

ASSISTANCE THROUGH PROJECTS- FROM TARGETS TO IMPROVEMENTS OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Carola Bjørklund
NORWAY



1. FRAMEWORK FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The PFM was set up to fulfill the following tasks:

- To assist Parties in implementing the articles 12 and 14 of the Protocol on Water and Health
- Upon request, the PFM will support Parties and non-Parties from South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in their efforts to implement the Protocol, in particular with regard to setting their targets in accordance with article 6 and establishing surveillance systems in accordance with article 8.



2. WHAT HAS BEEN DONE - MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- In the period from 2008 to 2010 a total of seven project proposals were submitted by the countries to the PFM: Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Georgia, and Montenegro. Out of these seven submissions, six were supported by different donors (Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan Tajikistan and Armenia).
- The overall fund mobilization under the PFM is estimated to 1 million USD



3. NEW PARTNER - NEW POSSIBILITIES

- The major success of the PFM was the creation of the Water Fund in 2010 at EBRD under the initiative and leadership of Norway.
- The aim of the Fund is to finance projects and/or programs in the water sector of certain of the Bank's recipient countries (which are eligible for Official Development Assistance ("ODA"))



4. WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT?

- With most of the eligible countries having been assisted in setting targets and indicators, there is now a need for discussing the prospective for a long term sustainability and potential of the PFM as a preferred mechanism for the countries to apply for support
- PFM can only have a survive as a useful tool, provided that other Partners are aligned and contribute to a holistic improvement of the water supply.



5. COOPERATION WITH EBRD

- Clear division of labour
- Reduce feasibility costs through the cooperation
- Communicate the importance of avoiding overlapping
- Safeguard ownership and commitment of the target country through the whole process
- Observe that successful cooperation requires matching of interest of the target country with donors priorities and requirement both in UNECE/WHO and in EBRD.

