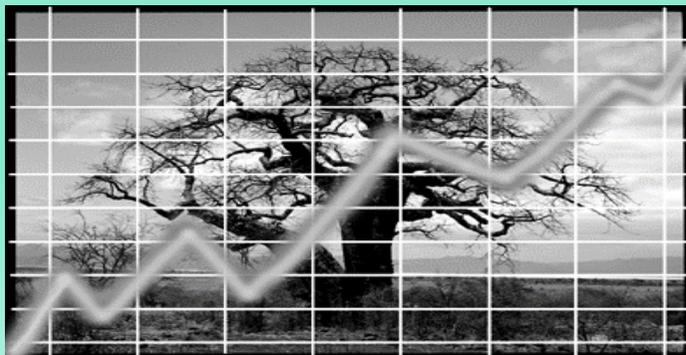


Update on work on the UNECE Convention on the protection and use of trans boundary water courses and international lakes (Water Convention)

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Update on work of UNECE on trans boundary water cooperation

- Workshop in May 2014: 90 participants from all over the world attended this workshop to share experiences, good practices, challenges faced and lessons learned on the identification, assessment and communication of the wide range of benefits that can be generated by trans boundary water cooperation (TWC)
- Details on the workshop are available at http://www.unece.org/env/water/workshop_benefits_cooperation_2014.html
- This includes a background report on the economic, environmental and social benefits of trans boundary water cooperation (TWC)
- The annual meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in June positively welcomed progress with this work and the workshop and the draft guidance note and stressed the importance of the work on "Benefits of cooperation"
- Next steps: an expert working group in January 2015 to focus on benefits of regional co-operation and geopolitical benefits.
- This workshop contributed to the development of a draft Policy Guidance Note on identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of TWC, due to be finalized in November 2015. This guidance document aims to support the development of cooperation by providing arguments to encourage a reflection on the opportunities to further broaden cooperation