

A LESSON DESIGNED BY:



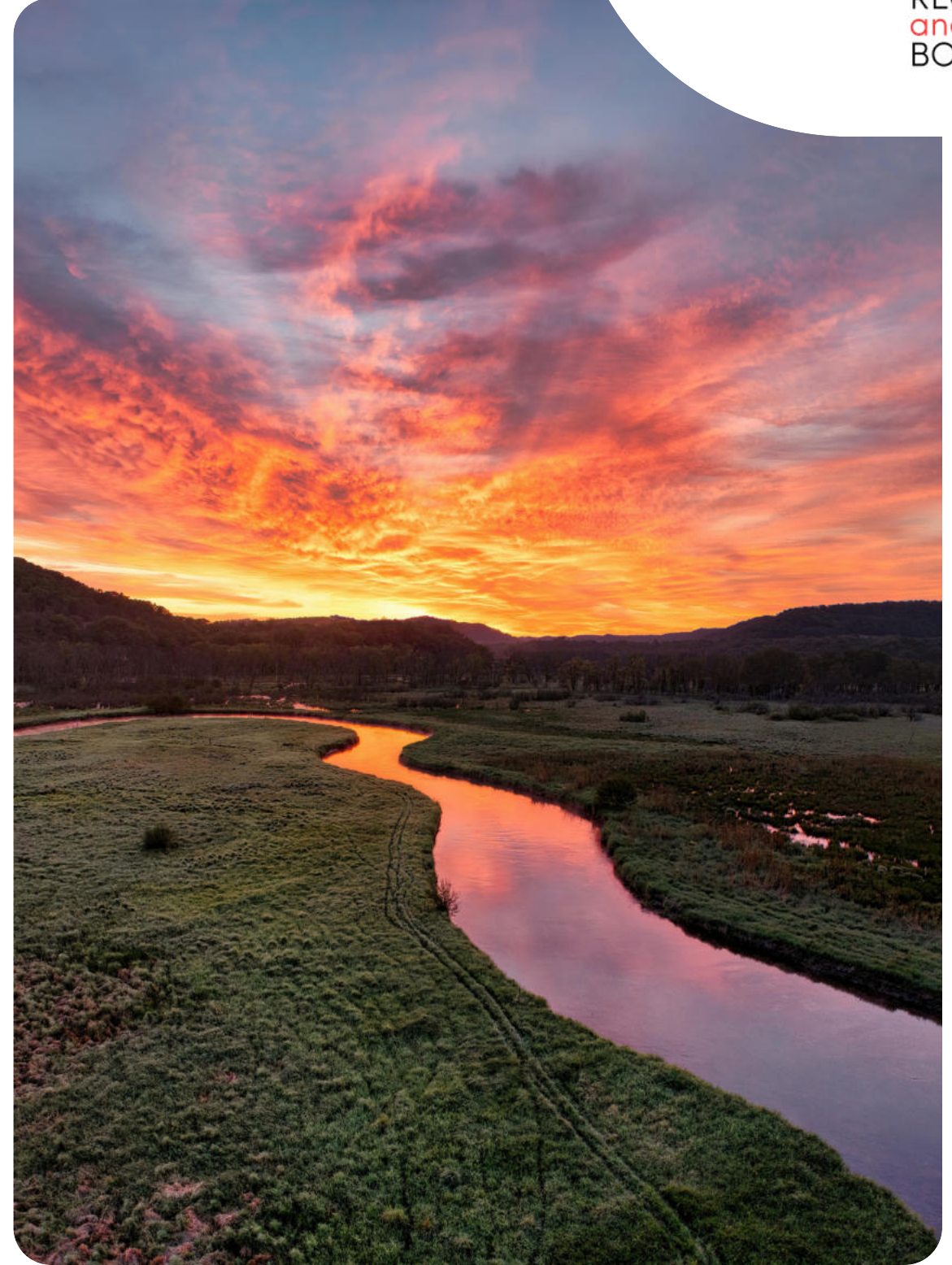
WATER DIPLOMACY



Water in our everyday life

How do you use water every day?

How is water used in your community, beyond your home?



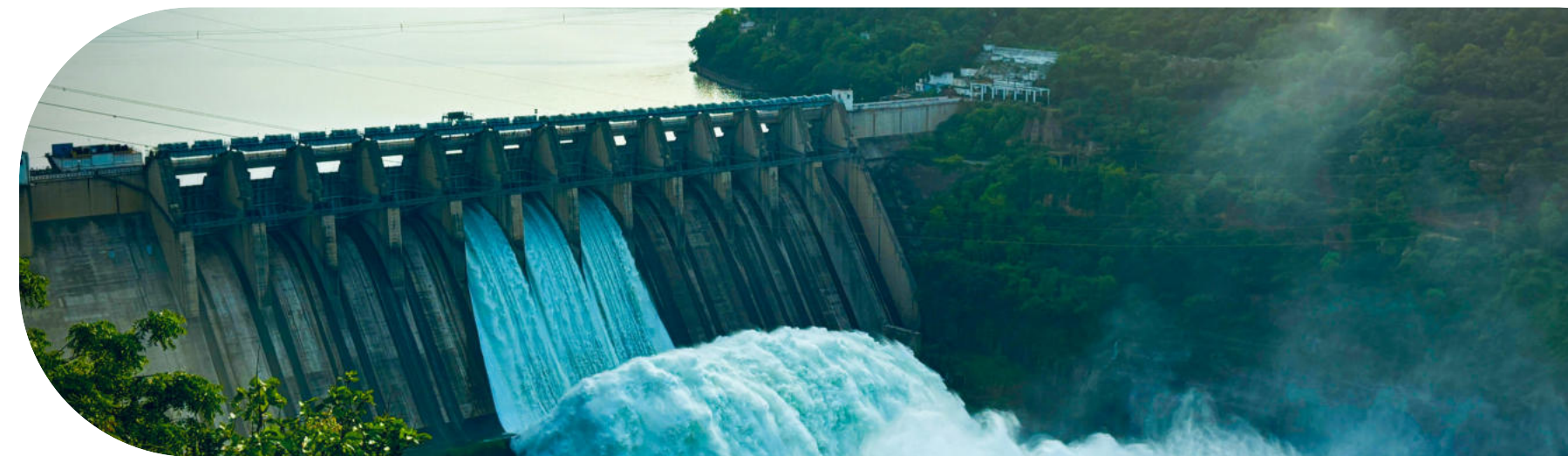
Rivers support fisheries,
tourism, transportation...

& local economies,
especially near riverbanks



Economic value of rivers

Rivers are vital economic resources. They provide water for agriculture, industry, and energy production. They support fishing, transport, and tourism, creating jobs and trade opportunities. Protecting rivers is therefore essential for long-term sustainable development.



Dilemmas

WHO OWNS THE WATER IN A RIVER?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A RIVER STARTS IN ONE COUNTRY AND FLOWS INTO ANOTHER? WHO SHOULD CONTROL IT?



QUICK-FIRE DEFINITIONS

UPSTREAM

Think about a river: where does it start? High or low ground? What do we call that position? Up or downstream?

If you are at the top, do you have more or less control over the flow?

DOWNSTREAM

And the countries at the bottom, do they control the flow or do they depend on what happens above them?

What's the word for that position?

DAM

If you wanted to stop or control a river, what would you build across it?

IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Farmers need water for their crops. If there's no rain, they get the water from the rivers. What do you call the system of channels that brings river water to the fields?

SCARCITY

If there's not enough water for everyone, what's the noun for that situation?



THE BLUE RIVER



What is the main problem between the two countries?



DEBATE PREPARATION

HIGHLAND

The river starts on our land. We have the sovereign right to use it.



LOWLAND

We have depended on this river for centuries. You cannot take it from us.



1

OPENING STATEMENTS

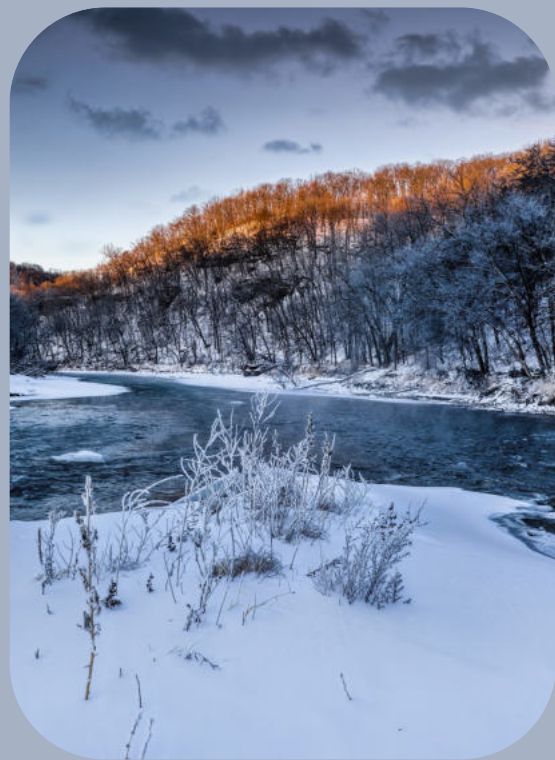
2 minutes per team



2

CROSSFIRE

45 seconds per turn



3

THE VOTE

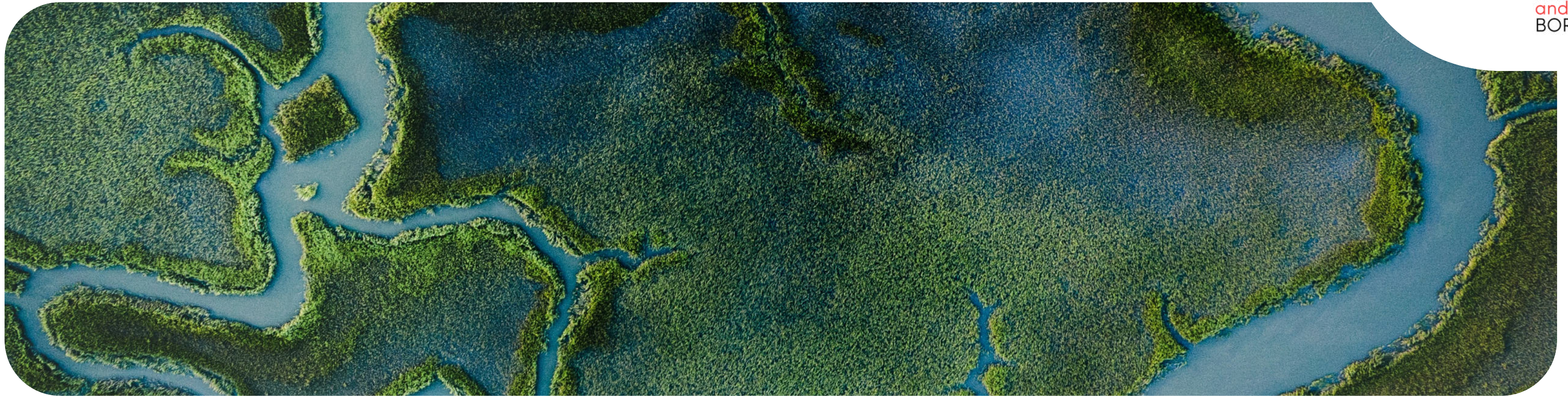


DIPLOMATIC
PAUSE

Use your 'Diplomatic Pause' card
once to stop the clock for 30 seconds!

Ping Pong Debate





REFLECTION



- Did Team Highland convince Team Lowland? Or are they now even more opposed?
 - If Highland builds the dam anyway, what might Lowland do? (Sanctions? Protest? Conflict?)
 - Think about Sara and Omar. Is either of them wrong? Can both of them be right?
- Does arguing about who owns the river actually solve the problem?

Negotiation: from conflict to agreement

You have argued strongly for your country. Now the goal changes. Your goal is not to win the debate, but to avoid a conflict between Highland and Lowland.

Work first with your team, then with the other country. Your task is to **create ONE agreement both countries can accept**. Try to **agree on at least TWO concrete points**.

POINT 1

POINT 2

POINT 3

IS THE AGREEMENT:

a) fair to both countries? b) better for one country? c) only temporary?

