



**Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses
and International Lakes**

**WORKSHOP ON JOINT MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF
SHARED WATER BASINS, INCLUDING EARLY WARNING AND
ALARM SYSTEMS**

**31 October-2 November 2005
Sheraton Metechi Palace Hotel, Tbilisi, Georgia**



UNECE



Background

The workshop on Joint Monitoring and Assessment of Shared Water Basins, including Early Warning and Alarm Systems is organized within the framework of the project *Capacity for Water Cooperation (CWC) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia* (EECCA), developed under the work programme of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of transboundary water management in EECCA through cross-fertilization and exchange of experience between ongoing projects, river basins and countries on different aspects of integrated management of transboundary waters. CWC also aims to establish a network of EECCA experts involved in transboundary water management (<http://www.unece.org/env/water/cwc.htm>).

The Finnish Environment Institute funds the workshop. The workshop is prepared by the Finnish Environment Institute and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment of Georgia and the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus.

The workshop is the third one organized within the CWC project and will build on the previous events (The Legal Basis for Transboundary Water Cooperation, Kiev, 22-24 November 2004 and Information Management and Public Participation, St. Petersburg, 8-10 June 2005).

The workshop will also contribute to the assessment of the status of transboundary waters and international lakes in the UNECE region prepared under the Water Convention work plan.

Workshop participants are representatives of national authorities, international organizations and NGOs actively involved in transboundary water management in the EECCA region. They are not only recipients of the training but also trainers. Therefore participants are expected to prepare contributions and reports on the themes of the workshop to allow for a comprehensive and systematic exchange of the best practices in the region.

During each session, the presentations will be followed by general discussion, questions and answers. Participants who want to prepare specific interventions related to the session's themes are welcome to do so.

SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER

Arrival in Tbilisi and transfer of participants to their hotels.

MONDAY 31 OCTOBER

09.00 – 09.30

Registration

09.30 – 10.00

Opening and introduction to the workshop

Chairperson: Mr. Zaal Lomtadze, Ministry of Environment of Georgia

Opening and welcome from the Ministry of Environment of Georgia and the Finnish Environment Institute (15 min)

- Ms. Francesca Bernardini, UNECE, “CWC project objective, outcome of the second workshop on the Information Management and Public Participation, and objectives and expectations of this workshop” (15 min)

- 10.00 – 11.15 **Session 1. Transboundary water cooperation in the Caucasus**
This session is devoted to comprehensive presentations on transboundary water cooperation in the Caucasus. The presentations will cover all aspects of transboundary water management: legal aspects, organizational and administrative arrangements, progress towards integrated management, joint monitoring and assessment systems, economic aspects, etc. They should highlight the trends in cooperation, the difficulties encountered and the solutions found.
- Mr. Zaal Lomtadze, Deputy head of the Ministry of Environment of Georgia, “Cooperation in the Caucasian region in the field of transboundary waters, including monitoring and assessment” (20 min)
 - Mr. Seyran Minosyan, Ministry of Natural Resources of Armenia, “Transboundary water management in Armenia, with special focus on water quality and health related aspects” (15 min)
 - Mr. Azhdar Dzhavadov, Azerbaijan State Agency of Amelioration and Water Management, “Transboundary water management in Azerbaijan, with special focus on quantity aspects: the example of the Samur river” (15 min)
 - Ms. Marina Makarova, Ministry of Environment of Georgia, “Joint river management programme for Kura-Araz rivers basin” (10 min)
- Discussion (15 min)
- 11.15 – 11.45 Coffee-break
- 11.45 – 13.00 **Session 2. Setting the scene**
Chairperson: Ms. Lea Kauppi, Finnish Environment Institute
This session is devoted to presenting the themes of the workshop and the major issues affecting water monitoring and assessment.
- Ms. Sirkka Haunia, Finnish Environment Institute, “Strategies for monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Yuri Tsaturov, Russian Federation service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (Roshydromet), “Recent trends and main challenges in water monitoring in the EECCA, the example of the Russian Federation” (15 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Gerhard Winkelmann-Oei, Federal Environment Agency, “International activities for the prevention of hazard in transboundary river basins” (15 min)
Q&A (10 min)
- 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 – 16.00 **Session 3. Technical challenges to monitoring and assessment**
Chairperson: Mr. Anatolii Danilov, Federal Agency of Water Resources
- Ms. Svitlana Rebryk, Transcarpathian Water Management, “Information management in the Tisza river basin and the use of GIS” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Zhanat Zhilgeldinov, Kazakhstan Ministry of Environmental Protection, “The development of monitoring systems in transboundary waters of Kazakhstan” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)

- Ms. Evgenia Semutnikova, State Environmental Organization (SEO) Mosecomonitoring, “Water monitoring systems for the city of Moscow” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)

16.00 Departure for the excursion to Mtskheta and dinner

TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER

- 09.30 – 10.00 **Introduction to working groups**
Mr. Rainer Enderlein, UNECE, “Working groups’ objectives and themes for discussion”
- 10.00 – 13.00 **Working groups**
Participants will be divided in four groups, each focusing on specific river basins selected as case study (Dniester and Dnieper, Daugava and Nemunas, SyrDarya and AmuDarya, and Kura). For each river basin, the current transboundary waters monitoring systems will be reviewed and, on the basis of the experience of the group members, practical recommendations on the way forward will be formulated. Each group will have a facilitator: Ms. Francesca Bernardini for Dniester and Dnieper, Ms. Sirkka Haunia for Daugava and Nemunas, Mr. Bo Libert for SyrDarya and AmuDarya, and Mr. Rainer Enderlein for Kura. Furthermore, each group will have a rapporteur who will report on the last day.
- 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 – 16.00 **Session 4. Strategic aspects of monitoring and assessment**
Chairperson: Mr. Nikolay Babich, Ukraine State Committee for Water Management
- Mr. Ruslan Meliyan, Apele Moldove, “The importance of institutions in monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters: national coordination and joint bodies” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Andrei Yakovlev, Uzbekistan Center for Hydrometeorology “Data exchange in Central Asia, the example of Hydromet cooperation” (20 min) (tbc)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Mikhail Kolomeev, Federal Environmental Emergency Response Center of Roshydromet, “Early warning and emergency response in Russian Federation and neighbouring countries” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Evgeny Tyrtsyhny, Kazakhstan Water Partnership, “Achievements and bottlenecks in monitoring of transboundary waters in the EECCA” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Ms. Svetlana Utochkina, Belarus Ministry of natural resources, “Organization of monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters shared by Belarus”
Q&A (10 min)

- 16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break
- 16.30 – 18.00 **Session 5. Assessment of transboundary waters**
Chairperson: Mr. Levon Vardanyan, Armenian State Hydrometeorology
- Ms. Sirkka Haunia, Finnish Environment Institute, “Joint assessment: the example from practice between Finland and the Russian Federation” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Arkadii Sakevich, Ukraine State Committee for Water Management, “Joint assessment in the Dnieper River basin” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
 - Mr. Rainer Enderlein, UNECE, “The assessment report on the status of transboundary waters in the UNECE region under the Water Convention” (20 min)
Q&A (10 min)
- 19.00 Dinner

WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER

- 09.30 – 11.00 **Presentation of working group results by the groups’ rapporteurs**
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee-break
- 11.30 – 12.45 **Closing the seminar**
Chairperson: Mr. Kamaliddin Sadykov, Uzbekistan State Committee for Environmental Protection (tbc)
 Conclusions from the presentations and working groups work
 Recommendations of the seminar, Mr. Rainer Enderlein, UNECE (20 min)
 Discussion (20 min)
 Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE, “Future CWC workshops” (15 min)
 Closing (20 min)

For information concerning logistics and related issues, please, contact

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