This analysis by Attila Tanzi, Chair of the ECE Water Convention's Implementation Committee, helps to understand the contribution of the two Conventions to international water law, and provides reassurance as to their complementarity.

Approximately 40 per cent of the world’s population live in river basins that cross national borders. Transboundary river basins cover nearly one half of the earth’s land surface and account for about 60 per cent of global freshwater flow. These basins link populations and create hydrological, social and economic interdependencies between countries. Transboundary water cooperation is therefore essential if we are to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Legal agreements between and among countries can foster and secure transboundary water cooperation.

Related IWRM Tools

International Water Law

A2.02

Source URL: