

**UNDP RBEC  
Bratislava Regional Center**

**Minutes of the Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting**

**Date:** 27 September 2012

**Subject:** Extension and additional funding for EU-UNDP Program: “Promoting IWRM and Fostering Transboundary Dialogue in Central Asia”

**1. Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Haoliang Xu	Deputy Regional Director, Chair
Jan Harfst	Chief, Division 3
Lene Jespersen	Change Management Advisor
Patrick Gremillet	Acting Manager BRC
Stephan Schmitt-Degenhardt	Poverty Practice
Clare Romanik	Democratic Governance Practice
Peter Serenyi	Knowledge and Innovation Practice
Andrey Pogrebnyak	MSU/Operations
Barbora Galvankova	Gender Practice
Zuzana Vagnerova	Office of Director
Marina Ten	Office of Director
Daniela Carrington	CC Policy Advisor / IWRM Program Manager in Charge
Marcela Fabianova	Water Programme Analyst / Presenter
<b>Jana Pangracova</b>	Project assistant

**2. Secretary of the meeting: Jana Pangracova**

**3. Project Proposal is presented by: Marcela Fabianova**

Additional Comments by presenter:

The purpose of the presented revision is to extend the duration of the programme and request additional funding from the Regional TRAC to finalize activities under the the Output 4: “Regional Dialogue, IWRM Governance and Sector Capacity Building”, implemented by BRC. In addition, the revision is also reflecting strategies set in the current Regional programme for RBEC (2011-2013).

The Programme as such is funded by EU, Finland, ENVSEC and UNDP. The EU funded part of the programme should be closed by the end of 2012 (as per the contract with EU), and there are still some outstanding activities at regional level to be finalized. In addition, the activities funded by other donor need to continue in 2013, in particular those implemented jointly with UNECE (ENVSEC funding). There is also a plan to have a second phase of IWRM programme, preparatory activities will start in 2012, but additional effort might be needed also in 2013.

The activities of the national components are in its final stage; however a consolidation period in 2013 is needed. Considering also a potential for the 2nd phase of the Programme, it would be desirable to extend the duration of all project components.

The Results and Resources Framework has been revised for all project components (in line with the Addendum to the EC contract in Dec 2010) - at the national level only some minor changes were introduced. The total workplan and Annual workplan for 2012-2013 is reflecting the cash funding available and does not count with the total budget of programme (that includes parallel funding).

The program has been unfunded since the very beginning; a contribution from Norway in the amount of 800 K USD was expected, 3 applications for grant were submitted in 2009, 2010 and 2011. However due to the changes in Norway priorities for support in CA, the applications were not successful. The gap in funding was partially covered by co-financing from the national projects related to IWRM and additional donor funding. A Cost-sharing agreement has been signed with Finland (140K USD), to support the Kazakh national component. Additional funding have been received for activities related to Climate change adaptation in Chu-Talas basin (ENVSEC - 180 K USD so far received) - activities are included as part of the IWRM program (RRF revised). Due to the weakening of EUR currency, the real contribution from EU is less by roughly 150K USD, which in practice means that not all planned activities could be implemented.

The outstanding activities that need to be completed in order to reach the results under the program and our commitments in the contract with EU:

- Capacity building activities at regional level
- Final Seminar
- Terminal Evaluation of the Programme
- Chu-Talas climate change adaptation (co-funded by ENVSEC and implemented jointly with UNECE) - vulnerability assessment and recommendations for CC adaptation strategy
- Preparation of 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the IWRM program

The requested TRAC funding is 63,000 USD for 2012, which will cover the current gap in the budget. If the interest of the EC on the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project is confirmed, then additional funding will be needed for the development activities.

#### 4. Background information on the project:

Estimated project budget:

Total requested from UNDP : Additional 63,000 USD (Regional TRAC)

Expected donor(s) funding:

Planned project starting date & duration: extension to 30 June 2013

Geographic Coverage: Central Asia, in particular Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Major counterparts of the project:

- Governmental water authorities, civil society organizations/local communities, population of Central Asia
- Kyrgyz Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry / Tajik Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation / Kazakh Water Resources Committee, under the Ministry of Agriculture

Project implementation modality: DEX/DIM

Outputs (as per original ProDoc):

- Output 1: Developing and implementing IWRM Strategies in Kyrgyzstan
- Output 2: Developing and implementing IWRM Strategies in Tajikistan
- Output 3: Transboundary Dialogue and Cooperation in the Ili-Balkhash River Basin
- Output 4: Regional Dialogue, IWRM Governance and Sector Capacity Building

## 5. Summary of LPAC member comments

Comments by the LPAC members

- There was a question on the continuity/sustainability of the project results, who will be taking over, e.g. if the project was supporting the improvement of water supply and sanitation (WSS). For the future project this should be well planned at the beginning of the projects.

**Response:** The project beneficiaries, (in the case of WSS- local communities) should be responsible for follow-up activities and further development. The sustainability of the program results will be addressed in the “Exit strategy”, that is being developed in the final stage of the project, as it was planned in the Project Document.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of the program was mentioned, how it is ensured that it will happen, or what are the initiatives.

**Response:** In May 2012, the Water Programme Coordinator (UNDP Project Manager) Natalia Alexeeva attended a meeting between the new Head of EU Delegation in Astana Amb. Aurelia Bouchez and Heads of UN agencies in Almaty. Ambassador expressed their satisfaction with the implementation of IWRM project and expressed an interest in a high-level meeting at the end of the year on IWRM/maybe in combination with Rio+20. In addition, she’s underlined possible follow up/funding as EUDA is prioritizing water issues (and this may come out also under the new EU-CA Strategy/after 2013). In this context the Program Exit Strategy is being developed and this issue will be also addressed at the Final Seminar (planned on 6-7Nov2012, in Almaty)

- How the Final Seminar is planned, what are the resources we have available. It was recommended that this event should be a high level meeting, that will demonstrate what has been achieved in water sector in Central Asia by UNDP - the current IWRM Program needs to be put in a wider context. It will be important for the relation with EU and also at regional and national level. The project should have a clear plan for the event preparation, including media involvement. Related documentation for the event (Agenda, List of participants) should be developed urgently and the level of participation should be agreed asap. It would be good to inform Cihan Sultanoglu about the event before her mission to EUD in Brussels.

**Response:** Ms. Natalia Alexeeva is hired as the IWRM Program Expert, Daniela Carrington is Programme Manager in charge. The meeting will be organized by BRC, with support from UNDP KAZ, a meeting assistant will be hired under regional component, but located in Almaty. The project team is now preparing the Agenda, List of Participants and Invitations to be sent out in the first week of October. The List of participants (discussed with the COs) will be also cleared with the EUD in Astana.

**6. Final LPAC recommendation:**


LPAC approves the project revision. The following list of suggested changes to be incorporated in the project document:

- Extension of the programme (all 4 project outputs) by 30 June 2013
- Additional Regional TRAC funding in 2012 in the amount of 63,000 USD
- Update of the Results and Resources Framework and Annual Workplan as attached

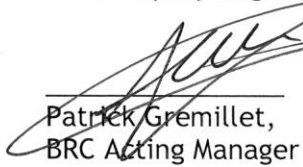
Prepared by:

  
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Marcela Fabianova

LPAC minutes are approved by:

  
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(Chairperson of the meeting)  
RBEC Deputy Regional Director

LPAC Recommendation is approved by:

  
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Patrick Gremillet,  
BRC Acting Manager