

Dauria Going Dry

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Ministry of Infrastructure and the
Environment



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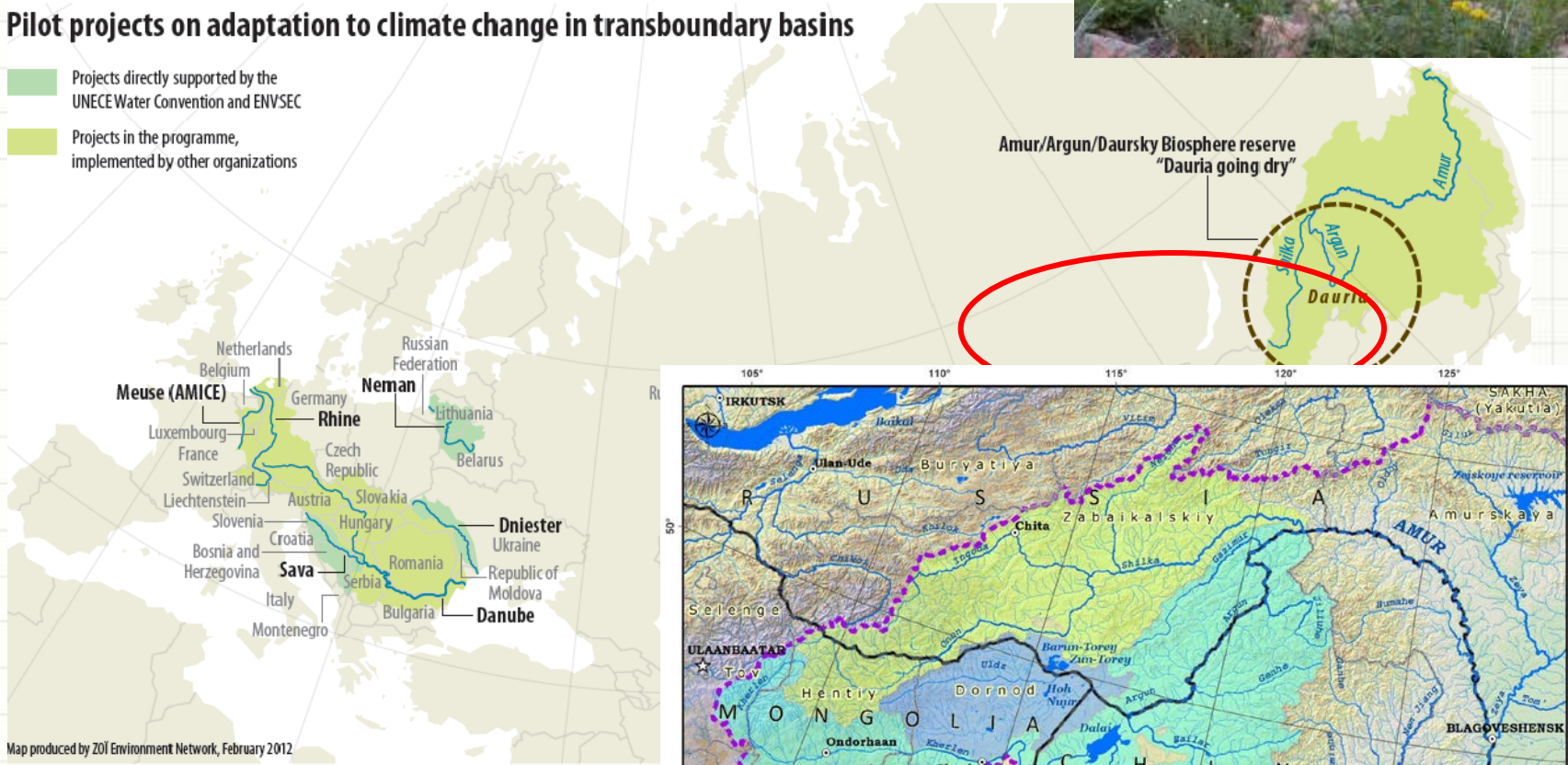
Dauria Rivers

Headwaters of the Amur River basin

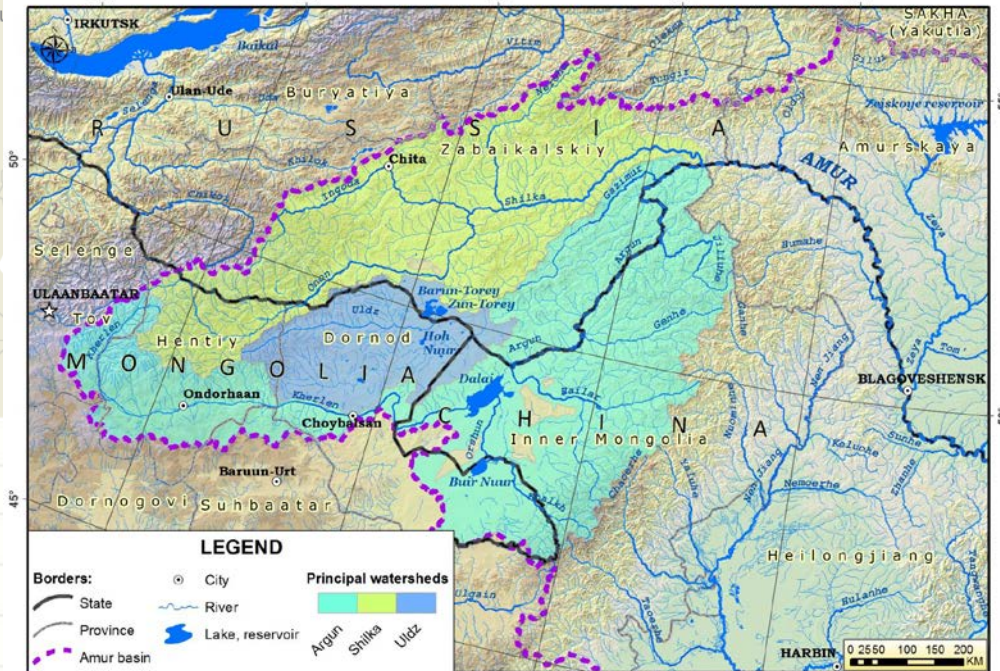


Pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins

- Projects directly supported by the UNECE Water Convention and ENWSEC
- Projects in the programme, implemented by other organizations



Map produced by ZOI Environment Network, February 2012



The most important challenges:

- Assessment of climate cycles as a significant aspect of climatic adaptation
- Export-oriented energy sector development
- Transboundary competition for water resources
- Mining impacts on scarce water



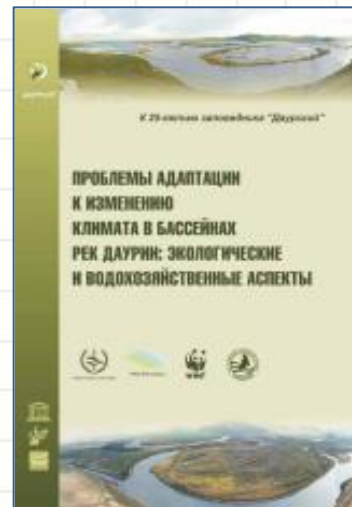
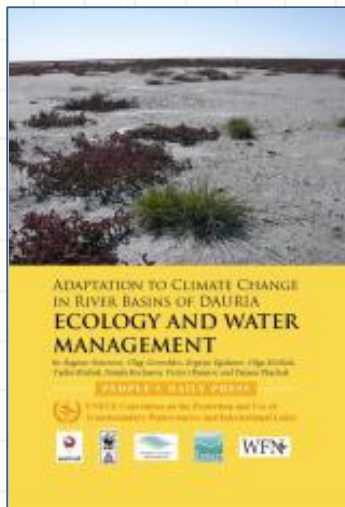
▪ Goals and objectives :

- Prevention of Dauria wetland ecosystems degradation
- Planning adaptation measures to changing climate conditions
- Taking vulnerable ecosystems under protection



LAST YEAR RESULTS

- 80% of the ecosystem monitoring plots established by 2013
- The results of wetland birds monitoring helped to ban water-bird hunting in spring season
- Assessment of gold mining impact on transboundary watercourses
- Initial documentation for transboundary Dauria World Heritage Site prepared and submitted to WH Center
- The Strategic assessment report prepared and published in 3 languages



LESSONS LEARNED

- Adaptation measures should include recurring changes in human impact
- Planned water infrastructure development activities in the Argun River basin could lead to irreparable degradation of the freshwater ecosystem **and globally important biodiversity.**
- Environmental flow and other needs of wetland ecosystem should be integrate into mutually agreed adaptation measures to prevent transboundary competition for water?



FUTURE PLANS

- Complete the development of monitoring station network
- Develop Russian-Mongolian mechanisms to control and prevent negative human impact
- Assess possible climate change implications on hydropower development
- Study effects and prospects of gold mining impact on transboundary river ecosystems
- Improve transboundary cooperation and adaptation to climate change in the Ulz, Onon River basins



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