerning the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (declaration from 2005), updated in 2010 concerning the EU Flood Risk Management Directive.
Declaration is not publicly available.

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Denmark; Germany

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

(●) All water uses

( ) A single water use or sector

( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [ ] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [ ] Consultation on planned measures
- [ ] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [ ] Joint vision and management objectives
- [ ] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [ ] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [ ] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [ ] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [ ] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [X] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

• Coordinated river basin management plans and flood risk management plans
• Better understanding of each other's approaches, trust building
• Links:
o https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/W/wasserrahmenrichtlinie/fgeSchleiTrave.html
o https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/W/wasserrahmenrichtlinie/fgeEider.html
o
https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/H/hochwasserschutz/hochwasserrisikomanagementplaene.html?nn=b4fd0e4e-995a-4b92-b441-818121e62dcc

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

-

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

—

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- ( ) Bilateral commission
- ( ) Basin or similar commission
- (●) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Denmark; Germany

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ( ) No cooperation
- ( ) They have observer status
- ( ) Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- [ ] A secretariat
- [ ] A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)
- [ ] Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- [ ] Identification of pollution sources
- [x] Data collection and exchange
- [ ] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Setting emission limits
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [x] Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- [ ] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [ ] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [ ] Policy development
- [x] Control of implementation
- [x] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [x] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [ ] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [ ] Consultations on planned measures
- [ ] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [x] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure

- [x] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [ ] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [ ] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- ( ) More than once per year
- (●) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer to question 2. f) above

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany and Denmark are coastal states (North Sea, Baltic Sea).

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

• https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/W/wasserrahmenrichtlinie/fgeSchleiTrave.html
• https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/W/wasserrahmenrichtlinie/fgeEider.html
• https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/fachinhalte/H/hochwasserschutz/hochwasserrisikomanagementplaene.html?nn=b4fd0e4e-995a-4b92-b441-818121e62dcc

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

[X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

[X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

[X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

[X] Water-related species and habitats protection

[X] Other measures

All of these measures are realized on national level, not on international level. But information is compiled on international level and exchanged.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

(●) More than once per year

◯ Once per year

◯ Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings and if needed in between.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

☒ Environmental conditions

☒ Research activities and application of best available techniques

☒ Emission monitoring data

☒ Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts

☒ Point source pollution sources

☒ Diffuse pollution sources

☒ Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

☐ Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)

☒ Water abstractions

☐ Climatological information

☒ Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

☐ Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information

☐ Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

◯ Yes ◯ No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

◯ Yes ◉ No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

☐ Frequency of exchanges

- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Both countries share the data of their national monitoring according to EU water legislation with regard to the water bodies in both basins.

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Denmark and Germany exchange information on the status of transboundary water bodies in order to have no contradicting assessments.

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

EU environmental quality standards

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [x] No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?

Both countries share only small transboundary rivers and brooks.

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [ ] Other
- [x] No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?

Both countries share only small transboundary rivers and brooks.

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on who cooperates how in case of disasters.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[ ] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[ ] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

Both countries involve stakeholders on national level according to EU legislation when drafting river basin management or flood risk management plans.

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Elbe

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Czechia

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

German-Czech water bodies at the state border (in the Elbe basin). No percentage available.

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation on Transboundary Waters (Dresden, 12-12-1995)
- Convention between the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the European Economic Community on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe (Magdeburg, 08-10-1990)
- Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution (Wrocław, 11-04-1996)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

Water bodies at the border.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Czechia; Germany

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- ○ All water uses
- ○ A single water use or sector
- ◉ Several water uses or sectors

If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):

Water uses or sectors

- ☒ Industry
- ☒ Agriculture
- ☐ Transport (e.g., navigation)
- ☒ Households
- ☒ Energy: hydropower and other energy types
- ☐ Fisheries
- ☒ Tourism
- ☒ Nature protection
- ☐ Other

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- ☒ Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- ☒ Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- ☒ Consultation on planned measures
- ☒ Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- ☒ Joint vision and management objectives
- ☐ Joint significant water management issues
- ☐ Navigation
- ☐ Human health
- ☒ Environmental protection (ecosystem)

- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [ ] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations

- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

Improvement of the ecological and chemical quality of the border waters. This has been achieved through both measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a regional warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

Vertragsgesetz deutsch-tschechische Grenzgewässerkommission.pdf

Or provide web address

-

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

Czechia-Germany Commission for Boundary Waters

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- (●) Bilateral commission
- ( ) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Czechia; Germany

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◯ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☒ A secretariat

  If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat?
  Each country hosts its own secretariat or regional secretariats (Germany).

- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  Two standing committees for the cooperation between the German Federal State Bavaria and the Czech Republic as well as for the cooperation between the German Federal State Saxony and the Czech Republic

- ☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- ☒ Identification of pollution sources
- ☒ Data collection and exchange
- ☒ Joint monitoring
- ☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

- [ ] Setting emission limits
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [x] Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- [x] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [x] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [x] Policy development
- [x] Control of implementation
- [x] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [x] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [x] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [x] Consultations on planned measures
- [ ] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [ ] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [x] Management of shared infrastructure
- [x] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [x] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [ ] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [ ] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources

- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (•) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer to question 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- ( ) Yes
- (•) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany as coastal state is already party to the agreement.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

Cooperation concerning all water management issues relevant for border waters (see text of the agreement), joint objectives are defined during the meetings of the bilateral commission.

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

- [X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction
- [X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [ ] Other measures

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In meetings of joint body and standing committees or in between via email exchange.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions

- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

• Better overview on the border waters
• Comparability
• Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

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Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	X	X	X
Surface waters in the entire basin			
Surface waters on the main watercourse			
Surface waters in part of the basin			
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)			
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake			

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [X] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- [ ] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [X] Joint sampling
- [ ] Common monitoring network
- [X] Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

Joint sampling and time schedule as well as common agreed parameters are based on the work plans of the standing committees.

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

Availability of monitoring results

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

National methodologies and standards might differ.

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Harmonised assessment of status of surface water bodies at the state border according to the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on EU water legislation, WFD and Environmental Quality Standards Directive

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Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [x] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on who cooperates how in case of catastrophes.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[ ] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[ ] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

-

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Ems

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

No percentage information available, agreement covers water bodies at the border.

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning arrangements for co-operation in the Ems estuary (Ems-Dollard Treaty) (The Hague, 08-04-1960)
- Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the course of the common frontier, the boundary waters, real property situated near the frontier, traffic crossing the frontier on land and via inland waters, and other frontier questions (Frontier Treaty) (The Hague, 08-04-1960)
- Additional protocol on cooperation in water and nature management (Ems-Dollard Environmental Protocol) to the Agreement of 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on cooperation in the Ems Estuary (Delfzijl, 22-08-1996)

If any, additional information

Water bodies at the border belong to different basins, thus are also covered by the agreements on the Rhine (ICPR) and the Ems basins, for example.

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

Water bodies at the border.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

( ) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Germany; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

–

If any, additional information

Groundwater bodies according to the EU Water Framework Directive

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (◉) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [ ] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [ ] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [ ] Joint vision and management objectives
- [ ] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange

- [ ] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [ ] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [x] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [x] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [ ] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [x] Management of shared infrastructure
- [x] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main has been improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the waters at the border. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

Ems_Dollart_Umweltprotokoll.pdf

Or provide web address

Treaty from 8 April 1960 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the regulation of border questions and other problems between the two countries

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Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

Permanent German-Dutch Border Waters Commission

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- (●) Bilateral commission
- ( ) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany; Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◯ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☐ A secretariat
- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  Seven regional sub-committees.
- ☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- ☒ Identification of pollution sources
- ☒ Data collection and exchange
- ☐ Joint monitoring
- ☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- ☐ Setting emission limits
- ☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- ☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- ☐ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- ☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- ☒ Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- ☒ Policy development
- ☒ Control of implementation
- ☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States
- ☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

- [ ] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [x] Consultations on planned measures
- [ ] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [ ] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [x] Management of shared infrastructure
- [x] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [x] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [x] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [x] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- ( ) More than once per year
- (•)

Once per year

◯ Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer on question 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

◯ Yes ◉ No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany and the Netherlands are coastal states and members of the bilateral commission.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

If yes, please provide further details:

Joint objectives are defined during the meetings of the bilateral commission or its regional sub-committees.

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

☐ Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

☒ Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

☒ Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

☒ Water-related species and habitats protection

☐ Other measures

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

(b) If yes, how often:

◉ More than once per year

○ Once per year

○ Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings, but also via bilateral exchange on regional/local level.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

☒ Environmental conditions

☒ Research activities and application of best available techniques

☒ Emission monitoring data

☒ Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts

☒ Point source pollution sources

☒ Diffuse pollution sources

☒ Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

☒ Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)

☒ Water abstractions

☐ Climatological information

☒ Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

☐ Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information

☐ Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

○ Yes ◉ No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

◯ Yes ◯ No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

☐ Frequency of exchanges

☐ Timing of exchanges

☐ Comparability of data and information

☐ Limited spatial coverage

☐ Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

☐ Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Better overview on the border waters
Comparability of approaches
Improved understanding of other country's issues and problems

---

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◯ Yes ◉ No

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Joint assessments if needed with regard to special water bodies at the border. Joint assessments take place in international river basin commissions based on the EU Water Framework Directive.

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on EU water legislation.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

[X] Notification and communication

[ ] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution

[ ] Other

[ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

[X] Notification and communication

[ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

[ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

[ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy

[ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

[ ] Other

[ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on who cooperates how in case of disasters.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Oder/Odra

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Poland

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

Water bodies at the border, no percentage available.

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management at Border Waters (Warsaw, 19-05-1992)
- Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the River Oder against Pollution (Wrocław, 11-04-1996)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Germany; Poland

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

—

If any, additional information

Quaternary aquifer on the isle of Usedom and groundwater bodies at the border or cross-border. No list available.

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- ◉ All water uses
- ○ A single water use or sector
- ○ Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [ ] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [ ] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [X] Navigation
- [ ] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [ ] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [ ] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [ ] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [X] Management of shared infrastructure

- [X] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [X] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

Improvement of the ecological and chemical quality of the border waters. This has been achieved through both, measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation since up to now 25 years at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding between the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

vertragsgesetz deutsch-polnische grenzgewässerkommission.pdf

Or provide web address

-

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

Germany-Poland Commission for Border Waters

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ○ Plenipotentiaries
- ◉ Bilateral commission
- ○ Basin or similar commission
- ○ Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ○ Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Germany; Poland

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ○ No cooperation
- ○ They have observer status
- ○ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☐ A secretariat
- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  Four working groups on specific topics:
  Hydrology/hydrogeology

- protection of border waters
- maintenance of border waters
- planning concerning border waters

☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

☒ Identification of pollution sources

☒ Data collection and exchange

☒ Joint monitoring

☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

☐ Setting emission limits

☐ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

☐ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease

☒ Water allocation and/or flow regulation

☐ Policy development

☒ Control of implementation

☒ Exchange of experience between riparian States

☒ Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

☐ Settling of differences and conflicts

☒ Consultations on planned measures

☒ Exchange of information on best available technology

☐ Participation in transboundary EIA

☐ Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

☒ Management of shared infrastructure

☒ Addressing hydromorphological alterations

☐ Climate change adaptation

- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [x] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [x] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer on question 2.f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

◯ Yes ◯ No

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

If yes, please provide further details:

• Cooperation concerning all water management issues relevant for border waters (see text of the agreement)
• Joint monitoring reports on water bodies at the frontiers, see https://www.wasserblick.net/servlet/is/110115/?highlight=deutsch-polnisch (available in German and Polish)

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

☐ Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction

☒ Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality

☒ Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

☒ Water-related species and habitats protection

☐ Other measures

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

(b) If yes, how often:

◉ More than once per year

◯ Once per year

◯ Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meeting of joint bodies and in between via email exchange.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges
- [ ] Comparability of data and information

☐ Limited spatial coverage

☐ Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

☐ Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

Comparability
Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems
Better overview on the status of water bodies at the border

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	X	X	X
Surface waters in the entire basin			
Surface waters on the main watercourse			
Surface waters in part of the basin			
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	X		X
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake			

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

☒ National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations

☒ Joint and agreed methodologies

☒ Joint sampling

☐ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

For details, see joint monitoring reports (link in answer to question 4 above.

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

• Sampling at the same time
• The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that allow joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

-

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

Yearly joint monitoring reports, see http://www.wasserblick.net/servlet/is/110115/

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on EU legislation.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

☐ Notification and communication

☒ Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution

☐ Other

☐ No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

☒ Notification and communication

☐ Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

☐ Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

☐ Joint climate change adaptation strategy

☐ Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

☒ Other

Bilateral cooperation in EU INTERREG projects with regard to climate change.

☐ No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaty on who cooperates how in case of disasters.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

☒ Availability of information to the public

☐ Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

☐ Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role

Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

-

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Danube; Deep Thermal/Lower Bavarian-Upper Austrian Molasse Basin (GK 100158 TGWK) *

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Austria

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

All water bodies in the Austrian and German part of the Danube basin upstream Donau-Jochenstein. No percentage available.

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Austria, on the other, on cooperation on management of water resources in the Danube Basin, Regensburg (Regensburg, 01-12-1987)
- Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River (Sofia, 29-06-1994)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

( ) Yes (●) No

Additional explanations?

All water bodies in the Austrian and German part of the Danube basin upstream Donau-Jochenstein.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

( ) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

-

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Austria; Germany

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please list the aquifers covered by the agreement or arrangement.

(If the Aquifer you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

Note: Any aquifer added here will be considered fully covered by Section II and will be automatically displayed at the beginning of Section II with "".*

Deep Thermal/Lower Bavarian-Upper Austrian Molasse Basin (GK 100158 TGWK)

If any, additional information

DEGK1110 (German WFD Code)

Information on this aquifer and the model used, see link in section I.

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- (●) All water uses
- ( ) A single water use or sector
- ( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

- [X] Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- [X] Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [X] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange

- [X] Joint monitoring
- [ ] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [X] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [ ] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [X] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [X] No significant difficulties
- [X] Other

  National river basin management plans are coordinated using the joint body.

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main achievements have been improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of water bodies at the borders in the Danube basin. This has been achieved through both measures to reduce pollution and river restoration measures. Also, the flood management has improved. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties, including a regional warning and alarm system, and a certain level of alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close

cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

vertragsgesetz regensburger vertrag.pdf

Or provide web address

-

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

Standing Water Commission under the Regensburg Treaty

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries
- (●) Bilateral commission
- ( ) Basin or similar commission
- ( ) Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ( ) Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Austria; Germany

If any, additional information

-

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

–

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◯ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☐ A secretariat
- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  Working Group on Management and Protection of water bodies
  Working Group on water quantity management and hydraulic engineering
  Expert group on thermal water
  Committee for revision of existing agreements and treaties

- ☐ Other features

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- ☒ Identification of pollution sources
- ☒ Data collection and exchange
- ☒ Joint monitoring
- ☐ Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- ☐ Setting emission limits
- ☒ Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- ☒ Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- ☒ Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- ☐ Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- ☒ Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- ☒ Policy development

- [X] Control of implementation
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [X] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [X] Consultations on planned measures
- [X] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [ ] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [X] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building
- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [ ] Any other tasks

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●)
- ( )

Yes No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer on question 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

( ) Yes (●) No

If no, why not, e.g. are the relevant coastal States also riparian States and therefore already members of the joint body or mechanism?

Coastal waters are no issue in this commission.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

• Cooperation concerning all water management issues relevant for border waters (see text of the agreement)
• Joint management of a transboundary thermal aquifer with regard to the abstraction of spa water. Joint expert group, joint modelling
• Joint research on the potential use of shared rivers for hydropower

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Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

- [X] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction
- [X] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals

- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [X] Other measures

  Joint model on the use of the transboundary thermal water body.

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meetings, electronically in between the meetings

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [X] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information

☐ Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

○ Yes ◉ No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

○ Yes ○ No

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

☐ Frequency of exchanges

☐ Timing of exchanges

☐ Comparability of data and information

☐ Limited spatial coverage

☐ Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)

☐ Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

• Better overview on the border waters
• Comparability
• Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems

---

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical

Border surface waters	X	X	X
Surface waters in the entire basin			
Surface waters on the main watercourse			
Surface waters in part of the basin			
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	X		X
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	X		X

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [X] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- [X] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [X] Joint sampling
- [X] Common monitoring network
- [X] Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

Agreed monitoring stations, where both sides take samples, exchange data and prepare joint annual reports EU law is the main basis for this monitoring, especially the EU Water Framework Directive.

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

• Harmonisation of national methodologies used for the evaluation of monitoring data (e.g. biological quality elements)
• Inconsistencies in monitoring data along border rivers

Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (◉) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

https://www.lfu.bayern.de/wasser/gewaesserkundliche_berichte/jahresberichte/doc/regensburgervertrag2023.pdf

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Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

Based on EU water legislation

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [x] Notification and communication
- [x] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [x] Other

  Not ticked activities are tackled in the ICPDR (International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River).

- [ ] No measures

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral agreement on who cooperates how in case of disasters.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

[X] Availability of information to the public

[ ] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

[ ] Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

-

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin (river or lake basin, or aquifer), sub-basin, part of a basin or a group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement where conditions are similar. In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins or parts thereof, for example, where you have agreements or arrangements on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares transboundary waters, or even prepare a joint report. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section III and not repeated here.

Please reproduce this whole section with its questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

Questions for each transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin, or group of basins (river, lake or aquifer)

Name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

(If the name of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry.)

- Lake Constance

** Please note that for the information provided under "List countries shared with" and "Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory" any aquifers marked with "*" are not taken into account.*

List countries shared with

Austria; Switzerland

Percentage of the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins within your country's territory

Not legally settled. 173 km of the lakeshores belong to Germany (federal states Baden-Wuerttemberg and Bavaria).

Question 1

Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians
- ( ) Agreement or arrangement is under development
- ( ) No agreement or arrangement

Please insert the name of the agreement(s) or arrangement(s).

(If the Agreement or Arrangement you are looking for is not in the list, please go to Section I to create a new entry for such Agreement or Arrangement.)

- Agreement on the Protection of Lake Constance against Pollution (Steckborn, 27-10-1960)

If any, additional information

-

If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body or mechanism for the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement or arrangement, but a joint body or mechanism then go to question 3.

Question 2

(a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the area subject to cooperation?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin or group of basins and all riparian States?

(●) Yes ( ) No

Additional explanations?

Agreement covers Lake Constance.

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?

Austria; Germany; Switzerland

(b) If the agreement or arrangement relates to a river or lake basin or sub-basin, does it also cover aquifers?

( ) Yes (●) No

If any, additional information

-

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

(●) All water uses

( ) A single water use or sector

( ) Several water uses or sectors

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement?

Procedural and institutional issues

☐ Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution

☒ Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)

- [X] Consultation on planned measures
- [X] Mutual assistance

Topics of cooperation

- [X] Joint vision and management objectives
- [X] Joint significant water management issues
- [ ] Navigation
- [X] Human health
- [X] Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- [X] Water quality
- [X] Water quantity or allocation
- [X] Cooperation in addressing floods
- [X] Cooperation in addressing droughts
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Promotion of equality and inclusion, e.g. gender equality, inclusion of indigenous people, youth or other minority groups

Monitoring and exchange

- [X] Joint assessments
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [X] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Common early warning and alarm procedures
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on planned measures

Joint planning and management

- [ ] Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- [X] Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Development of shared infrastructure
- [ ] Other

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any?

- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with national laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Aligning implementation of agreement or arrangement with regional laws, policies and programmes
- [ ] Lack of financial resources
- [ ] Insufficient human capacity
- [ ] Insufficient technical capacity
- [ ] Tense diplomatic relations
- [ ] Non-participation of certain riparian countries in the agreement
- [x] No significant difficulties
- [ ] Other

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?

The main has been significant improvement in the ecological and chemical quality of the lake. This has been achieved through both measures to reduce pollution and lake restoration measures. Next to this, improvements include the exchange of data and information between the parties and alignment of measures and plans in the riparian countries. Key to this success has been close cooperation at technical level and the subsequent building of trust as well as mutual understanding among the countries.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (please attach document or insert web address, if applicable)

-

Or provide web address

Lake Constance agreement

Question 3

Is your country a member of any joint body or mechanism for this agreement or arrangement?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide its official name:

International Commission for the Protection of the Lake Constance (IGKB)

Where there is a joint body or mechanism

(a) Which kind of joint body or mechanism?

- ( ) Plenipotentiaries

- ◯ Bilateral commission
- ◉ Basin or similar commission
- ◯ Expert group meeting or meeting of national focal points
- ◯ Other

(b) Does the joint body or mechanism cover the entire transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ◯ No

(c) Which States (including your own) are members of the joint body or mechanism?

Austria; Germany; Switzerland

If any, additional information

Bavaria and Baden-Wuerttemberg (two German federal states) are members, not the Federal Republic of Germanz.

(d) Are there any riparian States that are not members of the joint body or mechanism?

—

(e) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body or mechanism how does the joint body or mechanism cooperate with them?

- ◯ No cooperation
- ◯ They have observer status
- ◯ Other

(f) Does the joint body or mechanism have any of the following features?

- ☐ A secretariat
- ☒ A subsidiary body or bodies (e.g., working groups on specific topics)

  See organisational chart:
  https://www.igkb.org/die-ikgb/ueber-uns

- ☒ Other features

  Ministerial conferences

If sex-disaggregated data is collected on the membership and/or staff of the joint body or mechanism, please provide additional information here, e.g. the type of data collected, the percentage split of men and women within

the joint body or mechanism, requirements related to gender-balance within the regulations of the joint body or mechanism, and/or links to relevant documents:

-

(g) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body or mechanism?

- [X] Identification of pollution sources
- [X] Data collection and exchange
- [X] Joint monitoring
- [X] Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- [X] Setting emission limits
- [X] Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- [X] Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- [X] Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- [ ] Surveillance and early warning of water-related disease
- [ ] Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- [X] Policy development
- [X] Control of implementation
- [X] Exchange of experience between riparian States
- [X] Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- [X] Settling of differences and conflicts
- [X] Consultations on planned measures
- [X] Exchange of information on best available technology
- [ ] Participation in transboundary EIA
- [X] Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- [ ] Management of shared infrastructure
- [X] Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- [X] Climate change adaptation
- [ ] Joint communication strategy
- [ ] Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- [X] Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- [X] Capacity-building

- [ ] Gender-related aspects of water management
- [x] Any other tasks

  Joint brochures and reports on the tasks and results, joint press releases, interviews in media

(h) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body or mechanism, if any?

- [ ] Governance issues
- [ ] Unexpected planning delays
- [ ] Lack of resources
- [ ] Lack of mechanism for implementing measures
- [ ] Lack of effective measures
- [ ] Unexpected extreme events
- [ ] Lack of information and reliable forecasts
- [ ] Others

(i) Does the joint body or mechanism, or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

- (●) More than once per year
- ( ) Once per year
- ( ) Less than once per year

(j) What are the main achievements with regard to the joint body or mechanism?

See answer on question 2. f) above.

(k) Did the joint body or mechanism ever invite a non-riparian coastal State to cooperate?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please give details.

Germany (Federal Government) has the right to attend meetings as observer. In case of, it could also refer to coastal aspects, as Germany is a coastal state (Rhine flows through Lake Constance and then further to the North Sea).
Only the two federal states Bavaria and Baden-Wuerttemberg are parties of the agreement, not the Federal Republic of Germany.

Question 4

Have joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan or action plan been agreed for the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please provide further details:

Joint guidance on different water uses, see: https://www.igkb.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Downloads/Bodensee-Richtlinien_2005/Bodensee-Richtlinien_2005_Stand_Mai_2023.pdf

Question 5

How is the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basins or group of basins protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use?

- [ ] Regulation of urbanization, deforestation, and sand and gravel extraction
- [ ] Environmental flow norms, including consideration of levels and seasonality
- [X] Water quality protection, e.g. nitrates, pesticides, faecal coliforms, heavy metals
- [X] Water-related species and habitats protection
- [ ] Other measures

Question 6

(a) Does your country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

(●) Yes ( ) No

(b) If yes, how often:

(●) More than once per year

( ) Once per year

( ) Less than once per year

(c) Please describe how information is exchanged (e.g. in connection with meetings of joint bodies):

In connection with meeting of joint bodies.

(d) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

- [X] Environmental conditions
- [X] Research activities and application of best available techniques
- [X] Emission monitoring data
- [X] Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts
- [X] Point source pollution sources
- [X] Diffuse pollution sources
- [X] Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- [ ] Flows or water levels (including groundwater levels)
- [X] Water abstractions
- [X] Climatological information
- [X] Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- [ ] Sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information
- [ ] Other subjects

Other comments, e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:

-

(e) Is there a shared database or information platform?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

(f) Is the database publicly available?

- (•) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide the web address:

https://www.igkb.org/daten-und-karten

(g) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable?

- [ ] Frequency of exchanges
- [ ] Timing of exchanges

- [ ] Comparability of data and information
- [ ] Limited spatial coverage
- [ ] Inadequate resources (technical and/or financial)
- [ ] Other

Additional comments:

-

(h) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

• Better overview on the whole lake
• Comparability
• Improved understanding of other countries' issues and problems.

Question 7

Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in the entire basin	☒	☒	☒
Surface waters on the main watercourse	☐	☐	☐
Surface waters in part of the basin	☐	☐	☐
Transboundary aquifer(s) (connected or unconnected)	☐	☐	☐
Aquifer(s) in the territory of one riparian hydraulically connected to a transboundary river or lake	☐	☐	☐

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- [X] National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- [X] Joint and agreed methodologies
- [ ] Joint sampling

☐ Common monitoring network

☒ Common agreed parameters

Please briefly describe how joint monitoring is carried out:

https://www.igkb.org/forschungsprojekte/igkb-monitoring

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any:

The long-term cooperation yields long time series of chemical and biological parameters that enable joint trend analyses and joint conclusions on the trends.

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

Deciding upon parameters and methodologies, and assuring comparability of data

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Question 8

Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment, and assessment methodology applied:

https://www.igkb.org/medien/publikationen

Question 9

Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, what standards have been applied, e.g. international or regional standards (please specify which), or have national standards of the riparian States been applied?

• Joint guidance on different water uses, see http://www.igkb.org/fileadmin/user_upload/dokumente/publikationen/vorschriften/Bodensee-Richtlinien_2005_2015.pdf
• EU water legislation standards and Swiss water legislation standards.

Question 10

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution?

☒ Notification and communication

- [X] Coordinated or joint early warning or alarm system for accidental water pollution
- [ ] Other
- [ ] No measures

Question 11

What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events and climate change?

- [ ] Notification and communication
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods
- [ ] Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts
- [ ] Joint climate change adaptation strategy
- [ ] Joint disaster risk reduction strategy
- [ ] Other
- [X] No measures

If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?

Flood risk management is implemented in the framework of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR).

Question 12

Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please provide a brief summary:

Bilateral treaties on who is coordinating how in case of disasters.

Question 13

Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, how (please tick all applicable)?

- [X] Availability of information to the public
- [X] Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans

☐ Public involvement

Involvement in the joint body or mechanism:

	Observer status	Advisory role	Decision-making role
Intergovernmental organizations	☐	☐	☐
Private sector organisations or associations	☐	☐	☐
Water user groups or associations	☐	☐	☐
Environmental non-governmental organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Women organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Youth organisations or groups	☐	☐	☐
Academic or research institutions	☐	☐	☐
Other non-governmental organisations	☐	☐	☐
General public	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Other:

(please specify in case there are other types of participation)

-

Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins.

Section III - General information on transboundary water management at the national level

In this section, you are requested to provide general information on water management at the national level as it relates to transboundary waters. Information on specific transboundary basins, sub-basins, part of basins and groups of basins, should be presented in section II and not repeated here.

Question 1

(a) Does your country's national legislation, policies, action plans and strategies refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact?

(•) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please briefly describe the main national laws, policies, action plans and strategies

• Federal Water Act
• Ordinances on surface water and on groundwater
• Federal Act on EIA (covers also SEA)
• Federal Acts to ratify the UNECE Water Convention, the UN Watercourses Convention and the Espoo Convention
• National Water Strategy

(b) Does your country's legislation provide for the following principles?

Precautionary principle

(•) Yes ( ) No

Polluter pays principle

(•) Yes ( ) No

Sustainable development

(•) Yes ( ) No

User pays principle

(•) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please briefly describe how these principles are implemented at the national level

• Permits needed for all significant water uses
• Permit issuing procedures have to cover all relevant aspects like effects on environment and a balance of protection and use has to be found
• Public participation in procedures concerning bigger water management projects
• EIA and SEA with regard to certain projects, in conformity with EU and international legislation
• Fees concerning water abstraction and waste water discharge. Public has to pay for drinking water and waste water treatment
• Further details see in the answers below

(c) Does your country have a national licensing or permitting system for wastewater discharges and other point source pollution? (e.g., in industry, mining, energy, municipal, wastewater management or other sectors)?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, for which sectors?

☒ Industry

☒ Mining

☒ Energy

☒ Municipal

☒ Livestock raising

☒ Aquaculture

☒ Other

A license/permit is necessary for all sectors (industrial, commercial, domestic/public waste water) and water uses, e.g. also for gravel extraction, for underground drilling etc.

Please briefly describe the licensing or permitting system

All significant water uses, which might affect water bodies, have to be licensed/permitted. Licensing/permitting is based on emission and immission quality standards. See the provisions in the Surface and Groundwater Ordinances mentioned above.

Does the system provide for setting emission limits based on best available technology?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, for which sectors?

Best available technology is the basis for setting emission limits especially with regard to waste water, see the Wastewater Ordinance with 57 annexes, which set limits for special industrial https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/abwv/

(d) Are the authorized discharges monitored and controlled?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how? (Please tick the ones applicable)

[X] Monitoring of discharges

[X] Monitoring of physical and chemical impacts on water

[X] Monitoring of ecological impacts on water

[X] Conditions on permits

[X] Inspectorate

[X] Other means

Self-monitoring of wastewater discharges by the companies and other dischargers combined with reporting to the relevant authorities.

(e) What are the main measures which your country takes to reduce water pollution on trans-boundary waters from diffuse sources (e.g., from agriculture, transport, forestry or aquaculture)? The measures listed below relate to agriculture, but other sectors may be more significant. Please be sure to include these under "others":

Legislative measures

[X] Norm for uses of fertilizers

[X] Norms for uses of manure

[ ] Permitting system

[X] Bans on or norms for use of pesticides

[ ] Others

Economic and financial measures

[X] Monetary incentives

[ ] Environmental taxes (such as fertilizer taxes)

[X] Others

Agri-environment programmes (using EU funds)

[X] **Agricultural extension services**

Technical measures

Source control measures

[X] Crop rotation

[X] Tillage control

☒ Winter cover crops

☒ Others

Safe handling of pesticides

Other measures

☒ Buffer/filter strips

☒ Wetland reconstruction

☒ Sedimentation traps

☒ Chemical measures

☒ Others

Ecologically oriented waterbody maintenance; Minimum ecological standards for good agricultural practice

☒ **Other types of measures**

If yes, please list:

Advisory services for farmers; Cooperation between farmers and drinking water providers

(f) What are the main measures which your country takes to enhance water resources allocation and use efficiency?

Please tick as appropriate (not all might be relevant)

☒ A regulatory system regarding water abstraction

☒ Monitoring and control of abstractions

☒ Water rights are defined

☐ Water allocation priorities are listed

☒ Water-saving technologies

☒ Advanced irrigation techniques

☐ Demand management activities

☒ Stakeholder consultations are held, including with civil society representatives

☐ Other means

(g) Does your country apply the ecosystems approach?

◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, please describe how

- Water bodies are seen in a holistic way, not only with regard to uses, but also e.g. as habitats.
- When licensing/permitting water uses effects on the aquatic ecosystems are taken into account.

• EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) is ecosystem based and has to be implemented in Germany. Special check with regard to WFD requirements in licensing procedures.
• Ecosystem services are better communicated to the public.

(h) Does your country take specific measures to prevent the pollution of groundwaters?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please briefly describe the most important measures

• See under 1. e) Measures on fertilizers, manure, pesticides are also relevant with regard to protection of groundwater.
• Drinking water protection areas are protected via special ordinances, which prevent certain activities in three different zones (e.g. fertilizers use), more than 15% of Germany are covered by those protection areas.
• Cooperation between farmers and drinking water providers to compensate farmers for using less manure and fertilizers in drinking water protection areas.

Question 2

Do your national laws require transboundary environmental impact assessment (EIA)?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If yes, please briefly describe the legislative basis, and any related implementing procedures

• Federal Act on EIA (covers also SEA), based on EU legislation and the Espoo Convention

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Section IV - Final questions

Question 1

What are the main challenges your country faces in cooperating on transboundary waters?

- [X] Differences between national administrative and legal frameworks
- [ ] Lack of relevant data and information
- [ ] Difficulties in data and information exchange
- [ ] Sectoral fragmentation at the national level
- [ ] Language barrier
- [ ] Resource constraints
- [ ] Environmental pressures, e.g. extreme events
- [ ] Sovereignty concerns

Please list other challenges and/or provide further details

-

Question 2

What have been the main achievements in cooperating on transboundary waters?

- [X] Improved water management
- [X] Enhanced regional integration, i.e. beyond water
- [X] Adoption of cooperative arrangements
- [X] Adoption of joint plans and programmes
- [X] Long-lasting and sustained cooperation
- [X] Financial support for joint activities
- [X] Stronger political will for transboundary water cooperation
- [X] Better knowledge and understanding
- [X] Dispute avoidance
- [X] Stakeholder engagement

Please list other achievements, keys to achieving success, and/or provide concrete examples

• Water Convention's principles are the pillars of all transboundary water cooperation in Germany.
• Joint bodies with clear working structures, regular meetings, joint permanent secretariats, political commitment, and sufficient financial and personal resources are main elements of successful transboundary cooperation and enable trust building and mutual understanding.

Question 3

Please indicate which institutions were consulted during the completion of the questionnaire

- [ ] Joint body or mechanism
- [x] Other riparian or aquifer countries
- [ ] National water management authority
- [ ] Environment agency/authority
- [ ] Basin authority (national)
- [ ] Local or provincial government
- [ ] Geological survey (national)
- [ ] Non-water specific ministries, e.g. foreign affairs, finance, forestry and energy
- [ ] Women organisations or groups
- [ ] Indigenous peoples' organisations or groups
- [ ] Youth organisations or groups
- [ ] Civil society organizations
- [ ] Water user associations
- [ ] Private sector
- [x] Other

  Networks within joint bodies have been used to coordinate with other countries. Nevertheless the questionnaires have to be filled in by countries, not by joint bodies, thus joint bodies have not been involved as such.

Please briefly describe the process by which the questionnaire was completed

Comparison with the answers in 2023 reporting. Transboundary water cooperation has a long tradition in Germany. A lot of knowledge is available, also with regard to national legislation etc. Thus, no other authorities, associations etc. had to be consulted.

Question 4

If you have any other comments please add them here:

Germany highly welcomes this digital reporting.

Question 5

Details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire:

Name:

Ministry, organization, contact details (e.g. address):

Name:

Ministry, organization, contact details (e.g. address):

Name:

Ministry, organization, contact details (e.g. address):

If different to the above, details of the person(s) who signed the questionnaire:

Name:

-

Ministry, organization, contact details (e.g. address):

-

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