

TWAS Science Diplomacy Workshop

Sustainable Water Management

Trieste, Italy - 30 November - 4 December 2015

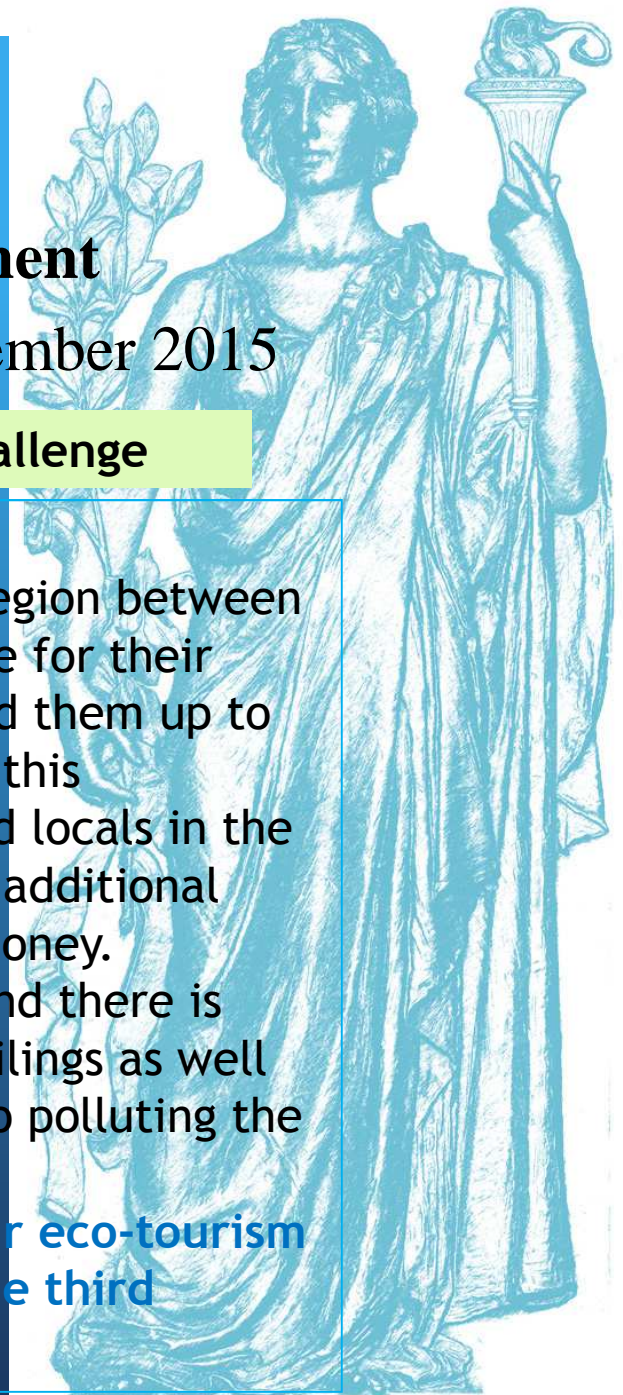
Breakout Groups - Session III: Science Diplomacy Challenge

Scenario B

A series of three mountain lakes straddle the border region between three countries. As high altitude lakes, they are unique for their biodiversity and two of the three countries have signed them up to the RAMSAR Convention. Although in a remote region, this designation means they are now attracting tourists and locals in the two countries (formerly mostly shepherds who earned additional income from some fishing) are starting to earn good money.

The third country, however, has discovered minerals and there is unregulated mining with associated run-off of mine tailings as well as a growing 'shanty town' of mine workers that is also polluting the river that feeds the lakes.

How can the two downstream countries protect their eco-tourism industry against the 'quick buck' being earned by the third country?



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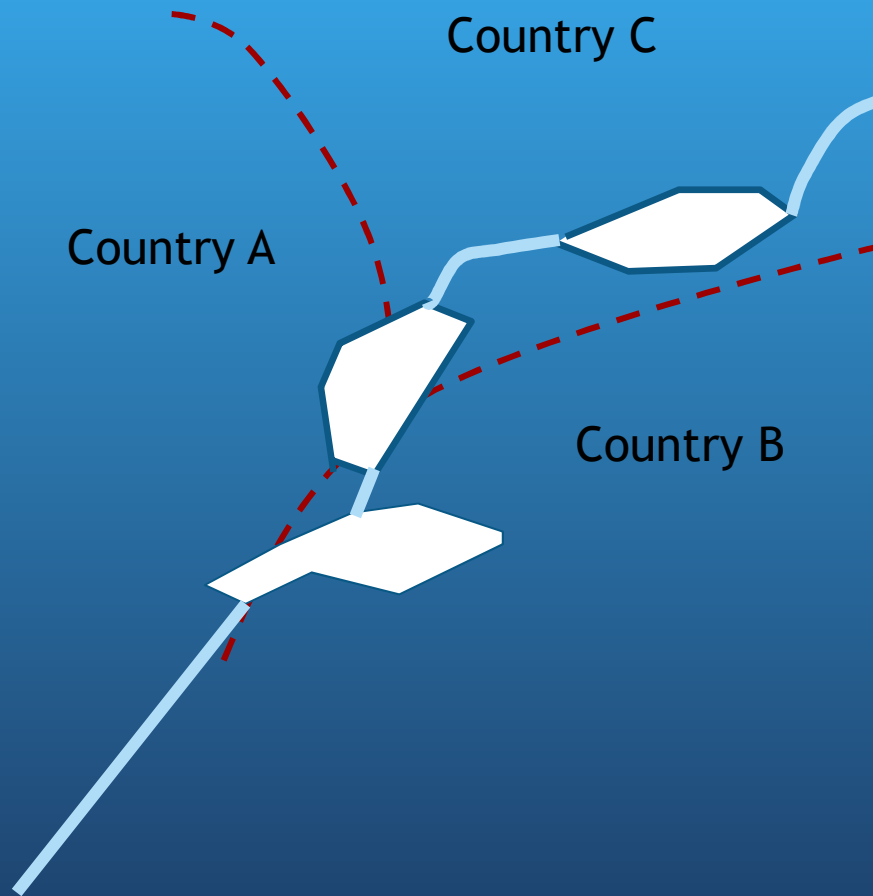
**Breakout Group - Session III:
Science Diplomacy Challenge
Scenario B**

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Outline

- Scenario
- Background Information
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- Budget Application

Scenario B Mountain Lakes



Country A+B (Downstream)

Unique biodiversity

RAMSAR convention

Previous livelihoods: Shepherds
and fisherman

New livelihoods: Tourism, good
money

Country C (Upstream)

Mining

Water pollution and run-off

Shanty town

Scenario B

- Question:

How can the two downstream countries protect their eco-tourism industry against the quick buck being earned by the country C?

Background Information: RAMSAR

- **Convention on Wetlands of International Importance: intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.**
- **Adopted in 1971, came into force in 1975.**
- **Almost 90% of UN member states have acceded to become “Contracting Parties**

Challenges

Environmental and ecosystem threats

Pollution (Mining, Ecotourism industry, Family waste etc.)

Land degradation

Sedimentation

Modification of hydrological regime

Loss of biodiversity

Increasing slope failure and hazard

Conflict Interest

Country C is not RAMSAR member

Various economic interest

Various priorities for development

Challenges

Wak governance Framework

No existence of harmonized legal, institutional frameworks at regional level
No agreement for sharing benefits and responsibilities

Livelihood and Socioeconomic Impacts

Livelihood transformation
Poor living standard
Social inequality
Growing vulnerability
Cultural crisis

Opportunities

Institutional Dimension

- *Enhancing dialogues for understanding and growing trust
- *Building institutional and relational mechanism for regional cooperation
- *Communicating for sharing benefit

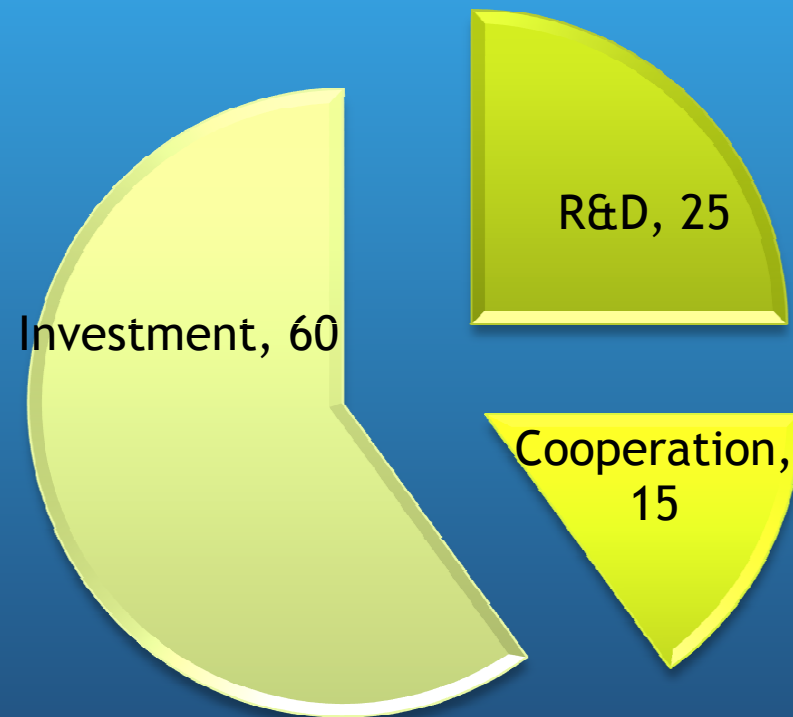
Technological Dimension

- *Development of environmental-friendly technology for pollution and run-off treatment, agriculture, and other industrial sectors
- *Hydrological power
- *Joint watershed-ecosystem management

Local Infrastructure

- *Education and capacity building
- *Transportation
- *Cultural restoration

Budget Application



Budget Application

Institutional Dimension

	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>
Institutional Dimension	5	5	5
Technological Dimension	7.5	7.5	10
Local Infrastructure	22.5	22.5	15

Technological Dimension

Local Infrastructure