

A light blue map of the South Caucasus region, showing the borders of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. The map is centered in the background of the slide.

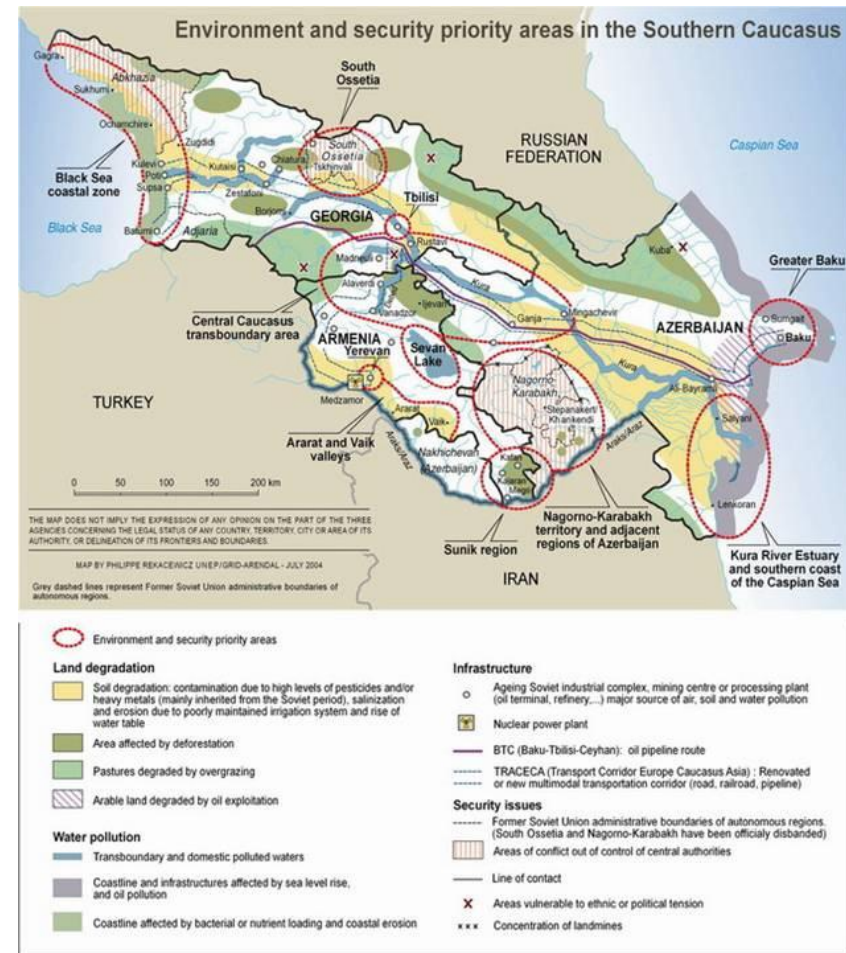
ENVSEC Initiative in South Caucasus

**UNECE/OSCE Project on
Implementation of the UNECE Water
Convention and Development of an
Agreement on the Management of
Transboundary Watercourses Shared by
Georgia and Azerbaijan**



ENVSEC Priorities in South Caucasus

- Environmental degradation and access to natural resources in conflict zones
- Management of trans-boundary natural resources including water resources, and areas affected by Soviet-era industrial and military complexes.
- Rapid population growth in capitals and unmanaged development in urban centers:
- Cross-cutting issues including public environmental awareness and climate change, etc.



Priority 2: Management of trans-boundary natural resources

Project: Technical Assistance to Georgia for Ratification and Implementation of UNECE Transboundary Water Convention and Development of the Draft Bilateral Agreement on Shared Water Resources between Azerbaijan and Georgia

Objective: Supporting Georgia in preparations for accession to the UNECE Water Convention and strengthening transboundary water cooperation between Azerbaijan and Georgia.

- ✓ Assessment of legal and institutional needs for the ratification and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention by Georgia;
- ✓ Analysis of costs associated with accession and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention by Georgia;
- ✓ Assessment of existing mechanisms of cooperation between Georgia and Azerbaijan in the field of environmental protection and main principles of existing agreements;
- ✓ Participation of Georgian representatives of the Ministry of Environment Protection of Georgia in the UNECE Water Convention Legal Board and Working Group meetings.

Outputs

- **Assessment of the Legal and Institutional Needs for Implementation of the UNECE Water Convention by Georgia**
- **Analysis of costs associated with accession and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention by Georgia**
- **Draft bilateral Water Agreement between Georgia and Azerbaijan on Co-operation for Protection and Sustainable Use of Water Resources of the Kura River Basin**

Working on the Bilateral Water Agreement

Bilateral consultation process between Azerbaijan and Georgia:

- ❑ The first round of consultations at the technical level - 12 January 2010 in Baku.
The representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Environment discussed the scope and framework of the bilateral water agreement.
- ❑ The second round of consultations at the technical level - 1 July 2010, in Tbilisi
The representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Environment presented informal comments on the first draft of the water agreement.
- ❑ In October 2010 draft agreement was officially submitted to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and Georgia for facilitating the process of officially commenting the draft document and its further promotion.
- ❑ Bilateral consultations took place on 31 March, 2011 in Tbilisi
- ❑ In April 2011 draft agreement was officially submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
- ❑ Next meeting is planned to be held in Baku.

Thank you for your attention!