



Sub-RésEAU Eastern Europe and Central Asia – Concept and Action Plan 2015 / 2016

Summary of the discussions during the Regional Water Team Days Moldova (1.+2.10.2015).

13.11.2015, Frank Wiederkehr, Thierry Umbehr, Hanna Capeder, Florian Klingel

Objectives of the Sub-RésEAU

The Sub-RésEAU EECA is the regional subnetwork of the SDC water network RésEAU and covers the region of Switzerland's Cooperation with the Eastern Countries.

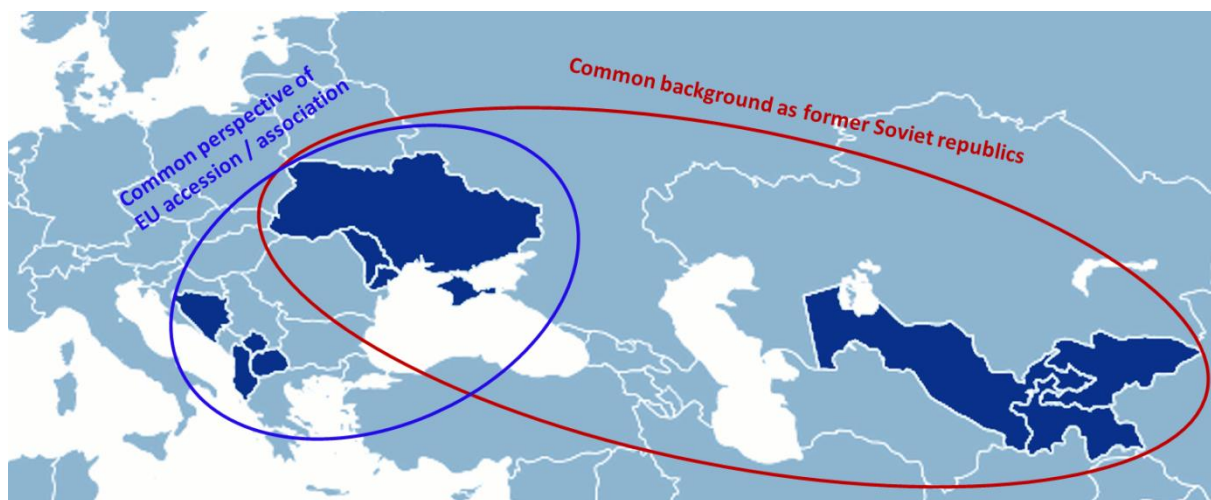
The development of the Sub-RésEAUs within the global RésEAU is promoted by the RésEAU focal point because networking within a region can be done more efficiently and on a more detailed and targeted level, compared to global exchange.

The general objectives of the Sub-RésEAU are:

- Assuring knowledge and information flow between Swiss projects and programmes
- Positioning on strategic and thematic issues
- Peer support and exchange
- Networking

Regional focus

The region includes countries from Western Balkans, Central Asia, Moldova and Ukraine and potentially Caucasus. Countries with ongoing SDC or SECO projects that have water components include: Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.





Within this large region, there are many aspects that make exchanges on regional level very interesting:

- Central Asian countries, Moldova and Ukraine share a common background as former Soviet republics, which is still heavily influencing today's regulatory water framework, situation and challenges.
- Moldova, Ukraine and the Western Balkan countries share the common perspective of EU accession or association, which is strongly influencing developments in the water sector.
- Neighbouring countries like Moldova/Ukraine, Tajikistan/Uzbekistan or the Western Balkan countries have many things in common (language, cultures, administrative systems, river basins, etc.)

Key persons and members

The key persons responsible to steer and animate the network are the RésEAU core group members and the RésEAU focal points:

- Thierry Umbehr, Regional advisor Central Asia
- Frank Wiederkehr, Regional advisor Western Balkans
- Olivier Magnin and Thomas Walder, water advisors in the CIS division of SDC Department of Cooperation with the Eastern Countries
- Christian Eggs and Hanna Capeder, RésEAU focal point, Global Programme Water Initiatives

The members of the Sub-RésEAU are staff from Swiss cooperation offices in the region, from SDC and SECO head offices as well as staff from SDC and SECO implementing partners (project teams) willing to participate and contribute to the network. Members are expected to actively contribute to the network and participate in activities.

Support to network management can be provided by Skat in their function as backstopper of GPWI and the RésEAU focal point (to be agreed with GPWI on a case to case basis).

Operating mode

- Face to face meetings:
 - a main event (Regional Water Team Days) with participants from the entire region ca. every 2 years
 - further smaller meetings and seminars between a few countries on specific topics
- Lync meetings
 - E.g. quarterly SCO lync meetings in Western Balkans
- E-discussions
- Individual exchange
- ShareWeb: a special space for the Sub-RésEAU is available on the Share Web

Challenges

- Time needed for networking and knowledge management
- Support from management
 - Inviting management to Sub-RésEAU meetings may help



- Keep people engaged
- Moderation of key events
- Include SECO and implementers; also BAFU, depending on topic

Actions in the Sub-RésEAU in the past

- 4 times per year Lync exchanges in Western Balkans (portfolio, thematic topic)
- 4 times per year planning meetings in Central Asia
- 10/2014: staff exchange on ecosan (Uzb/Taj to Moldova)
- 11/2014: workshop on Sanitation Compendium Central Asia
- 03/2015: health seminar Central Asia
- 04/2015: participation in WWF7, Western Balkans and Central Asia
- 06/2015: Water for Life Dushanbe
- 06/2015: participation in Aguasan WS 2015
- 06/2015: WTD Bern
- 09/2015: workshop on standards and norms Central Asia
- 09/2015: RWTD Moldova

Action plan 2015/2016

Topic	Action	Lead
Development of the Sub-RésEAU		
RésEAU Core Group	Feed Eastern Regions perspective into global RésEAU via Core Group	Hanna Capeder, Frank Wiederkehr, Thierry Umbeh, Olivier Magnin/Thomas Walder
RésEAU Core Group	Setting clear responsibilities within the Sub-RésEAU :ToRs adaptation for each core group member	Hanna Capeder, Frank Wiederkehr, Thierry Umbeh, Olivier Magnin/Thomas Walder
RésEAU Core Group	Regular meetings (f2f or virtual) for follow-up of action plan etc.	Hanna Capeder, Frank Wiederkehr, Thierry Umbeh, Olivier Magnin/Thomas Walder
Networking and Exchange		
Decentralised systems for water and sanitation - strategic overview on approaches	Produce document	Jonathan Hecke
Protocol water and health	Share review of SDC support to Protocol Water and Health in Moldova (early 2016)	Matthias Leicht
Water Safety Plans	Organise Webinar	Matthias Leicht, Florian Klingel
Hygiene Education	Share documents on experience with country wide improving of hygiene education in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan	Nurbek Pulatov, Bekhruz Yodgorov
Scaling up and replication	Policy paper / include in global WTD / lobbying work within SDC	Thierry Umbeh
Sector reform and regulation	Peer exchange and study tour	Eduart Rumani, potentially



		Kosovo
SDC water projects in CIS – comparison of approaches	Joint publication	Jonathan Hecke / Olivier Normand
Info on events in the region	Share via SDC water news	all
Regional Water Team Days 2017	F2F workshop with participation of the entire region + study visits	Albania
Blue Peace Central Asia	Information session	Thierry Umbehr, Hanna Capeder
Up-scaling in water supply and sanitation	Projects from MD, UZ, TJ go to Latinosan and exchange with Saba, PE	Thierry Umbehr, Olivier Normand, Jonathan Hecke, Cesarina Quintana
To be explored		
Sector reform and regulation	Exchange of information, Lync sessions	
Cross-sectorial exchanges with E-I, DLGN, Food Security	To be defined	
Explore links to the regional network of the Global Water Partnership	To be defined	