Projects on the ground

Bo Libert
Regional Adviser, UNECE Secretariat
1. Rationale and background

- On the request of countries – support for implementation of obligations of the Convention may be provided as part of the work programme
- The focus is establishment of sustainable transboundary water cooperation – agreements, commissions etc
2. Major achievements and challenges

- Finalization of the Dniester Treaty
- Signing of an MoU on the Drin basin by Riparians
- Draft agreement on the Kura river
- Establishment of a framework for water quality and dam safety cooperation in Central Asia
- Initiation of bilateral cooperation on environment and hydrology between Tajikistan and Afghanistan

Lack of inter-sectoral cooperation with regard to water management on the national as well as transboundary levels is a major challenge.
Drin basin cooperation
The Kirov dam on the Talas river
3. Lessons learnt for future work

1. Cooperation with other organizations/partners is invaluable
2. It is not expensive to support progress
3. Realism and a good dialogue with riparians is essential - Identify windows of opportunity!
4. Long-term engagement and patience are important
4. On-going and planned work

- Implementation of the new Dniester Treaty
- Finalisation of the bilateral Kura agreement
- Implementation of the Drin MoU
- Strengthening and broadening cooperation in the Chu Talas basin
- Strengthening regional organizations and building capacity on international water law in Central Asia
- Continuation of work on regional dam safety and water quality cooperation in Central Asia
- Broadening the cooperation on hydrology and environment in the Amu Darya river basin