DAURIA GOING DRY

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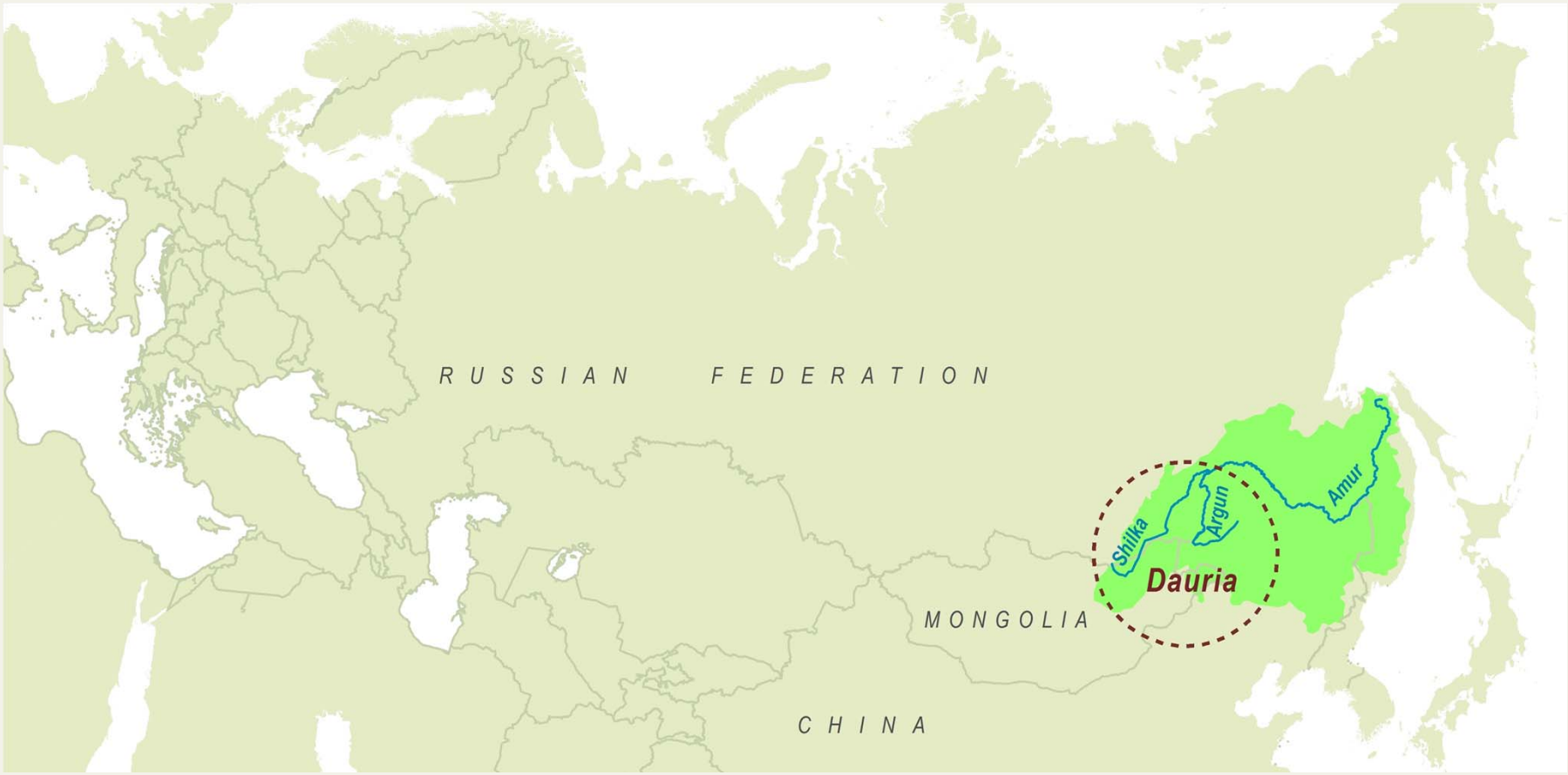
Second meeting of the global network of basins working on climate change adaptation

Dauria Going Dry

Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Headwaters of the Amur River basin

Location



Dauria Going Dry

Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Headwaters of the Amur River basin

Project background

"Dauria Going Dry" project was initiated by Russian-Mongolian-Chinese Dauria International Protected Area and WWF under auspices of UNECE Convention on Transboundary Waters

The project collects and analyses scientific information on climate-dependent ecosystem processes, their natural conditions and dynamics and anthropogenic influence

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Project objectives

Prevent the Daurian ecosystems destruction

Enhance ecosystem resilience

Save globally endangered species

in circumstances of intensive economic development and climate-caused pronounced water cycle

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Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Headwaters of the Amur River basin

Last year results

- **Development of transboundary monitoring network for wetlands observation continued**
- **Feasibility study on establishment of Verkhneamursky PA within the Amur basin's headwaters prepared**
- **Materials on important bird areas at Dauria prepared and submitted to BirdLife International**
- **International biological educational station in Utochi established**
- **Case study on implementation of E-Flows as an adaptation measure in the Argun basin conducted**
- **Assessment of climate implications on possible hydropower development in the Shilka River basin started**
- **Report "Modern Problems of Environmental Safety in Transboundary Areas" published**
- **Brochures on rare water-birds for the local communities prepared**

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Environmental Flow evaluation in the Argun basin

- **Situational analyses and social aspects**
- **E-Flow objective**
- **International cooperation on water and climate**
- **Relevant legislation for E-Flow implementation**
- **Methods and models for E-Flow assessment**
- **Main impediments for E-flow implementation**

Possible hydropower development in the Shilka basin

- **Catastrophic flood happened in the Amur basin in summer 2013**
- **Plans for “anti-flood” hydropower development were announced**
- **One of the potential flood-control HPP is located in the Shilka basin, Dauria**
- **Saving natural conditions, adaptation to climate cycles, remaining the free-flowing river can be more effective than the river regulation by HPP construction**

Dauria Going Dry

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Major challenges in transboundary cooperation and climate change adaptation

Catastrophic flood of 2013 in the Amur River basin abruptly changed public concerns and state policy for water resource management, especially when dealing with hydropower development

Flood started in Dauria in the Argun River basin in June and has shown that here local lifestyles are better adapted to climate extremes than those downstream

Future planned activities

- Undertake an assessment of potential consequences of a “flood-control” hydropower development (the Shilka basin)
- Provide project information for EIA of Scheme for water management in the Amur basin in Russia and IRBM plans in Mongolia
- Undertake an inventory of mining impacts on transboundary basins with consideration of climate fluctuations
- Continue protected areas development
- Continue regular monitoring of climate impacts on ecosystem dynamics
- Conduct the E-Flow evaluation for transboundary basins
- Use a project report for the local stakeholders’ education and improve capacity of Mongolian NGOs to participate in water management

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