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## Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme Newsletter



### Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus

A service by the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

Dear reader,

Welcome to 2023!

In these first few weeks of the new year we've already been working effortlessly to accomplish our goal of institutionalising the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach – so it's back to business as usual!

We have gathered some key highlights from all five regions of the [Nexus Regional Dialogues \(NRD\) Programme](#) in this edition – ranging from on the ground WEF Nexus activities in various demonstration projects, to the adaption of newly developed Nexus guidelines. We also invite you to have a look at the [Frexus project](#) and how the WEF Nexus is further mainstreamed in the Sahel region. Moreover, the Nexus team has been going strong in promoting its accomplishments during various international events, such as COP27 and the Paris Peace Forum.

We are also proud to showcase our Nexus training materials, now available in five languages and our brand-new explanatory WEF Nexus video - no matter if you are a Nexus newbie or already a Nexus expert you can be sure to learn more about the WEF Nexus approach.

These are only some of the highlights of the past few months, so dive into this month's issue and take a closer look!

As the NRD Programme is now entering the final stretch of its second phase, a lot will be happening in the next few months. More and more achievements and results are becoming visible. Therefore we are aiming to share the latest news from the Nexus team more regularly in the coming months – stay tuned!

Happy reading!

**Your Nexus Team**

## 1. GLOBAL NEWS

## 2. NEWS FROM THE PROJECTS

- » NRD - Central Asia
- » NRD - Latin America and the Caribbean
- » NRD - MENA | Middle East and North Africa
- » NRD - Niger Basin
- » NRD - Southern Africa
- » Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River
- » The Frexus Project

## 3. NEXUS FACTS, TOOLS AND PUBLICATIONS

## 4. WEF NEXUS RELATED EVENTS

### Global News

## “Nexus Solutions for climate resilient Water-Energy-Food-Environment security”

COP27 side event on showing the importance of the Nexus approach for climate change

The COP27 took place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, holding a side event on 14th November on “Nexus solutions for climate-resilient water, energy, food and environment security: lessons learned from the ground”. The session featured diverse perspectives and experiences of various Nexus stakeholders.



Dieter Rothenberger, head of the Sector Programme Water Policy - Innovation for Resilience, offers input on the session.

[Read Review](#)



## New Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus Training Material

Now available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish

The newly established WEF Nexus training material developed in cooperation with adelphi to inspire the implementation of the WEF Nexus approach worldwide! It serves to contribute to an increased application of the WEF Nexus approach in planning, policymaking and implementation in countries belonging to the five target regions of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme and beyond.



## Module I - Introduction to the Water-Energy-Food Security (WEF) Nexus



Want to learn more about the training material and discover how it can be adapted per context? Download it here!

[Learn More](#)



## Nexus Interview Series

Cecilia Vey, Junior Advisor Global Nexus Secretariat, Communications and Outreach

The interview series aims to provide a better picture of the people within the Nexus team and their perspectives on Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus challenges and opportunities. In this episode, we invite you to get to know Cecilia Vey, leading the PR, communication and event activities in her position as Junior Advisor at the Global Nexus Secretariat.



Learn more about how a niche topic like the WEF Nexus is communicated to different target groups.

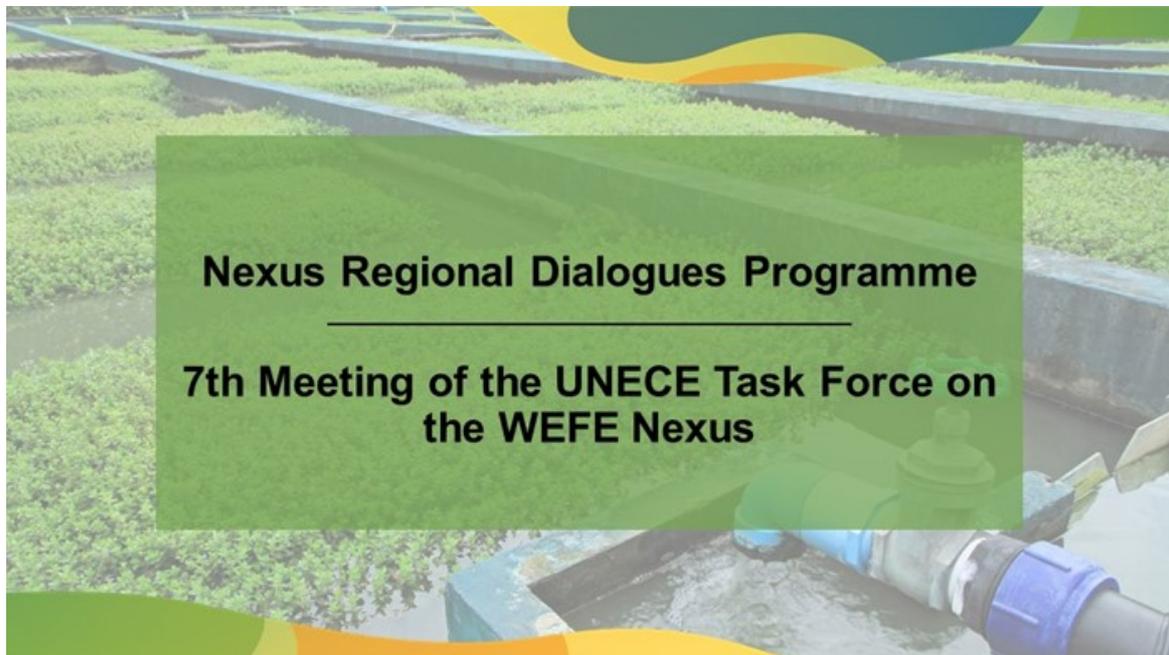
[Read Full Interview](#)



# 7th Meeting of the UNECE Task Force on the WEF Nexus

Held in Geneva in December 2022 with inputs of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

Promotion of the Nexus Resource Platform as a global knowledge hub for the WEF Nexus community, and the operationalisation of Nexus Guidelines in the Niger Basin Nexus Dialogue were key inputs at the seventh meeting of the UNECE Task Force on the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus, which was held in Geneva from 12th – 13th December 2022.



Read more on the UNECE Task Force session.

[Read Review](#)



## News from the Projects

The Nexus team is composed of three key projects:

1) The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme (NRD): Building on the results of Phase I, the NRD Phase II aims to institutionalise the WEF Nexus approach in national and regional governance structures and investment decisions and to engage the public and private investors for WEF Nexus projects. The Programme is implemented in Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and Northern Africa, the Niger Basin and Southern Africa in cooperation with regional partner organisations.

2) Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River Project: The aim of the project is to support the river basin organisation ABAKIR (Autorité du Bassin du Lac Kivu et de la Rivière Ruzizi/ Rusizi) to improve the hydrological and operational management of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi/Rusizi River. ABAKIR is mandated by its three member states: Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. [Please note: This project has ended in October 2022]

3) Frexus: Improving security and climate resilience in a fragile context through the Water-Energy-Food Nexus: The project operates in Mali, Niger and Chad and aims to support the peaceful resolution of social tensions and conflicts between population groups that are caused or exacerbated by climate change in fragile areas.



## Nexus Regional Dialogue in Central Asia

### Water-Energy-Food security is endangered by sedimentation growth in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan

The Ruslovoe reservoir no longer generates electricity at full scale

The Tyamuyun Hydroelectric Complex (THC) is a transboundary water-energy facility located along the Amu Darya River at the border between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. It is an important facility that supplies over five million people living in Dashoguz Velayat in Turkmenistan and the Khorezm Region and Republic of Karakalpakstan in Uzbekistan with drinking water, electricity and irrigation water. This article presents the findings of the 1.5 years of project implementation at the WEF Nexus transboundary demonstration project.



The demonstration project has assessed the recycling potential of the sediments of the Ruslovoe reservoir.

[Read more](#)



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### The EU fosters regional cooperation for sustainable resource management

A focus on the Water-Energy-Food sectors in Central Asia

The EU funded Central Asia Nexus Dialogue held its 5th Regional Steering Committee (RSC) in Almaty, Kazakhstan, with the participation of the RSC members nominated by Central Asian countries, international partners and experts.



The 5th Regional Steering Committee of the Central Asia Nexus Dialogue.

[Read More](#)



## Nexus Regional Dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean

### Strengthening rural communities in Peru via the WEF Nexus approach

Designing sustainable water management and agriculture systems in San Pedro de Casta to increase the community's resilience against climate change

How do guinea pigs and the rehabilitation of an ancestral lagoon, among others, contribute to food and water security in the rural community of San Pedro de Casta, Peru? By strengthening technologies and capacities for agricultural production with clean energy - Aquafondo shows how this is possible.



Regional coordinator of the Latin America and Caribbean Nexus Dialogue - Antonio Levy - and beneficiaries during an onsite visit of the WEF Nexus demonstration project in Peru.

[Read More](#)



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## Successful applicants start LATAM4WEF Innovations Programme

Unique opportunity to co-design and co-develop solutions that could help address water, energy and food security challenges in Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru

Upon the completion of the call for applications and the selection of participants, the programme has now held its WEF Innovation Lab, a 2.5-day event intended to introduce young talent to the entrepreneurial mindset, basic techniques of entrepreneurship, and, often, a specific theme giving the basis to solve WEF Nexus challenges.



Candidates take part in the selection process of the Innovation Lab.

[Read More](#)



## Nexus Regional Dialogue in MENA

### Embarking on a journey to upscale Nexus-based farming in Egypt

Developing and testing integrated systems to adapt farming techniques in the face of climate change

Situated in Dendara Esna in Upper Egypt, **GEBAL Egypt** puts ideas into action. The organisation is formed by a team of regional and international experts who are developing and testing integrated systems to adapt farming techniques in the face of climate change. With innovative solutions, they thrive to make the most out of every drop in the water scarce region. This project is part of the **MENA Nexus Dialogue**.



The WEF Nexus farms visited by GEBAL Egypt and GIZ.

[Read More](#)



## Capacity building in Tunisian municipalities

A WEF Nexus training under the framework of the MINARET II Project

Eleven representatives of the municipalities of Manouba and Raoed in Tunisia participated in the capacity building event of the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Training. The two-day training aimed to strengthen their knowledge on the WEF Nexus approach and enable its application to promote a coherent, holistic and integrated implementation of the related Sustainable Development Goals, and secure access to the three critical resources in the long run. This training was set within the framework of the MINARET II Project as part of the MENA Nexus Dialogue.



Participants of the training held in Tunisia discuss the concepts of urban resilience and the WEF Nexus.



## Nexus Regional Dialogue in the Niger Basin

### The Niger Basin Authority adopts its first transboundary guidelines on the Water-Energy-Food-Environment Nexus

A 3-day workshop dedicated to the Nexus criteria and principles

On 7th December 2022, in the capital of Chad, N'Djamena, the Council of Ministers of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) adopted formal guidelines on the integration of the Water, Energy, Food Security, and Environmental (WEFE) Sustainability Nexus approach in the development of sustainable development programmes and projects in the Niger Basin.



The Council of Ministers takes place at the Niger Basin Authority.

[Read More](#)

### The WEF Nexus Acceleration Programme in the Niger Basin

Winning start-up completes immersion course

The winner of the WEF Nexus acceleration programme bootcamp, Zakari Idrissa Abdou, promoter of the Green Business and Consulting company, has started an immersion course at the Entrepreneurship and Incubation Centre (CEI) of the 2iE Institute – leading the acceleration programme as part of the Niger Basin Nexus Dialogue.



**GREEN  
BUSINESS**



Zakari Idrissa Abdou of Green Business - winner of the bootcamp.

[Read More](#)



## Nexus Regional Dialogue in Southern Africa

### Integrated Water, Energy and Food Projects gain ground in Southern Africa

National dialogues help determine potential WEF Nexus projects

Member States (MS) of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) have embraced the integrated planning and implementation of projects in the WEF sectors. Fourteen MS have held national dialogues where they identified priority investment projects that could be taken further for bankability and mobilising financing for implementation.



The Southern Africa Nexus Dialogue was represented by Annah Ndeketea.

[Read More](#)



# Institutionalising the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach

Experience from the SADC Region

Understanding the WEF Nexus approach and its role in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region via the "SADC Regional WEF Nexus Framework". The latter provides guidance and tools for decision-making, coordination among the different WEF Nexus sectors, and facilitation of Nexus investments in the region.



## Institutionalizing the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach: experience from the SADC Region

Kidanemariam Jembere  
GWP Southern Africa/African Coordination Unit

Presentation for the Water, Energy and Food for Thought: Interregional exchange on WEF Nexus Institutionalisation  
Organized by the Global Nexus Secretariat (GiZ)  
28<sup>th</sup> June 2021



Understanding the institutionalisation of the WEF Nexus Framework.

[Read More](#)



## Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River Project

### Online reports available from the project upon its completion

Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River Project

We are pleased to report that on 31st October 2022 the project, „Support to the integrated management of water resources of lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River basin” concluded implementation. We invite you to explore some of our report outputs, which can be found [here](#).



The closing of a Nexus chapter.

[Discover the Studies](#)



## The Frexus Project: Improving security and climate resilience in a fragile context through the Water-Energy-Food Nexus

### Riding out the Multicrisis – the Paris Peace Forum 2022 tackles Global Governance Challenges in a Polarised World

Exploring integrated solutions along the food security, climate and peace Nexus

Under the headline “Riding out the multicrisis”, the Paris Peace Forum (PPF) took place from 11th -12th November in the Palais Brongniart in Paris. The 5th edition of the Forum brought together 32 heads of states and leaders of international organisation and a total of 4800 participants to address common global governance challenges at a particular difficult time for international cooperation. The Frexus Project participated at the PPF highlighting the need to improve security and climate resilience in fragile contexts.



The Frexus team and partners at the PPF.

[Read Full Review](#)



## Workshop for the mapping of animal corridors in the municipality of Bellen, Mali

A review of the occupation of existing corridors and the defining new ones

In the municipality of Bellen in Mali, old animal crossing corridors are no longer usable due to the uncontrolled expansion of cultivation plots. A workshop conducted by the Frexus Project enabled participants to delineate two new animal crossing corridors with a total length of about 65 km contributing to the reduction of conflicts between farmers and herders.



Workshop participants in full discussion.

[Read More about the Workshop](#)



## Community Radio Equipment Handover Ceremony in Mali and Chad

The re-opening of radio stations helps raise awareness about climate change

An equipment handover ceremony was successfully conducted for community radios in Bellen, Mali and Kanem, Chad as part of the Frexus project in late 2022. The handing over of the equipment has allowed these radio stations to broadcast once again and by extension to raise awareness about the impacts of climate change, the links between natural resources, climate change and conflicts as well as the content of social agreements.



Re-opening of a radio broadcast station.

[Read More](#)



## What is the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus?

A new explanatory video on the WEF Nexus

The WEF Nexus approach highlights the interdependencies between achieving water, energy and food security for human well-being. It is based on an understanding of the synergies and regulated negotiation of fair trade-offs between competing uses of water, land and energy-related resources. It contributes not only to sustainable development, but also to the EU's overall developmental and global commitments. Learn more about the approach in the new explanatory video developed by the Global Nexus Secretariat as part of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme available on the Nexus Resource Platform and our very own YouTube Channel.



The WEF Nexus made clear.

What is the WEF Nexus?



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## Investment in circular water treatment and renewable energy systems for Latin America and the Caribbean with the Nexus approach

Managing resources more efficiently by circularity

In Latin America and the Caribbean one of the main sources of water contamination is the inadequate treatment of domestic water. Circular economy is a way of designing production processes as a system that is compatible with available resources. This report presents the conclusions on investment in circular water treatment and renewable energy systems for Latin America and the Caribbean with the Nexus approach.

# Conclusions report on investment in circular water treatment and renewable energy systems for Latin America and the Caribbean with the Nexus approach

Submitted by:

Alfredo Montañez Velásquez

Submitted to:

GIZ Agency Colombia



August 2022

Report on investment in circular water treatment and renewable energy systems.

[Read Report](#)



## WEF Nexus Related Events

### The 9th German-African Agribusiness Forum (GAAF)

“The Path to Food Sovereignty – Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture for Africa”

The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme presented its project activities as part of a session at the 9th German-African Agribusiness Forum. The Forum provided a platform for African and German business people, decision-makers and financial institutions to build partnerships that contribute to food security and more resilient and sustainable agricultural and economic systems. Stay tuned for a full review!

# 9<sup>th</sup> GERMAN- AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

## **The Path to Food Sovereignty – Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture for Africa**

The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme at the 9th GAAF.

[Learn More](#)



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### The European Union Business Forum in Niger | Feb 8th

A session on Accelerating Water-Energy-Food Security Enterprises in Niger

This session, organised by the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme in the Niger Basin and RES4Africa, presents how the Water-Energy-Food Nexus can support efficient and sustainable use of limited natural resources and how such solutions can be economically viable and thus obtain funding. Selected companies, including Green Business, the winning start-up of the Nexus Accelerator Programme in the Niger Basin, will present their business models and discuss them with potential investors.



Business Forum EU-Niger.

[Learn More \(in French\)](#)



Dear reader,

That's it, you are all caught up on Nexus news. Thank you for taking the time to read through this newsletter! Stay tuned for the next issue, **N°16 to be published in March 2023.**

Be sure to share any articles you liked with our **new share button** and follow our social media channels ([twitter](#), [facebook](#), [youtube](#)) for real time updates from the projects!

Your Nexus Team



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The Nexus Resource Platform is a global Nexus information and knowledge hub operated by the Global Nexus Secretariat as part of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme. The Secretariat provides support to the Nexus Regional Dialogues and ensures knowledge exchange and global analysis on the topic across the participating regions and beyond.

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