

THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE FOR THE CAUCASUS

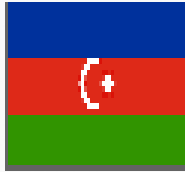
Regional Development Initiatives in REC Caucasus

*8th of April, 2010
Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

www.rec-caucasus.org



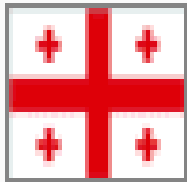
REC Caucasus Founders



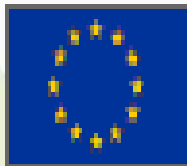
Republic of Azerbaijan



Republic of Armenia



Georgia



European Union

REC Caucasus Mission

- To assist in solving environmental problems in the Caucasus Region
- To provide assistance to all environmental stakeholders
- To increase public participation in the decision-making process
- To assist the South Caucasus states in building civil society

Through offering:

Information - Advice - Cooperation - Funding



RECs Partnership

Regional Environmental Centres:

- REC for Central and Eastern Europe
- REC Moldova
- REC Caucasus
- Central Asian REC
- Russian REC



Promoting International Processes and Initiatives in the Caucasus

- Environment for Europe Process
- Rio Processes
 - Local Agenda 21
 - WEHAB
- Environmental Action Plans
 - LEAPs
- Espoo Convention
- Aarhus Convention
- Education for Sustainable Development – UNECE decade
- Environmental Security
- Environment and Health process
- Desertification
- Climate Change
- Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources
- Environment and Transport
- Alpine convention countries experience on sustainable development of mountain regions
- Spatial Planning
- ENP
- Eastern Partnership



Promoting International Processes and Initiatives in the Caucasus

Through:

- **Transfer of information and knowledge**
- **Experience sharing**
- **Capacity building**
- **Advice**
- **Funding**
- **Training**
- **Education**
- **Introduction of international best practices in the Caucasus**
- **Supporting public participation**
- **Supporting intersectoral cooperation**
- **Supporting regional cooperation**
- **Supporting international cooperation**

Programmes

Information and Capacity Building Programme

- Facilitating free access to environmental information;
- Raising environmental awareness;
- Promoting cooperation between stakeholders;
- Public participation in decision-making process;
- Access to justice;
- Promoting environmental democracy;
- Stakeholder capacity building.

Environmental Policy and Integration Programme

- Support environmental governmental structures with expert assistance, financial and technical support
- Implementation of Rio principles in the Caucasus Region
- Supports governments in elaboration of complex legal/policy documents for management of the Caucasus Mountain ecosystems

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources Programme

- Development of decentralized system of governance of local level
- Introduction of complex and integrated approach to local problems solving and environmental management and development of regional approaches for transboundary problems solving on local / national levels

Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin

Specific objectives:

- Gain a consensus-based agreement between the South Caucasus countries, donor organisations and other concerned parties on further steps towards improved and creation of basis for sustainable cooperation and coordination through establishment of regional institutional mechanisms for major participating countries of the Caucasus, including governments, supporting control and coordination of projects (including donor ones) for integrated management of the Kura-Aras transboundary rivers basin
- Adoption of Road Maps for assessment of progress in sustainable management of the Kura-Aras river basin with view to introduction of the EU Water Directives



Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin

Tasks:

- Obtain agreement of the Caucasian states on the Terms of Reference of the *Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin Project*.
- to obtain authorization on delegation of the regional coordination of the projects in the water sector (Kura-Aras) to REC Caucasus, with securing the rights of the organisations to control and coordinate the projects (including ones supported by international donor) on Kura-Aras river basin.



Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin

Tasks:

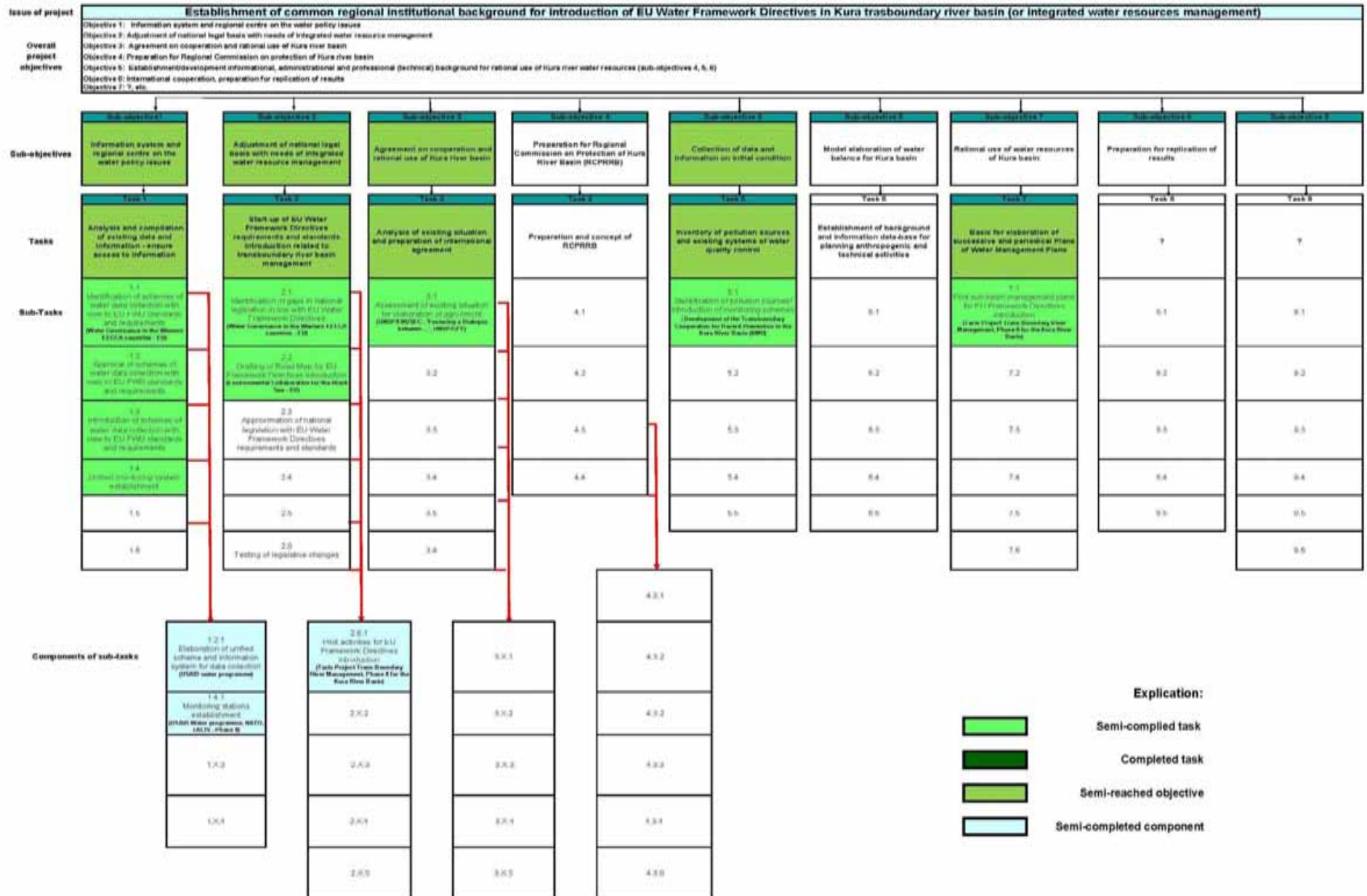
- Elaboration a Road Map on sustainable management of the Kura-Aras river basin through introduction of the EU FWD as in the ENP National Action Plans and adoption of the National Road Maps by the participating countries.
- Using the adopted Road Maps assessment of the works undertaken by the water projects on Kura-Aras.
- Establishment of the Regional Coordination Body, which will meet annually and based on the Road Map and assess the progress made for sustainable management of the Kura-Aras river basin in light of introduction of EU FWD.

Insufficient management of Kura river basin
Polluted River Basin



Sustainable management of Kura river basin
Clear River Basin

REGIONAL ROAD-MAP'S STRUCTURE/FORMAT



Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin

Achievements:

- The ToR of the Project Creation of Enabling Environment for Integrated Management of the Kura-Aras Transboundary Rivers Basin successfully endorsed by the three countries of the South Caucasus
- Assessment of state of introduction of EU FWD in the region and other relevant information collection initiated
- International contractors for shearing European experience selected – French Institute: IOEau
- First Regional meeting on the project will take place in May 2010.



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