

PROMOTING BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

We will be grateful if you forward this information to relevant people



[E-Alerts archive](#)

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Strengthening the economic dimension of Integrated Water Resources Management in Armenia



On 11 April 2012, the OECD/EAP Task Force in cooperation with the State Agency of Water Resources Management of Armenia organized a Steering Committee meeting in Yerevan, to report on the on-going projects, including the two OECD-led projects on the use of economic instruments for water resource management in the Debed river basin in Armenia and on strengthening the economic dimension of IWRM in the Kura River Basin (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia). The discussion stressed the need to further coordinate international initiatives

on transboundary river basin management in the South Caucasus with the OECD/UNECE Water Policy Dialogues in the region. These activities are financed by the Governments of Finland, Germany and the European Commission.

The use of economic instruments in the Issyk-Kul Basin in Kyrgyzstan

In the 7th EU Water Initiative National Policy Dialogue meeting, 18 April in Bishkek, draft recommendations for improving economic instruments for water resource management in Kyrgyzstan were discussed. They were developed within the OECD-led project on Strategic Financial Planning for Water Resource Management in Kyrgyzstan which focused on the Issyk-Kul Basin. A report with project results will be released shortly. The meeting participants agreed on the need for follow up work in the Issyk-Kul basin and the implementation of similar work in the Chu river basin. The project has been supported by the European Commission and Switzerland.

Better waste water treatment and climate change adaptation of the water sector in Moldova



This work, co-sponsored by the European Commission (DG Environment) and OECD, is implemented through the ongoing EU Water Initiative National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on water policy in Moldova. Two events were held in April-June 2012: (i) an expert workshop to discuss existing and alternative business models for sustainable operation and financing sanitation systems in small towns and villages in Moldova; and (ii) a regular NPD meeting to discuss the main policy

conclusions from the projects. Based on the received feedback, the OECD will soon finalise two project reports: (i) Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change on Water Resources and WSS Systems in Moldova and Inventory Possible Adaptation Measures, and (ii) Sustainable business models for rural sanitation. The next NPD meeting will be held in November and will discuss a feasible adaptation strategy for WSS in Moldova.



About the EAP Task Force

Since the 1990s, the OECD has supported countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) to reconcile their environment and economic goals. This support has been provided within the framework of the Task Force for the Implementation of the Environmental Action Programme (the EAP Task Force).

➤ [Learn more ...](#)

Contact information

The EAP Task Force Secretariat
Environment Directorate
2 rue André-Pascal
75775 Paris CEDEX 16 France
Fax: (+33) 1 44 30 61 83

➤ eap.contact@oecd.org

➤ www.oecd.org/env/eap

About the OECD's work on environment

The OECD Environment Directorate produces 20-30 titles a year in English and in French, with summaries of selected titles translated into other languages (available for free on the OECD on-line bookshop). Many free reports are available on our websites.

Draft National Water Strategy for Azerbaijan

The First Steering Group meeting for the National Policy Dialogue on a national water strategy for Azerbaijan was organized by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources on 8 June in Baku. The Steering Group agreed upon the next steps to finalize the Strategy for submission to the Government of Azerbaijan. The work done by OECD was instrumental to promote the use of economic analysis for the sector reform and to bring financial realism in water management, with a particular focus on the Kura river basin. The next NPD meeting will take place in November. These activities are supported by the European Commission and Germany.

Strengthening the financing of water resources management in Georgia

The 1st NPD Steering Group meeting took place on 11 June in Tbilisi. Its debates focused on the necessary institutional reform to align national legislation with the EU Water Framework Directive, including through the preparation of a new National Water Law. Ways to strengthen transboundary water cooperation with Azerbaijan and support the current Georgian efforts to prepare for accession to the UNECE Water Convention were discussed as well. The overall objective of the OECD/EAP TF activities under the NPD in Georgia is to enhance the financing dimensions of water resources management. More detailed scoping of these activities is underway. This activity is supported by the European Commission.



Possible National Policy Dialogues on water in Kazakhstan and Russia

Two Secretariat missions – to Kazakhstan and Russia – took place in May 2012 to explore the opportunities for resuming the NPD in Russia, as well as launching a new NPD in Kazakhstan jointly with UNECE with a focus on selected pilot basins. Possible topics for dialogue and candidate basins were discussed with local and international stakeholders in the two countries. The intention is to launch the NPDs by the fall. Funding for this work is provided by the European Commission.



Green growth indicators in the Kyrgyz Republic



On 25 May 2012, the Ministry of Economy and Antimonopoly Policy of Kyrgyzstan hosted a meeting to discuss the pilot application of the OECD set of green growth indicators at the national level. Its participants included officials from the host Ministry, the Environmental Protection and Forest Management Agency, the National Statistical Committee, UNDP and the Central Asia's Regional Environmental Centre. Prior to this meeting, the OECD work on green growth and green growth

indicators was presented at the National Rio+20 Preparatory Conference, which was attended by a wide range of stakeholders. The government partners welcomed the pilot testing of green growth indicators and considered that it will have an important role for the post-Rio planning of action. A close link between this initiative and the UNDP-UNEP "Poverty and Environment" Initiative (PEI) in Kyrgyzstan was established. This work is sponsored by Norway and Switzerland, and contributes to the promotion of a Shared Environmental Information System in the pan-European region.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Annual meeting of the EUWI EECCA Working Group

On 2-4 July 2012, the 16th meeting of the European Union's Water Initiative (EUWI) EUWI EECCA Working Group will be held in Geneva. The meeting will bring together officials from EECCA countries, experts, and international and regional organisations. The meeting will discuss the ongoing projects of OECD/EAP Task Force and UNECE in the region and will endorse the 2013 programme of work on water. The meeting is financed by the European Commission.

[Events web page...](#)

➤ [OECD work on water](#)



➤ [OECD work on green growth](#)



OECD Participation at Rio+20 UN Conference, 20-22 June 2012, Brazil



Twenty years after the 1992 Earth Summit, countries from all around the world meet in Rio de Janeiro for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. OECD has contributed to the Rio+20 Conference by conducting cross-cutting and sector-specific or issue-specific analysis relevant to green growth (see the [list of recent OECD publications](#) in this area). In

particular, OECD has produced a [draft report on green growth in developing countries](#). This draft was discussed at the OECD High-Level Event hosted by the Secretary-General Angel Gurría on Green Growth and Developing Countries that took place on 22 June. We invite all EAP Task Force members and partners to contribute to debates on this topic. Further information on OECD participation in the Rio+20 Summit is available from a dedicated web page: www.oecd.org/rio+20

This newsletter is edited by the OECD/EAP TASK FORCE Secretariat.

To subscribe, unsubscribe, please contact: eap.contact@oecd.org

