

UNECE/OSCE Project on Transboundary Water Convention and Bilateral Agreement on Shared Water Resources between Azerbaijan and Georgia



**The First meeting of the Steering Committee of the
National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water
Resources Management in Georgia**

11 June 2012

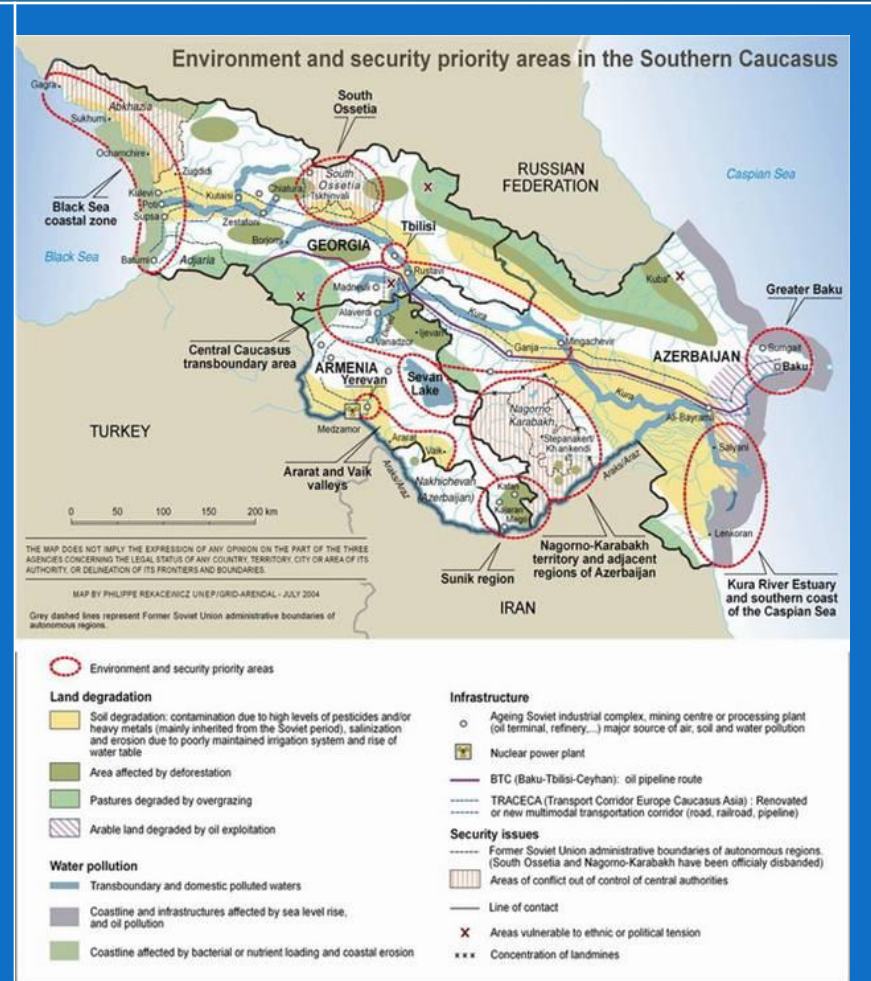
ENVSEC Priorities in South Caucasus

- Environmental degradation and access to natural resources in conflict zones

- Management of trans-boundary natural resources including water resources, and areas affected by Soviet-era industrial and military complexes

- Rapid population growth in capitals and unmanaged development in urban centers

- Cross-cutting issues including public environmental awareness and climate change, etc.



About the project

Objectives:

- Supporting Georgia in preparations for accession to the UNECE Water Convention
- Strengthening transboundary water cooperation between Azerbaijan and Georgia



Project main partners

Lead organizations:



UNECE



Partners: Ministry of Environment Protection, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Georgia, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Highlights of the Project

Assessment of legal and institutional needs for ratification and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention

Analysis of costs associated with ratification and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention

Analysis of existing mechanisms of cooperation between Georgia and Azerbaijan

The Main Findings

Good legal basis for meeting requirements of the Convention

Discrepancies and gaps: prior licensing of wastewater discharges, application of BAT, water quality objectives and water monitoring

Costs will be incurred mostly by Business Sector (polluters)

State expenses: enforcement, monitoring, information exchange and early warning systems, conducting bilateral meetings, planning, etc.

Main Findings

Absence of institutional mechanism to support implementation of bilateral agreement on Cooperation in the Protection of the Environment (1997)

Highlights of the Project

Draft Bilateral Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Protection and Sustainable Use of the Water Resources of the Kura River Basin

4 Bilateral Consultations
between Azerbaijan and Georgia

National Consultation in Georgia



The project finalized in March 2012

**Third Draft of the Agreement submitted
to MFA of Azerbaijan and Georgia in
February 2012**

Thank you for your attention!

