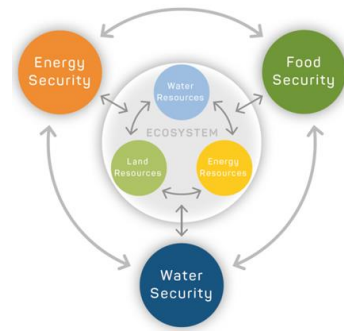


The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus and it's On-The-Ground Operationalisation

Project Name	The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme
Donors	European Union (EU), German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementers	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Global Water Partnership (GWP), Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC), Southern African Development Community (SADC)
Duration	2016 –2018



What is the Water, Energy and Food (WEF) Security Nexus?

The Nexus approach highlights the **interdependence of water, energy and food security** and the natural resources – water, soil and land – that underpin that security. The Nexus approach identifies **mutually beneficial responses** that are based on understanding the synergies of water, energy and agricultural policies. It also provides an informed and transparent framework for determining the proper **trade-offs and synergies that maintain the integrity and sustainability of ecosystems**.

The Water, Energy and Food (WEF) Nexus represents a **paradigm shift** in the international development agenda, from sectoral development interventions to integrated resource use in a green economy. The Nexus approach uses **context-specific solutions** based on horizontal and vertical interventions to achieve long-term economic, environmental and social goals. Bringing the Nexus debate **from the academic sphere into development practice** faces significant barriers, including challenges to cross-sectoral collaboration and the complexity and incompatibility of current institutional structures. However, greater recognition of sectoral interdependencies can help to overcome historical and sectoral barriers. Through its integrated approach and the focus on preserving ecosystems, the WEF Nexus supports a transition towards more sustainability and thus, contributes in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the longer run.



The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

Starting in 2014, GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) started to implement Nexus Regional Dialogue activities. The Nexus Dialogues Programme Phase I (2016-2018), resulted from international efforts to operationalise the Nexus approach. The programme is designed to stimulate the following **five Nexus Regional Dialogues (NRDs)**:

Region	Partner	Implementation Agency
Central Asia	International Fund for the Aral Sea (IFAS)	Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
LAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	GIZ
MENA	League of Arab States (LAS)	GIZ
Niger Basin	Niger Basin Authority (NBA)	GIZ
Southern Africa	Southern African Development Community (SADC)	Global Water Partnership (GWP)

The five regional inter-governmental and international organisations have been identified as regional counterparts for the Nexus dialogues. The dialogues **aim to develop Nexus policies and action plans at the national ministerial and regional policy levels** involving various stakeholders, including national and regional policy-makers, the private sector, academia and civil society. The EU Nexus Dialogues Programme Phase I is jointly managed by EU DEVCO and GIZ.

The Global Nexus Secretariat

The Global Nexus Secretariat (GNS) is the backbone of the Nexus Regional Dialogue Programme. GNS ensures the coordination and coherence of the different NRDs, supports implementation by partner organisations (e.g. by annotating proposals for quality control and coherence), and **stimulates exchange and mutual learning across the NRDs** through regular meetings. The GNS also coordinates conferences, workshops, etc. and publishes studies, brochures and other products resulting from programme activities.

Supporting Activities of the Regional Dialogues

The GNS supports the different Nexus Regional Dialogues in developing and carrying out specific activities such as

- Nexus Country Assessments
- Pilot Applications
- Workshops and Trainings
- Policy Briefs/Guidelines

Activities and Outcomes of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

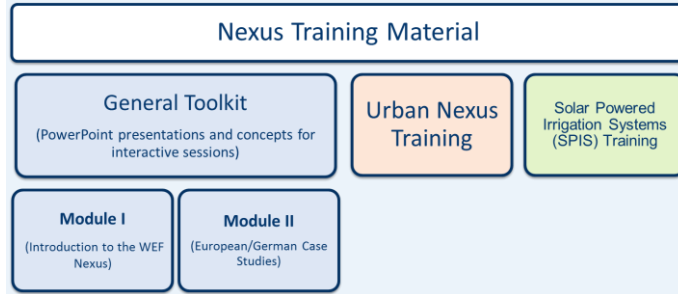
Nexus Resource Platform

The Nexus Resource Platform (NRP) www.water-energy-food.org is the global Nexus practical-information hub to help stakeholders stay up-to-date on relevant regional and global Nexus activities and events. It is a **knowledge hub** for swapping experiences and good practices, and enhancing global learning. It seeks to raise awareness of Nexus issues by publishing relevant articles. The NRP also envisages working with regional partners to develop and maintain subsites, and to establish strategic collaborations with various partners.



Human Capacity Development

The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme includes a Human Capacity Development (HCD) component that focuses on improving expertise and knowledge on the Nexus. The following Nexus training material has been developed:



- **Module I** aims at introducing the WEF Nexus concept by presenting background information and key characteristics, introducing different inter-dependencies and interconnections amongst the sectors and suggesting various implementation tools, methods and communication strategies.
- **Module II** introduces concrete Nexus approaches in Europe and Germany by presenting three best practice WEF Nexus cases. The training aims at stimulating discussions on how to implement Nexus strategies within the regions and their respective contexts.
- **Urban Nexus Training** introduces inclusive and participatory planning, policies and framework conditions for a circular economy and suggestions on how to strengthen horizontal and vertical governance structures within an urban environment.
- **Solar Powered Irrigation Systems (SPIS) Training** introduces the SPIS Toolbox that helps advisors to analyse opportunities and risks within the specific context where SPIS is being implemented.

The training is aimed at ministerial and country-level Nexus pioneers, and makes a special effort to ensure gender parity. The training material was designed in close cooperation with the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics (ITT), University Cologne (Germany) and other GIZ partner programmes such as Powering Agriculture, Integrated resource management in Asian cities: the urban nexus and Sustainable development of metropolitan regions.

Human Capacity Development work constitutes a fundamental part of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme.

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