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TRANSBOUNDARY INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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**Plamen Bozakov
ADB Uzbekistan Resident Mission**

BACKGROUND

- ❑ Approximately 40% of the global population lives in transboundary river basins;
- ❑ Regional examples – Mekong Basin, China - India - Pakistan/Bangladesh, Tajikistan-Kyrgyz Republic-Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan;
- ❑ Greater benefits compared to country river basin IWRM (improved economic growth, financial returns and environmental management) due to resulting regional integration.

CHALLENGES OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT

- ❑ At basin level: similar to national basins – competing priorities and users (industries, hydropower, irrigation, water supply);
- ❑ At water sector level: different sector development policies, institutional set-up, incentives and cost recovery procedures;
- ❑ At national level: varying degrees of economic advancement, different national and sector development priorities;
- ❑ At regional level: variable openness, development and interconnection of regional economies.

BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- ❑ Coordinated development and optimized management of water, land and natural resources;
- ❑ Mechanisms for conflict resolution;
- ❑ Contribution to country economic growth and socio-economic development;
- ❑ Fostering regional cooperation and integration;
- ❑ Improved water-related disaster and environmental management;
- ❑ Mitigation of climate change impacts.

MESSAGES (to CRBOM)

- Start with an open mind and explore options: support to establishing enabling IWRM environment, introducing management instruments at country level, exposure to best international practices, data exchange??;
- Do not provide solutions, but facilitate dialogues and improve coordination between all stakeholders and sectors;
- The process is long (e.g. Mekong, Nile basins) planning, and allocation of sufficient time and resources are needed
- BE PATIENT!