

# Projects on the ground

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WATER  
CONVENTION

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**UNECE**

# Progress and activities in this area of work in 2018-2019

- Chu-Talas GEF project: Development of the SAP
- Kura River: support to bilateral cooperation between Azerbaijan and Georgia
- Dniester: support to bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine
- Water quality cooperation in Central Asia – establishment of the regional working group on water quality
- Dam safety cooperation in Central Asia: expanded partnership; support to the cooperation on safe management of dams located on transboundary rivers

# Main achievements

- Ratification of the Dniester treaty by Ukraine and setting up of the Dniester Commission in 2018
- New GEF project started on the Dniester
- New GEF project was approved on the Neman- Bug basins: PPG phase started
- Dam safety: Strengthening legislation and institutions at the national level (KG&TJ), 20 CA officials trained the best practices in the safe operation of hydrotechnical installations in Slovakia, Developing regional cooperation on dam safety, Safer operations of transboundary dams

# Lessons learned and challenges

- Political processes take time: e.g. Signing of Kura agreement (Azerbaijan and Georgia)- importance of Convention as long-term framework beyond single projects
- Technical cooperation can facilitate more political cooperation
- Information sharing and knowledge management – SIC ICWC knowledge platform for EECCA
- Cooperation with other organizations/partners is invaluable – OSCE, GIZ, IWAC, Slovak Agency Vodospadarska Vystavba in support of dam safety activities in CA
- Cooperation with GEF works well on projects

# Suggested future work for the next workplan 2020-2021

- Global workshop on developing and revising agreements in 2020
- Two regional or basin workshops to strengthen negotiation skills
- Projects on the ground, e.g. Kura, Neman/ Bug, Dniester, Putumayo, Western Dvina/Daugava, Drin, Artibonite and Chu Talas, development of CA regional agreement on dams, support to regional cooperation and frameworks, such as work on dam safety, and support to RECs in Africa, for instance IGAD, ECCAS and ECOWAS