A Source of Peace - Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia

Synergies between NPDs & Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia Programme

Maria Koenig, 06.05.2011, Geneva
Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia Programme

- Commissioned by the **German Federal Foreign Office** (2009-11; +2012-13?)
- Most extensive element of the **Berlin Process**
  - Water initiative for Central Asia
  - Integral component of the EU strategy for a new partnership with Central Asia
Programme strategy

- **Component 1: Fostering regional institutional cooperation**
  - Strengthening the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and its Executive Committee
  - 3rd Aral Sea Basin Programme

- **Component 2: Strengthening transboundary river basin management**
  - Establishing a mechanism of cooperation for the transboundary Isfara and Khodzha-Bakirgan river basins
  - Promoting IWRM through improved data management & basin planning in selected river basins (above+other locations; countrywide replication)

- **Component 3: Implementing pilot projects in all Central Asian states**
  - Efficient water use and re-use; hydropower; dam safety
Synergies (1/2)

- Adoption of basic principles of international water right across the region can facilitate **regional institutional cooperation** (component 1)
  - Information/workshops on UNECE Conventions
  - Cooperation and joint actions to improve regional cooperation

- Implementing IWRM at national level requires **information systems & integrated planning skills** (component 2)
  - Development of databases of basin organisations as information exchange systems as basis for decision-making
  - Practical examples: development of comprehensive basin plans with broad stakeholder involvement and parallel capacity-building for monitoring and implementation (Kazakhstan / Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan)
Synergies (2/2)

- Implementation of IWRM at the national level requires **practical experience** (component 3)
  - Development of water infrastructure, its safety and efficiency
    - Infrastructure projects (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) as case studies for NPDs
  - New methods for integrated assessment of water infrastructure
    - Hydropower plant sustainability assessment as demonstration of new methods for assessing the complex regional & local impact of water infrastructure (Kazakhstan/Shardara)
Thank You!

www.waterca.org