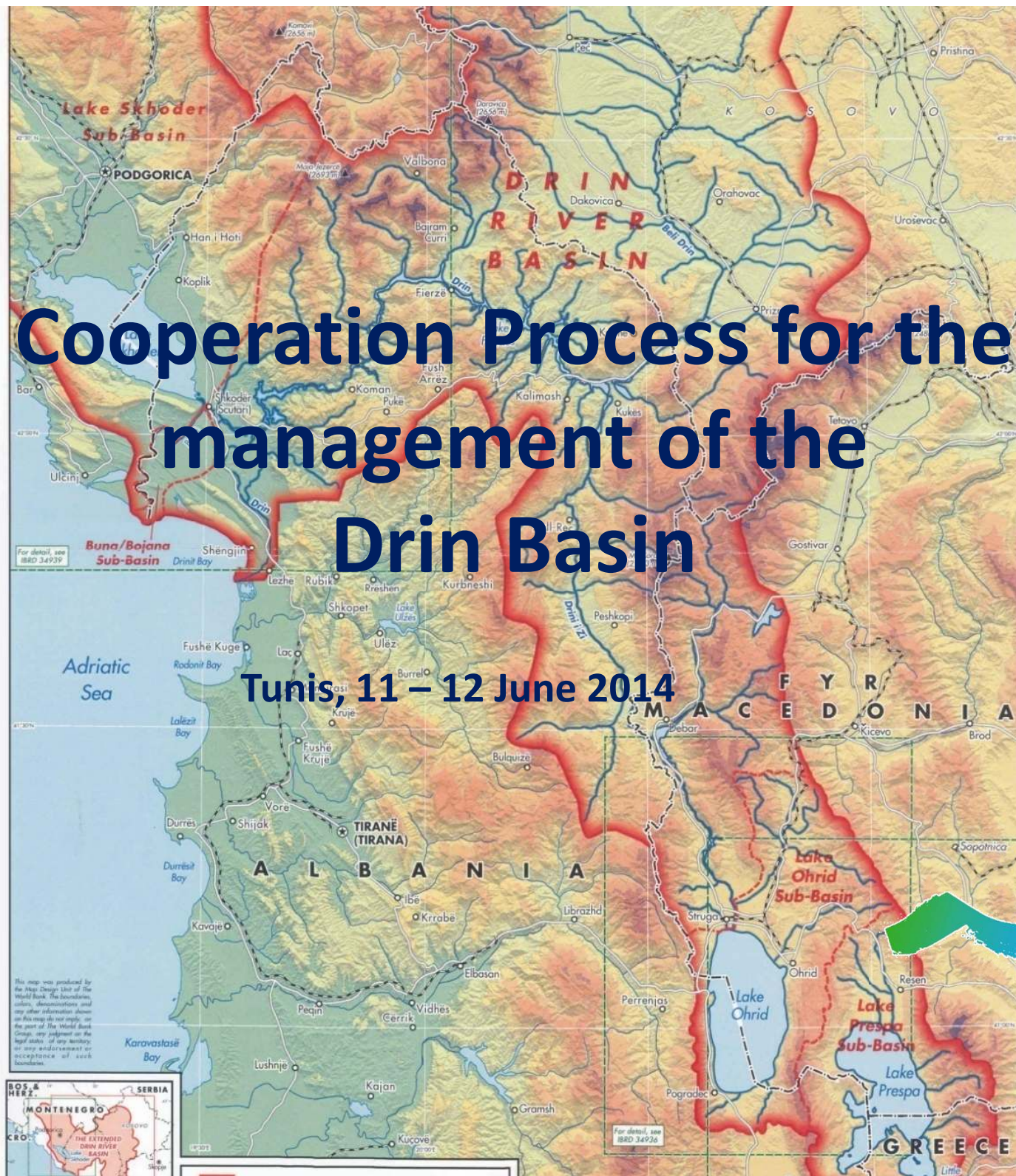
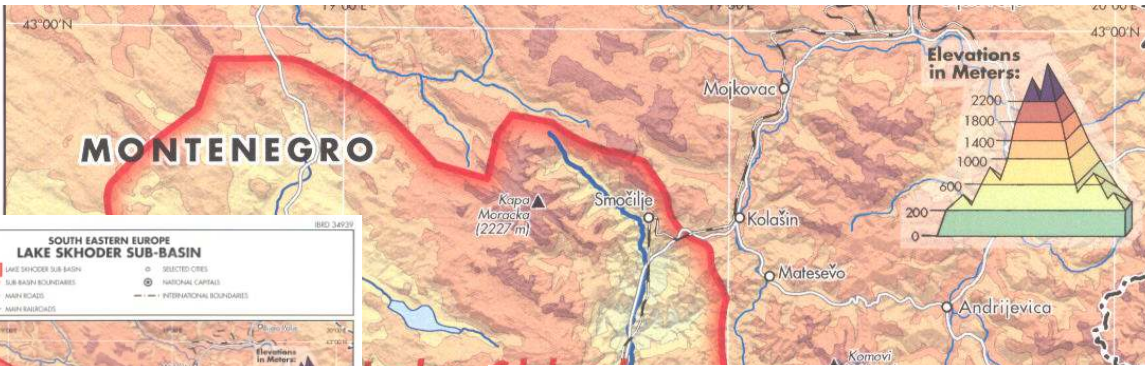


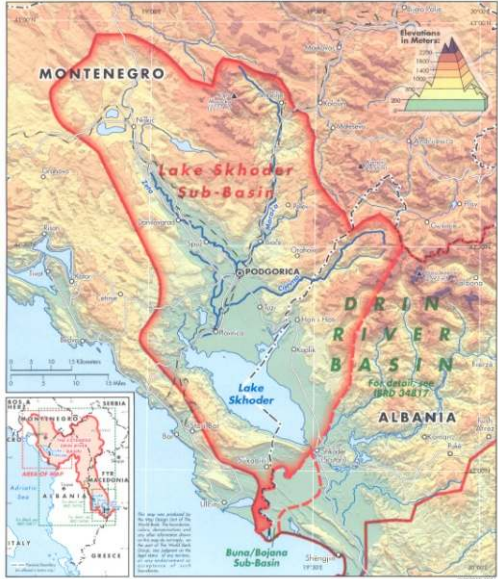
Cooperation Process for the management of the Drin Basin

Tunis, 11 – 12 June 2014



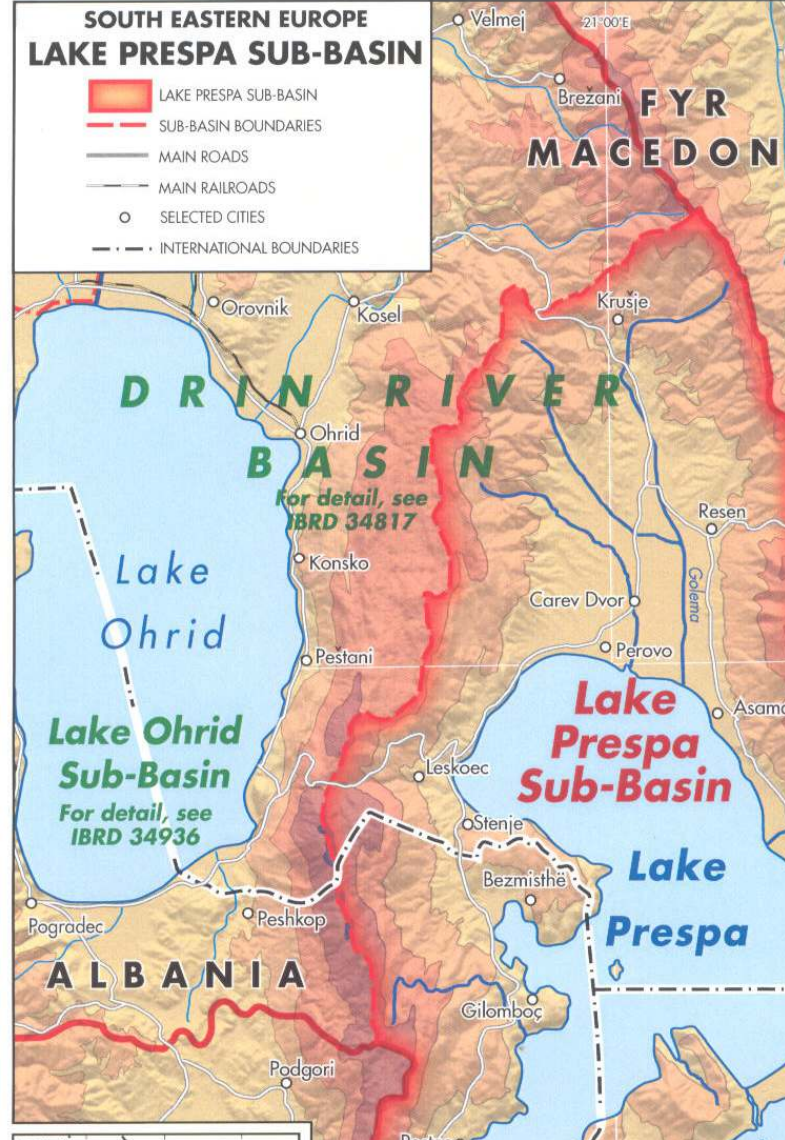
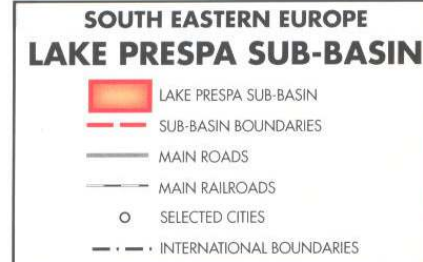


IBRD



Sub

SC
LAKE



SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE
LAKE OHRID SUB-BASIN



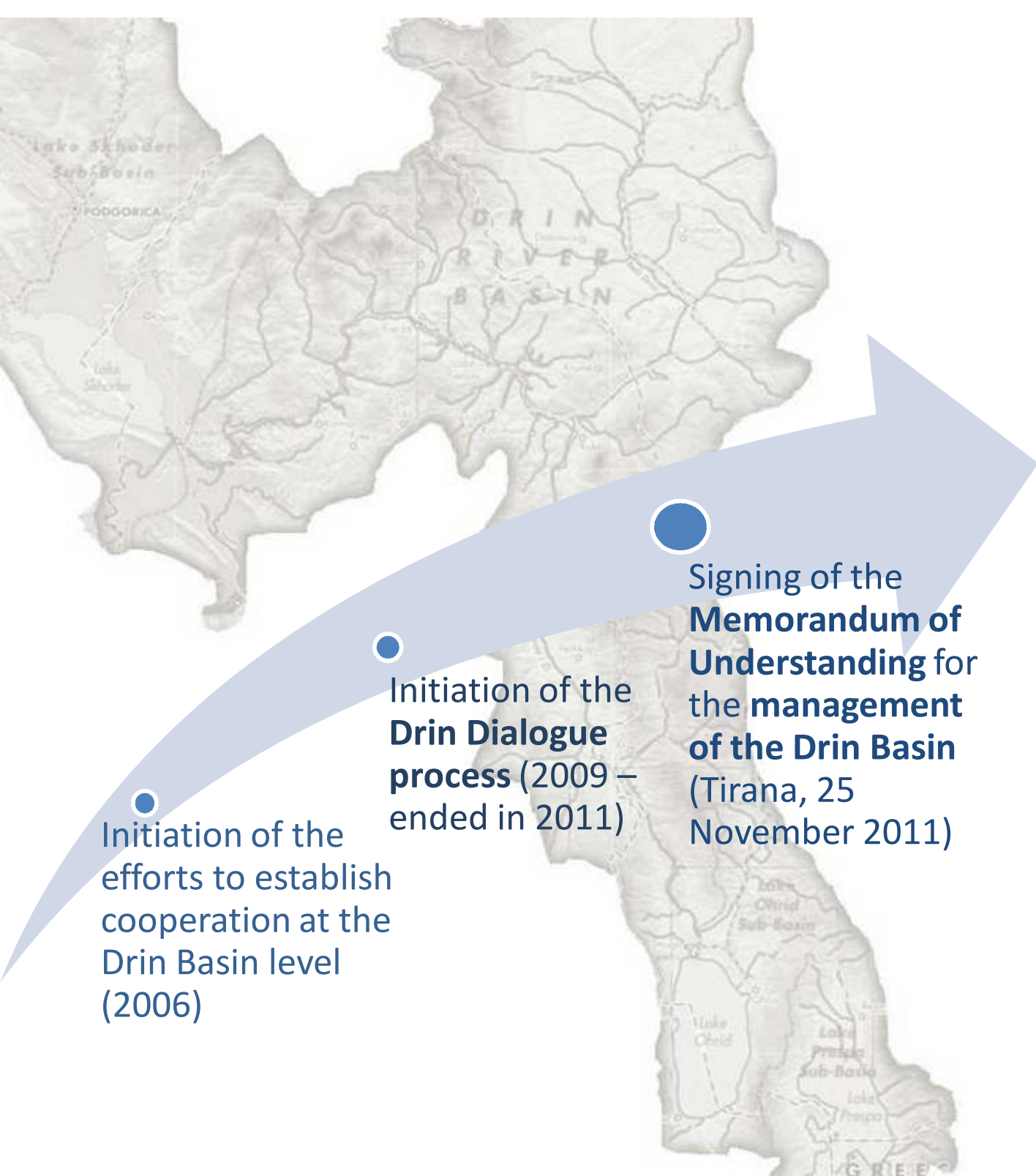
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SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE
LAKE PRESPA SUB-BASIN





Towards the enhancement of transboundary cooperation among the Drin Riparians for the sustainable management of the extended Drin River Basin

Initiation of the efforts to establish cooperation at the Drin Basin level (2006)

Initiation of the **Drin Dialogue process** (2009 – ended in 2011)

Signing of the **Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Drin Basin** (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

International Roundtable on “Integrated Management of Shared Lake Basins in Southeastern Europe” (Ohrid 12-14 October 2006)

Consultation Meeting on Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin (Tirana, Albania, 24/11/2008)

Meeting to coordinate joint action for the initiation of a structured Drin Dialogue (Sarajevo, 18/5/2009)



First Drin Core Group Meeting (Podgorica, Montenegro, 1/12/2009)

Initiation of the Drin Dialogue

Drin Dialogue process

A coordinated and structured consultation process among the:

- water resources management competent ministries of the Riparians,*
- the existing **joint commissions/committees** in the sub-basins and the*
- **stakeholders***

Drin Dialogue process

Main objective: The development of a **Strategic Shared Vision** among the competent national authorities and stakeholders for the sustainable management of the Drin basin.



A map of the Drin Basin, showing its geographical extent across the Balkans. The map is divided into several sub-basins: Lake Shkoder Sub-Basin in the northwest, Lake Ohrid Sub-Basin in the south, and Lake Prespa Sub-Basin in the southeast. The word 'DRIN' is written across the central part of the basin. The countries of ALBANIA, MONTENEGRO, and GREECE are labeled. The city of PODGORICA is marked in the northwest. The map is overlaid with a semi-transparent white box containing text.

"Strategic Shared Vision" for the management of the Drin Basin

Describe the vision regarding the management of the Basin in relation to its sustainable development including **actions to address key issues as well as actions to enhance cooperation among the Riparians.**

Based on the views and opinions of the stakeholders as identified through the Drin Dialogue Process.

Drin Dialogue process

How?

Through activities financed by the Swedish
Environmental Protection Agency



Drin Dialogue process

How?

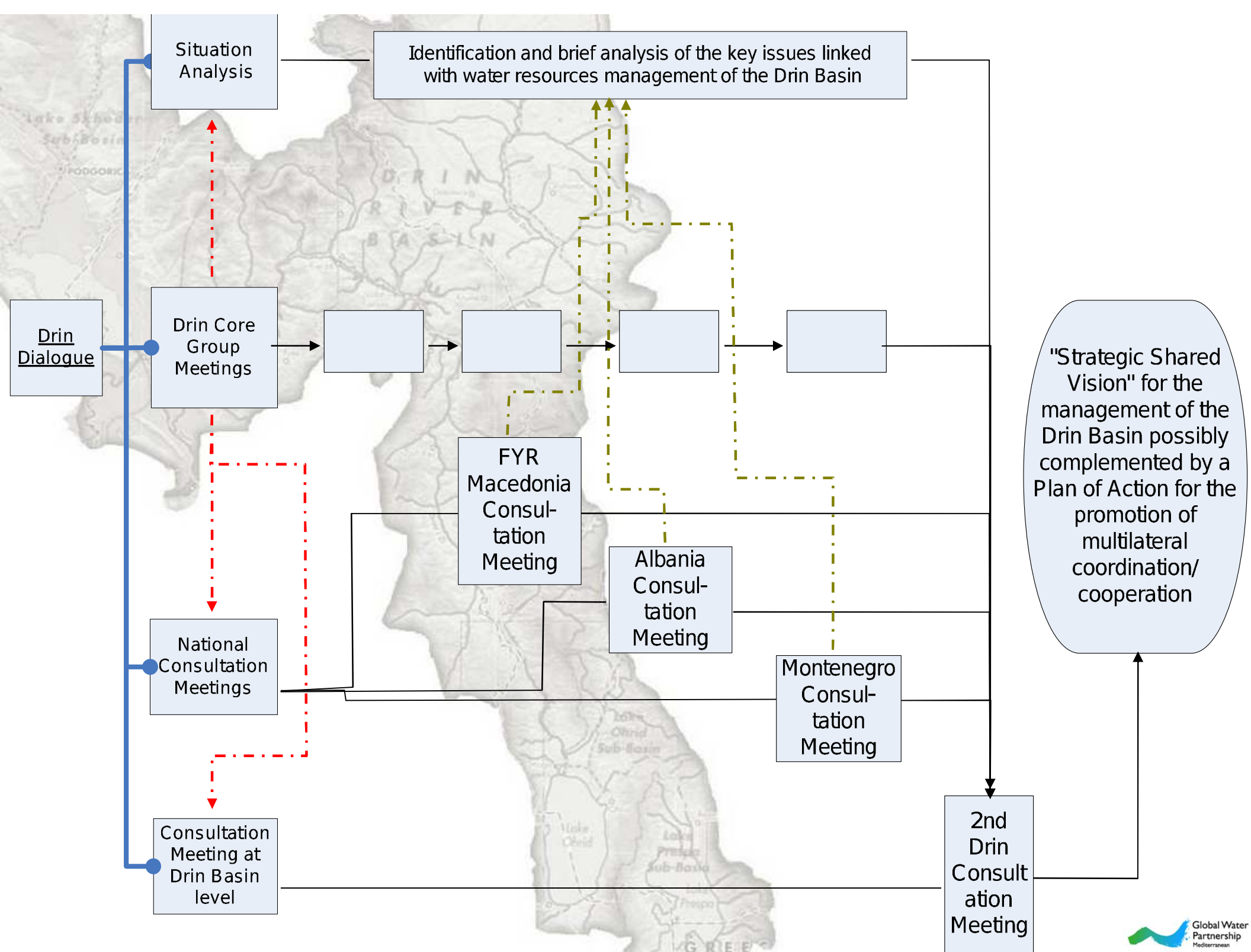
Activities

Situation
Analysis

Drin Core
Group
Meetings

National
Consultation
Meetings

Consultation
Meeting at
Drin Basin
level



International Roundtable on “Integrated Management of Shared Lake Basins in Southeastern Europe” (Ohrid 12-14 October 2006)

Consultation Meeting on Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin (Tirana, Albania, 24/11/2008)

Ohrid - National Consultation Meeting (Ohrid, 2/11/10)

Tirana - National Consultation Meeting, (Tirana, 5/4/11)

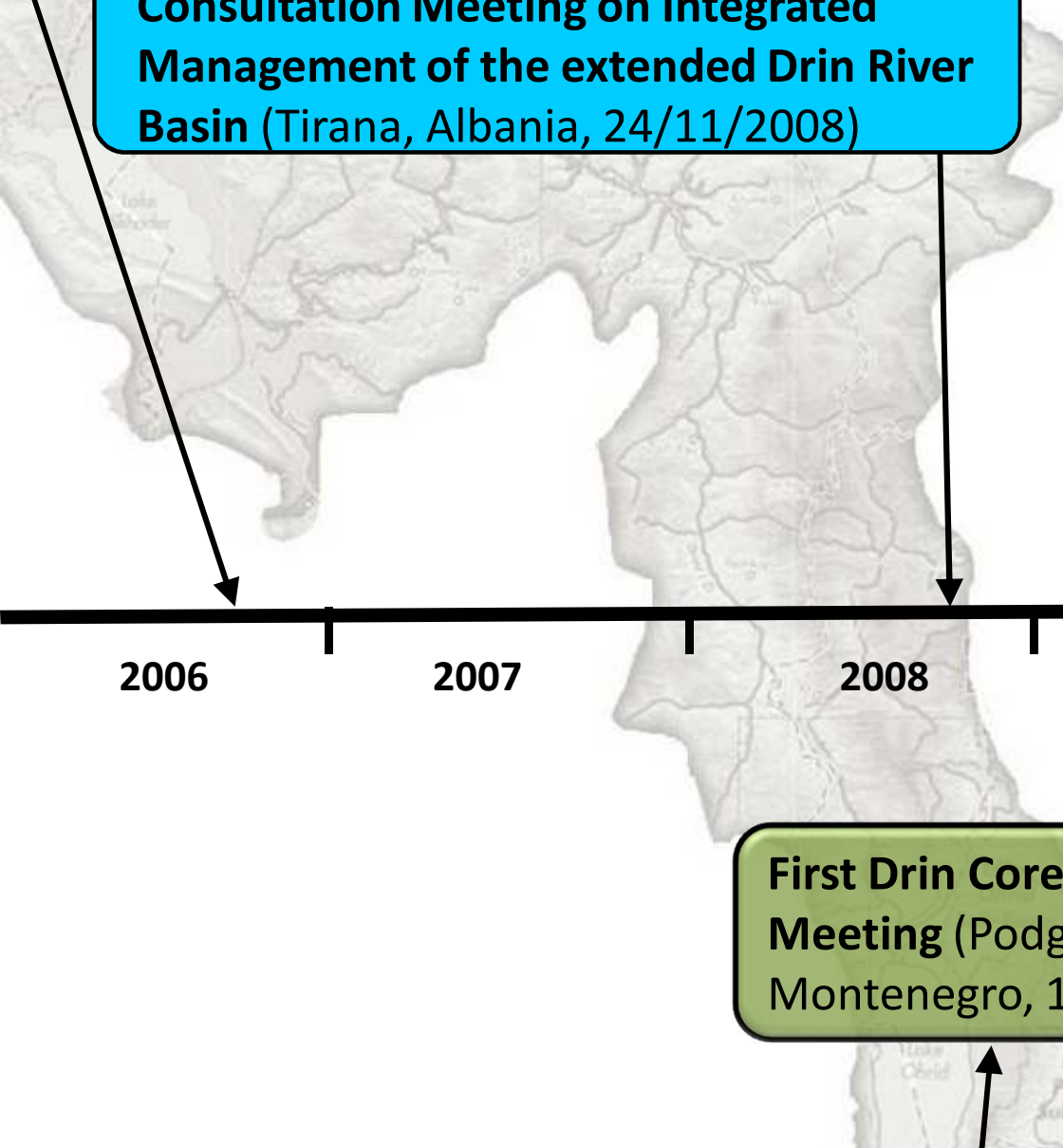
Podgorica - National Consultation Meeting, (Podgorica, 28/9/11)

Transboundary - National Consultation Meeting, (Tirana, 25/11/11)



First Drin Core Group Meeting (Podgorica, Montenegro, 1/12/2009)

Initiation of the Drin Dialogue



**Meeting of the Parties to the MoU,
(Ministerial Meeting, (Tirana, 11/12)**

**Drin Core Group Meetings
(2nd to 6th)**

- Characterization of the Basin (WFD) – Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
- Monitoring – System for exchange of information
- Cooperation on flood risk preparedness and management
- Preparation of an Agreement
- Preparation of coordinated management plans (beyond 2015)
- Etc.

2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

**Drin Ministerial
Declaration** (Ohrid, 18/4/11)

Drin MoU (Tirana, 25/11/11)

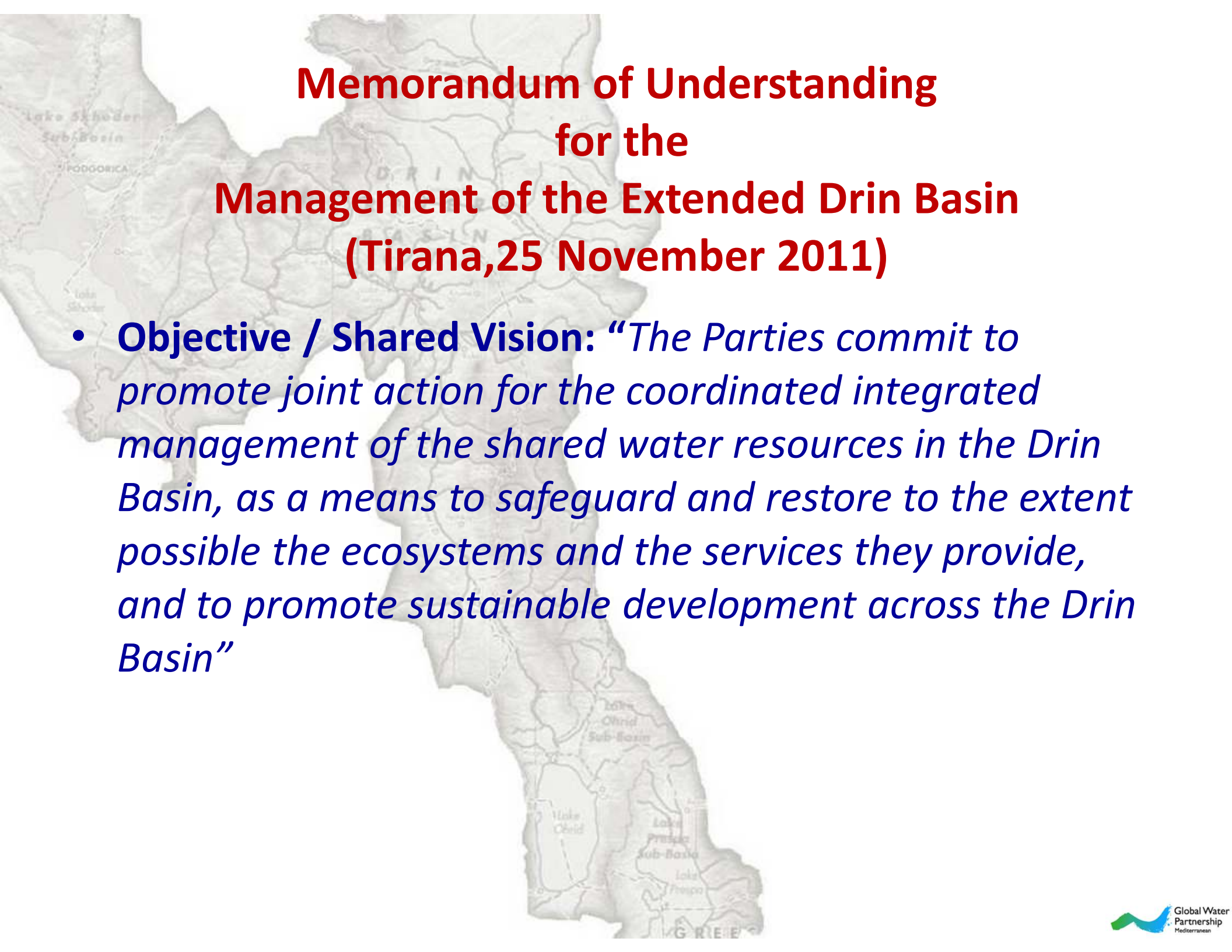
Action Plan for the Drin MoU

Initiation of the Drin Dia

Implementation of the Drin MoU

Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)



A topographic map of the Drin Basin in Albania, showing the main basin and several sub-basins: Lake Shkoder Sub-Basin, Lake Ohrid Sub-Basin, and Lake Prespa Sub-Basin. The city of Podgorica is marked. The map is overlaid with the title text.

Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- **Objective / Shared Vision:** *“The Parties commit to promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin”*

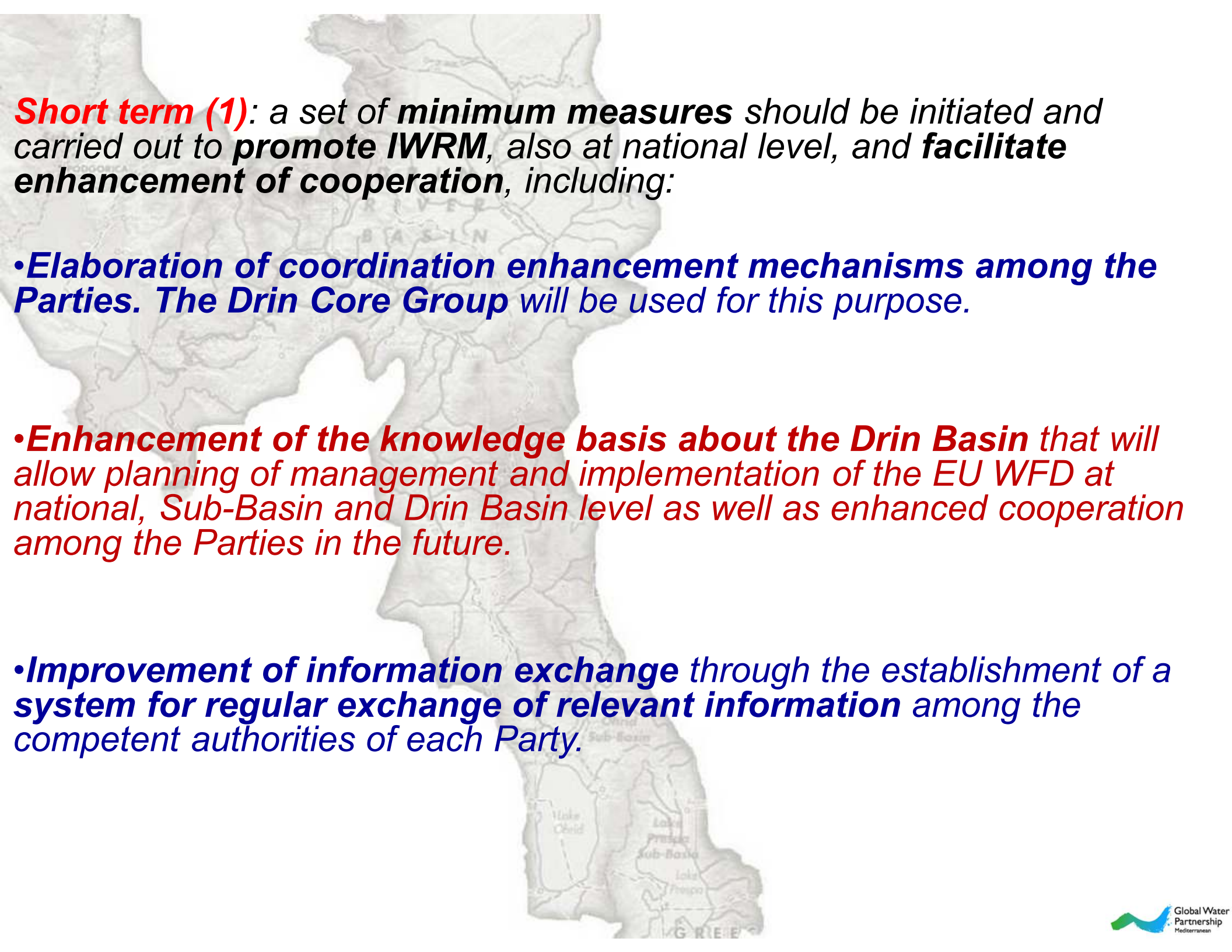
Acknowledges Common Concerns for sustainable development of the Drin Basin that should be addressed

The Parties hereby should undertake concrete actions to address problems identified as affecting sustainable development in the entire Drin Basin or in one or more of the Sub-Basins:

- Improving access to comprehensive data and adequate information to fully understand the current state of the environment and the water resources and the hydrologic system (including surface, underground and coastal waters) as well as ecosystems of the Drin Basin;*
- Establish conditions for a sustainable use of water and other natural resources;*
- Develop cooperation and measures to minimise flooding especially in the lower parts of the Drin Basin;*
- Improve management and appropriate disposal of solid wastes;*
- Decrease nutrient pollution deriving from untreated or poorly treated wastewater discharges and unsustainable agricultural practices;*
- Decrease pollution from hazardous substances such as heavy metals and pesticides;*
- Minimise effects of hydro-morphologic interventions that alter the nature of the hydrologic system and the supported ecosystems, resulting in their deterioration.*

Priority Actions at national, bilateral and/or multilateral levels



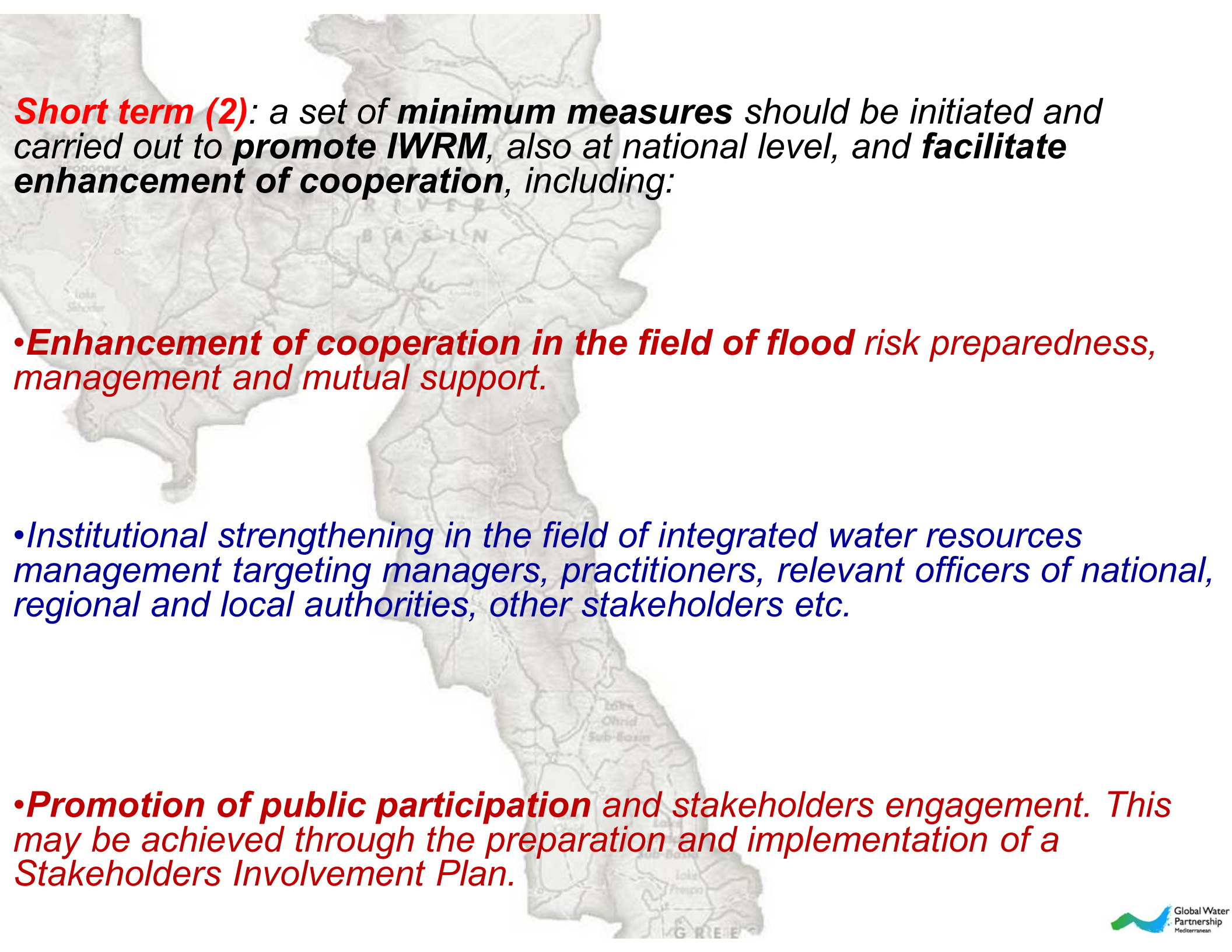


Short term (1): a set of **minimum measures** should be initiated and carried out to **promote IWRM**, also at national level, and **facilitate enhancement of cooperation**, including:

- **Elaboration of coordination enhancement mechanisms among the Parties. The Drin Core Group will be used for this purpose.**

- **Enhancement of the knowledge basis about the Drin Basin that will allow planning of management and implementation of the EU WFD at national, Sub-Basin and Drin Basin level as well as enhanced cooperation among the Parties in the future.**

- **Improvement of information exchange through the establishment of a system for regular exchange of relevant information among the competent authorities of each Party.**



Short term (2): a set of **minimum measures** should be initiated and carried out to **promote IWRM**, also at national level, and **facilitate enhancement of cooperation**, including:

- **Enhancement of cooperation in the field of flood risk preparedness, management and mutual support.**

- **Institutional strengthening in the field of integrated water resources management targeting managers, practitioners, relevant officers of national, regional and local authorities, other stakeholders etc.**

- **Promotion of public participation and stakeholders engagement. This may be achieved through the preparation and implementation of a Stakeholders Involvement Plan.**

A light gray map of the Drin Basin in Albania, showing the main river and several sub-basins: Lake Ohrid, Lake Prespa, and Lake Prokletije. The word 'ALBANIA' is visible at the bottom of the map.


Medium Term: establishment of **instruments** to be used for the **sustainable management of water resources** in the *Drin Basin*, including:

- *Achievement of a science based consensus, among the Drin Riparians, on key (Drin Basin) transboundary priorities including climate change scenarios, and also main drivers of change and indicators of sustainable development for the basin.*
- **Enhancement of the knowledge basis about the Drin Basin (short term action).**
- *Preparation of an elaborated water balance for the Drin Basin as a useful decision support tool at national and transboundary levels.*



Medium Term: establishment of **instruments** to be used for the **sustainable management of water resources** in the **Drin Basin**, including:

- Establishment of a harmonized Drin Basin Water Monitoring Program.
- **Improvement of information exchange** through the establishment of a **system for regular exchange of relevant information** among the competent authorities of each Party. (short term action)
- Establishment of an Information Management System (IMS) that will enable authorities to collect, store and share data and information produced
- Establishment of basin-wide cooperative management on the basis of an agreement among the Parties and the establishment of a Basin Commission.



Long Term (after 2016) the instruments that will allow the Parties to work towards sustainable management of the water resources in the Drin Basin are expected to be in place, including:

- **Development of a *Drin Basin Management Plan* in accordance with the *EU WFD* and the *UNECE Water Convention*, that will serve as the guidance document for the development and implementation of river/lake basin management plans for each of the *Sub-Basins* at national and transboundary level in accordance with the bilateral and multilateral agreements among the *Drin Riparians*.**

Drin Core Group

Article 5. Implementation and Monitoring

- 1. Pursuant to point 4.1.a, the mandate of the DCG is prolonged and expanded to **facilitate communication and cooperation among the Parties for the implementation of the provisions of the present MoU.***

A topographic map of the Drina River Basin, showing the river's course through the Balkans. The map includes labels for 'PODGORICA', 'DRINA RIVER BASIN', 'Lake Ohrid Sub-Basin', 'Lake Ohrid', 'Lake Prespa Sub-Basin', and 'Lake Prespa'. The word 'SERBIA' is partially visible at the bottom. The map is rendered in a light, semi-transparent style.

Means to deliver results

- Expert work, including preparation of background documents.
- Meetings.
- Electronic communication media (Emails, Web-based working space (explore related opportunities with GEF IW:LEARN)).