



ENPI Project: Trans-Boundary River Management for the Kura River basin Phase III –
Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan

www.kuraarasbasin.net

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

*National Policy Dialogue Meeting
Baku
7-8 June 2012*



ENPI Project: Trans-Boundary River Management for the Kura River basin Phase III – Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan

- ***Regional Project***
- ***Technical Assistance***
- ***Beneficiary Countries: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia***
- ***Client: European Commission, Brussels***
- ***Consultant: Eptisa Servicios de Ingenieria S.L.***
- ***Duration: 12 months***
- ***Start: 30 January 2012***
- ***End: 29 January 2013***



Project Partners:

Azerbaijan

- *Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources*
- *National Environmental Monitoring Department*
- *National Hydrometeorology Department*

Georgia:

- *Ministry of Environmental Protection*
- *National Environment Agency*
- *Department for Environmental Pollution Monitoring*

Armenia:

- *Ministry of Nature Protection*
- *Water Resources Management Agency*
- *Environmental Impact Monitoring Centre*



Phase III builds on the results of Phase II (June 2008 - Dec 2011)

Long-term objective

- ***to improve water quality in the Kura River basin through trans-boundary cooperation and implementation of the EU WFD methodology***

Specific objectives

- ***to develop a common approach to water quality assessment in the Kura basin based on the EU Water Framework Directive***
- ***to improve technical capacity of the project countries to help 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

- *draft discussed and approved at the Inception Meeting 1 March***
- *translation to Armenian, Georgian, Azeri languages in progress, completion – mid June 2012***

Azerbaijan river classification

$$\text{Pollution Index} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n C_i / MAC_i}{n}$$

Chemical parameters only

n – number of measured chemical parameters (usually 6)
DO, BOD, Phenols, Oil Products, Cu, Ammonia

Index	<0.3	0.3-1	1-2.5	2.5-4	4.0-6.0	6.0-10.0	10.0<
Category	Very clean	Clean	Lightly polluted	Polluted at medium level	Significantly polluted	Heavily polluted	Extremely high level of pollution (hazardously polluted)



Georgian river classification

Chemical parameters only

**C_i is compared to $MAC_{i \text{ sanitation}}$
when C_i exceeds $MAC_{i \text{ sanitation}}$**

river is polluted

when C_i is below $MAC_{i \text{ sanitation}}$

river is not polluted

Armenian river classification

5 water quality classes

(HIGH, GOOD, MODERATE, POOR, BAD) are defined based on the limit value for each class

Chemical parameters only

Limit values are defined for each river against the natural background concentration ($C_{i \text{ background}}$) for each chemical parameter (i) measured, 104 in total

**The higher the limit value, the lower the quality class
Quality class is determined by the chemical parameter (i) with the highest limit value**

ONE OUT – ALL OUT principle



Component 1: (continued)

❖ **Draft Policy Document:**

Proposal for a common approach to water quality assessment in the project countries based on the WFD methodology

- *First draft end of June 2012 (technical workshop);*
- *Draft final end of November 2012 (technical workshop)*
- *Final January 2013*

Include proposals for replacement of “obsolete” documents governing water quality monitoring and assessment in the project countries with focus on approximation to WFD requirements

- *Consultations with the Project Partners in progress*



Component 2:

Institutional technical assistance and training

- ❖ **Technical Guidelines:**
How to prepare river basin management plan using WFD methodology
 - *issued to the Project Partners in Georgian, Armenian and Azeri languages*
 - *freely available from the project website www.kuraarasbasin.net*

- ❖ **Practical training in biological sampling and sample assessment
April 2012**
 - *Sampling protocol/operational procedure*
 - *Fieldwork*
 - *Results presented at the Steering Committee meeting 23 May 2012*



Component 2: (continued)

❖ Technical Guidelines:

Water Quality Assessment under WFD

- *Draft presented and approved at the Steering Committee Meeting 23 May 2012; final doc in Azeri, Georgian and Armenian July 2012*

❖ Technical Guidelines:

How to design WFD compliant monitoring program

- *Draft presented and approved at the Steering Committee Meeting 23 May 2012; final doc in Azeri, Georgian and Armenian July 2012*

❖ Practical training in hydromorphological assessment

- *Protocol and operational procedure*
- *Technical workshops including field trips (June and Nov 2012)*



Component 2: (continued)

- ❖ **Independent laboratory test (EU inter-laboratory testing Apr/May 2012)**
 - *As, Cd, Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn, ammonia, nitrate, nitrite, phosphate*
 - *Preliminary result: none of the labs passed all tests*

- ❖ **Next Independent laboratory test - Oct/Nov 2012**

- ❖ **Practical training in QA/QC and analytical methods in the national labs**
 - *10-16 June 2012 – Armenia*
 - *July 2012 – Georgia (dates to be confirmed)*
 - *September 2012 – Azerbaijan (dates to be confirmed)*



Component 2: (continued)

- ❖ **Awareness materials for the public/decision makers 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*
- ❖ **Awareness materials for the public and decision makers**
 - *Armenia: Water Sector Reform: progress towards EU WFD draft final July 2012; final Oct 2012*



Component 3:

Field surveys to pilot the proposed approach

Biological, hydromorphological and physico-chemical quality elements

- ❖ **The 1st round of field surveys – May 2012 (completed)**
- ❖ **The 2nd round of field surveys – August 2012**
- ❖ **The 3rd round of field surveys – October 2012**
- ❖ **The field surveys technical report**
 - ***First Draft to be presented at the workshop end of Nov 2012***
 - ***Draft Final report December 2012***



Component 4:
Coordination with the relevant projects in the region

**UNDP/GEF project “Reducing Trans-boundary Degradation in the
Kura-Aras Basin”**

- *Joint IWRM training (Block 1) April 2012, (Block 2) May 2012,
(Block 3) September 2012*

EU Water Initiative

- *National Policy Dialogue Meetings in Azerbaijan, Georgia and
Armenia*

EU Environmental Protection of International River Basins



MAIN EVENTS *June 2012 – January 2013*

- ❖ *QC/QA training in the national labs*
 - *10-16 June 2012 – Armenia*
 - *July 2012 – Georgia (dates to be confirmed)*
 - *September 2012 – Azerbaijan (dates to be confirmed)*

- ❖ *Technical Workshop: 27-28 June*

- ❖ *Second Field Survey: August 2012 (dates to be confirmed)*

- ❖ *Third Field Survey: October 2012 (dates to be confirmed)*

- ❖ *Inter-laboratory testing Oct/Nov 2012*

- ❖ *Technical Workshop: 27-28 November 2012*

- ❖ *Final Steering Committee Meeting: 23 January 2013*