



The Berlin Process to support water management in Central Asia

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1. Background

Water in CA:

- Scarce resource
- Inappropriate management
- Disparate interests

=> potential for conflict





1. Background

**The Berlin process
wants to make water
a nexus for
cooperation in CA**

2 conferences:

1. „Water Unites“ in Berlin 1 April, 2008

- ▶ German Federal Foreign Minister Steinmeier launches the “Berlin Process”





1. Background

2. Follow-up conference in Almaty, 17-18 November, 2008

- ▶ Germany offers to **facilitate cooperation** with and within Central Asia in the water sector
- ▶ Strengthen **high level political dialogue** and speed up implementation of project proposals
- ▶ Strengthening **donor coordination**
- ▶ No isolated approach but practical contribution to the **EU's Central Asia Strategy**



1. Background

We want:

- ▶ Develop **joint strategies** (strengthening **transboundary water management** is part of proactive peace making policy)
- ▶ Communicate and use **best practice**
- ▶ Build **stability** and security through **confidence**
- ▶ Ensure that water resources are properly and sensibly **managed**



1. Background

We want:

- ▶ Ensure access to safe drinking water as part of the UN **Millennium's Development Goals**
- ▶ Water to become a contributor and not impediment to **economic growth**
- ▶ **Openness** to all stakeholders



1. Background

4 pillars

1. Promoting transboundary water **management**
2. Expanding **scientific knowledge** for transboundary water management
3. **Networking water experts** in Germany, the EU and CA
4. Establishing a **course in water management** at the German-Kazakh University



2. Project „Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia“ (pillar 1)

- ▶ Implemented by **GTZ in cooperation with UNECE**
- ▶ Project based on the feedback from an expert mission in Central Asia and regional workshops (with representatives from Central Asian countries)



Component 2 – Strengthening transboundary river basin management

This component will focus especially on the smaller rivers which are particularly suited to applying the basic principles of river basin management. Measures include drawing up inventories and management plans, making proposals in the field of dam safety and the environmental impacts of dams, and supporting the establishment of monitoring systems and data exchange. GTZ is working in close consultation with the European Commission, which is highly active in this field.

Component 3 – Implementing fast-track projects

The fast-track projects will serve primarily to implement specific measures at national level that showcase in the most tangible manner the opportunities presented by improved water use. These range from setting up modern irrigation systems to constructing smaller hydropower facilities.

Close coordination with the other projects under way as a part of the Berlin Process is pivotal to the programme. Those activities range from establishing a regional research network for the water sector (implemented by the German Research Centre for Geosciences Potsdam and the German Aerospace Center) to organising visits by delegations from Central Asia. This integration delivers synergies and greatly increases the impact of the measures.

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A Source of Peace – Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia





3. Research project „Water in Central Asia“ (pillar 2 & 3)

- ▶ Implemented by the **German Research Center for Geosciences in Potsdam** and the **German Aerospace Centre**
- ▶ Collect comprehensive data in the water sector
- ▶ Develop models to forecast water availability
- ▶ Provide adequate training





4. German-Kazakh University (pillar 4)

- ▶ Set up a new **degree course “water”** (water resource management and engineering aspects)
- ▶ Kazakh-German University is **open to students from all Central Asian** countries





Auswärtiges Amt

Thank you for your attention!