Upgrading the National Environmental Monitoring System (NEMS) of Azerbaijan on the base of EU practices

Overview of the project activities

Twinning project AZ/15/ENP/EN/43
Resident Twinning Advisor Katja Lovén
Project Partners and Funding

Beneficiary Administration:
The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan (MENR)

The European Member State Partners:
Lead Partner: Finnish Meteorological Institute,
Junior Partners: Environment Agency Austria,
Latvian Environment, Geology and Metrology Center,
Finnish Environment Institute

Project duration:
The project started in November 2016 and will end in January 2019.

Funding:
The project is funded by the European Union within the ENPI Annual Action Programme 2012 with a budget of 1.4 million Euros.
Key Persons – Project management

MS PL
Harri Pietarila

BC PL
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MS JPL
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Twinning Instrument

• Instrument for the cooperation between Public Administrations of EU Member States (MS) and of beneficiary countries (BC).

• Twinning aims at upgrading the administrative capacities of the public administration of a partner country through the training of its staff and the support to the reorganisation of its structure.

• It also supports the approximation of national laws, regulations and quality standards to those of EU Member States in the framework of Cooperation or Association agreements signed with the EU.
The Concept and Objective

**Project purpose** is to strengthen environmental monitoring system to provide high quality information that supports decision making (strategic environmental policy planning and compliance control)

**Support on** developing methodologies for monitoring, assessments, data collection, transmission, analysis and reporting

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**Overall Objective:**
To improve environmental performance of Azerbaijan
Components and Results focus in Air Quality

Component 1
Institutional framework
- Roles and responsibilities in the MENR are revised and streamlined, organisational changes are elaborated and endorsed

Component 2
Development of technical systems in environmental monitoring
- Environmental monitoring system is modernised; with enhanced data collection, processing, control and reporting system

Component 3
Capacity building and training
- Capacity of MENR in regards to environmental data collection, processing, analysis, reporting and communication is increased

Component 4
Practical implementation of the modernized systems by real case studies
- Environmental data collection, processing and analysis are tested in real cases and environmental information is communicated
Component 1 – Institutional framework

- **Assessment of current organisation; roles and responsibilities of different departments of MENR**
  - Questionnaire and interviews
  - Working group meeting

- **Recommendations to develop the organisational structure regarding monitoring, permitting, compliance control, inventory and reporting activities will be given**

- **Training needs are assessed and identified**
Component 2 - Development of technical systems in environmental monitoring

- The current state of environmental monitoring and legislation is assessed
- Support to develop the monitoring systems and to take new methodologies in use
- Building up the QA/QC processes for Environmental monitoring
- Introducing dispersion modelling tools and emission inventory model for reporting;
Component 3 - Capacity building and training

- Practical approach “Learning by doing”

- Training programmes and materials are prepared based on the needs:
  - introductory trainings; seminars, workshops,
  - Practical hands on trainings during implementing the project

- Awareness rising workshops to national stakeholders

- Internship and study visits to Finland, Austria and Latvia to ensure the exchange of good practices and experience
Component 4 - Practical implementation of the modernized systems by real case studies

- Real-case testing for the whole chain from observations to the decision making
- Utilization of dispersion models in air quality assessments through hands on training in case studies
- Emission inventory and reporting
- Preliminary assessment report on air quality in Azerbaijan
- Plan for further strengthening of environmental management system in Azerbaijan
This will be done by:

- Implementing the 20 project activities in 27 months
- Approximately 80 Short-term expert missions
- 9 quarterly Steering committee meetings
- 3 study tours for one week (9 BC experts) to Finland, Austria and Latvia
- 2 internships (2x 2 BC experts, 30 days) to Finland and Austria
- Trainings, workshops; At least 50 MENR staff trained through at least 6 training workshops,
Have been done so far

- We have had in 60 STE mission days within 13 missions from MS
- Kick off meeting and 1 awareness rising seminar with over 70 participants
- 3 training workshops organized (altogether over 50 participants):
  - Institutional frameworks and
  - Dispersion modelling
  - EU Air quality legislation