POLICY BRIEF: NPD IN ARMENIA AND LESSONS LEARNT

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Outline

- First generation reforms,
- Second generation reforms,
- Marmarik River basin pilot studies by UNECE,
- Marmarik River basin pilot studies by other donors,
- Activities in other basins,
- Transboundary cooperation,
- Lessons learnt,
- Policy recommendations
FIRST GENERATION REFORMS

Legal

- Water Code – 2002,
- National Water Policy – 2005,
- National Water Program – 2006, includes short-, medium- and long-term measures
- Over 120 by-laws and regulations
FIRST GENERATION REFORMS

- Institutional
  - Management and protection of water resources - WRMA
  - State management of water systems - SCWS
  - Tariff policy in water sector – PSRC
  - 6 BMOs
FIRST GENERATION REFORMS

- State Water Cadastre
  - Establishment of data warehouse,
  - Registration of documents and information provision,
  - Formation of water resources monitoring tasks,
  - Inventory of HTSs,
  - Composition of water balance and water-economic balance
SECOND GENERATION REFORMS

- Improving coherence and consistency among laws and regulations,
- Technical and institutional strengthening of agencies involved in water management,
- Decentralization of water resources management through strengthening of BMOs,
- Better utilization of the SWC
SECOND GENERATION REFORMS

- Improved WUP implementation and administration,
- Improved hydro-morphological and physico-chemical monitoring of surface waters,
- Re-vitalization of groundwater monitoring,
- Introduction of biological monitoring
MARMARIK RIVER BASIN – UNECE PILOT STUDIES

- Baseline conditions for introducing IWRM principles in Marmarik River basin
- Desired conditions for Water Uses and Functions in the Marmarik River Basin
  - Legal/regulatory, institutional and technical measures
MARMARIK RIVER BASIN – UNDP STUDY

- UNDP – Complex assessment of climate change impact on water resources of Marmarik River basin
  - Elaborate climate changes projections according to IPCC scenarios for 2030, 2070 and 2100,
  - Identify possible conflicts of interest between major water users (drinking water, irrigation, hydro-energy, recreation),
  - Assess water users' and financial-economic losses in water sector due to climate change,
  - Adaptation measures: (a) no regret, (b) low cost, (c) economically feasible
Financial dimensions of water resources management
- Analysis of water resources financing based on measures proposed by UNECE study,
- Improving role of economic incentives,
- Key sectors: irrigation, domestic water supply and sanitation, industrial water use, hydropower, fisheries

Development scenarios for water resources management
- Forecasted economic growth,
- Water demand forecast,
- Planning period: 2030,
- Scenarios: baseline, maximum, supply-driven, consensus
ACTIVITIES IN OTHER BASINS

- USAID Model guidelines for RBMP
  - Characterization,
  - Classification,
  - Setting environmental objectives,
  - Pressure-impact analysis and setting measures
ACTIVITIES IN OTHER BASINS

- EU Kura River Phase II project
  - Characterization,
  - Pressure-impact analysis – EU WFD CIS guidance document 3
  - POM to achieve “good status”,
  - EU WFD compliant monitoring program – 10% extra cost
ACTIVITIES IN OTHER BASINS

- UNDP SNC to UNFCCC - “Assessment of Vulnerability of Water Resources due to Climate Change”
TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

- USSR-Turkey agreement: 1927
- USSR-Iran agreement: 1957
- Armenia-Iran joint monitoring of water quality since 2006
- Armenia-Georgia-Azerbaijan-joint monitoring of water quality 2009-2010
TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

- USAID Water Management in the South Caucasus, 2000-2004,
- EU Joint River Management – Kura Basin, 2002-2003,
- SIDA Reducing Transboundary Degradation in Kura-Aras Basin, 2004-2005,
- NATO Joint River Monitoring, 2004-2007,
- UNDP/GEF Reducing Transboundary Degradation in Kura-Aras Basin PDF B, 2005-2007,
- USAID Transboundary Integrated Water Resources Management, 2005-2008,
- EU Water Governance in Western EECCA Countries, 2008-2010,
- EU Transboundary River Management Phase II for the Kura River Basin, 2008-2011,
- EU Creation of Enabling Environment for IWRM of the Kura-Aras Basin, 2010,
LESSONS LEARNT

- Adopted policy packages,
- Coordination,
- Local dimensions,
- Financing of IWRM,
- Information sharing and public participation
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Development of biological monitoring system,
- Re-vitalization of surface water quality and hydro-morphological monitoring system in line with EU WFD requirements,
- Performance of groundwater quantity and quality monitoring,
- Decentralization of water resources management through development of river basin management plans.