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A Source of Peace - Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia







Background

- EU-Strategy for Central Asia
- 'Berlin Process'
 - Supporting the CA states in water management
 - Water as a subject of intensified transboundary cooperation
- Programme objective:
 - The Central Asian states jointly develop practical approaches for sustainable regional water management and implement selected measures.



Programme strategy

3 components





Background (1/2)

Modern information tools:

- Geogragraphical information systems (GIS),
- Mobile communication technologies,
- Remote sensing tools (RS),
- Modeling
- Data bases



Background (2/2)

- In Central Asia: (national or sub-national level) – top-down approach
- Since mid 1990's SIC ICWC, IFAS by support of EU
- Projects WARMAP and WARMIS
- Since 2001 with support of Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)
- Central Asia Regional Water Information Base (CAREWIB)



Challenges

- Increasing variability in water resources availability (Climate Change)
- Different sectors and water users
- Increase in numbers of water users, particularly within agricultural sector



Principles

- Main partners: Water management organisations from CA countries
- bottom-up approach from WMO-operational level in provinces, districts, basin organisations
- Participatory approach: Systematising, inventory, filling, working with and storage of the DB and land use map jointly with partners from Water management organisations (-> ownership)



Data management for IWRM

- Goal: WMO on provincial and national levels are professionalised with regard to river basin planning in their respective area of responsibility
- Intermediary objectives: support WMOs in selected sites to establish Integrated Data Bases enabling partners to:
 - Systematise regular flow of data on water management
 - Improve regular reporting and reports
 - Conduct comprehensive analysis of water management (basin analysis)
 - Prepare and analyse different water management scenarios (basin plans)



Approach

- Supply of hard and software
- Satellite images
- Establishment of centers for DB management

Technical support

Capacity building

- Trainings on GIS, DB and RS
- On- job trainings

- Water management plans
- Monitoring of hydrotechnical facilities
- Spatial division of the irrigated area
- Water Management assessment
- Water Use plans
 - Improvement of the decision making process



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- IWRM principles in Data Management <u>stepwise</u> approach:
 - It allows to build up sectoral data management systems first that makes easy coordination in later stages
 - Most of the data protocols and reporting system in CA are similar
- DM for IWRM is <u>fitting into the</u> <u>regular reporting</u>/data flow system of the WMOs

- IWRM principles in Data Management <u>stepwise</u> approach:
 - absence of efficient institutions for coordination of different sectors, uses and levels of water managementlack of data exchange
- Different <u>capacities</u> of WMO staff and experts- sustainability issue:
 - Additional support by external staff
 - Slow process



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- Growing <u>awareness of</u> <u>usefulness of the IT</u> <u>technologies (cell phone,</u> internet, computers)
- Data Management <u>saves</u> finances and timetraveling time, less printing, reporting is quicker- this recognized by partners
- National Reforms and donor community are <u>supportive</u> of Data Management tools

- <u>Business as usual</u> approach of national agencies: paper backed reports are preferred
- Too many <u>Data Projects-</u> mainly for data collectionsuspicion -too many <u>projects</u> <u>popping</u> up and uncoordinated
- <u>Political background not</u> supportive for data exchange
- Too many <u>internal initiatives</u> with no proper understanding of the concept



Next steps

- Creation of data base networks-linking up different units
- Developing of Analysis and Planning section of the Data Base
- Merging GIS and Data Base sections
- Adding more sectors and levels into Data Management
- Data quality control and data generation- new and reliable data





Thank You!



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