

Programme of pilot projects to promote cooperation to adapt to climate change in transboundary basins

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

Objectives of the pilot projects programme

- Assist UNECE countries in implementing the Water Convention and the EU WFD under conditions of a changing climate;
- Support countries and specifically countries with economies in transition in their efforts to develop adaptation strategies and measures through improved adaptive capacity;
- Create positive examples showing benefits of and mechanisms for transboundary cooperation in adaptation;
- Support dialogue and cooperation on the design of an adaptation strategy in the transboundary context.
- Implement and test the Guidance



Structure and focus

- Geographic focus mainly on Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe
- Substantial focus mainly on developing adaptation strategy and less on implementing measures
- Specific focus to be defined by countries; some focus on water scarcity, others on floods
- Task Force on Water and Climate plays a facilitative and supportive, but not decision-making role
- Platform for sharing experience, good practices, lessons learnt



Pilot projects

- Category I projects directly supported by the secretariat and ENVSEC:
 - Eastern Europe: Dniester basin (Ukraine, Moldova)
 - Central Asia: Chu Talas Basin (Kazakhstan, Kyrzgyzstan)
 - South-Eastern Europe: Sava River basin (Bosnia- Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia)
 - Possibly one additional basin in Eastern Europe
- Category II projects to be supported by other donors, to be discussed tomorrow



Timeframe

Up to Sep. 2010	Project preparations
7-9 July 2010	Fifth meeting of the WG IWRM
Summer 2010 - 2012	Implementation of the pilot projects, exchanges of experience
Summer 2010- autumn 2011	Impact assessment phase for all pilot projects: baseline study, modelling, scenario development, vulnerability assessment
April 2011	Fourth Meeting of the Task Force
3-4 May 2011	Sixth meeting of the WG IWRM
21-23 September 2011	Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" in Astana, Kazakhstan
Autumn 2011- Autumn 2012	Implementation phase of the pilot projects: elaboration of a joint programme of measures
Middle/end of 2012	Review of progress and of completed pilot projects



Possible deliverables (to be defined by countries)

- Common scenarios and models agreed upon by the participating neighbouring countries
- Joint vulnerability assessment for the basin, incl. security, environmental, social and economic vulnerability
- Proposal for coordinated measures to be taken in the specific basin enabling climate change adaptation
- Detailed feasibility study on specific adaptation measures recommended

