

Group C

Who plays which role in in developing the mitigation policies and plans that reduce drought impacts and vulnerability at all levels

The group has decided to cover all three questions due to logical order of the mitigation actions

A Who is vulnerable? - Vulnerable sectors

- Agriculture (rainfed and irrigated – different vulnerability)
- Water sector (surface water and ground water, water users)
- Transport (river traffic)
- Energy (production/cooling and demand issues)
- health, environment, forestry, fishery, tourism & recreation

- Population groups
- Rural communities (vulnerability depends on size – water supply issues),
- small farmers.

- **B What are mitigation actions and policies?**
- Most exposed is rainfed agriculture.
- Irrigated agriculture requires increased water quantities due to high temperatures (increased demand).
- Increased costs of transportation (low river levels)
- Diversification of water supply options (additional drills, additional reservoirs, removing sediment from reservoirs, options to connect to neighbouring pipeline system (example from Slovenia and Croatia))
- Transfer of resources and options in time of shortage (selling of water rights). Higher flexibility required (in many countries water rights are rigid, allocated by government).
- Free and open access for data, development of early warning system and water conservation plan (issues with pollution due to fertilizers in dry period); need for irrigation strategy.
- Development of national drought policy and strengthen national capacity

C Who plays which role in developing mitigation policies and plans

- Decision makers (legislative bodies, local municipalities). Political trigger is critical, leadership initiative is followed down the hierarchy
- Ministries responsible for agriculture, environment, water management, transport, energy.
- NGO, research communities can help in development process.
- Plans to optimize irrigation (water user organizations – cooperatives and associations, agricultural communities)