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DONOR SURVEY ON ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES IN THE NIS

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

1. At the "Environment for Europe" Conference in Aarhus, June 1998, Environment Ministers agreed that "the main focus of future EAP work should shift towards the New Independent States (NIS) and the Central and Eastern European countries (CEE) that are not part of the pre-accession process", taking account of developments in the region, notably EU enlargement. Ministers further agreed that "…National Environmental Action Programmes (NEAPs), environmental financing and environmental management of enterprises should continue to provide the framework for the activities of the EAP Task Force, but the work should be designed and implemented to respond better to the differentiated needs of CEE and the NIS group of countries…". Ministers in Aarhus also stated that "…the environmental problems in the NIS and CEECs that are not part of the pre-accession process are significant, the needs for assistance are great, while the available resources to address these problems, domestic and external, are limited…".

2. In October 1998 the EAP Task Force adopted a work programme for the period of 1998-2000 to respond to the recommendations of the Aarhus Ministerial Conference. The EAP Task Force stressed that full account should be taken of past and ongoing work in the region. Furthermore, it called for a more pro-active involvement of donors in co-ordinating their assistance programmes, especially in the NIS, through, for example, periodic surveys of donor assistance activities.

Objectives

3. This survey of donor technical assistance programmes in the field of the environment has several objectives. First, the survey aims to collect and disseminate information on programmes in the field of environment in the NIS, particularly in areas that are dealt with by EAP Task Force, providing a basis for information exchange and better co-ordination among donors and between donors and recipients. Exchange of information about on-going and planned activities could help donors to better target their work in addressing priority needs of the recipient countries, strengthen the catalytic effects of their assistance, exploit potential synergies and avoid overlaps. Second, the survey will help recipients to learn more about existing and planned assistance programmes in order to use them in the most effective way and to integrate them into domestic policies. Given the comparatively low overall level of environmental co-operation in the NIS it will be essential to ensure that a "critical mass" of resources exists to build effectively capacity in the NIS and to achieve Task Force objectives. The third objective, to monitor implementation of assistance programmes in order to identify most effective models and best practices, unfortunately cannot be met, due to the insufficient information received in the responses of donor countries.

The Scope of the Survey

4. The survey covers programmes and projects of technical assistance in the field of environment for the NIS, focusing specifically on "technical assistance" programmes and projects. Particular attention is paid to those projects supporting the three priority areas of the EAP Task Force work programme:

- environmental policy/NEAP implementation,
- environmental financing aid and
- environmental management in enterprise/ cleaner production.

5. The survey does not include technical assistance directly linked to investment projects involving international financial institution (IFI) loans.

6. The scope of the study includes programmes and projects financed from public sources, e.g. by donor agencies, as well as by international organisations and international financial institutions aiming at strengthening institutional and human capacities in environmental organisations. Typically, such projects would provide (i) training (ii) policy advice and/or (iii) legal advice to national governments local and regional administrations, industrial enterprises or environmental citizen's organisations

Countries Surveyed

7. The survey was distributed to thirty-three donor countries and organisations. Nineteen of these countries and organisations responded to the survey, by either completing the attached questionnaire or by sending in other materials, such as brochures published by the country's Ministry of the Environment. Unfortunately, some of the information provided was incomplete or did not pertain specifically to the objectives of the survey and thus could not be used.

Contents of the Report

8. The first section of the report describes in general the environmental assistance programmes of the donor countries. It lists briefly under each donor country the overall objectives of their environmental programmes, the main areas of assistance, and the countries in the NIS region that are targeted by their technical assistance programmes. The sources of the information are provided, as well as further resources such as website addresses.

9. The next section describes the specific technical assistance (TA) programmes in the NIS; in general the projects described support the three priority areas of the EAP Task Force work programme: environmental policy/NEAP implementation, environmental financing aid and environmental management in enterprise/ cleaner production. The projects that are not directly aimed at these three priority areas but have elements of capacity building or institutional strengthening are also included; these programmes deal mainly with water, biodiversity conservation, and climate change and ozone depleting substances. The list starts with the country specific projects and those programmes that include several NIS countries or are NIS region-wide are listed at the end of the section. The descriptions include, as far as the information was available, the objectives of the project or programme, the activities involved, the dates of implementation and the budget of the programme.

10. The conclusion will summarise the main findings of the report including patterns and gaps in environmental assistance observed in this survey. There are several annexes in the end of the report, including tables listing which countries give assistance to the NIS under the general types of programmes and the countries which did and did not respond to the survey.

2. Main Findings

11. Drawing conclusions and making recommendations regarding environmental technical assistance programmes in the NIS, with incomplete information from all donor countries, is difficult. However, even with the limited amount of information contained in the report, several patterns and gaps in the assistance programmes to the NIS are obvious.

12. Most generally, the distribution of environmental technical assistance in the NIS is very uneven. Several countries in the NIS receive a great deal of aid, such as the Russian Federation and Ukraine, while other countries have very few assistance programmes, such as Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

13. A second general point is that most donor activities concern detailed policy reform and capacity building. Some are concerned with technology cooperation. From the perspective of the EAP Task Force Work Programme, the challenge is to develop appropriate synergies with these activities. Generally the Task Force work should not duplicate these activities but rather aim to disseminate experience, develop best practice and work with donors to develop demonstration projects for the NIS region.

14. There are very few programmes focused specifically on environmental policy, environmental financing, and environmental management in enterprises, which are the three priority areas of the EAP Task Force Work Programme. Those programmes that are aimed at these three areas are generally designed to build capacity within the country or region.

15. Several of the environmental policy assistance programmes (such as the World Bank project in Uzbekistan, TACIS NIS wide project -Development of Common Envrionmental Policies) helped to develop and implement a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP). Other projects in this area will strengthen the management and enforcement skills of the national and local governments, such as the Environment Ministries, through policy advisors and the training of officials.

16. The environmental financing projects, mainly financed by Denmark involve mainly institutional strengthening of the Environment Ministries, Environmental Funds and other relevant agencies within the countries. The capacities to identify and prepare environmental projects as well as skills in financial management are strengthened through these programmes. Nearly all of the environmental financing programmes target the Russian Federation, but there is a need for these types of programmes throughout the NIS.

17. Cleaner production is the general focus of the projects supporting Environmental Management in Enterprises programme area. These programmes aim at introducing cleaner technology and improving the enforcement of air pollution policies in order to minimise the amount of pollution created by industries in the NIS. Many of the projects involve workshops and demonstrations of emissions monitoring and inspection methods.

18. There are many other projects in the NIS that are not specifically focused on these three priority areas but have elements of capacity building and institutional strengthening. The programmes included in this report focused on biodiversity and natural resources, water, and climate change and ozone depletion.

19. National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans were developed in many NIS countries through assistance programmes, for example, in Kazakstan and Uzbekistan. The Plans will help the countries to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity by building capacity and awareness in and strengthening the economic feasibility and sustainability of biodiversity conservation. Several conservation programmes focus also on regions in the NIS, such as the Caspian Sea or Central Asia.

20. Several NIS receive assistance for implementing a national programme for the phase-out of ozone depleting substances (ODS). For example, the Environment Canada project in Moldova and Georgia will enhance the capacity of the National Ozone Unit in the two countries to design and implement effective phase-out policies.

21. Many of the projects that target water in the NIS, such as the EBRD project in Ukraine and the Finnish project in the Russian Federation, focus on the rehabilitation and strengthening of municipal water utilities, including supply, collection and treatment. The projects aim to improve the quality of drinking water as well as improve sanitation services through improving the operational and financial efficiency of the water and wastewater systems. This is accomplished by training and demonstration projects along with upgrading the equipment used by the water utility services.

22. The Annexes at the end of this document show in “visual” table format a very rough division of donor assistance in the NIS on 3 main work programme areas of the EAP Task Force (Annex 1) and on projects related to biodiversity, water, climate change and ODS (Annex 2).

3. Donor Countries

Austria

23. The environmental assistance programs of the Federal Chancellery of Austria aim to improve the human living conditions through a reduction of environmental health risks. The priority measures identified include the promotion of efficient, clean energy technologies and the utilisation of alternative energy sources, the rehabilitation of existing non-nuclear power plants and of sewage systems and waste removal facilities, and the transfer of know-how for implementation-oriented environmental measures. The focus countries of Austria's assistance are Albania, the Kyrgyz Republic, the FYR of Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(*Source*: information supplied to OECD by Federal Chancellery through the response to the questionnaire)

Canada

ENVIRONMENT CANADA –

24. Environment Canada's main objective in the NIS is to support the actions of countries in meeting the environmental objectives of the Montreal Protocol through the transfer of viable alternative ODS technologies and expertise in policy development, good management practices and clean technology transfer. Moldova and Georgia are the countries where Environment Canada is focusing its assistance.

(*Source*: information supplied by Environment Canada to OECD through the response to the questionnaire. Website address: www.ec.gc.ca)

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA) –

25. The assistance programmes of the Central and Eastern European Branch of CIDA have three priorities: promoting the transition to a market economy, promoting democratic development and good governance and facilitating Canadian trade and investment links with countries in the region. These priorities apply to work in all sectors, including the environmental sector. Each project develops capacity within the country and brings about a long-term change in the way the country sets its priorities. The Russian Federation and Ukraine are the two countries in the NIS with which CIDA co-operates.

(*Source:* information supplied by CIDA through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca and CEE branch: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/europe-e.htm)

Czech Republic

26. The overall goals of the Global Relations Department of the Czech Ministry of Environment are to transfer the experience of the Czech Republic to other countries of transition and to improve the quality of life in these transition countries. The main areas of assistance include cleaner production, implementation of global conventions concerning the protection of biodiversity, the ozone layer and water,

and the support of the development of urban environments. The focus countries of the Czech assistance programmes are Croatia, Ukraine, Moldova, Albania and Belarus.

(*Source:* information provided by Czech Ministry of Environment through the response to the questionnaire. Website for Czech Electronic Environmental Library: www.env.cebin.cz)

Denmark

27. The objectives of the Danish Co-operation for Environment in Eastern Europe (DANCEE), administered by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA), are to:

- protect the environment and nature in Central and Eastern Europe and reduce both regional and global pollution;
- help to ensure an environmentally acceptable political and economic development and support democracy and the transition to market economy, with the greatest possible consideration for the environment; and
- promote the transfer of environmental knowledge and technology from Denmark to the CEECs, in the interest of both the recipient countries and Denmark.

The countries that are receiving assistance from Denmark include Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, and Ukraine.

(*Source*: information supplied by DANCEE through the response to the questionnaire and *Environmental Assistance to Eastern Europe Annual Report '97*, published by DEPA. Website for DEPA: www.mst.dk. Website for DANCEE: www.mst.dk/activi/04000000.htm)

Finland

28. The forms of cooperation in technical assistance between the Finnish Ministry of Environment and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe include promoting environmental protection, conserving biological diversity and encouraging sustainable use of natural resources. Finnish assistance to the NIS is focused on the Russian Federation. Finland also has some co-operation with Ukraine and recently with Moldova.

29. The Department for International Development Co-operation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is focusing on the Central Asian Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

30. (*Sources*: Information supplied by Finnish Ministry of Environment, Environmental Cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe: 1998, published by Finnish Ministry of Environment, and Environmental Development Co-operation Opportunities: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, published by the Finnish Environment Institute, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Greece

31. Greece has committed to the goal of sustainability, including at Rio in 1992 and Kyoto in 1997. In this respect Greece seeks to involve developing countries in its own activities, on a national and regional basis, thus being in line with the partnership principles of the DAC 21st Century Strategy. The main areas in which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs assists the NIS and CEECs include environmental capacity

building and training, seminars and consultations. Greece is targeting the Black Sea States of the NIS, Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Belarus.

(*Source*: Information supplied by Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the response to the questionnaire)

Japan

32. Preservation of the environment and balanced development are major issues of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In view of this, JICA has made preservation and improvement of the natural environment and living environments a priority area in its cooperation schemes. In the NIS, JICA focuses on the Central Asian countries.

(*Source*: Information supplied by Japanese International Cooperation Agency through the response to the questionnaire)

Netherlands

33. The main principle behind the environmental assistance of the International Environmental Affairs Branch of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment is cooperation based on equality, reciprocity and mutual benefits. Bilateral cooperation focuses mainly on inspection and enforcement, public participation and climate change. Multilateral cooperation focuses mainly on the implementation and enforcement of NEAPs and Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Georgia, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine receive environmental assistance from the Netherlands.

(*Source*: Information supplied by Ministry of the Environment through the response to the questionnaire)

Norway

34. The objective of Norway's Ministry of Environment is to assist CEE/NIS authorities and industries in their efforts, within the reform process, to create sustainable development and a reduced risk of trans-boundary pollution from industry, nuclear and offshore activities. Environmental cooperation is carried out in political dialogue and negotiation of agreements, technical cooperation, capacity building for local and regional administrations and industrial improvement through a cleaner production programme. Norway provides technical assistance to the Russian Federation.

(*Source*: Information supplied by Ministry of Environment through the response to the questionnaire, and *A Decade under the Sign of the Environment: The Norwegian-Russian Environmental Co-operation*, published by the Ministry of the Environment. Website: www.odin.dep.no/md/eng)

United Kingdom

35. The priorities of the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom in providing assistance to the CEECs and NIS include capacity building for the governments at national and local levels to set and enforce environmental policy, to invest in remedial measures in areas affected by poor environmental practice and to help the countries meet the obligations imposed by international agreements. The United Kingdom provides assistance to Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Moldova.

(*Source*: Information supplied by Department for International Development through the response to the questionnaire)

United States

US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) –

36. The two strategic goals of USAID are reducing long-term threats to the global environment, particularly the loss of biodiversity and climate change, and promoting sustainable economic growth locally, nationally, and regionally by addressing environmental, economic and developmental practices that impede development and are unsustainable. USAID focuses on inefficient and environmentally unsound energy production and use, the degradation and depletion of water resources, and regulatory, enforcement and policy issues. USAID also concentrates on social and economic patterns, including the lack of local participation and empowerment, that contribute to the aforementioned problems or impede solutions. USAID works with local governments, NGOs, educational institutions, and private contractors in the Russian Federation, Ukraine and other NIS countries to improve the environmental conditions and health.

(*Source*: Information supplied by USAID through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.info.usaid.gov/environment)

US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA) –

37. The three main goals of the USEPA are to promote the integration of environmental and economic considerations to ensure sustainable development, to make the business of managing the region's environment more efficient and effective by building institutional capacity; and to conduct technical assistance and investment programs to improve environmental conditions in areas experiencing the most acute human health or ecosystem threats. USEPA provides assistance to the Russian Federation, Ukraine and other NIS countries.

(*Source*: Information supplied by USEPA through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.epa.gov/oiamount)

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

38. Sustainable development ranks among the highest priorities of the EBRD. The EBRD attaches particular importance to operations that promote energy and resource efficiency, waste reduction, resource recovery and recycling, the use of cleaner technologies and the promotion of renewable resources, and to other operations with primarily environmental objectives. The EBRD will also continue to play an important role in financing the alleviation of severe environmental problems. The Bank provides environmental assistance to several NIS.

(*Source*: Website: www.ebrd.com. Environmental site: www.ebrd.com/english/enviro)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

39. The main objectives of UNEP are:

- to promote regional and sub-regional co-operation and co-ordination of work in the field of environment;
- to create environmental awareness and promote environmentally responsible behaviour of the private sector and individual citizens in the region;
- to catalyse concrete action to prevent pollution and protect and enhance the environment of the region; and
- to broaden the constituency for and increase the financial support to environmental protection, through UNEP and otherwise.

40. UNEP also provides technical assistance under its various units/ conventions for the building of environmental capacities of countries in transition for technical information, environmental impact assessments, the use of economic instruments, institution building, water assessment and management, chemicals management, biodiversity protection, cleaner production, and hazardous waste management. UNEP provides assistance programmes to the Black Sea and Caspian Sea states, as well as to the Central Asian states.

(*Source*: Information supplied by UNEP through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.unep.org)

UNEP Global Resource Information Database (UNEP-GRID)

41. The main areas of assistance of UNEP-GRID include building and strengthening environmental information centres, holding national and regional workshops on information networks, training in Internet, GIS and other information technology areas, and the production of easily understandable environmental information (State of the Environment Reports, etc).

42. UNEP-GRID has assisted 21 countries of the NIS and CEECs.

(*Source*: Information supplied by UNEP-GRID through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.grida.no)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

43. UNDP helps countries adopt integrated approaches that focus on managing natural resources to improve the livelihoods of people living in poverty, with priority given to "preventive" approaches. UNDP's mission is to help countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable human development by assisting them to build their capacity to design and carry out development programmes in the protection and regeneration of the environment. The focus of the UNDP is to assist in building capacity for good governance, to increase public participation, and to stress the importance of national plans and priorities in the national programming of activities for development. Most of the NIS receive assistance in the field of environment from UNDP.

(*Source*: Information supplied by UNDP through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.undp.org)

World Bank

44. The environmental strategy of the World Bank focuses on removing environmental constraints to sustainable development. The main objective of the World Bank's environmental assistance is to support

the NIS to reverse environmental degradation and to manage sustainably their natural capital – including air, water, soil and biodiversity – for the benefit of society. Through analytic work, the World Bank aims to better understand the impacts of environmental degradation on poverty and the impact of poverty on the environment. The target countries of the World Bank are Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Uzbekistan, the Aral Sea states, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

(*Source*: Information supplied by World Bank through the response to the questionnaire. Website: www.worldbank.org)

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

45. The programme areas of the GEF include:

- conserving biodiversity, improving forest, farmland, coastal, mountain, marine, and wildlife management, to secure better livelihoods for people who use these resources;
- saving energy and opening markets for renewable energy technologies, extending power to rural communities and reducing reliance on less efficient technologies that cause air pollution and contribute to climate change;
- addressing the degradation of oceans, coastlines, lakes, wetlands, and rivers caused by the loss of habitats and pollution, and stop over-fishing; and
- assisting nations in Eastern Europe and Russia in phasing out the use of chemicals that deplete the ozone layer.

46. GEF has allocated resources to phase out ozone depleting substances in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. GEF also provides assistance to Armenia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Georgia, the Black Sea states, Moldova and Tajikistan.

(*Source*: Information on website: www.gefweb.org)

EU/Tacis

47. The EU Tacis Programme is one of the instruments developed by the EU to forge closer economic and political links with the New Independent States (NIS). It operates within the wider context of a deepening and evolving relationship between the EU and the NIS, enshrined in the Partnership and Co-operation Agreements which formally commit both sides to political, economic and cultural dialogue. Tacis provides grant finance for the transfer of know-how to the countries of the NIS, which fosters the development of market economies and democratic societies. Tacis programmes cover the entire NIS, including the Black Sea states as well as Russia.

(*Source*: Website: europa.eu.int/comm/dg1a/tacis/index.htm)

4. Environmental Assistance Programmes

Armenia

Donor: GEF

- National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan:

The objective of the project is to assist Armenia in the formulation of a long-term strategy and action plan for conservation and sustainable use of its biodiversity in the context of its economic development, in accordance with Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention on Biodiversity.

Funds: EUR 182,900 (USD 174,800)*

Azerbaijan

Donor: GEF

- Preparation for Georgia & Azerbaijan: Montreal Protocol

The global environmental objective is to rapidly eliminate the production and consumption of ODS in Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Funds: EUR 141,300 (USD 135,000)*

Belarus

Donor: Denmark

- Methods for Determination of Emissions from Belarussian Industries

The VOLMA asphalt plant was selected as the demonstration site. The project comprised an environmental assessment of the plant, control and reduction of emission at the asphalt plant, training of technical staff, and information dissemination about the Danish regulation and guidelines for air emissions.

Dates: Completed
Funds: EUR 341,105 (DKK 2,539,937)*

Georgia

Donor: Environment Canada

- Phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances (Georgia and Moldova)

The overall project goals are to enhance the capacity of the National Ozone Unit to design and implement effective phase-out policies to decrease the unauthorised trade of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and to promote and facilitate early elimination of the use of ODS and compliance with the trade and licensing provisions of the Montreal Protocol.

The project will consist of the development of a regional survey and provision of training at the regional level on the establishing of harmonised import and export licensing systems for the monitoring and control of ODS. The project activities include:

- development of a regional survey on existing policies and regulations dealing with ODS imports, exports, sales and handling;

- organisation of a regional training workshop for national ozone focal points focused on the establishment of national import and export licensing systems to monitor and control ODS and the development of a regional co-operative network amongst CEITs;
- organisation of a regional training session for customs officials on the development, implementation and enforcement of national import/export regulations and policies, and establishment of a regional co-operative network amongst CEIT customs officials;
- technical and policy assistance in the development of national phase-out policies and strategies with emphasis placed on the enforcement of legislation, regulations and economic instruments at the national level, and development of harmonised systems at the regional level; and
- strengthening national policy instruments to improve the effectiveness of investment projects already funded by the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

Dates: 24 months
Funds: EUR 31,400 (USD 30,000)*

Donor: GEF

- Implementation of Montreal Protocol

The global environment objective is to rapidly eliminate the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances in Georgia.

Donor: UNDP

- Environmental Conservation and Management

The overall objective of the National Programme in Georgia is to establish and support an appropriate environmental institutional framework with the aim of integrating environmental development with economic and social development. The programme will define national environmental standards and targets through the preparation of a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) as well as strategies to address bio-diversity, climate change, the phasing out of imports and consumption of Ozone Layer Depleting Substances and a National Black sea Strategic Action Plan. At the end of UNDP intervention it is expected that the Ministry of Environment will be capable of performing its role independently and efficiently with regards to Georgia's national program and international commitments in the field of nature protection. The Ministry will also be in a better position to ensure that the development process in the country takes into account environmental concerns.

Funds: EUR 8,189,400 (USD 7,825,000)*

Donor: World Bank

- Enabling Activities for the Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (BSAP)

The objectives of the Georgian BSAP are to develop a strategic action plan with Georgian authorship that will serve as a vehicle for future project implementation, funding acquisition, and facilitate sustainable protection and management of biodiversity through the development of cross-sectoral programs. The BSAP should integrate the country's unique biological and cultural landscapes and resources, an approach exemplified in the current WWF National Park Planning program. An additional objective is to raise public awareness of the value of protecting biodiversity, through the national workshop and an advertising campaign. Finally, the first National Report for submission to the Conference of Parties (CoP).will be prepared.

Dates: 14 months, completed 21 December 1999
Funds: EUR 125,600 (USD 120,000)*

Donor: World Bank

- Tblisi Water Supply and Sanitation Project

This project is concerned with strengthening the capacity of the Tblisi Water Utility to become better managed, financially autonomous, sustainable and capable of providing improved quality drinking water and basic environmental sanitation services to the people of Tblisi. The project will be primarily concerned with addressing the significant existing deficiencies in water supply, delivery and management through institutional reforms and physical investment programmes. In particular this includes arresting the rate of deterioration of the water supply and distribution system, reducing environmental and health risk, controlling leakage and contamination, improving cost recovery and ability to provide water at an affordable price, increasing revenue through water metering, and introduction of a progressive tariff structure. Finally the project will promote the efficient use of water resources through public training programmes, awareness and participation.

Funds: EUR 35.6 million (USD 34 million)*

Kazakstan

Donor: EBRD

- Astana Water Supply and Environmental Infrastructure Project

The objectives include the improvement of the municipal water supply and wastewater collcetion and treatment system in the City of Astana. The project would improve the quality of potable water, reduce the environmental damage from wastewater discharges, and improve the operational and financial efficiency of the water and wastewater system.

The activities of the project are investing in the rehabilitaion of water distribution network and wastewater collectors, upgrading of existing water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant, and installing water meters. In addition the Project would involve a management contract for the operations of Astana vodokanal for a five-year period to ensure efficient operational performance and to transfer skills and expertise in modern utility management.

Funds: approximately EUR 15-20 million

Donor: GEF

- Country Strategy on Biodiversity for Kazakstan

The objective of this project is to assist the Government in developing a strategy for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The principle tasks of the project will include: the establishment of an inter-sectoral co-ordination body with the creation of a Steering Committee for the Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (BSAP); a comprehensive assessment of existing information on biodiversity; identification and agreement of options for biodiversity management; preparation of the BSAP, and definition of specific actions required to implement it; and the preparation and dissemination of a final report as well as the submission of a national report to the Conference of Parties (CoP).

Funds: EUR 138,900 (USD 132,700)*

Donor: World Bank

- North East Kazakstan Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Project

The objective of this project is to put in place an integrated water resources and environmental management system for the Irtysh and Nura-Ishim basins, while at the same time carrying out phased investments in water supply infrastructure and pollution control and cleanup. The project will address water supply and demand management, water quality and pollution control, cost-effectiveness and energy efficiency in water transport and in the provision of basic municipal services.

Funds: EUR 261 million (USD 250 million)*

Kyrgyzstan

Donor: UNDP

- Capacity 21 Programme

The overall goal of the *Capacity 21* Program is to build the capacities for public institutions, the private sector, and citizens' organisations to adopt Sustainable Human Development principles into the legal and policy framework.

Its goal in Kyrgyzstan is to strengthen the framework and to build the capacities for sustainable human development in the following priority fields:

- support to the newly established President's Sustainable Human Development Council as a catalyst for policy change and intersectoral dialogue;
- protection and sustainable use of water resources with a demonstration project in the Issyk-Kul oblast;
- strengthening of the policy and legislation related to sustainable water management;
- support to the creation of sustainable livelihoods and community development to counter impoverishment of large sectors of society (i) with the creation of a Capacity-Building Centre based on training, applied technologies and direct services to users and (ii) involvement of ecovolunteers.

Moldova

Donor: Environment Canada

- Phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances (Georgia and Moldova)

The overall projected goals are to enhance the capacity of the National Ozone Unit to design and implement effective phase-out policies to decrease the unauthorised trade of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and to promote and facilitate early elimination of the use of ODS and compliance with the trade and licensing provisions of the Montreal Protocol.

The project activities include:

- development of a regional survey on existing policies and regulations dealing with ODS imports, exports, sales and handling;
- organisation of a regional training workshop for national ozone focal points focused on the establishment of national import and export licensing systems to monitor and control ODS and the development of a regional co-operative network amongst CEITs;
- organisation of a regional training session for customs officials on the development, implementation and enforcement of national import/export regulations and policies, and establishment of a regional co-operative network amongst CEIT customs officials;
- technical and policy assistance in the development of national phase-out policies and strategies with emphasis placed on the enforcement of legislation, regulations and economic instruments at the national level, and development of harmonised systems at the regional level; and
- strengthening national policy instruments to improve the effectiveness of investment projects already funded by the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

Funds: EUR 31,400 (USD 30,000)*

Donor: GEF

- Implementation of Montreal Protocol

The global environment objective is to rapidly eliminate the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances in Moldova.

Donor: World Bank

- Enabling Activities for National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

The main project objective is to assist the Republic of Moldova in implementing commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity through the completion of a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), which will improve protection and sustainable use of Moldavian biodiversity. The first National Report to the Conference of the Parties (CoP) will also be prepared.

The Biodiversity Strategy will be formulated through extensive consultation with stakeholders, and represents a proactive approach to halt or reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity in Moldova. The strategy will reinforce the implementation of existing measures and will identify additional actions that need to be taken. The strategy will also provide a framework to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Action Plan will translate the strategy's objectives into practical, prioritised actions. This document will identify the responsible agency, schedule and cost. The roles and responsibilities of each co-operating agency will be specified and agreements obtained. In this plan of action, particular attention will be paid to the identification and description of the most important projects for biodiversity conservation in Moldova.

Funds: EUR 130,800 (USD 125,000)*

Russian Federation

Donor: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

- Co-operative Environmental Decision Making (CEDM)

The CEDM project will develop and support processes for harmonisation, co-ordination and negotiation of environmental decision-making which involve several government jurisdictions and the range of non-government interests. Project activities are intended to support capacity building and the strengthening of democratic and decision-making processes within the regions of Russia. The project will lead to the development of mutually acceptable approaches and agreements to identify and meet appropriate environmental quality objectives and standards and reduce pollution of the environment.

Dates: 1997/12 - 2000/12
Funds: EUR 1,088,500 (CAD 1,515,394)*

Donor: Denmark

- Cleaner Technology

The project aims at introducing cleaner technology in order to minimise the amounts of hazardous waste, and establishing an environmentally sound waste management. The project is a demonstration project, and an important objective is to disseminate the results to other parts of Russia, if the project is successful.

Donor: Denmark

- Institutional Strengthening

The ongoing project on strengthening of environmental funds in the Russian Federation is an institutional strengthening project, trying to improve the functioning and capacity of the widespread network of environmental funds in the country.

Donor: Denmark

- Assistance to the Russian Ministry of Environment for Implementation of ODS Country Programme

This project aims at helping the Russian authorities by describing guidelines for project preparation in the Russian industry for later financing, and institutional strengthening to the Russian authorities in order to enable them to obtain and administer GEF- and World Bank-financing.

Dates: completed
Funds: EUR 60,400 (DKK 450,000)*

Donor: Denmark

- Strengthening of the Environmental Funds in Russia - Phase 1

The aim has been to help the Russian authorities by strengthening the environmental funds system based on experience from Hungary and Poland, where well-functioning funds are existing, thereby increasing Russia's potential for co-financing of their own environmental projects. The project results has been an action plan, best practice guides for fund management and staff and potential applicants, and a seminar in Moscow where all regional funds were invited.

Dates: Completed
Funds: EUR 245,500 (DKK 1,828,000)*

Donor: Denmark

- Institutional Strengthening of Environmental Funds in Russia - Phase II

The project is a follow up on the environmental funds project from 1996. In this phase, the Best Practice Guidelines will be finalised, a financing strategy will be elaborated together with the environmental funds, training programmes will be conducted, and ad hoc assistance to establish the All-Russian Association of Environmental Funds will be given. Besides, this phase contains assistance to elaborate a uniform reporting format. The overall aim is to make the system of environmental funds more efficient and transparent.

Dates: 1997/10 – present
Funds: EUR 482,800 (DKK 3,595,000)*

Donor: Finland

- St. Petersburg: Water Sector Development Programme

The work of the Finnish Ministry of the Environment has concentrated on renovating its sewerage network and improving the efficiency of wastewater treatment. Activities include renovating sewage network systems, training the staff of the Water and Sewage Utility, giving new equipment to the staff, renovation of the underground pipework in the Winter Palace area, deliveries of pumps and pump houses and training in the use of this equipment, and constructing a new drainage system and pumping station.

Dates: 1994 – 2015 (projected)
Funds: estimated EUR 4.2 billion

Donor: Finland

- Cleaner Production programmes

This programme was launched by Lenkomekologia, to formulate proposals for modifying industrial discharge permit practices of the basis of HELCOM recommendations and for effecting the transition to using Best Available Technology (BAT.)

Donor: Finland

- Twinning operations

In Spring 1998 the South-West Finland Environment Centre launched a training and information exchange programme for the staff of water purification and sewerage plants of five towns in South-West Finland and five towns in the Leningrad region. The programme enables the various organisation levels of the water purification and sewerage plants to exchange information and to learn about the work of the other participants. The aim is to ensure that the residents of the Russian town partners enjoy supplies of drinking

water that is free from health hazards and that pollution from waster water discharges is reduced. The Finnish experts are helping the Russian utilities to make their operations more efficient and to make the best use of even the scarcest resources.

Donor: Norway

- The Cleaner Production Programme

The goal of the programme is to help find financially profitable ways of reducing the consumption of raw material, energy, and formation of waste at the source. The long-term goal is to set up a self-financing programme, which will spread throughout Russia by itself. Thus, training of Russian advisors is another important task for the programme.

Dates: 1992 – present

Donor: Norway

- The Joint Russian-Norwegian Work Group on Terrestrial Ecosystems

The objective is to obtain a satisfactory situation in the affected environment and safeguard the environmental condition of virgin and protected areas, particularly in consideration of the vulnerable ecosystems in the northern regions. The expected results include increasing management skills in imposing environmental field requirements industry and other activities influencing the environment, that requirements are being met and that follow-up action in the planning, projecting, operation and implementation phases are taken.

Dates: spring 1997-present

Donor: Norway

- The Joint Russian-Norwegian Work Group on Biodiversity

The goals and expected results are:

- protection of areas that are important to biological diversity;
- collaboration on the management of selected species, particularly focusing on threatened species;
- co-operation on a sustainable utilisation of biological resources and integration into the industrial decision-making of the sector authorities in order to maintain biological diversity; and
- identification and monitoring of biological diversity and threats against it.

Dates: 1997 – ongoing

Donor: Sweden

- Kola River Environment Programme (KREP)

KREP is an international action initiative for regional watershed co-operation. Its main aim is to improve the water quality by mitigating the negative effects of present and past pollution through an integrated and effectively organised environmental work. The focal areas of the program are information flow, monitoring, co-operation between the local stakeholders, networking, and abatement measures. The co-operation and interaction between local enterprises and organisations sharing an interest in clean and fresh water is the long-term support and force of the program. KREP is also to serve as a demonstration model programme for regional co-operation and contribute to the development of a protocol for watershed monitoring programs. The positive effects of the performance of KREP is expected to be phased out within a time span of 6-8 years whereby KREP as a stand alone effort is expected to be phased out and the activities be integrated in regular organisational structures.

Dates: 1998-ongoing
Funds: EUR 116,400 (SEK 960 000)*

Donor: Sweden

- Environmental supervision of industries

A course on environmental supervision of industries for environmental inspectors from the City Administration in St Petersburg was held in St. Petersburg in May 1995.

Dates: May 1995
Funds: EUR 54,500 (SEK 450 000)*

Donor: USAID

- Environmental Action Programme Support (EAPS)

EAPS is designed primarily to provide technical assistance for environmental project identification, selection, development, and packaging for investment financing. EAPS also provides institutional evaluation, capacity building, training, information dissemination, and related technical assistance for assessment and financing of environmental projects, strengthening of environmental funds, environmental regulation and compliance, environmental technology upgrading, and initiatives related to global climate change.

The project has three principle objectives. First, it works to integrate environmental concerns into privatisation and industrial restructuring through the development of environmental policies that are consistent with sustainable development. Second, it seeks to reduce health risks while improving productivity through research and policy advice on ways to address environmental degradation at minimal economic cost. Third, it attempts to identify mechanisms for financing environmental projects and makes them priority projects.

Dates: 1995-2000 (possible extension)
Funds: EUR 11.5+ million to date (USD 11+ million)*

Donor: USEPA

- Russia Air Management Program (RAMP)

The Russia Air Management Program (RAMP), begun in 1993 by the Russian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources and EPA, seeks to improve air pollution control methods and policies throughout Russia. The first step in the project is being conducted in Volgograd, an important industrial city with a diverse economic base. It focused on improving air monitoring, emissions inventories and inspections, and air management policies. Results of the Volgograd project to date include significant reductions in particulate emissions from local industries, the introduction of energy-saving and cleaner electric arc furnace covers at the Red October Steel Works, the founding of a children's environmental education school, and many other successful public outreach and educational activities. The Volgograd project is now serving as the basis for the RAMP program's efforts to improve air quality management throughout Russia, including new national legislation and changes in regional and local air quality management policies.

Dates: September 1993- September 1999
Funds: expenditures in FY1997 – EUR 54,400 (USD 52,000)*

Donor: USEPA

- Environmental Management Training Centres (EMTCs)

EPA supported the establishment of Environmental Management Training Centres (EMTCs) in Bulgaria, Poland, Russia, and Hungary, as well as similar organisations in Ukraine and the Czech Republic. The EMTCs not only deliver training workshops, but also adapt courses for specific local needs and languages, publish training materials, and serve as general sources of environmental information. Many centres also co-ordinate a collaborative network of professors, trainers, scientists, and environmental organisations

within each country. The success of the EMTCs and the training program can in part be measured by the fact that more than 3000 people have participated in these courses since the program began.

Dates: July 1995 – December 1998

Donor: EBRD

- St. Petersburg Water and Environmental Services Improvement Programme

The principal objective of the project is to address the investment needs of St. Petersburg regarding water supply and wastewater collection. The secondary objective is to enhance the financial and operational performance of Vodokanal through improved management, increased cost efficiency and cost recovery. This project will also contribute to the improvement of the basic living conditions in a large part of St. Petersburg through improving the quality of drinking water and the reliability of the water supply. It would also bring environmental benefits through the reduction of pollution to the Neva River and the Gulf of Finland. The environmental analysis that has been prepared for this project demonstrated that all key environmental issues associated with the investment programme will be adequately addressed in the design and during the construction.

Funds: EUR 65.9 million (USD 63 million)

Donor: UNDP

- Capacity 21 Programme

The general approach is to strengthen existing capacity by investing in local resources and knowledge. By strengthening the capacity of local, regional and federal institutions, this Capacity 21 programme will enable Russia to plan and effectively implement activities that further economic growth of the region without harming its internationally important Arctic ecosystem. It will support the introduction of sustainable development policies and programmes into the institutional fabric of government, non-government and industrial organisations. Many environmental issues in the region transcend traditional administrative divisions. This project will encourage greater collaboration among institutions from Murmansk and Archangelsk provinces, the Karelia and Komi Republics, and the Federation itself.

The project will support environmental cleanup and protection of the region's fragile ecosystem; support environmentally sound economic development activities that will attract investment and produce jobs; and strengthen governance and human resource capacity.

Funds: EUR 926,200 (USD 885,000)*

Donor: World Bank

- Biodiversity Conservation Project

The overall goal of the project is to assist Russia in maintaining optimum levels of biodiversity in accordance with the principles of economic and environmentally sound sustainable development.

The specific objectives include:

- support the development of federal and regional biodiversity strategies;
- develop and implement mechanisms and approaches which will mainstream biodiversity conservation and environmental protection into the policy making process;
- assess the protected area institutional framework and subsequently strengthen its effectiveness;
- enable the participation of all interested stakeholders, including aboriginal peoples and local communities into biodiversity conservation; and
- develop an inter-regional demonstration of inter-sectoral biodiversity conservation and environmentally sustainable natural resource management.

The expected results are to:

- strengthen the economic feasibility and sustainability of biodiversity conservation within Russia;
- leave a legacy of integrated planning demonstrating the necessity of combining financial/economic policy, socio-economics and appropriate normative and resource allocation mechanisms to ensure sustainable biodiversity conservation;
- help safeguard numerous endangered and vulnerable species;
- provide a realistic policy to ensure the protection of Lake Baikal; and
- facilitate the integration of native peoples into protected area management.

Dates: 1997 – 2001
Funds: EUR 27.2 million (USD 26 million)

Donor: World Bank

- Ozone Depleting Substances Consumption Phase-out

The goal of the project is to phase out consumption of ODS by the following subsectors: aerosols, refrigeration, solvents, refrigeration servicing and non-insulating foams. The biggest aerosol plant in Russia has been converted to non-ODS use. Four other conversions are underway. In upcoming tranche, 15 further conversions are planned.

Dates: 9/96 – 2001
Funds: EUR 62.8 million (USD 60 million)*, of which EUR 60.7 million (USD 58 million)* is for grants and somewhat less than EUR 2.1 million (USD 2 million)* for technical assistance.

Turkmenistan

Donor: GEF

- Regional PDF Montreal Protocol for Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan

The global environmental objective is to rapidly eliminate the consumption and any production of ozone-depleting substances in these countries. The project objectives are: to ensure the countries' ability to meet requirements of the Montreal Protocol; to prepare country programmes to assist countries to carry out their transition to non-ODS technology; to identify sectoral technical assistance needs in each country to enable the ODS phase-out process to commence and be sustained; and to identify/ develop detailed sectoral ODS phase-out investment proposals for subsequent funding and implementation.

Ukraine

Donor: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

- Canada-Ukraine Environment Cooperation Program

This project touches two priorities of the Central and Eastern Europe Branch: encouraging good governance, democracy, and respect for international norms; and promoting Canada's global interests by increasing the institutional capacity to deal with environmental issues. The Canadian Institute for Public Administration will concentrate its activities on the administration of joint implementation projects.

This project will increase the capacity of Ukraine in reducing atmospheric pollution (emissions of greenhouse gases/climate change). It will also increase the expertise in key sectors in the administration of environmental programs under the responsibilities of the MPESN (environmental control systems, control of hazardous waste, administration and accreditation of laboratories).

Dates: 1999/03 - 2002/06
Funds: EUR 952,900 (CAD 1,326,600)*

Donor: CIDA

- Environmental Management Development in Ukraine

This program contributed to the environmental rehabilitation of Ukraine's primary water resource, the Dnipro River system. The objectives of this program were to strengthen Ukraine's environmental management capability; to implement practical demonstration projects to reduce pollution in the river; and to forge long term collaborative links between Canadian and Ukrainian public and private sector environmental organisations.

Notable results of this project have been the introduction of environmental audits into Ukrainian environmental law; the establishment of a computer based information network for managing the River; advances in water loss control and improved management of municipal water supply and sewer utilities; and the performance of a baseline study of river quality and identification of priorities for clean up.

Dates: 1994-1997
Funds: EUR 3,470,000 (CAD 4,829,200)*

Donor: CIDA

- Environmental Management Development in Ukraine - Phase II

This four-year program, undertaken by the International Development Research Centre's (IDRC) Office for Central and Eastern Europe Initiatives and the Ukrainian Ministry for Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety (MEPNS) and other Ukrainian institutions, is geared to support Ukraine in its efforts to clean up the Dnipro River through changes in practices and technology used at the municipal level and in industry, while insuring co-ordination at the national level.

The program is the result of both IDRC's experience from previous work in Ukraine and concept papers received from Ukrainian partners and Canadian partners working in Ukraine. It will focus on improved management and low-cost technological upgrades of vodokanals (municipal water supply and sewer utilities); research into current landfill and recycling practices; environmental audits of and introduction of management and technological changes leading to cleaner production in selected industries; dissemination of research; and building links between national and local government bodies to assure co-ordination and accurate reflection of local needs in national laws and policies.

Dates: 1997/07 - 2000/10
Funds: EUR 3,023,000 (CAD 4,208,000)*

Donor: Czech Republic

- Ozone Depleting Substances Phase-out Project Ukraine

The project aimed to decrease the consumption of refrigerants in service and to promote the use of only recycled refrigerants. The project introduced advanced cost-effective technology and know-how on leakage-free handling of ODS at the cooling equipment service as well as advanced cost-effective technology and know-how on leakage-free handling of ODS at the cooling equipment service. The main features of the project were tight co-operation with the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety of Ukraine, resp. with the Ozone service of the Ministry and training workshops for service staff of Nord Stock Company. The project delivered 35 sets of special tools and further equipment for the service network (recovery machines, charging stations, leakage detectors and accessories) and implemented new methods of recycling and of reclaiming to reuse the refrigerant CFC-12.

Dates: 1998-1999
Funds: EUR 175,700 (CZK 6.3 million)*

Donor: Denmark

- Cleaner Technology

Activities include equipment or technology modifications, process or procedure modification, reformulation or redesign of products, and substitution of raw materials. Improvements in housekeeping, maintenance, training or inventory control that result in pollution prevention are included as well as energy recovery. Activities not included are recycling, treatment and disposal.

Donor: USAID

- Ukraine Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety (MEPNS)

USEPA with funding from USAID has developed a comprehensive program for "twinning" its personnel with staff from Ukraine's Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety to provide it with general institutional support. In addition, USEPA has undertaken projects to deliver a water quality laboratory and modelling program for the Kaniv Reservoir, which provides potable water to Kyiv, and a Mobile Radiation laboratory, which provides Ukraine with the capacity to evaluate the radiological effects of the Chernobyl disaster and other releases. The Ukrainian government is also establishing a national environmental stewardship ministry to provide a balanced, firm, fair, and predictable program for the protection of the nation's environmental health.

Donor: USEPA

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Demonstration Project

The project goal is to assist the Ukrainian government with the design, development, and implementation of an effective environmental impact assessment (EIA) program at the national, oblast and local levels. Also, the project goal is to conduct a full-scale demonstration of an EIA for an actual investment project under consideration, working with oblast and local officials, industrial managers, the public, and the appropriate national authorities.

EPA will work with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety (MEPNS) in training the ministry and oblast staff on principles of EIA and in implementing recently adopted EIA regulations. EPA will also assist MEPNS and oblast officials in developing procedures for public participation in the EIA process. The project is comprised of four related tasks: a demonstration project in implementing an EIA process, including the legal and regulatory aspects, establishing a public participation process, training in the principles of EIA, and providing technical assistance on resources management and protection.

Dates: September 1996 – December 1999
Funds: in FY1998 – EUR 34,500 (USD 33,000)*

Donor: EBRD

- Sevastopol Water and Wastewater Services Improvement Programme

The overall goals of this project are:

- to transform Sevastopol Vodokanal into a financially self-sustaining utility operating on a commercial basis;
- to enhance its operational and financial performance of the water company through investments and the involvement of a private operator under a management contract;
- to improve the quality of services; and
- to reduce pollution of the Black Sea and health hazards stemming from current poor service.

The main components of the programme are:

- rehabilitation of critical water and wastewater networks;
- management and financial information systems;
- introduction of an international private operator under a 4 year management contract;

- installation of water meters;
- replacement of energy inefficient equipment; and
- improvement waste water management and treatment.

Funds: total investments are EUR 28 million

Donor: EBRD

- Ukraine Municipal Utilities Development Programme (MUDP)

The programme aims to:

- transform the participating water companies into financially self-sustaining utilities operating on a commercial basis;
- enhance operational and financial performance of utilities;
- improve the quality of services;
- reduce pollution and health hazards; and
- use the project to gain further leverage to implement key institutional and regulatory changes at national level.

The MUDP is planned to include 6-8 medium-sized or larger cities each with more than 200,000 inhabitants. The main components of the programme are investments that will improve the operational and financial performance of existing assets and increase cash flows and the involvement of an international private water operator under a management contract to operate and restructure the water utilities during an initial four-year period.

Funds: total project costs approx. EUR 80 million

Donor: World Bank

- Ukraine Biodiversity Conservation in the Azov-Black Sea Corridor

The objectives of the project are to conserve biodiversity and assist with sustainable development on the Ukrainian coast and upland sites of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.

Activities include:

- establishing a network of regional and national protected marine, wetland, and upland areas within Ukraine Black Sea coastal zone;
- promoting sustainable agriculture compatible with biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes;
- building capacity and awareness in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development;
- improving water quality and monitoring of water quality and biodiversity in the wetland and marine communities of the project region, and
- supporting international cooperation activities under the Ramsar, Bonn, and Bern Conventions.

Uzbekistan

Donor: GEF

- Regional PDF Montreal Protocol for Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan

The global environmental objective is to rapidly eliminate the consumption and any production of ozone-depleting substances in these countries. The project objectives are: to ensure the countries' ability to meet requirements of the Montreal Protocol; to prepare country programmes to assist countries to carry out their transition to non-ODS technology; to identify sectoral technical assistance needs in each country to enable the ODS phase-out process to commence and be sustained; and to identify/ develop detailed sectoral ODS phase-out investment proposals for subsequent funding and implementation.

Funds: EUR 212,500 (USD 203,00)* (includes Cyprus programme)

Dates: 1993-1999

Donor: UNEP
NIS and CEECs

- Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS) and the Service for Implementing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

PEBLDS addresses all biological and landscape initiatives under one European approach and promotes the integration of biological and landscape diversity considerations into social and economic sectors. The Strategy reinforces the implementation of existing measures and identifies additional actions that need to be taken over the next two decades. The Strategy also provides a framework to promote a consistent approach and common objectives for national and regional action to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Strategy's goal is to achieve conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity for the whole continent of Europe and all its regions within 20 years, and will seek to ensure that:

- the threats to Europe's biological and landscape diversity are reduced substantially, or where possible removed;
- the resilience of European biological and landscape diversity is increased;
- the ecological coherence of Europe as a whole is strengthened;
- public involvement and awareness concerning biological and landscape diversity issues is increased considerably.

The results to be achieved include unified focal points and mutual progress reports to the Governing Bodies as well as contribution to the European Ministerial process on forests.

Dates: 1995 - ongoing

Donor: UNEP
NIS-wide

- Harmonisation of Environmental Legislation in the NIS

Together with the Environmental Law unit at UNEP Headquarters, UNEP's Regional Office of Europe (ROE) oversees a project entitled "Developing a Harmonised Approach to Environmental Legislation in CIS Countries," to be implemented by the Centre for International Projects (CIP) of the State Committee of Russian Federation for Environmental Protection in co-operation with the Institute of State and Law of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The need and potential for harmonisation of environmental legislation in the NIS, including the convention-related commitments, is apparent, and follow-up activities should be envisaged.

Donor: UNEP
NIS-wide

- Activities Implemented Jointly/ Clean Development Mechanism

Between 1994 and 1998, UNEP/ROE facilitated the exchange of information on the joint implementation of measures to curb climate change under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Information exchange outside the formal intergovernmental negotiations was considered a useful input to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties' decision-making process. Emphasis was laid on the importance of assessing information needs and gaps on all aspects of AIJ in potential host countries and of providing additional information on its major benefits and risks in order to expand public awareness of this instrument as well as on building the necessary institutions to enable the participation of the countries in the region in an international greenhouse emissions reduction regime.

The results to be achieved include a study and report on the prospects, opportunities and implementation strategy of an AIJ/CDM co-ordination mechanism in central Asia (Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan)

Dates: 1994-1998

Donor: UNEP/GRID –
NIS-wide

- Environment and Natural Resource Information Network (ENRIN) in the NIS

The main objectives are to improve access to environmental information for decision-making by:

- strengthening existing national and regional environmental information networks
- establishing a mechanism for consultation with governments and intergovernmental organisations on international environmental assessment policy and planning
- streamlining environmental reporting by co-operation and collaboration with other international initiatives
- facilitating public access to environmental data and information by encouraging institutions to disseminate data more openly and widely
- Popularising and visualising environmental information using such tools as State of the Environment reports on the Internet and CD-ROMS, and automated mapping based on Geographic Information Systems.

ENRIN operates on the basis of a network of national and international institutions. As a rule, the focal points for UNEP's programmes at the national level are national environmental authorities (MoEs or their equivalents). The main aim is to strengthen their capacities in managing and disseminating information on the State of the Environment.

Workshops are held internationally, regionally and nationally and are intended to serve as a forum for institutions and individuals active in environmental information management, including national governmental organisations, international organisations, NGOs, and private organisations. ENRIN regularly organises training courses on the subjects relevant to an environmental information production line: Internet programming, SoE reporting, GIS, (carto)graphic production. In conjunction with the establishment of GRID centres, training programmes and consultation relevant to project management and administration are also organised. So far 21 countries in the region have generated electronic SoE reports under ENRIN.

Dates: started in 1994
Funds: UNEP has provided EUR 785,000 (USD 750,000)* from 1994-1999, complemented by EUR 1.6 million (USD 1.5 million) from bilateral (Norwegian, Swedish, Swiss, German, Dutch) and multilateral (The World Bank, EU-Phare) donors.

Donor: GEF and World Bank
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan

- Central Asia Transboundary Biodiversity Project

The overall goal is to protect vulnerable and unique biological communities within the West Tien Shan and to assist the three countries to strengthen and co-ordinate national policies, regulations and institutional arrangements for biodiversity protection

The objectives are:

- to strengthen and expand the protected area network in the West Tien Shan;
- to identify alternative and sustainable income-generating activities for local communities and other stakeholders to reduce pressure on the protected areas and their biological resources;

- to strengthen local and national capacity through education and training;
- to raise public awareness of biodiversity values and participation in biodiversity conservation; and
- to establish regional (trans-national) co-ordination and co-operation mechanisms for biodiversity conservation activities to strengthen protected area management and wildlife protection and prevent the fragmentation of habitat corridors.

Policy support, institutional strengthening, and investment are the general components of the programme.

Dates: 2000 – 2004
Funds: EUR 14.29 million (USD 13.65 million)*

Donor: EU/Tacis
NIS-wide

- Development of Common Environment Policies in the NIS

The primary objectives of the project have been to further the national environmental action plan (NEAP) process within each of the recipient countries, to strengthen the environmental policy making and management capacity of the counterpart organisations, and to improve co-ordination between regional environment initiatives. In this way, it was anticipated that the project would enable the region to address transboundary environment problems in a more effective manner, and also provide a more coherent framework that would encourage inward investment from both international and private-sector funding agencies.
To date, long term technical advisors whose main role is to facilitate and further the NEAP process, have been deployed in each country for varying periods since the end of 1997. Sub-regional training courses have been delivered on "Environmental Legislation" and "Public Participation." The project also provided support in each country for a "National NEAP Meeting," to provide a forum for cross-sectoral inputs to the NEAP process, and to ensure that project activities are effectively co-ordinated with other national efforts.

Dates: Completed

Donor: EU/Tacis
NIS-wide

- Widening of the EAP to the NIS

The overall objectives are to improve the process of identification, preparation and implementation of projects that in a broad sense are designed to improve the environmental status and/or result in a more sustainable use of natural resources. The project aims to obtain investment for as many of these projects as possible. This project offers a package of technical assistance on environmental project identification and preparation to the NIS. The main items in the package are Training and Assistance, Publications and a Pre-Investment Feasibility Study Fund. Each country has the option of requesting a package of technical assistance focused on its specific needs.

Dates: began in January 1998, for 24 months.
Funds: EUR 4.22 million (3.66 million ECU)*

Donor: EU/Tacis
NIS-wide

- The Tacis Environmental Awareness Raising Programme (TEAP)

TEAP had one overall goal: to raise the status of environmental issues in every one of Tacis' thirteen partner countries. The purpose was to motivate all people to use the capacities they have to take charge of their own environment.

Specific activities included:
- helping parliamentarians across the region to integrate environmental thinking into their everyday work;
- assisting environmental non-governmental bodies (NGOs) grow in stature, strength, size and efficiency;
- helping journalists create more and better environmental stories for their newspapers, radio stations or television channels; and
- increasing the awareness of environmental issues amongst the general public and helping people take responsibility for their local environment.

Outputs in the Media component included seminars and events (media training), the broadcasting of radio and television material, and the identification of a range of activists, campaigners, journalists, and producers that have received or will shortly receive support from the media fund. TEAP also established video libraries and organised environmental events, for example the living water campaign (Ukraine), the environment week (Georgia), and the two environment days (Armenia and Azerbaijan)

Dates: February 1997 – July 1998 (completed)

Donor: EU/Tacis

NIS-wide

- Joint Environment Programme

The overall objective of the JEP is to support the NIS and Mongolia in the further implementation of their NEAPs. The JEP should use Tacis technical assistance to accelerate the rate of preparation of loan commitments for environmental investments by the World Bank.

The specific objectives are:
- to leverage Tacis grant funds to facilitate project finance in the region,
- to facilitate close collaboration, initially between the World Bank, and possible with other IFIs, and Tacis in the identification and preparation of investment projects for WB and other financing;
- to carry out pre-feasibility studies on suitable projects; and
- to transfer know-how in project development and pre-feasibility studies to the region.

In particular, the JEP should have the following outputs:
- accelerated implementation of NEAPs;
- establishment of a framework and process ensuring close co-ordination between Tacis and the World Bank;
- completion of up to 25 pre-feasibility studies of projects under consideration for World Bank and other IFI financing;
- a workshop at the end of the first year;
- training of local consultants;
- an information campaign enhancing Tacis visibility in the region, the JEP and other projects which are benefiting;
- a model for collaboration on study preparations between Tacis and the IFIs in the future;
- improved use of funds and transfer of project preparation know-how to the region.

Dates: began in 1998 for 36 months
Funds: the budget allocated is EUR 5.0 million

Donor: GEF
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova

- Enabling Activities to Prepare the First National Communication to the UNFCCC

This project will build capacity to fulfil its commitments to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and help to respond to the objectives of the Convention on a continuing basis. The components of the project are: (a) an inventory of ghg; (b) an assessment of potential impacts of climate change; (c) an analysis of potential measures to abate the increase in ghg emissions and to adapt to climate change; (d) preparation of a national action plan; (e) preparation of the first national communication of the countries to the CoP.

Funds: EUR 340,200 – 366,300 for each country (USD 325,000 - 350,000)*

Donor: GEF
Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

- Programme for Phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances

Assistance to these countries is provided to meet their obligations under the Montreal Protocol and achieve compliance with agreed control measures at a comparatively low cost. The main objective of this project is to assist in the rapid phase-out of ODS consistent with international efforts in this direction. The project primarily focuses on priority ODS phase out activities in the refrigeration and halon sectors

Funds: Azerbaijan – EUR 6.85 million (USD 6.55 million)*; Tajikistan – EUR 1.06 million (USD 990,000)*; Uzbekistan – EUR 3.35 million (USD 3.2 million)*

Regional Sea Programmes

Donors: World Bank, UNDP, UNEP, Tacis
Caspian Sea States

- Caspian Environment Programme (CEP)

The CEP aims to promote sustainable development and management of the Caspian environment over the medium- to long-term (approximately 20 years).

The goals of the programme include:

- understanding and learning to live with the Caspian water level fluctuations;
- abatement of existing and prevention of new types of pollution and deterioration of the Caspian environment and its bio-resources;
- recovery and rehabilitation of those elements of the Caspian environment (including biodiversity) that are degraded and that still have potential for recovery; and
- long term sustainability of environmental quality and bio-resources as assets for the present and future human populations of the region.

The components of the programme are management and policy needs; natural resource protection and management; and pollution abatement, prevention and control.

Dates: 1995 – ongoing

Donor: World Bank
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

- Aral Sea Basin Program

The objective of the project is to address the root causes of the overuse and degradation of the international waters of the Aral Sea Basin by assisting the Central Asian States in implementing the Strategic Action Program.

The Programme has four objectives:
- to stabilize the environment of the Aral Sea Basin;
- to rehabilitate the disaster zone around the Sea;
- to improve the management of international waters of the Aral Sea Basin; and
- to build the capacity of the regional institutions to plan and implement the above programmes.

The main benefit will be major advances towards sustainability of water and land management in the region; this will also contribute to maintaining peace in the region. Other benefits consist of increased safety of dams, increased biodiversity; increased incomes, and increased strength of the ASBP, PMCU, and cooperating agencies.

Dates: 1998 - 2003
Funds: total budget – EUR 22.2 million (USD 21.2 million)*

Donor: UNDP

- Aral Seashore Rehabilitation and Capacity Building Programme

In Central Asia, intensive cotton production with overuse of water and chemicals led to the drying up of half the surface of the Aral Sea, severe degradation of land and water resources and widespread ecological and economic disaster for some 30 million people. To help people living along the Kazakstan shore of the Aral Sea rehabilitate their environment and regain self-sufficiency, UNDP established three "Programme Support Centres" (PSCs) staffed by UN volunteers. Opened in mid-1995, the Centres are responsible for 13 UNDP-supported projects that take a participatory approach to creating employment, improving health, rehabilitating the environment and strengthening the capacities of local communities and NGOs. The Centres have won the trust, not only of the local people, but of several donors to the region that use them to facilitate their work, including the World Bank, Egypt, Israel, Japan, Turkey and the United Kingdom. (Partners: Committee of Utilisation of Foreign Capital, Kyzylord Oblast Administration, Kazalink Administration, and Aralsk Administration).

Dates: 1994-97

Donor: UNEP

Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and Turkey

- Black Sea Environment Programme

In 1992 the governments of Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and Turkey adopted the Bucharest Convention and invited UNEP to assist them with the elaboration of an effective long-term Black Sea Action Plan Against Pollution. Accordingly, UNEP initiated a Ministerial Declaration which was adopted in Odessa in 1993 and which constitutes an interim framework Black Sea Action Plan. The Declaration requests UNEP to assist countries in preparing a triennial report on its implementation. UNEP carried out the first triennial review in 1996. UNEP plans to continue its participation with the UNDP and the World Bank in co-ordinating activities within the next phase of the BSEP, for which a new GEF project proposal is to be presented at the first GEF Council Meeting in 1999. UNEP will co-operate in the development of a protocol on biological diversity and landscape protection, jointly with EU/Tacis.

Results to be achieved include the revitalisation of the Black Sea Environment Programme, through participation in meetings of the Black Sea Commission and securing a mandate to develop a Protocol on biological diversity and landscape protection to the Bucharest Convention.

Dates: 1992 – ongoing

Donor: GEF
Black Sea States

- Black Sea Environmental Management

The BSEP has three primary objectives: to strengthen and create regional capacities for managing the Black Sea ecosystem; to develop and implement an appropriate policy and legal framework for the assessment, control and prevention of pollution and the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity, and to facilitate the preparation of sound environmental investments. Activities are funded with associated contributions from the European Union's PHARE and TACIS programmes as well as bilateral contributions from Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland and France.

Funds: EUR 9,733,100 (USD 9,300,000)*

Donor: GEF
Georgia, Russian Federation, Ukraine

- Developing the Implementation of the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan

The purpose of this project is to foster sustainable institutional and financial arrangements for effective environmental management and protection of the Black Sea, in accordance with the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (BSSAP). The project will provide for the development of the National Black Sea Strategic Action Plans and it will support institution building at the national and regional level for the development and implementation of such plans.
Funds: EUR 1,873,400 (USD 1,790,000)

* Exchange rates used: 1 April – 30 April, 2000, as quoted by the European Commission.

ANNEX 1

48. Donor countries/organisations with environmental technical assistance programmes in the NIS involving environmental policy, environmental financing and environmental management in enterprises.

	Environmental Policy/ NEAP implementation	Environmental Financing	Environmental Management in Enterprises/ Cleaner production
Armenia			
Azerbaijan			
Belarus			Denmark
Georgia	UNDP		
Kazakstan			
Kyrgyzstan	UNDP		
Moldova			
Russian Federation	UNDP	Denmark, USAID	CIDA, Denmark, Finland, Norway, USEPA
Tajikistan			
Turkmenistan			
Ukraine	USAID		CIDA, Denmark
Uzbekistan	World Bank		
NIS-wide	USAID, EU/Tacis, UNEP	Denmark	UNEP
Caspian Sea			
Aral Sea			
Black Sea			

ANNEX 2

49. Donor countries/organisations with environmental technical assistance programmes in the NIS involving biodiversity conservation, water and climate change.

	Biodiversity	Water	Climate change/ODS
Armenia			GEF
Azerbaijan			GEF
Belarus			
Georgia	World Bank	World Bank	Environment Canada, GEF
Kazakstan	GEF, World Bank	EBRD, World Bank	
Kyrgyzstan	GEF, World Bank		
Moldova	World Bank		Environment Canada, GEF
Russian Federation	Norway, World Bank	Finland, Sweden, EBRD	Denmark, Sweden, World Bank
Tajikistan			GEF
Turkmenistan			GEF
Ukraine	USEPA, World Bank	CIDA, EBRD	Czech Republic
Uzbekistan	GEF, World Bank		GEF
NIS-wide	UNEP	UK-DFID	
Caspian Sea	World Bank, UNDP, UNEP, EU/Tacis		
Aral Sea	World Bank, UNDP		
Black Sea	GEF, UNEP		

ANNEX 3

Countries Surveyed

The following countries and organisations/institutions provided responses to the survey questionnaire:

Austria
Canada
Czech Republic
Denmark
Finland
Germany
Greece
Japan
Netherlands
Norway
Sweden
United Kingdom
United States
Nordic Environmental Finance Corporation (NEFCO)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
UNEP Global Resources Information Database (UNEP-GRID)
World Bank

The following countries and organisations/institutions did not respond:

Belgium
France
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Korea
Luxembourg
Poland
Switzerland
Turkey
Asian Development Bank (ADB)
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
European Union/ Tacis programme
Global Environmental Facility (GEF)
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)