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# Criteria for Nexus Project Evaluation

“How can I check if a project has a good Nexus approach applied or has good Nexus potential ?”



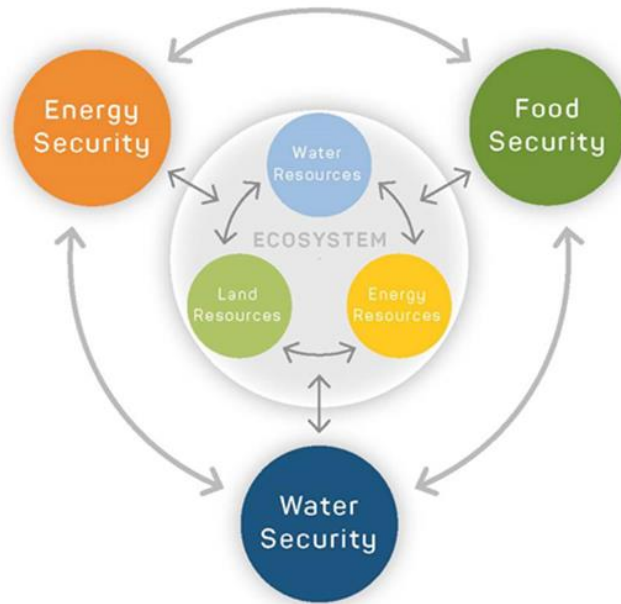
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# The Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus Approach



- Highlights the **complex interdependencies** of the water, energy and food sectors in light of **global challenges** (climate change, consumption patterns, economic growth, rapid urbanization, etc.)
- Framework to **determine trade-offs and synergies** between the sectors and to **reconcile their interests**
- Supports a **holistic and sustainable resources management** and promotes the **preservation of ecosystems**
- Pathways of sustainability: tool for **meeting the SDGs**
- **Resolving conflicts of use** around land and water resources is encouraged by developing suitable conflict management capacities – contributes to **peace keeping**

# Nexus Projects

In practice it is currently rather unusual that concrete „**Nexus projects**“ are proposed to donors.

Sometimes „Nexus“ is only used as label to sell conventional projects.

## But:

Many projects have excellent Nexus potential and will reach more and better impact as intersectorial initiatives and will also use the available financial resources more efficiently.

# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 1: The project is proposed not only by one sector.**
  - It is clear from the documentation that 2 or more sectors are presenting the project together to the donor.
  - Support letters or other documentation of agreement is provided or
  - The project is proposed by an overarching entity or multisectoral institution (Example: Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Office of the President, RECs, sometimes also RBOs)

# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 2: It is visible in the documentation that initial coordination activities between the sectors have been carried out during project idea/concept development**
  - Input for the project comes from two or more sectors
  - Content and planning of proposed activities relates to two or more sectors

# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 3: The project proposal shows that the needs and demands of the relevant sectors have been/will be discussed with all stakeholders and/or are considered in the proposal.**
  - **IMPORTANT:** If a sector is relevant – or not should not be determined by the lead sector, rather by the affected sector itself.
  - Very inclusive approach needs to be included/described in the project documentation.

# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 4: Effects on/Synergies with other sectors (which are not directly in the focus of the intervention) are considered/ will be evaluated/are described**
  - Inclusive planning and involvement is key part of the proposal
  - Intersectoral thinking is applied

# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 5: Approach for the proposed intervention is intersectorial and covers the entire „lifespan“**
  - Design/Planning, Implementation and Operation are proposed in an intersectorial way or
  - Through suitable overarching entities
  - Existing/future mandate of the entities is described



# When is a project a good Nexus Project?

- **Hint 6: The project will deliver results in different sectors**
  - It is described and quantified what the project will reach in which sectors
  - Direct and indirect results can be considered
  - Intersectorial indicators are proposed or a good set of sectorial indicators are matched
  - The project delivers a contribution to reach several SDGs (crucial: SDG 2, 6 and 7 - but also beyond)

# What to do if the project does not meet Nexus criteria?

- **Project does not meet the criteria listed before, but has potential to involve other sectors**
  - Project scope of work and scale is relevant for other sectors and affects them
  - Financing can be used to guide development into an intersectorial direction
  - Ideally intersectorial projects would have an advantage for/priority for receiving financing
    - Pre-condition for financing?
    - Project developers/implementers will adapt quickly 😊

# Nexus Projects

- These initial criteria can be applied for the set-up of new projects as well as the evaluation of existing projects.
- They can also help to guide project proponents to include a more intersectorial approach in their proposals before acceptance through a donor or financing institution.



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Thank you very much for your attention !!!

