



ENPI Project: Trans-Boundary River Management for the Kura River basin Phase III –  
Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan ([www.kuraarasbasin.net](http://www.kuraarasbasin.net))

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# ***PROJECT PROGRESS***

***Dr Anatoly Pichugin, Team Leader***

***9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting  
EUWI National Policy Dialogue in Armenia***

***12 December 2012***

***Yerevan***



**EU Project: Trans-Boundary River Management Phase II and Phase III for the Kura River basin – Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan ([www.kuraarasbasin.net](http://www.kuraarasbasin.net))**

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- ***Regional Project***
- ***Technical Assistance***
- ***Implemented by: Eptisa Servicios de Ingenieria S.L.***
- ***Beneficiary Countries: Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan***
- ***Client: European Commission, DG EuropeAid , Brussels***
- ***Start date: 30 Jan 2012***
- ***Finish: 29 Jan 2013***



## ***Project objectives***

- ***To help the project countries to develop a common approach to water quality assessment in the Kura basin based on the EU Water Framework Directive methodology***
- ***To help the project countries to improve technical capacity in water quality monitoring and assessment to enable them to amend policies and practices in accordance with EU WFD***



## ***Project Components***

### ***Component 1:***

- ***Development of a common approach to water quality assessment***

### ***Component 2:***

- ***Institutional technical assistance and training***

### ***Component 3:***

- ***Joint field survey to pilot the proposed common approach***

### ***Component 4:***

- ***Coordination with the relevant projects in the region***



## Component 1:

### *Common approach to water quality assessment*

#### ❖ *Technical Report:*

Review of the current systems for water quality assessment in Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan against WFD requirements

➤ *COMPLETED: the final doc in Geo, Arm and Aze languages is on the project website [www.kuraarasbasin.net](http://www.kuraarasbasin.net)*

#### ❖ *Draft Policy Document:*

Proposal for a common approach to water quality assessment in the Kura river basin based on the WFD methodology

➤ *First draft presented and discussed 27-28 June 2012 (workshop)*

➤ *Draft final presented and discussed 28 November 2012 (workshop)*



## Component 2:

### *Institutional technical assistance and training*

#### *Technical Guidelines - COMPLETED*

*issued to the Project Partners in GEO, ARM, AZE languages, available from the project website [www.kuraarasbasin.net](http://www.kuraarasbasin.net)*

- ❖ **How to prepare river basin management plan using WFD methodology**
- ❖ **Water Quality Assessment under WFD**
- ❖ **How to design WFD compliant monitoring program**
- ❖ **Inter-calibration under WFD**
- ❖ **Hydromorphological survey and assessment under WFD**



## Component 2: *(continued)*

- ❖ **Practical training in biological sampling (*macroinvertebrates*) and sample assessment for national monitoring laboratories – *COMPLETED April 2012***
  - *Sampling protocol/operational procedure*
  - *Supervised fieldwork (Mashavera and Aragvi rivers)*
  - *Results presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> project SC meeting 23 May 2012*
  
- ❖ **Practical training in QA/QC and analytical methods (chemistry) in the national monitoring laboratories - *COMPLETED***
  - *11-15 June 2012 – Armenia*
  - *2-6 July 2012 – Georgia*
  - *10-14 September 2012 – Azerbaijan*
  - *Draft Final Quality Manuals presented 28 Nov 2012 (workshop)*
  
- ❖ **Practical training in hydromorphological survey and assessment – *COMPLETED***
  - *Technical Workshop 27-28 June 2012 and supervised practical exercise in the field*



## Component 2: *(continued)*

- ❖ **Independent laboratory tests (EU inter-laboratory testing)**  
*Test samples: As, Cd, Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn, ammonia, nitrate, nitrite, phosphate*
  - **Test Apr/May 2012: COMPLETED: none of the labs passed all tests !**
  - **Test Oct/Nov 2012: COMPLETED: none of the labs passed all tests !**
  
- ❖ **Awareness materials for the public/decision makers – COMPLETED printed and distributed**
  - **Azerbaijan: 150 copies each in Azeri language – Ganikh pilot RBMP; Ganjachai pilot RBMP; Public Participation Guidelines**
  - **Georgia: 200 copies each in Georgian language – Alazani pilot RBMP; Aragvi pilot RBMP; Khrami pilot RBMP; Public Participation Guidelines**
  - **Armenia: 1000 copies in Armenian language: Booklet: Ten years of experience in reforming water management sector in Armenia – Towards EU Water Framework Directive**





## Component 3:

### *Field surveys to pilot the proposed approach – COMPLETED*

#### ❖ *Purpose:*

*To help Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan to understand and practice a common approach to surface water quality monitoring and assessment based on the EU WFD methodology*

#### *Three rounds of field surveys in pilot basins using WFD methodology*

- *1<sup>st</sup> survey - May 2012*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> survey - Aug/Sep 2012*
- *3<sup>rd</sup> survey - Oct 2012*
  - *Debed basin (Armenia)*
  - *Khrami and Alazani basins (Georgia)*
  - *Ganikh basin (Azerbaijan)*



## **Component 3: (continued)**

- ❖ ***Field Survey Technical Guidelines***
- ❖ ***Agreed work schedule and travel plan for each field survey***
- ❖ ***GIS Maps***
- ❖ ***Sampling Sites***
  - ***Samplings sites representing high quality status – REFERENCE CONDITIONS***
  - ***Sampling sites representing lower quality status***
  - ***Sampling sites where river crosses the state boundary***



## Component 3: *(continued)*

- ❖ ***Sampling protocols and operational procedures including QC/QA procedures***
  - ***Biological quality elements (macroinvertebrates)***
  - ***Hydromorphological quality elements***
  - ***Physico-chemical quality elements***
  
- ❖ ***QC/QA procedures***
  - ***Check lists for the preparatory tasks before sampling***
  - ***Common documented sampling protocols and procedures***
  - ***Field blank samples as basic quality control of the sampling process***
  - ***Concurrent replicates of samples***
  - ***Post-sampling evaluation***



## Component 4:

### *Coordination with the relevant projects in the region*

#### **UNDP/GEF Reducing Transboundary Degradation in the Kura- Aras Basin**

- *Joint IWRM training (Block 1, Block 2 and Block 3) for Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan: April – October 2012*
- *62 people provided with materials, trained and issued with certificates*

#### **EU Water Initiative**

- *Presentations on the project work progress at the National Policy Dialogues Meetings (11 April 2012 Armenia; 7-8 June 2012 Azerbaijan; 11-12 June Georgia)*

#### **USAID Clean Energy and Water**

- *Joint training in River Basin Management for Armenian Water Basin Authorities (18-20 Sep 2012 Armenia)*

#### **EU Environmental Protection of International River Basins**

- *EPIRB DTL took part in the Kura III 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee meetings*
- *Kura III PD took part in EPIRB Inception Meeting; Kura III experts took part in the EPIRB technical workshop in Batumi in Oct 2012.*



## **Main Outcomes**

- ❖ ***Practical understanding and adoption of common approach to water quality monitoring and assessment based on EU WFD***
- ❖ ***Practical integration of biological, physico-chemical, and hydro-morphological quality elements in one filed survey program***
- ❖ ***Identification of sites representing reference conditions (high status)***
- ❖ ***Update of the Joint Information Systems for 2 transboundary river basins - Debed/Khrami (AM/GE) and Alazani/Ganikh (GE/AZ)***
- ❖ ***Reinforcement of cooperation and trust between the project countries***