

A. Instrumental framework for transboundary cooperation

1. **Practical realisation of measures needs cooperation on „working levels“ (executive level).**

This can be done in international projects.

European cooperation funds and other EU instruments are fundamental to start this kind of cooperation! (like EFRE, INTERREG ... or climate adaptation strategy ...)

International cooperation and agreements on state levels (or international commissions) is a necessary fundament to agree on the framework and preconditions.

2. **Incentives for upstream measures and improved early warning systems** are necessary; strategies to negotiate, compensate and raise acceptance should be further developed and test in international approaches.

3. The real challenge is (and will be): risk prevention by spatial planning on regional and local level (by transnational cooperation → support + pressure)

4. ... similar for public: changing of the behaviour of people should be one key issue of the cooperation! (and funded projects)

B. Practical steps for transboundary cooperation

1. Step by step e.g. start with identification of the joint problem, joint vision + concept; maps, you build up a common view of the problem, the start of a larger cooperation
2. In cooperations the river basin partners remain the owner of their own problem(s) and measures, but they share it (especially upstream-downstream-problems have to be solved in cooperation)
3. Start regionally with implementation (systematically, based on jointly agreed visions and methods ...), with your direct neighbours (e.g. Meuse, Elbe, Rhine); possibly you have to limit the goals for the first steps;

(scientifically not satisfying for all participants)

differences are not so absolute when you start regionally
e.g. return periods largely differ between countries
1/100 to 1/10 000 but not at the border