As it relates to the interdisciplinary approach, I integrate both legal and social science principles and concepts to support legislation and/or for public awareness concerning a particular policy issue.

As a demonstration, during the wake of Katrina and Rita, I applied the precautionary principle in a study pertaining to persistent organic pollutants (POPs) that were found in the lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans. I might add, during that period, there were approximately 139 chemical industries, which is why the Gulf Coast is known as “cancer alley.” Similarly, to the nexus approach, data from all stakeholders were included in my study, i.e., residents, area schools, rescue personnel, local and non-governmental entities, media, legislative hearings, as well as state and federal government officials from EPA, Health, and Housing, to include the Office of the President.

I have also made recommendations through public comments as a legislative advocate for the implementation of the interdisciplinary and precautionary approach in lawmaking to prevent adverse impacts on vulnerable groups, i.e., women, minorities, and the poor. It just makes sense to me to deal with the issue from the onset rather than after the fact, because after the fact, the damage has already occurred.

Since joining the EMG dialogue, I have conducted preliminary research on the nexus approach and I am very intrigued in learning more. In fact, I am planning to take a course and pursue an international project. I took your advice and reviewed the UNEP/EA.2/CRP (23 May 2016), Note by the Secretariat. I highly support several of the points addressed in the document, namely: 1) all solutions should always be developed and implemented from a gender equality and poverty reduction context; 2) the latest-evidence should be provided and be mindful of the human context and value as well as alternative views; 3) the four principles: people-centered, policy relevant and sensitive, private sector engagement, and practical (close to home); 4) Food-Energy-Water Nexus *interaction v. integration* with different scales from household to global; 5) design new business models, 6) promote a blended outreach approach, including *youth* *and local indigenou*s knowledge to foster achievement of resilience in the interaction between *humans and nature*.

My preliminary research has also led me to nexus tools created by SEI, the WEAP and the LEAP that are used worldwide to support policy and decision-making. SEI has also developed a toolkit that allows practitioners to *quantify* outcomes applying current and new policies and includes input from technical innovations. In addition, SEI in its implementation of the nexus approach, uses stakeholders as the starting point, and claims the nexus approach, “helps the stakeholders to identify dilemmas linked to different development trajectories that should be considered in the planning and policy-making process,” which aligns with both the precautionary and interdisciplinary approach.

Lastly, SEI states, the objective of the nexus approach is “to support stakeholders in making [judicial] decisions under conditions of political, economic, and climate uncertainty and to better manage national resources.” That point is very critical for the US under its new Administration and may hold true for other countries as well.