Meeting of the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative
Brussels, Belgium,
November 5-6, 2013

THE PROBLEMS OF URANIUM TAILINGS IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC:
CHALLENGES AND RISKS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND TAILINGS REHABILITATION. INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

• The speeches of country’s leaders at the UN Assembly and preparation of UN General Assembly Resolution based on the KR initiative.

• Uranium tailings initiative of CA Governments has been supported by the international community International forum (Geneva, June 2009) has been carried out under support of UNDP in KR.

  Joint declaration of CA countries;

• Coordination meeting with interested states – members of IAEA from CA organized by European Commission in Brussels in 2010

  - Strengthening of activity from the side of governmental authorities of CA countries and donors, associated with recultivation projects and programmes;
  - Support in the field of priority areas for the social-economically and humanitarian oriented projects in settlements, situated close to uranium tailings;
  - Further strengthening of coordination and cooperation related problem of uranium tailing among stakeholders.
  - Establishment of Coordination group (CGULS);
  - Promotion of recultivation initiatives – IAEA, social –humanitarian area – UNDP, and transboundary issues – ENVSEC;

• Coordination group meeting (CGULS). Vienna, June 2013. CA Governments, IAEA.
  - CGULS Strategic Development Plan has been adopted
  - Development of cooperation and stakeholders involvement.
  - Coordination of activity, identification of gaps and doubling


2. Resolution has been adopted:
Governmental regulation in the field of radiological safety

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

- The State Agency on Geology and mineral Resources
  - Regulation of industrial safety
- The Ministry of Health
  - Sanitary and epidemiological surveillance
  - Radiological control
- The state Inspectorate on Environmental and Technical Safety
  - Industrial ecology and radiation security control
- The state Agency of Environment Protection and Forestry
  - Regulation in the field of environment and ecological security
- The state Customs Service
  - Prevention of illegal import of radioactive substances, ionizing radiation sources, nuclear materials, radioactive wastes
- The Ministry of Emergency Situations
  - Coordination under threats of disasters and accidents occurrence
  - Tailing management Agency

Objects of regulation

- Kara-Balta mining plant, (uranium oxides) tailings (status - operational)
- Specialized plant - Radioactive Burial Site
- Medical Institutions Ionizing Radiation Sources
- Tailings and mining dumps of former uranium production
33 radioactive tailings and 25 mining dumps (without Kara-Balta Mining Plant) are disposed in Kyrgyzstan. Capacity – 15 mln. cubic meters.
MAIN RISKS

- High seismic activity
- Landslides
- Mudflows, flooding
- Instability of protective structures, dams, drainage
- Radiological risks
- Heavy metals in water
- Social issues, poverty
# SITES AND PROJECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- planned EU project,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- EU FS and EIA Project, 0,6mln. €</td>
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<td>- IAEA Project “REM System Development in KR”</td>
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## ENVSEC Regional Project

“Strengthening Coordination of Project Formulation and Mobilization of Resources for Sustainable Radioactive Waste Management in Central Asia”
1. Activity coordination, identification of gaps and doubling;

2. Annual Forums for discussion of results and lessons learned – not to repeat mistakes and to find common decision;

3. Adoption of Strategic Development Plan CGULS (June 2013).

4. Development of cooperation and stakeholders involvement;
ENVSEC/UNDP REGIONAL PROJECT

Strengthening Coordination of Project Formulation and Mobilization of Resources for Sustainable Radioactive Waste Management in Central Asia

• CA initiative on “heritage” problems has been supported by UNDP.
• High-Level International Forum with participation of delegations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tadjikistan has been held on June 29, 2009 in Geneva
• Joint statement offering regional approach to the settlement of problems, associated with environment and hazardous exposure of radioactive wastes on population
• Joint declaration of CA countries, UN, IAEA, OSCE, EU, EBRD and EurAsEC has been adopted.

ENVSEC project has been implemented within period 2010 - 2012:

- Strengthening of legislative and regulatory frameworks and sustainable management of radioactive wastes
- Special initiative toward objects restoration
- Communities development, including awareness increasing and attraction of investments into economical, social and ecological development
- Partnership promotion
- UNDP role in terms of social and economical programmes implementation at the places of uranium tailings location; adjustment of coordination with IAEA, other international organizations, countries-donors, international initiatives and also CA Governments and other stakeholders
OUTCOMES AND LESSONS LEARNED

1. Development and prioritization of project proposals by countries

2. Evaluation of project proposals as part of social-economical projects, health monitoring and capacity building projects

3. Information exchange and dialog among countries

4. Project web-site www.uranium-ca.net

5. Project proposals for restoration of: Min-Kush (KR), Ak-Tuz (KR), Boordu (KR), Charkesar (Uz), TTZ (Uz), Taboshar (RT), Passportization (Uz) and monitoring programme for restoration activities (Kz).

6. Social-economical development projects; Min-Kush and Ak-Tuz (KR). Lessons learned

7. Advantages of standardized approach

8. Necessity of elaborate approach to project cost evaluation

9. Necessity of regional knowledge about international standards

10. Necessity of capacity for impact assessment, development and evaluation of restoration projects

11. Necessity of disaster management issues settlement

12. Necessity of regulatory infrastructure improvement

13. Necessity of early involvement of other organizations, e.g. IAEA
1. Support for implementation of developed project proposals

2. Support for following development of project proposals
   - Capacity building
   - Project development
   - Project implementation
   - Resources mobilization

Resources utilization and application of experience of ENVSEC partners
Development and implementation of national projects under ENVSEC support
Restoration of burial sites for radioactive wastes, social–economical development, capacity building, disasters risks management, joint monitoring, information exchange, population awareness raising
Transboundary cooperation
Cooperation improvement mechanisms

National and regional capacity building
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !