

# Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem



The Russian Federation and Mongolia 2012/2015  
Results&Events



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Resilient nations.*



**UNOPS**



Photo by Elena Chumak





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# Contents

Project Achievements 2012 ..... 6

Project Achievements 2013 ..... 20

Project Achievements 2014 ..... 44

Project Achievements 2015 ..... 62

Project Publications..... 74

Project Events..... 86

Project Implementation Unit ..... 146

# Project Achievements 2012



Photo by Elena Chumak





Within the scope of the Project according to 2012 work plan there were 17 activities under implementation, executed by the following organizations:

- state scientific and educational institutions, such as Faculty of Geography (Moscow State University), Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (Ulaanbaatar), Institute of Geoecology of Mongolian Academy of Sciences (Ulaanbaatar), Mongolian Institute of Water Research and Development (Ulaanbaatar), Limnological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences (Irkutsk), Irkutsk State University, Irkutsk State Technical University, Baikal Institute of Nature Management of Russian Academy of Sciences (Ulan-Ude), Buryat State University (Ulan-Ude), Buryat State Academy of Agriculture (Ulan-Ude), Budget Institution “BurPriroda” (Ulan-Ude), Zabaikalsky State Pedagogical University (Chita), Hydrochemical Institute of RosHydromet (Rostov-on-Don).
- non-governmental organizations, such as ANO “Center of International Projects” (Moscow), Mongolia Water Forum-ushelts (Ulaanbaatar), RPO “Baikal Ecotourism Association” (Moscow), Youth Artistic Theatre (Ulan-Ude).

During implementation of the Project in 2012 there were 13 individual contracts with Russian and Mongolian experts of water resource management, interaction of surface waters and underground waters, biodiversity preservation in mining and tourism, Baikal Basin hot spots, climate change on the Baikal nature territory, communication and public awareness of environment pollution and tourism development, training programs development and stakeholders’ self-assessment.

Moreover, 3 contracts with international experts have been concluded for the following tasks:

Preparation of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis according to requirements of international organizations financing the Project;

Carrying out of analysis of international cooperation in the field of transboundary water resources between Russia and Mongolia, detection of gaps in legal and institutional issues;

Interaction of surface waters and underground waters (sub-contract with UNESCO).

The Project participates in different events relevant to its goals and tasks, as well as it supports their organization. Totally in 2012, Project implementation bureau staff took part in 29 events. Moreover 50 media sources have published information about project activities. The list of such events is available on the project web site.

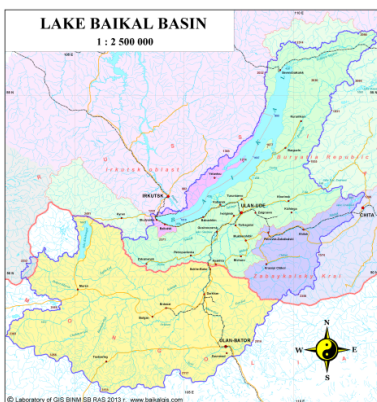
The Project web-site has been launched. It functions in Russian, Mongolian and English. Information is regularly updated.

Approved first year budget was 1 083.377 USD. Expenditure by the end of 2012 was 1,020,937 USD. 94 % of the approved first year budget of the Project was spent.



## Harmonized water quality monitoring program for the Selenga Basin

Hydrochemical Institute of RosHydromet (Rostov-on-Don, Russia) and Institute of hydrometeorology (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia).



Harmonized water quality monitoring program for the Selenga Basin was developed.

The program was integrated with Mongolia approaches to analytical measures quality system. List of methods of physical-chemical analysis and technical tools were agreed and recommended for stationary and movable laboratories in the system of the Selenga Basin monitoring by Russian and Mongolian sides. A plan of intercalibration of analytical procedures

for analyses for harmonized program of hydrochemical monitoring was prepared.

## Clean Coast and Pure Water for Lake Baikal

Local public environmental organization “Turka”, Turka, Russia.



This activity reduced the growing impact of unregulated tourism on the Baikal coast ecosystem through recreation sites construction, timely disposal of solid domestic waste, prevention of cutting trees for campfires, reduction of the number of unregulated campfire sites. The activity also involved monitoring of the quality of Baikal water on the territory in close proximity to

the Federal tourism zone “Baikal Harbor.”

## Public Awareness Plan and Tourist Survey - Russia

Eduard Batotsyrenov, Russia



community organizations and sociability).

The communication and public awareness plan which determine conditions, challenges and threats to the environment of the Baikal Basin was developed. This plan is oriented to stakeholder groups targeted by the project: government organizations (line departments, parliamentarians, local authorities and the judiciary) and civil society (NGOs,

### “Making Trails with the Help of Inmates of Children’s Homes” – Buryatia



and become more environmentally conscious.

Non-commercial partnership “Great Baikal Trail”, Ulan-Ude, Russia

This activity provided necessary conditions for active recreation in a more accessible environment in Tarbagatay and Kabansk districts of Buryatia. Inmates of children’s homes were involved in the activities of the project learn to make trails with their own hands

## Communication and Public Awareness Plan for Conservation of Natural resource management in the Baikal Basin, Mongolian Part



Solongo Tsevegmid, Mongolia

Communication and Public Awareness Plan for Conservation of Natural resource management in the Baikal Basin in Mongolia was developed. Stakeholders were identified.

## "Green Patrol"

Public organization "Children of Baikal", Russia



This activity was a part of environmental education of high school students who realize voluntary "patrolling" of Baikal coast near the villages of Turka and Goryachinsk in Pribaikalsk district of Buryatia. Children took an active part in environmental patrols, campsites cleaning campaigns, and also in various environmental discussions aimed to promote environmental awareness of the population.

## Education Plan – Buryatiya



Buryat State University

The ecology Environmental education enhancement plan till 2015 at different levels (preschool, school, college education) was developed for the Buryat Republic of Russia.

## Dulan Eco-market



Non-profit partnership "Baikal EcoTourist Association (BETA)", Ulan-Ude, Russia

Within the scope of this activity an eco-friendly summer outdoor retail market for selling local products (berries, mushrooms, fruits, vegetables, fish) was constructed in the village of Dulan in Kabansk district, Buryatia.



## Environmental Education Enhancement Plan



Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

Road map of environmental education enhancement till 2015 at different levels (preschool, school, college education) was developed. The work is recommended for replication and introduction in regions of the Baikal district.

## Wells in the Settlements at Lake Baikal as a Way to Preserve and Support Water Usage Traditions, Russia



Non-profit partnership “Bereg”

This activity helps preserve the traditional source of water supply – wells – in the village of Posolskoye in Kabansk district of Buryatia and provided pure drinking water for the local population. It also helps to raise ecotourism attraction of the village.

## Training manuals



Zabaikalsky State Pedagogical University, Chita, Russia.

A conception of upgrading the competency of administrative staff in the field of ecology and sustainable development was proposed and corresponding academic manuals were developed. The manuals were recommended for replication and

introduction in regions of the Baikal district.

## Lake Karasinoye - an Area of Pure Water and Cultured Recreation

Gilbira school, Russia



This activity helped preserve pure water of Lake Karasinoye and raise environmental awareness of tourists in Ivolsk district of Buryatia. The project activities include installing information desks, containers for solid domestic waste, constructing public toilets, guard railing for children summer camps. High

school students were involved in the project to raise public environmental awareness among tourists and local population.

## Strategy for (dead) livestock disposal

Buryat State Academy of Agriculture, Russia



Defining and mapping of existing cattle mortuaries in Barguzinsky and Kurumkansky districts were carried out. An assessment of their ecological and microbiological condition and an assessment of technologies of elimination of unconditioned cattle mortuaries using best existing technologies were conducted. Analytical

review of anthrax incidents on the Baikal basin transboundary territory (Buryatia, Zabaikalsky Krai, Mongolia) was compiled. Certain places were determined and local construction estimates of 2 new cattle mortuaries were prepared.

## Removal of Scattered Solid Waste in the Area of Mishikha Railway Station

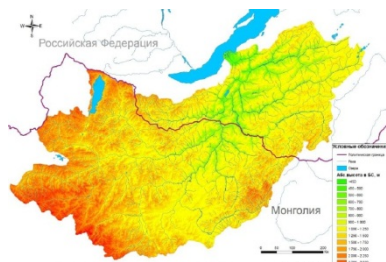
Public organization "Buryat Regional Association on Lake Baikal", Russia



This activity helped to develop an infrastructure for separate waste collection and cleaning the area of Mishikha railway station in Kabansk district, Buryatia, from solid domestic waste by joint efforts of local authorities, Baikalsky State Nature Biosphere Reserve, a high school and local population.

## Database for modeling and simulation of pollutants transport in the Baikal Basin waters

Moscow State University (Moscow, Russia), Baikal Institute of Nature Management (BINM) of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SB RAS) (Ulan-Ude, Russia)



Complex geoinformation system "The Selenga Basin, based on ARCGIS software compatible with attributive database" was developed. Measured pollution content in the Selenga Basin rivers within historical data was created. Set of maps of actual condition (pollution content) of the Selenga Basin river system within the observation period and according to the

data of Moscow State University 2011-2012 expeditions (maps of water run-off characteristics, suspended and traction loads, chemical elements in the Selenga basin) were prepared.



## Journey into the World of Water

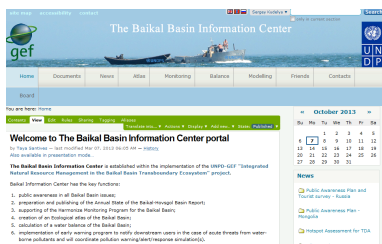
Natural History Museum of the Republic of Buryatia, Russia



An interactive water exposition in the Natural History Museum in Ulan-Ude was designed and installed for raising awareness of water issues among children. The exposition includes various educational programs and experiments for children of different ages.

## Baikal Information Center (BIC) Conception

Budget Institution “BurPriroda” of ministry of nature resources of Buryatia (Ulan-Ude, Russia), Institute of water research and development (Mongolia, Russia)



Information structure of database and list of information resources, computer programs for collecting, storage and usage of environmental information were developed. Type of information activity and technological structure of Baikal information center were identified. Scopes of activity and participants’

competency level (organizations, their information and users) were defined. An agreement between organizations involved in developing of Baikal Information center was prepared.

## Hotspot Assessment for TDA



Batoev Valeriy (Russia), Gombo Davaa (Mongolia)

The local sources of pollution located in the Russian catchment area of Baikal Basin were identified. In impact on water quality (surface and underground) on relevant chemical and biological parameters has been determined. The upgrade needs for Selenga asin

municipalities, including of ongoing and planned water and sanitation projects were reviewed and ranked.

## Baikal's Little Treasure Chest



NGO "Baikal Information Centre "GRAN",  
Russia

The unique school training aids "Baikal Box" was developed and published.

"Baikal Box" contains colorful illustrations and necessary information about the flora and fauna of Baikal, lake's geography, people who inhabit its shores,. The set of training aids include a textbook, game cards on the theme "Living World of Baikal", a poster "Above the Water, Under the Water and on the Shores of Baikal", a map of special protected natural territories "Following Baikal's Nature Trails", and a CD, necessary for studying the nature of the region during the extracurricular activities.

Over 500 copies of "Baikal Box" were distributed among the republican schools and eco-oriented institutions. Online version of the school training aids is available at [www.everydropmatters.ru](http://www.everydropmatters.ru), and the online-game is available at [www.everydropmatters.ru/game](http://www.everydropmatters.ru/game)

"Baikal Box" is recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Buryatia as a part of the standard educational programme and supplementary programmes for primary and middle grade students.



**Baikal's Little  
Treasure Chest**

A Toolkit for Primary and Middle Grade Students



## 2012 Shoreline clean-up campaign of Lake Hovsgol and definition and delimitation of boundaries of a water sanitation zone in Khatgal village

Mongolia Water Forum; “Domogt Dalai” environmental NGO, Khatgal, Mongolia



The campaign “Shoreline clean-up of Hovsgol Lake and water sanitation zone boundaries definition and delimitation in Khatgal village” was supported by the Project. More than 1500 copies of awareness-raising materials were distributed. Most citizens of the village and government and non-government

organizations were involved in the campaign. The area of over 3500 hectares was cleaned from the solid wastes. Over 200 people from 20 organizations took part in the cleaning-up campaign. About 70 tons of solid wastes were taking away. Protection poles were installed at the distance of 1.5 meters along the sanitation zone of Khuvsgul lake near the Khatgal village for 2 km distance in order to protect the sanitation zone from vehicles and tourists impact. There also 3 sign boards were installed along the lake shoreline and 1 at the Protected Area’s entrance gate.

## Climate Change Assessment for TDA



Svetlana Puntsukova, Russia

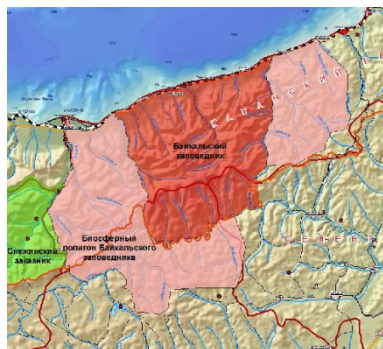
The Climate Change Assessment was accomplished with particular emphasis on transboundary problems as identified in the revised TDA. The recommendations for strategic actions to adapt to the impacts of climate change in the Baikal Basin region were formulated. The gaps in the available information, and provide a list of recommendations for further studies were identified. Input to improve the quality of the relevant

climate change section in the draft revised TDA document was provided.



## Biodiversity compatible recreational tourism plan for Baikal Bioshpere Reserve

NGO "Baikal Ecotourism association", Russia



Biodiversity compatible recreational tourism plan for Baikal Bioshpere Reserve was developed. An assessment of the Baikal Bioshpere Reserve conformity with international criteria of joining to international ecotourism net was conducted. Strengths and weaknesses of the Baikal Bioshpere Reserve were analyzed. Plan of joining of Baikal Bioshpere Reserve to international ecotourism net was developed.

## 2012 Shoreline clean-up of Lake Baikal and Selenga

International Baikal shoreline volunteer group, "Save Baikal" project, The Youth Artistic Theatre



The Project supported the activity of Baikal shoreline volunteer group camp. Shoreline and lake's ice-cover clean-up actions in winter period was held. The Uda river shoreline action was organized together with the administration of the city and citizens. Within the summer period the volunteers gathered more

than 450 tons of garbage on the Baikal shoreline of 25 kms long. More than 100 volunteers took part in the action.

## Study on the Selenga Delta habitat and the health of the benthic zone

Irkutsk state university, Irkutsk, Russia

An analysis of hydrological, hydrochemical, microbiological, hydrobiological and ichthyological indicators of the Selenga Delta benthic zone was made. An assessment of aboriginal and invasive benthophage fishes' impact on benthos structure and its quantity indicators was conducted. Nourishment of main benthophage fishes was analyzed, their impact on structure of benthic organisms was estimated.

## Institutional Strengthening for IWRM



- Support of the Plenipotentiaries meeting
- Support of the working group within implementation of the bilateral agreement 1995 "Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters" (PUTW) between Russia and Mongolia
- Development of the concept paper and the road map for the process of developing and enhancing the legal and institutional framework of bilateral transboundary water cooperation
- Organizing of GEF IW:LEARN learning exchange

## Study on the Selenga Delta water quality issues



Baikal Institute of Nature Management (BINM) of the SB RAS (Ulan-Ude, Russia) and Limnological Institute of the SB RAS (Irkutsk, Russia)

The Selenga Delta water quality study was conducted. The Selenga Basin water run-off seasonal variation in 2012 was shown, as well as its correlation with biogenic elements content in water, heavy metals in water and bottom sediments. A monitoring program in the Selenga river delta was developed.

# Project Achievements 2013



Photo by Elena Chumak





According to 2013 work plan, within the scope of the Project's realization, 36 activities were under implementation.

The Project supported and participated in different events relevant to its goals and tasks. Totally in 2013, the Project Implementation Unit took part in 46 events. More than 60 mass media sources published information about project activities. The list of such events is attached.

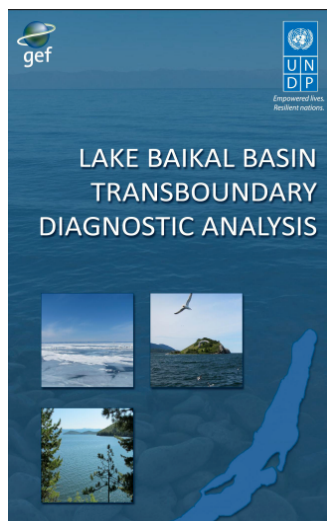
The Project web-site worked in Russian, Mongolian and English. Information was regularly updated.

Approved second year budget was 1 143 690.97 USD. Expenditures by the end of 2013 amounted to 1 106 230.92 USD. The 2013 Project budget was realized by 97%.

All project reports and results are available on the Project web site:  
<http://baikaliwlearn.org/>.

## Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of the Lake Baikal Basin

ANO “Center of international projects” (Moscow), Institute of GeoEcology (Ulaanbaatar), Saskia Marijnissen



The extensive review and updating of the preliminary Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of 2008 was finalized in 2013. Updated TDA additionally includes specific studies like climate change assessment, groundwater pollution risks and ground / surface water intermixing, Selenga Delta study and etc. The Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis was printed in Russian, Mongolian and English.

Groundwater resource assessment as a contribution to the TDA, including surface water - groundwater interactions and groundwater dependent ecosystem in the Baikal Basin



UNESCO Division of Water Sciences - International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

- Proposal of policy recommendations for sustainable integrated management of transboundary groundwater and surface water resources based on holistic, multidisciplinary, trans-sectoral and environmentally sound approaches with the scope to incorporate them into country National Water Master Plan.
- Enhancement of role of Russian – Mongolian transboundary water commission unit and address

proposals for sound development, exploitation and protection of transboundary groundwater resources in shallow aquifers to minimize potential international conflicts and competing demands for groundwater resources and social and ecological side-effects on populations.

- Proposal of design of transboundary groundwater monitoring networks and standardized methodology for observation groundwater quantitative and qualitative parameters and transboundary pollution transport.
- Proposal of establishment of Russian – Mongolian GIS databases to facilitate the storage and retrieval of groundwater data from transboundary aquifers for different uses and enhance institutional and legal frameworks to manage, share and use data on international level.
- Increase of public awareness about importance and vulnerability of transboundary groundwater resources and propose adaptation measures in the context of climate change influence on different types of aquifers (shallow, karstic, deep).
- Enhancement of governance capacities and institutional and legal frameworks in support of effective and sustainable groundwater protection policy based on participatory approach involving policy makers, water scientists and managers, water stakeholders and general public.
- Strengthen capacities for the sustainable management and well head protection policy of transboundary aquifers through capacity building and training at all levels to improve transboundary water cooperation, planning and management.

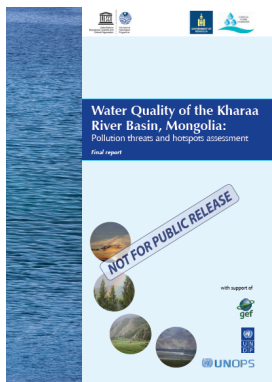
## Monitoring of water quality of the Selenga Delta

Baikal Institute of Nature Management SB RAS, Ulan-Ude, Russia



- Seasonal and annual physicochemical and hydrobiological parameters, which characterize water quality and bottom sediments of the Selenga delta, were analyzed.
- The received results were summarized;
- Contemporary ecological conditions of the Selenga river ecosystem were evaluated.

Review and rank upgrade needs for Mongolian municipalities in the Selenge River basin, including the identification of ongoing and planned water and sanitation projects, focusing on Kharaa River Basin pollution assessment



UNESCO Division of Water Sciences - International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

- Enhancement of knowledge and information on water pollution from urban areas and industrial operations
- Development and proposal of policy recommendations for integrated approaches to water, sanitation and wastewater in urban areas with the aim to prevent, control and reduce water pollution from municipalities, industrial areas and mining operations
- Development and proposal of policy recommendations and approaches to enhance water quality and ecosystems health with the aim to incorporate them as an integral part of existing national water strategies and policies
- Increase of public awareness of policy-makers, municipal authorities, industrial operators, and local communities on the impact of water pollution on human health and the environment;
- Strengthening of cooperation between Mongolia and Russia on the management of transboundary water pollution
- Strengthening of national capacities to protect and enhance water quality through policy advice, priority setting, and awareness raising.

### Biodiversity conservation standards and biodiversity management objectives for tourism and mining



Gunin Petr and Bazha Sergey, Moscow, Russia

- Best practice conservation standards for mining using international and regional examples were elaborated.
- Gap analysis concerning best practices and the existing policies and standards in

mining and tourism sector in Russia and Mongolia was provided.

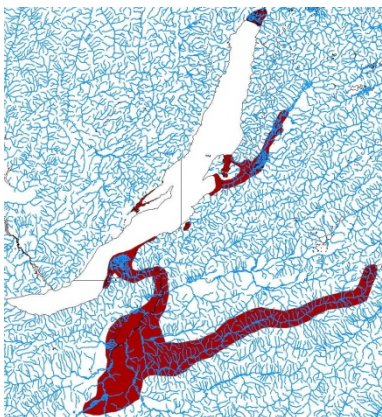


- Recommendations for changes to local and national policies, legislation and regional development plans to enhance biodiversity protection in mining and tourism sector were developed.
- Recommendations for EIA process in mining and tourism sector to make it more biodiversity relevant and focused were developed.
- Ecotourism and pollution avoidance aspects for tourism plans in the region, especially those being developed in Irkutsk and Buryatia were studied.

## Development of a Sub-basin Essential Fish Habitat Model

FSUE “State research and development center of fishery”, Baikal branch

This study identified a location of strongholds of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem health in the Basin as well as degraded watersheds to facilitate maintaining the former and improving the latter. A detailed gap analysis and



mapping of existing data on protected areas, biodiversity, and productive sector practices and their impact (Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), PA coverage, species distribution, abundance and condition, active mining claims) was made. Essential fish habitat descriptions, EFH maps and fish stock recommendations were prepared.

## The joint project with OECD for Selenga Sub-basin - Evaluation of effectiveness in IWRM



Group of consultants

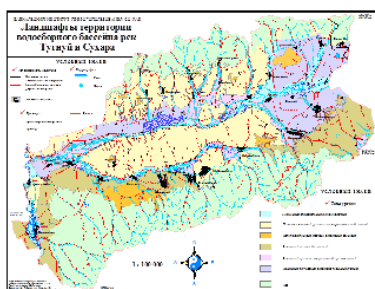
This work started in 2013 and will be done parallel to the OECD Special Working Group Project (Action Program of nature protection in Central and Eastern Europe) on improvement of water resource usage of economic instruments and Buryatia water economic complex management.

The customer will assist the contractor to settle working relations with the mentioned Project. It is expected that both works will closely interact with each other and use possible synergetic effects as much as possible.

The assignment is expected to deliver the following baseline data and products:

- Analysis of existing accounting and cost control system of organizations of water-supply, drainage, irrigation and collector-drainage networks.
- Analysis of work productivity and efficiency of these organizations, as well as system of incentives to economic efficiency and productivity rise.
- Analysis of effectiveness of budgetary funds usage, which are directed to modernization and development of appropriate water economic systems.
- Development of recommendations and their approbation for improvement of accounting and cost control system, strengthening of incentives to economic efficiency and productivity rise of water organizations, incentives to rise of effectiveness of budgetary funds usage, which are directed to modernization and development of appropriate water economic systems.

### Tugnuy-Sukhara sub-basin watershed management plan (Buryatia, Russia)

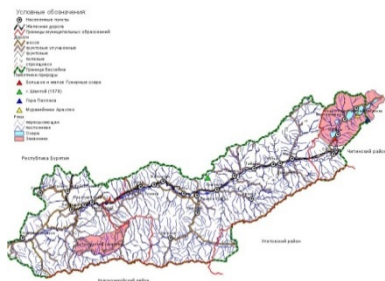


Taisiya Bardakhanova, Russia

- Current basin management strengths and weaknesses were studied.
- Baselines on socio-economic and ecological condition of target sub-basin Tugnuy-Sukhara/Buryatia, The Russian Federation for further development of river basin management plans for those watersheds of Selenga basin were established.
- Sub-basin management plan in cooperation with respective authorities was prepared.
- Endorsement letter from Minister of Natural Resources and relevant authorities of that plan was received.

## Khilok sub-basin watershed management plan (Zabaikalsky Krai, Russia)

Kochneva Natalia, Russia

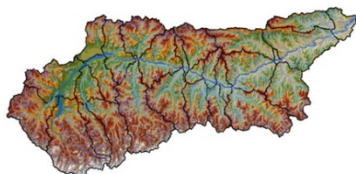


- Current basin management strengths and weaknesses were studied.
- Baselines on socio-economic and ecological condition of target sub-basin Khilok Watershed/Zabaikalsky Krai, The Russian Federation for further development of river basin management plans for those watersheds of Selenga Basin were established.
- Sub-basin management plan in cooperation with respective authorities was prepared.
- Endorsement letter from Ministry of Natural Resources and relevant authorities of that plan was received.

## Ider River basin watershed management plan (Mongolia)

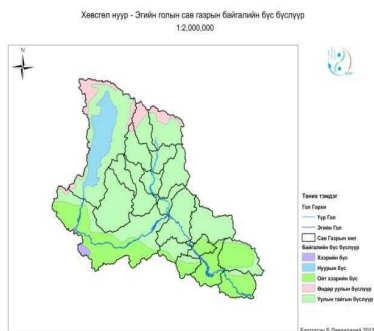
Mongolia Water Forum-ushelts

- Baselines on socio-economic and ecological condition of Ider River basin were established. Baseline data on economic activities and their impacts on the environment: (e.g. water quality, aquatic biodiversity) were collected.
- The initial draft of Ider sub-basin watershed management plan was prepared.



- In 2014 endorsement letters from MNET and relevant authorities of those draft plans will be received.

## Khuvsgul Lake-Eg River basin watershed management plan (Mongolia)



was prepared.

- In 2014 endorsement letters from MNET and relevant authorities of those draft plans will be received.

## Orkhon sub-basin watershed management plan (Mongolia)



updated. Several recommendations were provided such as a combining of Yeru, Kharaa, Tuul into Orkhon River IWRM Plan.

## Institutional Strengthening for IWRM



bilateral transboundary water cooperation were developed.

## Mongolia Water Forum-ushelts

- Baselines on socio-economic and ecological condition of Khuvsgul Lake-Eg River basin were established. Baseline data on economic activities and their impacts on the environment: (e.g. water quality, aquatic biodiversity) were collected.
- The initial draft of Khuvsgul Lake-Eg River basin watershed management plan

## Mongolia Water Forum-ushelts

The IWRM plan for the Orkhon River basin was prepared in the framework of the “Strengthening IWRM in Mongolia” project in 2012. From 2013 this plan is under implementation of Orkhon River Basin Administration. The content and activities of Orkhon River IWRM Plan were

In 2013 the Project supported existing institutional transboundary structures (the institute of Plenipotentiaries and their working groups) formed by 1995 bilateral agreement "Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters". Additionally the concept paper and the road map for the process of developing and enhancing the legal and institutional framework of





The concept paper and the road map were presented on different levels particularly on the Second Steering Committee Meeting, in the Russian State Duma, Mongolia government, Buryatia government and different workshops and conferences.

According to decision of the Steering Committee a draft of revised bilateral agreement on transboundary water cooperation, including a new institutional structure was developed. In 2014 consultations with key stakeholders will be conducted in both countries on the substantive content of the draft of revised bilateral agreement and if necessary a legal advice will be provided and bilateral consultations between the parties on the new draft agreement will be facilitated.

### Intercalibration of analytical procedures for analytes, included into harmonized program of hydrochemical monitoring for Selenga river basin

Hydrochemical Institute, Rostov-on-Don, Russia

Central Chemical Laboratory of Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)



- Results of determination of chosen indicators by comparable methods which is used by both

sides for estimation of the Selenga river basin surface waters quality were received;

- Determination of water composition and properties by single or comparable methods of analysis using certified sensitive or selective measuring methods was made;
- Recommendations and cost enhancements to existing monitoring regime were elaborated.
- Two Mongolian specialists from chemical laboratory of Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia) were trained in Hydrochemical Institute, Rostov-on-Don, Russia during one week.

- PCU started a process of Purchasing an ion chromatograph for chemical laboratory of Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia) based on recommendations in the Joint Harmonized Water Quality Monitoring program

### Training assessment (Mongolia)



SOLONGO Tsevegmid, Mongolia

- Short review of “self-assessment” methodology was prepared.
- Guidance for self-assessments was developed and harmonized with Russian training expert.
- Training needs assessment (TNA) methodology for countries stakeholders experts was provided based on project

document requirements;

- Monitoring and evaluation system for supply chain development training was developed;
- Training needs assessment (TNA) for stakeholders was conducted, based on project document requirements;
- Participants and the institutes and consultants to carry out training program were identified.
- a Country Training Master Plan was prepared;
- Training workshops for persons carrying out self-assessments was prepared and held;
- Monitoring and evaluation system for supply chain development training was suggested;

### Training assessment (Russia)

Danilova Z.A., Russia

- Short review of “self-assessment” methodology was prepared.
- Guidance for self-assessments was developed and harmonized with Mongolian training expert.
- Training needs assessment (TNA) methodology for countries stakeholders experts was provided based on project document requirements;
- Monitoring and evaluation system for supply chain development training was developed;

- Training needs assessment (TNA) for stakeholders was conducted, based on project document requirements;
- Participants and the institutes and consultants to carry out training program were identified.
- a Country Training Master Plan was prepared;
- Possible venues for overseas study tour/training/workshop/seminar and in making contacts with identified institutions in preparation for the overseas training activities were identified;
- Training workshops for persons carrying out self-assessments was prepared and held;
- Monitoring and evaluation system for supply chain development training was suggested;

### The training workshop for stakeholders "Awareness rising and management improvement in the field of environmental problems of Lake Baikal Basin and the role of green economy in their solving"

Baikal Institute of Nature Management SB RAS, Ulan-Ude, Russia



The seminar "Environmental problems of Lake Baikal Basin and role of green economy in their solving" was held on July 30 – August 02, 2013 in Istomino, Russia. Basin-specific National Capacity Self - Assessments were carried out and used to identify highest priority training and management support at the regional and basin level. This seminar was organized

and supported by the Baikal Project for specialists of Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatia and Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia. It helped to develop practical recommendations for consolidation of state, society and business efforts for mutual solving of ecological problems and rising of ecological security of nature resources use.

## POPs study guide and trainings

Center of International Projects and Bayarjargal Munkhuu, Russia, Mongolia



Training for rising awareness and improvement in management of stakeholders in Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) was held. It was a part of enhanced hot spot review under Output 1.4 the Project Management Unit (PMU) concentrated attention of the Baikal Basin environment supervision organizations and other stakeholders

upon problems of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Persistent Toxic Substances (PTSs) as one of the considerable and dangerous threats to the Basin ecosystem. Training seminars in Buryatia and Mongolia in order to raise awareness of specialists of environment supervision state bodies and other stakeholders in question of POP/PTS problems, consequences of their impact on environment were held. A study guide in Russian and Mongolian considering the Baikal Basin POP and PTS data, including their production, use in industry and agriculture, as well as data about abandoned warehouses with expired pesticides and etc., was developed.

### A training for raising awareness and improvement in management of stakeholders in Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Mongolia



Bayarjargal Munkhuu,

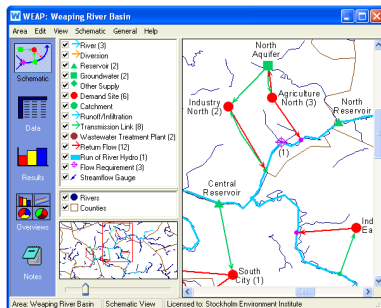
On 04.10.2013 the training workshop was organized at the Fresh Water Resource and Nature Conservation Center in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and was headed by Dr.L.Jargalsaikhan, the chair of the National Chemicals Management Council

in Mongolia. Totally 36 participants took part in workshop including 6 persons from 4 provinces which belong to the Baikal Basin. A POPs/PTS training brochure for the purpose to increase public awareness was prepared. It contains 54 pages and was published in 100 copies in Mongolian for participants of training workshop and other interested persons.



## Setting up the model of pollutants transport and water balance in the Baikal Basin

Faculty of Geography of Moscow State University, Russia

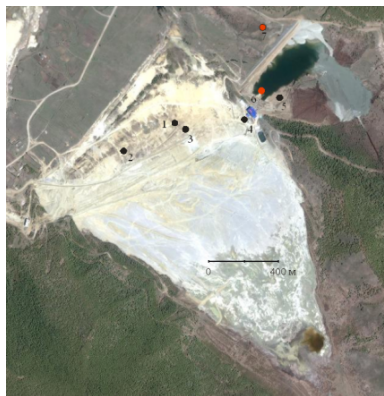


- Using developed in 2012 database for modeling and simulation of pollutants transport in the Selenga Basin this activity service is expected to deliver the following results during 2013 and 2014:
  - Description and working complex of modeling system, including mathematical model based on packet HEC-RAS of the Tuul river's and the Orkhon river's channels (lower than junction with Tuul river) till junction with Selenga, the Dzhida river till junction with Selenga, and expert-analytical system of Selenga (basing on delution equation).
- WEAP-based model of water balance of the Lake Baikal basin.
- Results of space spreading of pollutants' characteristics in weighted and dissolved form of burden of river drift (turbidity, heavy metals, tracers) under different nature-anthropogenic conditions (maps, graphics, tables).
- Estimation of characteristics of water drift stocks and dissolved substances for different hydrological conditions.
- Forecast modeling of volume of accumulated material in river channel and in floodplain along the length of river systems; estimation of geochemical barriers.

In 2013 a description of expert-analytical system of chemical element transfer down the Selenga River (based on WEAP and HEC-RAS) and a report on water balance of the Selenga River Basin were developed.

Development of optimal technological solutions for safe storage, retreatment, neutralization and utilization of toxic substances, contained in waste products of inoperative mining enterprise “Dzhidinsky”

Geological Institute SB RAS, Ulan-Ude, Russia



- Recommendations for transition of fast toxic components in hardly soluble compound were elaborated;
- Recommendations for transition of tungsten in water soluble form with the purpose of further hydrometal extraction in the form of products were worked out
- Estimation of water biodiversity condition in the region as a result of developed measures of safe storage, recycling, neutralization and utilization of

toxic substances, contained in wastes of Dzhidinzky mining plant was carried out.

Development of technological solutions for minimization of anthropogenic impact of adit mine waters of Kholodninsky poly-metal deposit on water ecosystems.

Buryat State University, Ulan-Ude, Russia



- Recommendations for exploratory adit mine waters cleaning from heavy metals and their transition from sulphate and hydrocarbonate-sulphate type to near natural hydrocarbonate-calcium type

were worked out;

- Recommendations for designing of hydrotechnical constructions of exploratory adit mine waters of Kholodninsky deposit were drawn up.

## Development of technological solutions for minimization of anthropogenic impact of ore gold mining and processing enterprises on environment (Holbinsky)



Baikal Institute of Nature Management SB RAS, Ulan-Ude, Russia

Recommendations about methods of waste / reused waste waters purification from pollutants typical for gold mining

which can control threats to water ecosystem and biodiversity were drawn up.

## Cattle mortuaries construction in Kurumkansky and Barguzinsky district of the Republic of Buryatia, Russia



Kurumkanvodstroj, Russia

The project supported the new cattle mortuaries constructing in Kurumkansky and Barguzinsky district, the Republic of Buryatia, based on strategy developed for (dead) livestock disposal.

A technological solution for this construction is “biothermal pit” with a concrete pit of 10 m depth. The additional installations were also constructed on adjacent territory. Main construction works were finalized at the end of August 2013.



## Biodiversity compatible recreational tourism plan for Zabaikalsky National Park

Irkutsk State Technical University, Irkutsk, Russia



- The territory of Zabaikalsky National Park according to new revision of Russian Protected Areas Law was zoned.
- Contemporary methods of reduction tourism influence on protected areas were studied;
- Conceptual paper for recreational using of protected areas in Zabaikalsky National Park was developed.
- Feasibility study of impacts of tourism on different ecosystems of Zabaikalsky National Park (protected area, buffer zone, transport corridors) was contacted.
- The biodiversity compatible tourism plan (taking into account the permissible loads) for Zabaikalsky National Park was developed for institutional framework and informational structure.
- The learning workshop for staff of Baikal Basin Protected Areas (Baikalsky, Baikalo-Lensky, Barguzinsky, Zabaikalsky, Dzherginsky) was organized.

### Creation of a biodiversity compatible tourism plan with a route to the seasonal haul for the Baikal seal on the island Tonkii (Ushkanyi Islands), Zabaikalski National Park, Buriatiya, Russia



FSBI "Zapovednoe Podlemorye"

The following results under this activity were delivered:

- Performance of reconnaissance of the ecological trail.
- Development of the concept of the ecological path "to the Baikal seal rookery".
- Development of conceptual designs observation deck, pergolas, decking and stairs.
- Preparation of construction documents of improving the eco-trail.



- Improvement of the ecological trail "to the Baikal seal rookery" and the observation deck to the island Tonkii (Ushkany Islands).
- Development and production of informative signs.
- Development of plan for tourist visiting the Baikal seal rookeries on the island Tonkii.
- Development and publication of information materials for the tourist plan.

In 2013 the ecological trail "to the Baikal seal rookery" was constructed. The observation deck and a plan for tourist visiting will be finished in 2014.

### Extension of eco-trail "Cedar Alley" and enhancement of biodiversity compatible comprehensive botanical tour for it in the Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve, Tankhoi, Buriatiya, Russia

FSBI "Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve"



- Design-estimate documentation for installation of biological central treatment facilities in the main farmstead of Baikal State Natural Biosphere Reserve was developed.

- A biological central treatment facilities in the main farmstead of Baikal State Natural Biosphere Reserve was installed and all administrative buildings, visit-center, garage, outside toilets,

bathhouse, teahouse, and guesthouse were connected to it. The supposed capacity of treatment facilities is 70 persons per day.



- A reconnaissance of the eco-trail "Cedar Alley" was performed.

- A conception of extension of the eco-trail "Cedar Alley" starting from visit center was developed.

- A toilet at the beginning of eco-trail "Cedar Alley" and its connection to the central treatment facilities was set up.

- The eco-trail "Cedar Alley" was rebuilt and extended.

- A biodiversity compatible comprehensive botanical tour for the eco-trail "Cedar Alley" was prepared in English and Russian.

- A content and publishing information materials for visit center about developed comprehensive botanical tour for eco-trail “Cedar Alley” were developed in English and Russian.

## EUROPARC integration support



OCTOBER 9-13 | DEBRECEN, HUNGARY | WWW.EUROPARC2013.COM



Hortobágy National Park from October 9 - 13, 2013. During the conference Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve signed the memorandum of association.

In 2013 the Project supported Baikal Region protected areas efforts to join EUROPARC association. The representatives of Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve and Zabaikalski Protected Area took part in EUROPARC Annual Conference 2013. This trip was organized by the Baikal Project for developing Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and involvement of Russian protected areas into EUROPARC network. The conference was hosted by the Hortobágy National Park and took place in Debrecen, Hungary and the

## Eco-trail Yangima

Local religious organization "Barguzinsky datsan", Russia



An eco-trail to ostent of Yanzhima goddess image (near Barguzinsky temple, Yarikto village, Barguzinsky district, Buryatia) was constructed. A touristic plan compatible with biodiversity preservation was developed. Informational materials for development of touristic plan were printed.

## Award for the Mongolian University Students



On 21.03.2013 the Baikal Project supported “AKHA” Mongolian TV program while celebrating the World Water Day. The objective of this program was an introduction of water sector’s operation for the public and informing about water resources and water use, water saving methods. This event was organized by Ministry of Environment and green development, National Water Committee and Tuul River Basin Authority. 87 students from Mongolian University of Science and Technology, Mongolian National University and Institute of Agriculture took part in this event. The first prize was a certificate for participation in the International scientific conference “Baikal-strategic water resources of the Earth in 21st century” in Ulan-Ude, Russia (8-12 July 2013).

## Award for the Outstanding Professional in the Tourism Industry

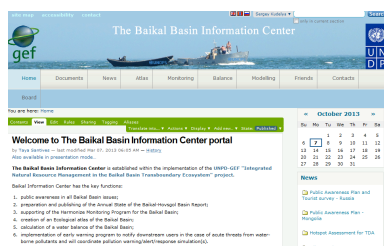


The competition "Best in Tourism Profession" was organized in Buryatiya Republic. Some reputable representatives from the tourism industry participated in the competition. The main purpose was to improve the quality of tourism services and to increase the prestige of labor and motivation of employees in travel sector in the Republic. The competition was organized by Tourism Agency of Buryatia with the participation of the Committee on Industry, Consumer Market and Tourism Administration, Ulan-Ude, the East-Siberian State Academy of Culture and Arts, and the UNDP-GEF Project "Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem". The Baikal Project awarded "The best tour guide in the field of eco-tourism" to ELENA Myasnikova.

## Baikal Information Center (BIC)

Baikal Institute of Nature Management, Russia

Orkhon River Basin Council, NGO, Mongolia



This activity started in 2013 and will continue in 2014. In 2013 the following results were delivered:

- BIC web portal was launched.
- Information support for the BIC web portal was provided in English, Russian and Mongolian.
- GIS hardware was purchased for both

countries.

- BIC information data exchange protocol for Mongolia based on conception and informational structure of BIC was developed;
- Protocol was distributed between stakeholders and approved;
- Endorsement letters from relevant stakeholders were received;
- Based on approved data exchange protocol basin data were collected and uploaded into BIC portal.

In 2014 this activity is expected to deliver the following results:

- Continuation of the BIC web portal maintenance.
- Purchasing of GIS software (ArcView).
- Development the structure of a biennial report on the state of the environment of the Baikal Basin for 2012-2013 years (BBBR) jointly with the Russian and Mongolian.
- Preparation of 2012-2013 BBBR in English, Russian and Mongolian.
- Publication of 2012-2013 BBBR in English, Russian and Mongolian.

## Ecological Atlas of the Baikal Basin

Institute of Geography SB RAS, Irkutsk, Russia

Institute of Geography, MAS, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



The Atlas contains more than 100 maps with scale 1: 5 000000, also maps of separate regions of Baikal basin and maps of water area of Baikal basin with larger scale. Maps and other materials of the Atlas are divided into sections:

- Natural conditions of formation of the environmental situation in Baikal basin.
- Anthropogenic factors of formation of the environmental situation in Baikal basin.
- The environmental situation and transformation of environment in Baikal basin
- Medico-ecological situation;
- Environmental protection and environmental management

The service was started in 2013 and will be finished in 2014. In 2013 year 123 maps were developed and agreed with Russian and Mongolian subcontractors. In 2014 map's translation into English and Mongolian will be finished.

## 2013 Shoreline clean-up campaigns in Russia

The project "Save Baikal"



The following Baikal shoreline clean-up campaigns were supported by the Project:

- "Pure Ice Lake Baikal in 2013" on 6 April 2013 in the Holodnyanka;
- Baikal shoreline volunteer group camp from 15 July 2013 to 5 August 2013 in the Cape Nameless, Baikal regions, the Republic of Buryatia;
- "Clean river Selenga" in Ulan-Ude On 5 August 2013;
- "Clean Olkhon Island" on 14-15 September 2013.



In total, 30 kilometers of shoreline were maintained by volunteers on a daily basis. More than 2000 bags of 120 liters of sorted waste were collected and removed.

## 2013 Shoreline clean-up campaigns in Mongolia



### Sayan Zone NGO

The project continued support of cleanup works around the Lake Khobsogul and 2013 clean-up campaign work was implemented in cooperation with Sayan Zone Nature conservation Community Association NGO (Soyony Bus NUTBB). The training “Recycling our wastes” was attended by over 400 school learners and other local citizens. Over 1000 brochures “How to recycle the waste” were handled to the local people. The day of 04 October 2013 was announced as the clean-up campaign day by the Khatgal soum Governor decree. Citizens of the village and government and non-government organizations were involved and gathered the solid wastes around the Khobsogul Lake.

## The documentary “BAIKAL WITHOUT BOUNDARIES”

The Project Atlas of Culture



The documentary “Baikal without boundaries” was completed. The geographical scope of the movie is the whole Baikal Lake basin that extends for two countries, Russia and Mongolia, and encompasses waste territories with rivers bringing waters to the lake. The Baikal Lake Basin is home to several

architectural and natural landmarks, as well as rare scientific artifacts. The main message of the documentary is to make the global community aware of the problems that the Baikal Lake Basin is facing and the need to preserve it as a unique natural, ecological and social and cultural phenomenon.

Full version Russian - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxggbWjUGOA>

Festival Version English - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxtzDH6Fb8>

Festival Version Russian - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOpMfuJb6OA>

# Project Achievements 2014



Photo by Elena Chumak



The Third Steering Committee meeting of the UNDP-GEF Project “Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem” (hereinafter referred to as the Project) was held on July 24, 2014 in Gremyachinsk (Russia, The Republic of Buryatia). The Steering Committee considered results achieved by the Project in 2013, annual work plan and budget for 2014-2015, presentation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP) for the Lake Baikal basin, and discussed issues of enhancement of the Russian-Mongolian international cooperation in the field of use and protection of transboundary water resources.

According to 2014 work plan, approved by the Steering Committee, 28 works were carried out by different organizations within 2014. The Project took part in different activities, which comply with its goals and tasks, as well as assisted in holding of those activities. Altogether in 2014 the Project Management Unit took part in 34 activities and meetings. Information about the Project’s activity was reported in more than 83 different information resources. The list of 2014 activities the Project took part in is enclosed. The web-site works in Russian, Mongolian and English is regularly updated.

Approved budget for the third year of the Project implementation was 1.009.215,00 USD (2014 – is the third year of the Project implementation). By the end of 2014 the amount of 968.845,52 USD was spent, what accounts for 96% of the year budget.

## The Strategic Action Program

Experts (Russia and Mongolia)



Being developed in 2013, the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of the Lake Baikal basin ecosystem threats was a basis for development of the 2014 Strategic Action Program (SAP), which includes joint Russian-Mongolian actions for strengthening of the Lake Baikal basin ecosystem protection. By now a draft SAP has been developed by joint efforts of Russian and Mongolian experts and has been submitted to the Ministry of nature resources of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of environment and green development of Mongolia. That draft SAP

defines conception and strategic goals and objectives of the Program, as well as determines 6 basic components, including:

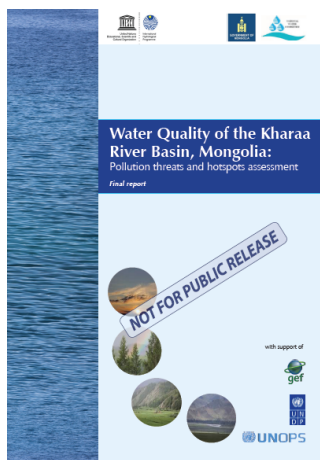
- protection, restoration and sustainable management of main water and terrestrial habitats;
- pollution reduction and water quality improvement;
- rational use of fish, hunting and other wild nature resources;
- control and prevention of biological invasions;
- adaption to climate change consequences;
- natural disaster readiness.

Strategic objectives (in total 16) are defined for each component.

There are strategic actions and key indicators to objectives performance.



## Publication of reports on ground waters and hot spots of the Kharaa River basin (Mongolia)



The following reports on works done in 2013 were published and distributed among stakeholders: “Groundwater Resources in Shallow Transboundary Aquifers in the Baikal Basin: Current Knowledge, Protection and Management”, Pollution threat assessment in the Kharaa River basin.

## Support and implementation of sub-basins management plans of the Ider River and the Eg River (Mongolia)

Mongolian Water Forum (Mongolia)



The Ider and Eg Rivers sub-basin management plans were developed in 2013 and got approval from the Ministry of Environment and Green Development in 2014. Plans and educational materials have been published; training workshops for sums’ and aimaks’ administrations and water management have been conducted.

## «Water quality monitoring in the Selenga River delta»

Baikal Institute of nature management (Russia), Limnological Institute (Russia)



The Project supports annual water quality monitoring on chemical, microbiological and hydrobiological indicators in the Selenga River delta.

2014 showed extremely low water flow of the Selenga River with biogenic substances and dissolved oxygen content not exceeding set regulation value. There were increased concentrations of heavy metals in surface waters of the 2014 summer period. High concentration of microorganisms, including potentially pathogenic microflora, indicates low level of water quality and necessity of limitations of water use in recreational purposes.

## Methodology of pollution hot spots identification in the transboundary Lake Baikal basin.

Experts (Russia and Mongolia)



Adaptation of methodology of pollution hot spots identification in the transboundary Lake Baikal basin was finalized by experts and approved in 2014 by the working group within the scope of Agreement between governments of the Russian Federation and Mongolia on protection and use of

transboundary waters. The methodology is available in Russian, English and Mongolian.

## Organization and holding of training seminars for environment protection inspectors of the Baikal nature territory

Burpriroda (Russia)



Learning and teaching guide in Russian “Ecology and law on Baikal. Experience and practice” for environment protection inspectors has been developed and published. Series of training seminars (20-30 visitors per each seminar) for environment protection

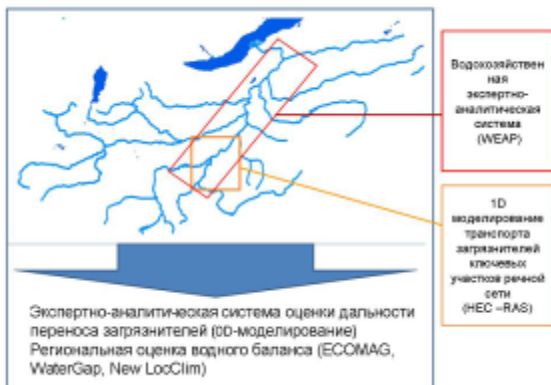
inspectors of the Baikal nature territory have been held.

The guide includes the following parts: goals and objectives of environment inspectors; specifics of ecological inspection in the Baikal nature territory; analysis of law enforcement practice; State control of wastes circulation and measures to improvement; subsoil use control in the sphere of widespread mineral resources and measures to improvement; water protection legislation compliance; protection, control and regulation of use of animals which are ranked as hunting objects; measures to monitoring, reproduction and use of animal world objects.

## Model of pollutants transport and water balance in the Baikal Basin

Geographical faculty of Moscow State University (Russia)

Data base for modeling of pollutants transport in the Selenga river basin has been created, as well as setting of the model of pollutants transport and water balance in the Lake Baikal basin, basing on the data base, has been developed. For pollutants transport modeling along the length of water systems, programs and methods necessary for task solution have been chosen and specialized program module has been elaborated. Solution of this task enables to conduct early and timely warning of users, who are downstream, about strong threats of transportable pollutants for purposes of prevention and necessary protection measures.



Within the scope of work the following objectives have been achieved:

- Conduction of trainings using the premises of Baikal Institute of nature management (Russia) and Institute of hydrology and meteorology (Mongolia) for acquaintance with principles of HEC-RAS, WEAP model work and necessary skills of ArcGIS.
- Calibration and verification of one-dimensional hydrodynamic model (HEC-RAS) for chosen key parts of river net.
- Calibration and verification of WEAP for the Lake Baikal basin.
- Development of expert-analytical system of chemical element transfer down the Selenga River.
- Installation of program complex HEC-RAS, WEAP and developed models on computers of Baikal Information Centre in Mongolia and Russia.
- Visualization of scenario results of river net reaction forecast and water balance calculation published on Baikal Information Centre web-site.

## Intercalibration of analytical procedures for analytes, included into harmonized program of hydrochemical monitoring for Selenga river basin

Hydrochemical institute (Russia), Institute of Hydrometeorology (Mongolia)



In 2012 harmonized program of water quality in the Selenga River basin was developed by Russian Hydrochemical Institute and Mongolian Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, and endorsed by governments of both countries (Russia and Mongolia), what enables to work out unified approaches to ensuring of control system of analytical procedures quality between Russia and Mongolia.

In 2014 the second phase of intercalibration of measurement methods of the following was carried out: microelements (arsenic, cadmium, manganese, chromium, molybdenum, cobalt, nickel, aluminum), cations (lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium), anions (fluorides, chlorides, bromides, nitrites, nitrates, phosphates, sulphates), petroleum products and chemical oxygen demand. Measurements of only five indicators, such as hardness, calcium, phosphates, sulphates and chlorides, out of all data obtained from the Mongolian laboratories can be regarded as reliable and compatible with the Russian data. Training workshops have been held in Ulan-Ude for Mongolian specialists on methodology issues of surface waters and measurement quality control with the purpose of implementing of more selective and sensitive measurement methods of: microelements (arsenic, cadmium, manganese, chromium, molybdenum, cobalt, nickel, aluminum), cations (lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium), anions (fluorides, nitrates, phosphates, sulphates). Also, a new high value equipment has been bought and present available equipment has been modernized (ion chromatograph and lamps for analysis of heavy metals by means of atom absorption) for Mongolian Central Laboratory in Ulaanbaatar.



## International expedition works on organization of sanitary-epidemiological monitoring of transboundary water objects in the Republic of Buryatia and Mongolia

Central administration of specialized inspection (Mongolia), Federal Supervision Agency for Customer Protection and Human Welfare in the Republic of Buryatia (Russia), Federal Budget Institution of Health «Centre of hygiene and epidemiology in the Republic of Buryatia» (Russia), Federal Budget Institution East-Siberian Scientific Centre of human ecology, Siberian branch of the Russian Academy of medical sciences (Russia).



On June 15-21, 2014 Federal Supervision Agency for Customer Protection and Human Welfare in the Republic of Buryatia, Central administration of specialized inspection, Federal Budget Institution of Health «Centre of

hygiene and epidemiology» with the participation of East-Siberian Scientific Centre of human ecology (Angarsk) held the international expedition works on organization of sanitary-epidemiological monitoring of transboundary water objects in the Republic of Buryatia and Mongolia.

The works were done within the scope of realization of intergovernmental program “Assessment of risk to human health from pollution of transboundary waters on the territory of the Russian Federation and Mongolia”, which was approved on the 6th Plenipotentiary meeting of Russian and Mongolian governments on realization of the Transboundary waters protection and use Agreement between Russia and Mongolia.

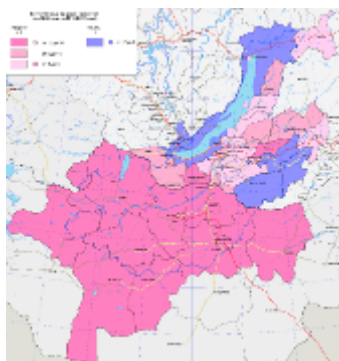
The following objectives have been achieved:

- The harmonization of methods and techniques of water laboratory control by sanitary-epidemiological indicators;
- The enhancement of sanitary-epidemiological monitoring programs of transboundary rivers, sampling points and sampling frequency;
- Conducting of joint water sampling on transboundary rivers (Selenga, Orhon, Tuul, Kyahtinka, Lake Baikal) to ensure results comparability on microbiological, virological and parasitological parameters by employees of departments of both countries, responsible for

- implementation of the program;
- Holding of joint workshop for employees of departments of both countries, responsible for implementation of the program and scientific experts in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), on the methodological issues of measurements procedures and sampling procedures;
- Development of action plan for implementation of the program for epidemiological risk assessment to human health from pollution of transboundary waters of the Selenga River in the Republic of Buryatia and Selenge aimag.

### The Ecological atlas of the Baikal basin

Institute of geography (Irkutsk, Russia), Institute of geography (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)



In 2014 the joint Russian-Mongolian assessment on creation and publication of unique “Ecological atlas of the Baikal basin” was finished. The atlas consists of more than 150 different nature resource and nature protection maps, which cover the territory of the basin in Russia and Mongolia.

The maps are posted and available in interactive regime on web-site of the

Baikal information centre.

The Ecological atlas of the Lake Baikal basin was created for integration of modern data and knowledge about main factors of ecological condition formation in the Lake Baikal basin, as well as about modern condition of environment. The atlas shows those data and knowledge in forms which are appropriate enough for solving of economically and ecologically balanced development problems of the Baikal region. While creation of the atlas the following data and methods were used: the newest achievements of atlas mapping, GIS-technologies, methods of remote sensing, frequently supplemented and updated base of thematic spatial data and the database located in Institute of geography of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS,

Irkutsk), Limnological Institute (RAS, Irkutsk), Institute of earth crust (RAS, Irkutsk), Baikal Institute of nature management (RAS, Ulan-Ude), Institute of nature resources, ecology and cryology (RAS, Chita), Institute of geography of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences (Ulaanbaatar). Creation of atlas required integrated study of ecological problems and situations from both territorial and content views. Combination of nature resource, biotic, economic, social and demographical factors was possible thanks to target developed complex program of digital mapping, which was considered as a procedure of preparation of objective and accessible information about territorial objects for solving of branch and integral ecological mapping tasks.

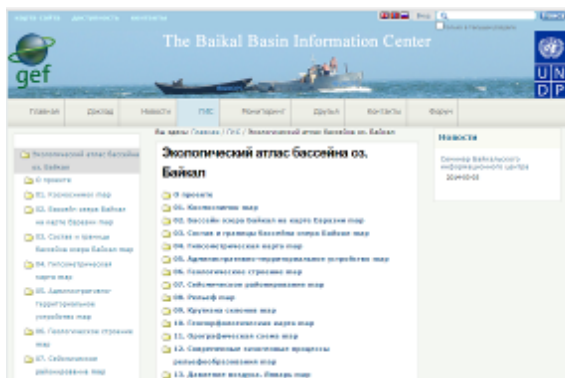
Within the scope of work the following main steps of atlas creation were set: compilation of map basis, data collection for development of subject content of maps, digitization of necessary subject layers of maps, formation of subject data bases, development of projects in GIS-shell conditions, map grouping, etc. The electronic atlas mapping of the Baikal basin was developed in two basic scale levels: 1: 5 000 000 for maps of nature factors and 1: 6 000 000 for maps of socio-economic factors of ecological condition formation. The data base and its subject scope depended on character of mapped effects and processes, modern condition and existence of certain nature, resource, economic, social, demographic, ecological, etc. problems of nature management.

Structurally the atlas consists of seven blocks – introductory and six subjects:

Nature conditions of ecological condition formation; 2) resource factors of ecological condition formation; 3) socio-economic factors of ecological condition formation; 4) transformation of environment; 5) medical ecological condition; 6) environment protection; 7) ecological condition of the Baikal basin.

## Baikal Information Center (BIC). Biennial report on the Baikal basin condition.

Baikal Institute of nature management (Russia), Basin management of the Orkhon River (Mongolia), National water committee (Mongolia)



Within the scope of developed BIC data and information exchange protocol for Russia and Mongolia, based on conception and informational structure of BIC, the Baikal basin data have been collected and uploaded to BIC portal (section – Documents).

“Report on environment condition in the Lake Baikal basin 2012-2013” has been prepared. All sections of the portal have been updated: Documents, News, Atlas, Monitoring, Modeling and Friends. The Atlas section has maps, which were created within the scope of the Baikal Project activity – “Ecological atlas of the Lake Baikal basin”. Besides, all maps have been posted on the BIC website using IW: LEARN GeoNote Map Server: <http://geonode.iwlearn.org/>. All information has been published in English, Mongolian and Russian. In January 2015 the report 2012-2013 will be published in English, Mongolian and Russian.

## Satellite analysis and identification of abandoned cattle mortuaries

Institute of general and experimental biology of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia), Federal Supervision Agency for Customer Protection and Human Welfare in the Republic of Buryatia, and (Russia) Irkutsk Anti-plague Research Institute (Russia)

Within the scope of work implementation the following objectives have been achieved:



Analysis of archived materials from executive bodies, literature and cartographical sources, local public opinion survey;

Analysis of remotely sensed data of Barguzinsky and Kurumkansky districts;

Support of veterinary control inspection of Buryatia in soil sampling for microbiological

analyses, using remotely sensed data from selected places;

Carrying out of soil samples microbiological analysis in government licensed laboratories for identification of anthrax strains and other special danger infection.

Specific deliverables:

According to the remotely sensed data and analysis two anthrax cattle mortuaries, which need special conservation for prevention of possible infection outbreak, have been identified.



## Pilot project of siting a new mine in order to avoid surface and groundwater and soil contamination.

Baikal Institute of nature management of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)

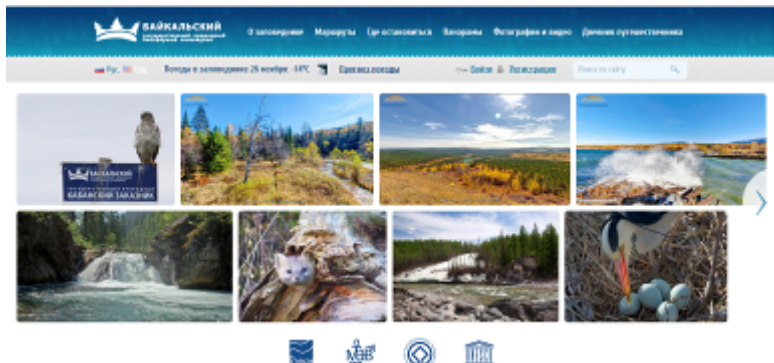


Within the scope of the pilot project implementation, using the example of Nikolsky coal mine, the following main objectives have been achieved:

- Selection of the site for mining, determining the dangerous pollution sources and their negative impact on environment;
- Carrying out of expedition research with water and bottom sediment sampling and analysis to determine background content of pollutants in the future mining area;
- According to the analysis results the level of anthropogenic impact on ecological condition of the researched area can be estimated as satisfactory.
- Consideration of processing of coal to activated carbon and carbonic sorbent, which have priority significance for water purification system, as well as methods of activated carbon production. According to performer of this work, main method of utilization of overburden rock solid waste while coal extraction is their use in building industry.
- Estimation of possible impact on environment and biodiversity during planned mine exploitation.

## Biodiversity compatible complex eco-tourism plan for Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve

Non-commercial partnership “Baikal eco-tourist association” (Russia)



With the purpose of eco-tourism potential enhancement in the Baikal State Reserve the eco-tourist plan has been developed. The plan has been approved by management of the reserve and leading tour-operators of Buryatia and Irkutskaya oblastj. The complex tourist product has been presented in Russian and English, including description and content, technological and financial maps of the tour, photo and video presentation of each tour. Design and information structure of the tourist website of the reserve have been worked out basing on created tourist plan.

## Observation of the Baikal seal on the Ushkanii islands

Zabaikalsky national park (Russia)



Building of observation deck and eco-trail to seasonal haul of the Baikal seal has been finished on one of the Ushkanii islands in the Zabaikalsky national park. The observation deck is also accessible for disabled people.

## Eco-camp in the Sorozhya bay

Zabaikalsky national park (Russia)



With the purpose of eco-tourism potential enhancement in the Zabaikalsky national park the reconnaissance of recreational part “Sorozhya bay” has been done, the conception of that recreational part and draft projects of small architectural

forms, observation deck, toilet, tourist camp, tent site have been developed. The recreational part “Sorozhya bay” has been equipped. In 2015 the project will be continued. Information name plates and materials for tourists will be worked out and produced.

## “Baikal treasure” learning kit in Russia and Mongolia

Baikal information center “Gran” (Russia)



In 2014 Baikal information center “Gran” within the scope of the UNDP-BonAqua Project “Every drop matters” completed work on English version of learning kit “Baikal treasure” for pupils of junior and medium age.

With the support of the Lake Baikal Project a seminar for teachers of Mongolia has been organized in Ulaanbaatar and 50 kits in English and 10 kits in Russian, as well as disks with movie “Baikal without boundaries” in Russian and Mongolian have been handed to the participants. Besides this, international seminar “Ecological education on lakeside territories: experience and innovative technologies”, dedicated to presentation of English version of the “Baikal treasure”, has been held.

## Precious necklace of Baikal (media-conception)

Project “Atlas of Culture” (Russia), Publishing house “Ekos” (Russia).



There is a number of reserves and national parks with federal status on territory of the Lake Baikal basin and on neighboring territories: Baikal State nature biosphere reserve, Barguzinsky State nature biosphere reserve, Baikalo-Lensky State nature reserve, Dzherginsky State nature reserve, Sokhondinsky

State nature biosphere reserve, Daursky State nature biosphere reserve, Alkhanai National park, Zabaikalsky National park, Pribaikalsky National park, Tunkinsky National park. This fact provided the basis for media conception under the title “Precious necklace of Baikal”. The purpose of the conception is raising of Russian citizens and international audience awareness of condition, potential and opportunities tourism potential development in the reserves and national parks of the Baikal region with their objects of unique flora and fauna, specifics of nature landscapes. A special accent was made on ecological paths, which give an opportunity to touch the nature in its original condition. Within the scope of the conception a movie under the same name was produced and a special issue of journal “World of Baikal” was released.

## Lake Baikal and Lake Khuvsgul shoreline cleanup campaigns.

Center of ecological and social project development (Russia), Agriculture and Cooperatives Association in Khuvsgul (Mongolia)

Work of public organization “Center of ecological and social project development” on Lake Baikal and Selenga shoreline cleanup was supported. There were the following activities: 5–6 April 2014 – Pure Ice (Irkutskaya oblastj, Listvyanka and territory of ferry crossing to the Olkhon island); 12 April 2014 – Pure Ice (the Republic of Buryatia within the scope of “Baikal fishing” activity); 15 July – 15 August 2014 – Patrol and nature

protection camp “Baikal Shoreline Patrol”; 7 August 2014 – All-Russian cleaning on the Selenga River «Clean shore of Selenga» (Ulan-Ude); 25 August – 6 September 2014 – “Source of Baikal” – expedition to Mongolia to Khuvsgul lake.

Totally within the 2014 season the organizers of the “Save Baikal” Project held 11 activities, moved across 17000 km. About 500 volunteers took part in the activities, the working territory made up 100 square km. More than 2000 packs of waste (as well as oversized garbage) were gathered, a base for the Baikal Shoreline Patrol work enhancement was prepared and a



2015-2017 nature protection work plan was compiled. Cleanup campaign of Eg riverside territory on Khuvsgul lake, with attraction of local population, was organized in Mongolia on 8-14 November 2014. The campaign took place near Alag-Erden and Khatgal sums with participation of 50 volunteers including teachers and students of ecological clubs. 10 units of transport (6 trucks, 1 big tractor, a small tractor and 2 automobiles) were involved. As a result, 11 hectares of riverside territory was cleaned and administrations of the Khatgal and Alag Erdene soums agreed to relocate solid waste site in order to prevent further pollution of Eg River. Besides, different trainings and seminars for local inhabitants were held.



# Project Achievements 2015



Photo by Elena Chumak





## **Baikal Project major achievements according to Strategic Result Framework**

### **2012-2015 Summary**

In accordance with the working plan approved by Steering Committee and within the scope of the Lake Baikal Project it was implemented 96 works. These works were performed by different organizations.

The project participated and assisted in organization of various activities that meet project goals and objectives.

In total, during 2012-2015 period, the staff of the PMU took part in 124 such events and meetings. Information about the project has been published in more than 240 different sources.

Approved budget for 2012 year was realized by 95%

Approved budget for 2013 year was realized by 99%

Approved budget for 2014 year was realized by 96%

Approved budget for 2015 year was realized by 95%

- See more at:

[http://baikaliwlearn.org/en/results?set\\_language=en#sthash.PsKJFFB6.dpuf](http://baikaliwlearn.org/en/results?set_language=en#sthash.PsKJFFB6.dpuf)

## Film about the Lake Baikal project: “Russia, Mongolia, GEF – Investing In Lake Baikal”



During the 4-years period of implementation of the GEF Lake Baikal Project the significant results have been achieved and appreciated by the governments of Russia and Mongolia. The film reveals the meaning and significance of the project efforts, describes specific events and important milestones, reports

about the activities undertaken, new initiatives and published documents. The viewer should get a complete picture of the goals, objectives, sense of the project activities in transboundary water basin of Lake Baikal.

All results are available in three languages and are part of a single knowledge base, opened to all interested parties after the end of the project. The project prepared and published dozens of brochures, books and guidelines that have filled libraries of various organizations in Russia and Mongolia and have become the basis of current knowledge about the ecosystem of Lake Baikal.

### Preparation and approval of the Strategic Action Programme

In 2015 the Russian and Mongolian experts completed two-year work on the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) under the direction of environmental ministries of the Russian Federation and Mongolia.

The Strategic Action Programme was endorsed by the governments of Russia and Mongolia in October 2015.

SAP aims to mitigate threats to the ecosystem of Lake Baikal basin. This program includes the Russian-Mongolian joint actions to strengthen the protection of the ecosystem of Lake Baikal Basin.

The program is also an important final stage of the Baikal Project.



SAP provides a framework for coordinated policy actions to protect biodiversity and natural resources of the Lake Baikal transboundary basin. Threats to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems of the Baikal Basin have been identified and ranked by Russia and Mongolia in the development process of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis. This SAP provides a systematic approach to the control and prevention of such threats through a process of technical and strategic actions taken by the Governments of Mongolia and Russia.

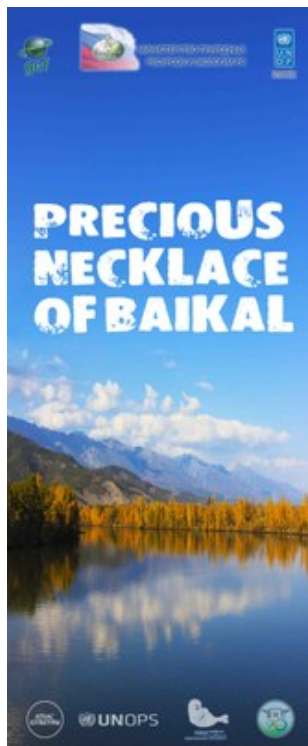
## Publication of The Ecological Atlas of the Baikal basin in three languages



One of the essential works is the development and production of Russian-Mongolian "The Ecological Atlas of the Baikal basin", which consists of 132 maps with different environmental information. The Atlas combines the latest information about the nature, resources and status of territories of the Lake Baikal watershed. It will help to solve many economic and environmental

objectives and to justify the direction of ecologically balanced, harmonious and sustainable territorial development of the region. Atlas is published in three languages: Russian, Mongolian and English.

## THE PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL



In 2015 the UNDP-GEF Regional Project “Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem” (the Baikal project) completed an implementation of the special public awareness media concept “PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL”.

Specially protected nature areas (SPNA) cover 33% of Lake Baikal and include nature reserves, nature sanctuaries, and national parks. There are several nature reserves and national parks located in and around Lake Baikal which together are THE PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL: the Baikalsky State Nature Biosphere Reserve, the Barguzinsky State Nature Biosphere Reserve, the Baikalo-Lensky State Nature Reserve, the Dzherginsky State Nature Reserve, the Sokhondinsky State Nature Biosphere Reserve, the Daursky State Nature Biosphere Reserve, the Alkhanaisky National Park, the Zabaikalsky National Park, the Pribaikalsky National Park, and the Tunkinsky National Park.

The media concept bearing the same name, the PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL, developed under the Baikal project is to raise awareness of the people of Russia and the public in other countries about the current state and prospects of developing tourism in nature reserves and national parks of the Baikal region (Republic of Buryatia, Irkutsk Oblast, Zabaikalsky Krai). This is an area of unique flora and fauna, and magnificent landscapes. Special focus is put on eco-trails that lend visitors a possibility to enjoy nature in its pristine state.

Ecotourism in SPNAs is developed with support from the Baikal Project. The Baikal Project in conjunction with the government of Russia is focusing on sustainable development of territories included in the protected areas of the Baikal basin. The issue of promoting ecotourism in international markets is currently of special importance, and for this reason a promotion campaign for SPNAs has been launched under the auspices of a project targeting the European tourist market with special emphasis on development of eco-trails and using ecotourism best practices, and also promoting protected areas (PA) through the Internet in different languages.

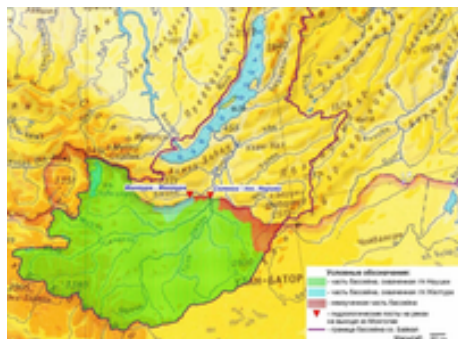
Additionally the PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL media project has been produced to share the best practices of implementing ecotourism projects in SPNAs, engaging local communities, raising awareness, and attracting tourists.

For the purposes of implementing this concept, expeditions have been arranged to all the nature reserves and national parks of the area, and professional photographers have been hired to conduct photo and video shoots of the main landscapes, tourist routes, and eco-trails.

The Atlas of Culture Project has produced THE PRECIOUS NECKLACE OF BAIKAL documentary. The special edition of the World of Baikal Magazine has been produced and published which is a welcome addition to the Documentary and it describes all the SPNAs in and around Lake Baikal and lists the ecotours that lead through such areas. The documentary and the magazine have been produced both in the English and Russian languages. In addition, separate promotion video clips have been created for each protected area.

## Prediction of water balance changes in the Selenga river basin

Faculty of Geography of Moscow State University created a database for modeling of pollutants transport into the waters of the Lake Baikal basin. On this basis setting up of the model of pollution transport and water balance in the Lake Baikal basin has been made.



As the final step of this work, the predictive assessment of long-term water balance changes in the transboundary basin of Selenga was prepared in terms of climatic fluctuations and changes in the characteristics of water usage.

The solution of these problems allows carrying out early and timely notification to alert downstream users about the cases of threats of distribution of contaminants to prevent them and to take the necessary security measures. The model is able to predict the changes in hydrological characteristics under different anthropogenic loads on the Lake Baikal basin, as well on the lake itself, which is a World Heritage Site.

## Monitoring of the water resources quality of the Selenga river Delta



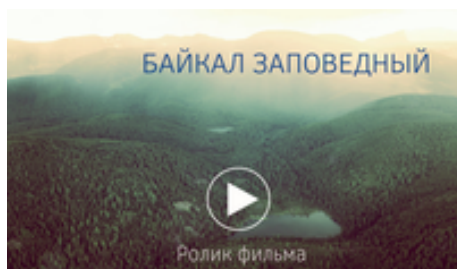
The purpose of this work was to study the physical, chemical and biological processes in the Selenga River delta in the regime of monitoring and evaluation of water quality in the modern period. The modern methods were used to determine the chemical

composition, the sanitary-microbiological and hydrobiological state of fresh water.



As a result of the research obtained the data characterizing the formation of the Selenga River runoff in the lower reaches, the spatial dynamics of pH, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, organic matter, main ions, heavy metals, bacterial plankton and phytoplankton have been defined in the water of the main ducts of the Selenga river Delta. The quality of water has been estimated using chemical, sanitary, microbiological and hydro biological parameters.

### The film about Baikal biosphere Reserve



A state environmental service was established on Lake Baikal in 1917. In modern time, there are the largest reserves and national parks of the country. The documentary "Baikal reserve" represents the history

and modern achievements of the Baikal biosphere reserve, which became a pioneer in the development of ecological tourism in Russia.

The film was made for demonstration to the guests of the Baikal nature reserve, showing at national and international events and meetings. It presents the history and the present of the country's largest nature reserve. The film was made in the short and full versions in English and Russian.

## Guide to developing sustainable tourism in protected areas “Practical, profitable, protected” in Russian



The project prepared and published the Russian version of the guide to developing sustainable tourism in protected areas.

It contains ideas, case studies, guidelines and tips to help conservation, businesses, host communities and visitors all become winners. This manual is an initiative of ECEAT International, the European Centre for Eco and Agro Tourism in partnership with the EuropArC Federation. The manual was

produced by EuropArC Consulting GmbH, ECEAT – projects and Lauku Ceļotājs, the Latvian Country Tourism Association.

This book is a practical manual on how to develop and manage tourism in protected areas. It is for all those responsible for the management of protected areas as tourism destinations. These include not only protected-area managers but also local authorities, tourism promotion agencies and tourism business associations. It focuses on protected areas that are in an early stage of their tourism development and wish to do this in a well-planned and sustainable manner.

## Development of eco-tourism in Pribaikalsky National Park



This work was performed as part of the Lake Baikal project component 3.3, for protected area “Zapovednoe Pribaikal’e”, which consists of the Baikal-Lena protected area and national park. The purpose of

this study was the inclusion of controls ecosystem health and biodiversity in the planning organization of tourism, creation of conditions for the development of ecotourism in the reserve that is compatible with biodiversity.

It has produced compatible with biodiversity ecotourism plan for cape Khoboy (unique tourist site on Olkhon island, Lake Baikal, within the territory of Pribaikalsky National Park), set viewing platform developed information signs. As part of the work, on the sand-bank "Khanhoyskaya" small reservation was created to preserve populations of rare plants included in the Red List of Irkutsk Oblast (2010).

## Shoreline cleanup campaigns on Baikal and Selenga



The project "Save Baikal" has been supported by the Lake Baikal project. From June to September 2015 it included a wide range of educational and practical activities, such as work on cleaning, monitoring of areas, educational events

among the local population and visitors.

As part of 2015 season of "Save Baikal" the works included cleaning up the shores of Lake Baikal and Selenga, including 4 areas, covering a total of 140 km of coastline and the forest zone (Irkutsk region, Buryatia, Mongolia), as well as a number of related activities.

During the season 2015 the area of about 5 square kilometers has been cleaned. The length of shoreline cleaned: Irkutsk region: 40km, Republic of Buryatia: 80 km, Selenga: 2 km, Mongolia: 4 km. It was collected more than 1,000 cubic meters of garbage (1300 bags of 200 liters each + other garbage).

### Assisting in the development of international cooperation (meetings in Mongolia)

The project supported the Russian-Mongolian meetings in Mongolia, dedicated to various issues of management of transboundary water resources.

- 1) The Russian-Mongolian meeting to exchange information on the assessment of environmental impact of the project of Shuren hydroelectric station and other hydro-technical utilities on Selenga (30-31 March 2015).
- 2) The meeting of the Joint Working Group on the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (28-29 April 2015).
- 3) The Meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the Russian and Mongolian governments on the implementation of the Russian and Mongolian inter-governmental Agreement on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (28-31 October 2015).

# Project Publications



Photo by Sergey Kudelya



The Harmonized Water Quality Monitoring Program in the Selenga River Basin Program in the Selenga River Basin (in English, Russian, Mongolian)

[illegible]

## Ecological enhancement plan in the Baikal region


 ПРОЕКТ ПРОДВИЖЕНИЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО И СОЦИАЛЬНОГО РАЗВИТИЯ ГОРОДА МОСКВЫ И ЕГО РАЙОНОВ В РАМКАХ ПРОГРАММЫ ПОДДЕРЖКИ ГОРОДСКОГО ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО И СОЦИАЛЬНОГО РАЗВИТИЯ  
 ПРОЕКТ ПОДДЕРЖКИ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО И СОЦИАЛЬНОГО РАЗВИТИЯ  
 МОСКОВСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ И ГОРОДА МОСКВЫ

Пакет улучшения экологического обслуживания  
 в Бюджетном регионе



МОСКВА 2012


 UNEP

This brochure contains a road map of environmental education enhancement till 2015 at different levels (preschool, school, college education). It is recommended for replication and introduction in regions of the Baikal district.

## Upgrade of competency of administrative staff in the field of ecology and sustainable development for Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem



Zabaikalsky State Pedagogical University

This manual contains a methodology of upgrading of competency of administrative staff in the field of ecology. Sustainable development was proposed and corresponding academic manuals were developed. The manual is recommended for replication and introduction in regions of the Baikal district.

## Eco-tourism development: initiatives of business, society and government

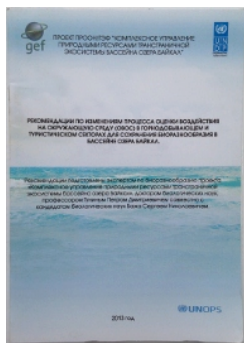
Baikal Institute of Nature Management of Russian Academy of Sciences



The round table "Development of eco-tourism: initiatives and partnership of business, society and government" was organized by the Baikal Project as a part of the International forum «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20». The Project invited several international consultants from European Protected Areas with a wide experience in eco-tourism. More than 100 participants from Russia and Mongolia took part in the roundtable discussion. The book "Eco-tourism development: initiatives of business, society and

government" was prepared, printed and distributed among participants.

## Recommendations for changes EIA process in Russian



Gunin Petr and Bazha Sergey

This brochure includes: 1) Recommendations for changes in local and national policies, legislation and regional development plans to enhance biodiversity protection in mining and tourism sector 2) Recommendations for EIA process in mining and tourism sector to make it more biodiversity relevant and focused.

## The role of green economy in the Baikal Basin in Russia

Baikal Institute of Nature Management of Russian Academy of Sciences

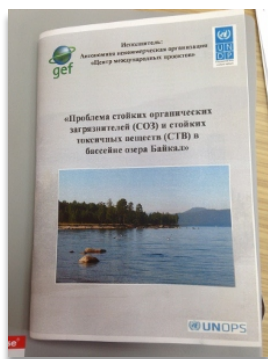


The seminar "Environmental problems of Lake Baikal Basin and role of green economy in their solving" was held on July 30 – August 02, 2013. Basin-specific National Capacity Self -Assessments were carried out and used to identify highest priority training and management support at the regional and basin level. This seminar was supported by the Baikal Project and organized for specialists of Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatia and Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia.

This brochure contains practical recommendations for consolidation of state, society and business efforts for mutual solving of ecological problems and rising of ecological security of nature resources use.

## POPs/PTSs problem in the Baikal Basin

Center of International Projects and Bayarjargal Munkhuu



A study guide in Russian and Mongolian was developed for rising awareness and improvement in management of stakeholders in Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The study guide considered Baikal Basin POP and PTS data, including their production, use in industry and agriculture, as well as data about abandoned warehouses with expired pesticides.

## “Precious necklace of Baikal”

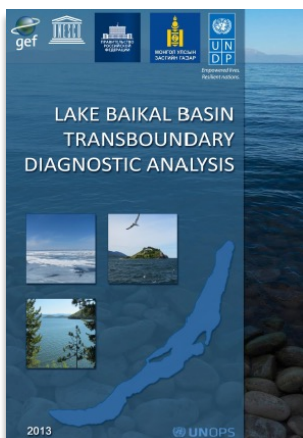


Publishing house “Ekos”

A special edition of a magazine “Mir Baikala” was published to demonstrate the Baikal nature reserves and national parks for eco-tourists in Russian and English languages. Natural objects of unique flora and fauna and landscapes are shown. Particular focus made on ecological trails, enabling contact with nature in its purest form.

## Lake Baikal basin transboundary diagnostic analysis

Team of consultants

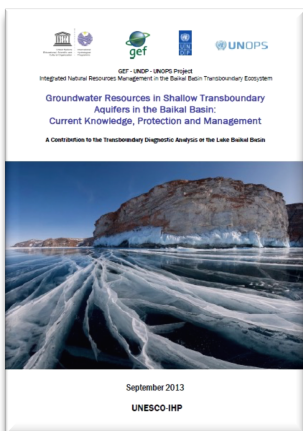


Lake Baikal basin transboundary diagnostic analysis document presents the results of extensive expert analyses relating to the present and expected future status of Lake Baikal and its catchment basin, which is shared by the Russian Federation and Mongolia. The analyses specifically focus on issues that may induce environmental impacts beyond national boundaries, or issues that are common to both countries.

Collectively, this represents a Transboundary Analysis (TDA). The TDA is intended as a decision support tool for issues to be addressed within the context of immediate and long-term sustainable management of the ecosystems in the Baikal Basin. The TDA forms the basis for the development of a comprehensive Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for addressing priority environmental issues.

## Groundwater Resources in Shallow Transboundary Aquifers in the Baikal Basin: Current Knowledge, Protection and Management

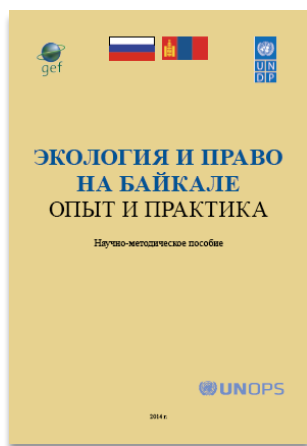
UNESCO-IHP; Team of consultants



The report consolidates the results of activities under Output 1.3 of the Project, which were focused on the assessment of groundwater resources and their interaction with surface water in the transboundary basin of Lake Baikal. As a central element the role of groundwater in sustaining the functioning of the unique ecosystems of Lake Baikal was explored. This included the identification and description of potential threats to these ecosystems in terms of quantitative (groundwater level decline) and qualitative

(pollution) aspects. Priority was given to unravelling the hydrological, hydraulic and hydro-chemical interactions between surface and groundwater, with specific regard to shallow aquifers in fluvial/alluvial deposits and their interactions with adjacent rivers and lakes.

### Textbook “Ecology and Law on Lake Baikal. Experience and practice” “Burpriroda”



The textbook “Ecology and Law on Lake Baikal. Experience and practice” was specially prepared for environmental inspectors in Russian and includes issues below: goals and objectives of environmental inspectors; features of the environmental supervision in the Baikal Natural Territory; analysis of law enforcement practices; state supervision in the field of waste management and measures to improve the work in this direction; control of subsoil in common minerals and measures to improve the work in this direction; issues of water protection legislation; protection,

control and regulation of use of fauna related to hunting and their habitats; monitoring activities, reproduction and use of wildlife.



## Pilot sport fishing program “catch and release” for the Baikal Basin

“Ecoleague”

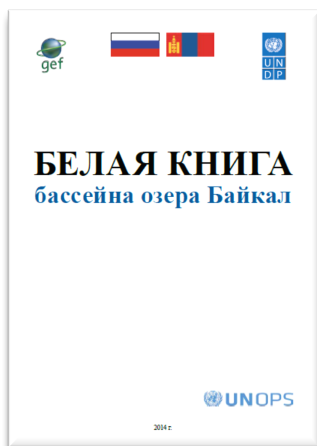


This pilot sport fishing program “catch and release” can be used as a training textbook for tourism policy makers, fisheries enforcement officers, sport fishing guides and operators from Russia and Mongolia.

Organized groups of sport fishing guides can be trained in the basic tenets of low-impact, catch and release fishing using either fly fishing or lure fishing techniques. Proper catch and release fish handling techniques are demonstrated.

## “White book” of the Baikal basin

“Ecoleague”



The “White book” is a transboundary catalogue of NGOs, which are related to the Baikal basin with the detailed description. This book will enhance involvement of the civil society in the transboundary collaborative process, creating the network of NGOs. The network will form structured, well-defined and efficient NGO partnerships to allow for adequate and coordinated representation of civil society in the context of the transboundary and national SAP implementation. The White book is a basis for creation of virtual web-based tools for

maintaining of partnerships. It will encourage the membership of community-based organizations (CBOs) and NGOs (registered and non-registered).

## Documentary “Baikal without boundaries”

“Atlas Media”



HD documentary “Baikal without boundaries” represents the Baikal area as a unified ensemble of water elements, and pay special attention to the major rivers flowing into the lake. The banks of those rivers are inhabited by the people of some indigenous Russian and Mongolian nations. There is the life scenes of those people, which are significant and expressive from the point of view of the idea and the message of this

documentary: ethnographic celebrations, handicrafts, and religious ceremonies.

## Documentary “Precious necklace of Baikal”

“Atlas Media”



The documentary demonstrates the Baikal nature reserves and national parks for eco-tourists in the Russian and English languages. Natural objects of unique flora and fauna and landscapes are shown. Particular focus is on ecological trails, enabling contact with nature in its purest form.

## Sub-basin watershed management plans for Ider, Eg and Orkhon/Selenga rivers in Mongolia

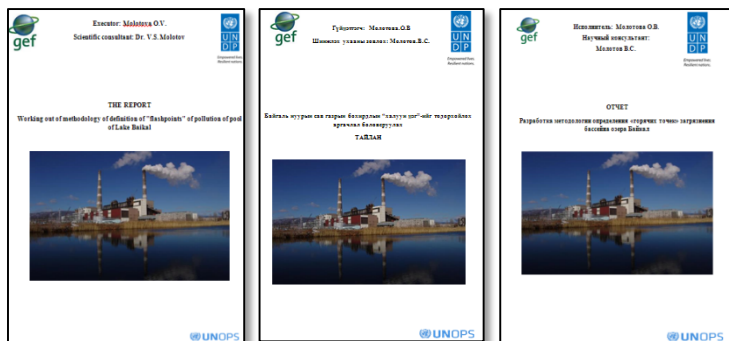
“Mongolia Water Forum”, NGO



These three sub-basin watershed management plans establish baselines on socio-economic and ecological condition of target sub-basins of Ider, Eg and Orkhon/Selenga rivers in Mongolia for further development of river basin management plans for those watersheds of Selenga basin. Baseline data will be collected on economic activities and their impacts on the environment.

## Working out of methodology of definition of "flashpoints" of pollution of pool of Lake Baikal

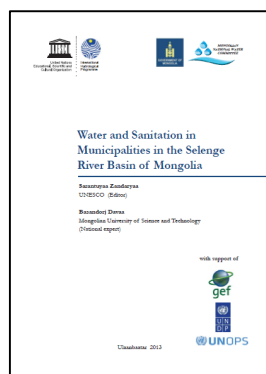
Consultant: Mrs. Oyuna Molotova



The review, published in English, Mongolian and Russian contains detailed analysis and prioritization of the most significant hot spots. The hot spot assessment identifies and maps all significant hot spots in the Basin, including both active and closed industrial facilities.

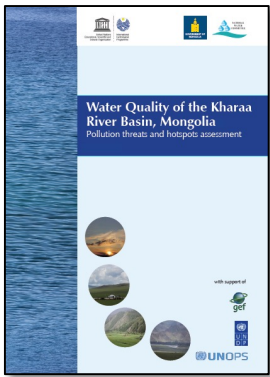
## Water and Sanitation in Municipalities in the Selenge River Basin of Mongolia

UNESCO-IHP, team of consultants



This report presents a review of access to water and sanitation in municipalities located in the Selenge River Basin of Mongolia, including a review of the upgrade needs to improve water and sanitation services and the identification of ongoing and planned programmes and projects on water and sanitation.

# Water Quality of the Kharaa River Basin, Mongolia: Pollution threats and hotspots assessment



UNESCO-IHP, team of consultants

This report presents results of water quality assessment of the Selenge River Basin (Mongolia), with specific emphasis on assessment of pollution threats and pollution hotspots in the Kharaa River Basin.

# Project Events



Photo by Elena Chumak



## The Inception Workshop



21.11.2011, Ulan-Ude, Russia

On 21 November 2011 in Ulan-Ude, Russia the Project Inception Workshop was held. The purpose of the Inception Workshop: was to present the Project to the project team, partners and expert community; detailed review of the project goals, objectives, outcomes and activities; discussion on the implementation and management arrangements; review of GEF M&E requirements; discussion on the roles of various partners and stakeholders in the project implementation.

## The First Steering Committee Meeting



22.11.2011, Ulan-Ude, Russia

On 22 Nov 2011 in Ulan-Ude, Russia the First Steering Committee Meeting was held. Agenda of meeting included the presentation of the Project to the Steering Committee members and observers including overview of the project goals, objectives and outcomes; coordination, implementation and management arrangements; GEF M&E requirements. Also it was a discussion on the project governance, strategy and priorities. Project manager presented the budget and working plan for the project first year.

## The scientific conference of Russian Academy of Science with the Academy of Sciences of Mongolia



14.02.2012, Irkutsk, Russia

The International workshop conference "Cooperation Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Science with the Academy of Sciences of Mongolia on implementation of joint projects: results and prospects" was opened on 14 February 2012 in the Irkutsk Scientific Center. The participants shared their experience and discussed further cooperation. Total, the

conference was attended by over 80 people from seven cities of Russia (Novosibirsk, Ulan-Ude, Chita, Kemerevo, Irkutsk) and 14 representatives from Ulan Bator. Project Manager Sergey Kudelya shared information about Lake Baikal Project with stakeholders and scientists.

### “Clean ice of Lake Baikal”, shoreline and ice clean-up campaigns



14.04.2012, Buryatiya, Russia

The Baikal Project supported shoreline and ice cleanup public event “Clean Ice of Lake Baikal” on 14 April 2012 in Yartsy township. It was a part of international garbage collection campaign “Let’s Do It World Clean Up 2012!” and “All-Russian Cleaning 2012”. This event was organized by International volunteer project “Save

Baikal”. 40 volunteers from Russia (Ulan-Ude, Moscow), France and Poland took part in this event. During 6 hours of work 90 garbage bags, 120 liters each, were filled with garbage from Baikal ice and shoreline by the volunteers.

### The Inter-Fractional deputy group “Baikal in The State Duma of the Russian Federation



27.04.2012, Moscow, Russia

The deputy group “Baikal” was established in The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on 27 April, 2012. The group includes deputies of the sixth convocation from Russian regions, located in the Baikal natural territory

(Irkutsk region, Buryatia, Zabaykalskiy kray). Members from fraction “Edinaya Rossiya” are Michael Slipenchuk, Iosif Kobzon, Anton Romanov and Sergei Ten; from fraction CPRF - Sergei Levchenko, Vyacheslav Markhaev, Vladimir Pozdnyakov and Eugeniy Rulkov; from fraction “Spravedlivaya Rossiya” – Ivan Grachev, Constantin Ilkovskiy, Andrey Krutov; from fraction LDPR – Vasilina Kulieva and Andrey Lugovoi. This group is expected to improve the legal framework for the implementation of federal and local laws for Lake Baikal preservation and also improvement of socio-economic and environmental conditions in the Baikal region.



### A competition in ecology among schoolchildren

26.05.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia

Awarding of winners of The Russian National Competition among schoolchildren in water projects, which was carried out on 26 May 2012 with the support of the Baikal Project.

### Biannual meeting of UNDP ecosystem management and adaptation projects



30.05.2012, Sofia, Bulgaria

The ECIS biodiversity and ecosystem-based adaptation portfolio has a total of 40 ongoing projects and several projects under development. Expansion and increased effectiveness of national protected area systems remains the main area of intervention. This meeting brings together the front line force of

UNDP ecosystem projects (BD and ecosystem based adaptation) in order to present and brainstorm on lessons learnt, with a view to help improve the design of UNDP projects, as well as train the project managers in better design, analysis, monitoring and reporting on conservation impact of the projects which they manage.

### 3rd Annual workshop on International legislation and transboundary freshwater



11.06.2012, Dundee, Scotland

The purpose of the workshop was to explore the relevance and function of international law related to transboundary freshwater. It was Co-organized by IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (under the auspices of UNESCO) and Global Water Partnership. The challenges of

the implementation of the fundamental rules and principles of international law was explored. A strong theoretical understanding of international laws with their practical experiences was combined.

## UNOPS International Waters Cluster Management Workshop



09.07.2012, Copenhagen, Denmark

The aim of this workshop was to inform participants about new management guidelines. It specifically focused on budget planning, management and monitoring. Additionally, the IWC Workshop provided UNOPS project managers a possibility to share their experience. The workshop was

conducted together with UNDP Bratislava.

## A workshop of the working group for preparation of Russian-Mongolian plenipotentiaries meeting



17.07.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia -  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The Baikal project supported a working group workshop for preparation of Russian-Mongolian plenipotentiaries meeting. Meeting participants were informed about project workplan and agreed joint activities for the year 2012.

## V International Scientific Conference “Selenga – river without borders”



17.07.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia -  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Integrated natural resource management issues in the Baikal Basin transboundary ecosystem were discussed at the V International Scientific Conference “Selenga – river without borders” in Ulan-Ude. National

Project Technical Director Mongolia, Munkhbat Tserendorj and Bioresources and project scientific expert, Larisa Radnaeva presented current activities in the project implementation. The second phase of the conference was held in the capital of Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar.

## International ecological volunteer camp



18.07.2012, Sukhaya, Russia

The Baikal Project supported the Baikal shoreline volunteer camp. During a month the volunteers gathered more than 450 tons of garbage on the Baikal shoreline of 25 km long. More than 100 volunteers took part in the action.

## The First "Baikal dialogue" Forum



17.08.2012, Ulan-ude, Russia

The "Baikal Dialogue" was dedicated to the problems of Baikal natural territory. The forum was organized by State Duma Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Ecology; parliamentary group "Baikal"; the Government and National Khural of the Republic of Buryatia; the Fund for

Protection of Lake Baikal. The forum purpose was to form a permanent inter-regional discussion platform on a regular basis for the development and preparation of proposals for the preservation of Lake Baikal and sustainable development of the Baikal region. The Project Manager, Sergey Kudelya presented implementation activities of the Baikal Project and raised important issues in the transboundary context.



**All-Russian symposium "Topical problems of analytical chemistry. Analytical methods of environmental objects analysis"**

19.08.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The Baikal Project supported All-Russian Symposium "Topical problems of analytical chemistry. Analytical methods of environmental objects

analysis", which was held in Ulan-Ude during 19-26 August, 2012. The symposium featured presentations of leading experts in the field of analytical chemistry. PM Sergey Kudelya discussed the current activities of



the Baikal Project with the participants during the plenary meeting. The symposium was attended by more than 300 participants from number of organizations of Buryatia relating to environmental analysis.

### A press tour on the Lake Baikal



28.08.2012, Ust-Barguzin, Russia

A press tour with bloggers and representatives of the Bonaqua brand took place in the Republic of Buryatia on 16-20 of May. Baikal Information Center "GRAN" provided organizational support of the tour. The Project Manager, Sergey Kudelya, presented to bloggers all the UNDP activities in

the region. The aim of the tour was to report in media information about the project grants implemented within the framework of the UNDP – Coca-Cola project "Every Drop Matters – Lake Baikal." During their stay the bloggers examined the projects in Ivolginsky, Kabansky and Pribaikalsky districts of Buryatia.

### The Baikal International Economic Forum 2012



14.09.2012, Ulan-ude, Russia

The international economic conference "New economy - new approaches" within the Baikal International economic forum 2012 was held in Ulan-Ude on 14-15 September 2012. The conference was organized by Council of the Federation and bodies of state power in republic of Buryatia. The

project manager, Kudelya Sergey and the Russian Technical Director Shekhovtsov Alexandr presented current project activities at the round-table discussion organized by Ministry of Natural Recourses and Ecology of Russia.



## The second ecological movie festival H2O



14.09.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The second environmental documentary festival H2O took place in Ulan-Ude on September 14-18, 2012. The entrance was free. During five days people had a chance to watch four full-length and two

short films in the movie theater "Progress." Mr. Sergey Kudelya, the project manager, and Ms. Nina Dagbaeva, director of the Baikal Information Center "GRAN" opened the festival with an appeal for thoughtful viewing. More than 200 students from 15 republican schools participated in the quiz; 29 of them were chosen winners in three different age groups. Six schools that took a very active part in the quiz were also awarded.

## The first TDA workshop



18.09.2012, Ulan-ude, Russia

The first workshop on TDA revision was held in Ulan-Ude on 18-19 September 2012. The initial TDA document was prepared in 2008-2009. The Project Manager, Sergey Kudelya; the National Project Technical Director (The Russian Federation) Alexander Shekhovtsov; the

National Project Technical Director (Mongolia) Munkhbat Tserendorj; TDA consultant and scientific advisory group leader, Mrs. Saskia Marijnissen; representative of ANO "Centre for International Projects"; Russian and Mongolian experts took part in this workshop.

## A scientific conference "Setting the International Waters Science Priorities for the next Decade"



24.09.2012, Bangkok, Thailand

A scientific conference "Setting the International Waters Science Priorities for the next Decade" for practitioners and academics were held in Bangkok (Thailand) 24-26 September 2012. It

provided leadership in finding solutions for the Earth's most pressing transboundary waters challenges.

### 1st Asia Pacific Regional Targeted Workshop for GEF IW Projects



27.09.2012, Bangkok, Thailand

The workshop resembled an International Waters Conference at the regional scale, with a focus on inter-project knowledge sharing (Best Lessons and Challenges). The workshop discussed potential course modules to be provided by partners on content requested by Project Managers. Learning priorities were also featured on the agenda, including twinning exchanges between projects and future workshops supported by GEF IW:LEARN.

### A shoreline clean-up campaign on Hovsgol Lake and setup of a water sanitation zone in Khatgal village



25.09.2012, Khatgal village, Mongolia

Shoreline clean-up of Hovsgol lake in the zone of Khatgal village was organized together with the help of local administration and school children. Water sanitation zone was defined for the lake's shoreline pollution protection. The action was announced widely in mass media. Over 200 people from 20 organizations took part in the cleaning-up campaign and gathered about 70 tons of solids wastes.

### The International Workshop "Bringing together Selenga-Baikal research"

31.10.2012, Geneva, Switzerland

The International Workshop "Bringing together Selenga-Baikal research" was devoted to exploration and preservation of Selenga river and Lake Baikal ecosystems and was organized at the International Center of Moscow State University in Geneva, Switzerland. The National Project Technical Director, Alexander Shekhovtsov presented his report "Aquatic research by GEF/UNDP project "Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem".

## The first workshop of the UNESCO Groundwater project activities



20.11.2012, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Meeting of representatives of Ministry of environment and green development of Mongolia, UNESCO and UNDP CO Mongolia "Assessment of groundwater resources" was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Participants approved a structure of a preliminary groundwater report and presented current situation

in countries with groundwater resources.

## A Twinning Exchange to the Sava River Basin Commission



05.12.2012, Zagreb, Croatia

This twinning exchange was conducted from 5th to the 7th of December at the premises of the International Sava River Basin Commission in Zagreb, Croatia and at various sites in the region associated with the joint management of the Sava River Basin. On December 5th, project NPD, State Secretary MEGD J. Batbold, project

board member, officer for Transboundary Water Issues in MEGD D. Munkhbat, project officer Ch. Altanchimeg travelled to Zagreb, Croatia in order to participate in an IW:LEARN Project Twinning Exchange to the Sava River Basin Commission. During twinning exchange participants saw various sites in the region associated with the joint management of the Sava River Basin.



## Improving the usage of economic instruments for water resources management and water sector in the Russian Federation

06.12.2012, Moscow, Russia

Workshop on OECD – NGO "RREC" project results "Improving the usage of economic instruments for water resources management and water sector in the Russian Federation. During this meeting OECD and the Baikal Project made a decision to organize the joint project "Improving the use of economic instruments for water management in the Republic of Buryatia (Lake Baikal Basin)".

## A workshop on tourism development in protected areas



10.12.2012, Ulan-Ude, Tankoi, Russia

A workshop on tourism development in protected natural areas of Buryatia was held in the small hall of the People's Khural of the Republic of Buryatia on December 10, 2012. The event was a part of the Baikal International Conference "Ecology. Education. Tourism" and was supported by the Baikal Project, the Global Nature Fund,

the Administration of the Head of the Republic of Buryatia and the Government of Buryatia, the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Republic of Buryatia and the NGO "Baikal Information Center "Gran". The president of Global Nature fund Mrs. Marion Hammerl and board member Ranveig Eckhoff shared their vision of prospects for development of nature tourism.

## XI Plenipotentiary meeting on implementation the agreement between the Governments of the Russian Federation and Mongolia on the protection and usage of transboundary water resources.



14.12.2012, Ulan-Ude, Russia

XI Plenipotentiary meeting was held in Ulan-Ude on 14-15 December 2012. The Russian delegation was headed by Deputy Head of The Federal Agency of Water Resources Igor Nikitin. The Head of Mongolian delegation was the Deputy Minister of Nature and Green Development in Mongolia - B. Tulga.

Plenipotentiaries believe that the working group has successfully completed the previous plan approved by X Plenipotentiary meeting. Plenipotentiaries expressed a willingness to make joint efforts to further cooperation in the framework of the existing mechanism. The Project Manager informed participants about project achievements in year 2012 and project plans for the year 2012.

## Baikal's Little Treasure Chest



21.02.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

A presentation of the training aids for primary and middle grade students "Baikal's Little Treasure Chest" was held at the Music and Humanities High School. The presentation was organized by the Baikal Information Center "GRAN" with the participation of school teachers from Ulan-Ude and the Republic of Buryatia, The Russian

Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology and UNDP representatives.

## A round-table discussion of the State Duma Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Ecology



08.04.2013, Moscow, Russia

The round-table discussion of the State Duma Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Ecology was held in the Small Hall of The State Duma, Moscow, Russia. The topic of this discussion was "Harmonisation of legislation on the protection of Lake Baikal in the federal program

"Protection of Lake Baikal and the socio-economic development of the Baikal natural territory for the years 2012-2020". The round table was attended by different stakeholders: state and regional authorities of the Russian Federation; members of the State Duma Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Ecology; representatives of the State Legal Directorate of the President of the Russian Federation; scientific and NGO organizations. The Baikal Project recommendations about enhancement of the transboundary agreement between Russia and Mongolia were included into the final resolution.

## A workshop in Zabaikalski National Park.



01.03.2012, Ust-Barguzin, Russia

On 01 March 2013 in Zabaikalski National Park the Baikal Project organized a workshop for the staff of protected areas of the central ecological zone of the Baikal natural territory. The main purpose of this workshop was a revision of methods of evaluation and identification a recreational capacity and dedicated visitor allowable loads on natural areas.

## The second workshop of the UNESCO Groundwater project activities



20.03.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The second workshop of the UNESCO Groundwater Resources Assessment as a contribution to the TDA, including surface – groundwater interactions and groundwater dependent ecosystems in the Baikal Basin was held in Ulan-Ude. The groundwater preliminary report, the priority issues of transboundary concern and governance analysis with respect to the groundwater in TDA process was discussed. Finally, participants approved a final groundwater report structure.

## World Water Day in Mongolia

21.03.2013, Ulaanbaatar

The Baikal Project supported “AKHA” Mongolian TV program in celebrating of World Water Day. The objective of this program was an introduction of water sector’s operation for the public and informing about water resources and water use, water saving methods. This event was organized by Ministry of Environment and green development, National Water Committee and Tuul River Basin Authority. 87 students from Mongolian University of Science and Technology, Mongolian National University and Institute of Agriculture took part in this event. The prize for 1st place was a certificate for participation in the International scientific conference “Baikal-strategic water resources of the Earth in 21st century” in Ulan-Ude, Russia (8-12 July 2013).



## World Day of Water in Russia



21.03.2013, Gusinoozersk, Russia

Within the frames of World Day of Water - 2013 a Video-conference game "Lake Baikal - the Pearl of Planet Earth" took place in Gusinoozersk, Republic of Buryatia. Gusinoozersk. This event was organized by NGO "Baikal Information Centre "GRAN" and devoted to the World Day of Water.

### A seminar on introduction of the training aids "Baikal Box" into the education process



05.04.2013, Ivolginsky, Russia

The Gilbira School (Ivolginsky District of the Republic of Buryatia) hosted seminar "Concept of the educational training aids "Baikal Box" on the 5th of April, 2013. Over 40 teachers participated in the seminar. Authors of the toolkit Portnyagina M.A., Paznikova Z.I., Chimbeeva Z.D., scientific consultant Baskhaeva T.G. and leading specialist of the Scientific Library of the Buryat State University Zhigzhitova E.D. made a presentation.

### The campaign "Pure Ice Lake Baikal in 2013"



06.04.2013, Holodnyanka, Russia

The second annual awareness-education campaign "Pure Ice Lake Baikal in 2013" was organized by the Baikal Project in the Holodnyanka, Barguzinsky district of Buryatia. It was supported by more than 50 volunteers of all ages and areas of activity not only from Ulan-Ude, but from Moscow and other cities. In total, they collected more than 40 bags of garbage (120 liters), which were sent for recycling. Discussions with the guests and participants of the event, handing out campaign leaflets with information on separate collection of garbage and waste handling were conducted.

### A workshop of the Baikal territory municipalities and protected areas



18.04.2013, Istomino, Russia

Under implementation of the federal target program "Protection of the Lake Baikal and the socio-economic development of the Baikal natural territory" the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Buryatia Republic, the Baikal Institute of Nature Sciences and

the Baikal Project organized a meeting for Baikal municipalities and protected areas at the International Environmental Education Centre "Istomino", village Istomino, Kabansky district, Buryatiya republic, Russia.

### A seminar at the Republican Buryatian national lyceum-boarding school No.1



18.04.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

On April 18th the Republican Buryatian national lyceum-boarding school No.1 hosted a seminar on introduction of the training aids "Baikal Box" into the education process. lyceum students showed the seminar participants a contest of eco-propaganda teams among 8th and 9th grade students. The

programs presented by the teams, consisted of a scientific part devoted to environmental problems of Lake Baikal and surrounding areas, interesting facts about the flora and fauna of the lake, etc., and an entertaining part as well: songs of their own with slogans in defense of Baikal.

### A seminar on introduction of the toolkit "Baikal Box" in the Barguzinsky District



22.04.2013, Barguzin, Russia

Barguzinskaya School of the Barguzinsky District hosted the festival "The Earth is our common home". During this festival an introduction of the toolkit "Baikal Box" was made.

## The second TDA regional technical workshop



25.04.2013, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The second TDA regional technical workshop was held in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). Participants discussed a draft final version of revised TDA and provided their comments. TDA leader, Saskia Marijnissen presented and initial plan of SAP preparation.

## The Second Regional Steering Committee Meeting



26.04.2013, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The Second Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the Baikal Project was held in Ulaanbaatar. The purpose of the second Steering Committee meeting was a presentation of the Baikal Project 2012 results and 2013 work plan and budget to the Steering Committee members and observers including overview of the revised Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and the road map for the process of developing and enhancing the legal and institutional framework of bilateral transboundary water cooperation.

## Water Hall Inauguration in the Natural History Museum



26.04.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

An interactive water exposition in the Natural History Museum in Ulan-Ude was officially opened. This exposition is a joint project of UNDP, Bon-Aqua, Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatiya and The Lake Baikal Protection Fund.

## World Environmental Day in Mongolia



**03.06.2013**, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

As part of World Environmental Day in Mongolia, the public exhibition of environmental projects and programs funded by international donors was organized at the Sukhbaatar Square, in Ulaanbaatar. The Baikal Project provided details about project objectives, activities, outcomes and disseminated booklets and information materials to general public.



A seminar on introduction of the training aids "Baikal Box" into the education process

**16.05.2013**, Ulan-Ude, Russia

Gymnasium 14 hosted a seminar on introduction of the training aids "Baikal Box".

## The Baikal Box toolkit presentation at the International Conference in Khanty-Mansiysk



**30.05.2013**, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

The "Baikal Box" toolkit was presented at the International scientific conference in Khanty-Mansiysk. The International Scientific Conference in Khanty-Mansiysk was devoted to results of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in the Russian Federation. NGO "Baikal Information Centre "GRAN" was represented there by its director Nina Dagbaeva and designer and one of the authors of the toolkit Zoya Paznikova. The Conference was organized by the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO and Yugra Government.

## The National Workshop “Selenge – A River without Borders”



04.06.2013, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The National Workshop “Selenge – A River without Borders” was organized jointly by UNESCO, National Water Committee of Mongolia, and the Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia. The workshop was organized under the

aegis of Prime Minister of Mongolia H.E. Mr N. Altankhuyag. The workshop discussed the final draft reports of pollution assessment studies. Participants of the workshop provided useful comments, which were incorporated in the final report.

## The International Conference "Rivers of Siberia and Far East"



06.06.2013m Irkutsk, Russia

Within the international conference "Rivers of Siberia and Far East" the round-table discussion "Eco-tourism developing like alternative to "resource" economic" was organized. The recommendations were developed and included into the final conference

resolution, in particular: "to use positive experience of UNDP-Coca-Cola project "Every drop matters" in other international projects and in the Baikal Project in 2013-2015 years".

## Duma hearings on "Transboundary Water Issues"

17.06.2013, Moscow, Russia

The State Duma hearings "Transboundary water issues: enhancement of Russian legislation and international cooperation" was held on June 17, 2013. The Russian national technical project director presented the current status and options for enhancing the legal and institutional frameworks of cooperation in the protection and sustainable management of transboundary waters between the Russian Federation and Mongolia. One of the Duma recommendations was to conduct an environment impact assessment of possible Mongolia plans of dam contraction on the Selenga river.



## The Baikal shoreline volunteer camp



15.07.2013, Cape Nameless, Russia

The Baikal shoreline volunteer camp was supported by the Project. It was functioning from 15 of July to 5 of August in the Cape Nameless, Baikal region, the Republic of Buryatia. The camp joined more than 100 volunteers. About 25 kilometers of protected area

and beach tourist area were served by volunteers on a daily basis. In total, 1,386 bags of 120 liters of waste, of which 321 bags of glass, 146 bags of metal, 203 bags of plastic and 716 bags of undivided garbage were collected and removed.

## The shoreline clean-up campaign "Clean River Selenga"



05.08.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia.

The shoreline clean-up campaign "Clean river Selenga" was organized in Ulan-Ude. The action was attended by over 45 people. There were representatives of the Save Baikal project, the Fund for Protection of Lake Baikal, Burprirody and the Ulan-Ude administration. In total, 160 bags of

garbage were collected (over a ton).

## Making the documentary "Baikal without Boundaries" in Russia



04.08.2013, Baikal region, Russia

From 4 July 2013 till 21 July 2013 the project team had an expedition around Lake Baikal in Burytiya Republic and Irkutskaya Oblast. The aim was to make a documentary "Baikal without boundaries". More than 5000 km were captured.



## The International Conference "Baikal strategic resource of the planet"



07.08.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The conference "Baikal strategic resource of the planet" was held within the framework of the Year of Environment, held in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin on 10.08.2012, № 1157., organized by

the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Republic of Buryatia, the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Baikal Association of deputies of the State Duma, the Fund for Protection of lake Baikal, the Russian Geographic Society and the Baikal Project.

## The International forum «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20»



11.07.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The Government of Buryatiya region and the Federal Tourism Agency organized International forum «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20». The forum was organized within the framework of the Year of Environment and was a basement for discussions about contemporary eco-

tourist standards, learning exchange of best practices of ecological development, using ecological technologies and products, eco-education, eco-tourism collaboration in the Baikal Region. The Baikal project supported this event.

## The Third Workshop of the UNESCO Groundwater project activities

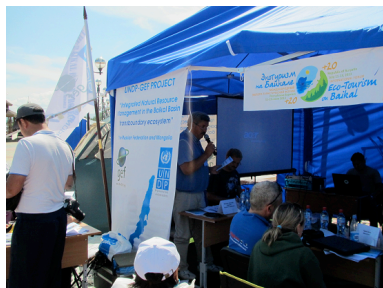


12.07.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The third workshop of the UNESCO Groundwater activities was organized in Ulan-Ude, Russia. The final report issues were discussed and finalized. The meeting participants took part in the conference "Baikal strategic resource of the planet" and «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20» organized by the Baikal

Project and presented achieved activities in groundwater component.

## The Round Table «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20»



13.07.2013, Turka, Russia

The round table "Developing of an eco-tourism: initiatives and partnership of business, society and government" was organized by the Baikal Project as a part of the International forum «Eco-tourism on Lake Baikal +20». The Project invited several international consultants from European Protected Areas with a wide experience in eco-

tourism. More than 100 participants from Russia and Mongolia took part in this roundtable discussion. The book "Eco-tourism development: initiatives of business, society and government" was prepared, printed and distributed between participants.

## The training workshop for stakeholders "Awareness rising and management improvement in the field of environmental problems of Lake Baikal Basin and the role of green economy in their solving"

30.07.2013, Istomino, Russia

The seminar "Environmental problems of Lake Baikal Basin and role of green economy in their solving" was held on July 30 – August 02, 2013. Basin-specific National Capacity Self -Assessments were carried out and used to identify highest priority training and management support at the regional and basin level. This seminar was organized and supported by the Baikal Project for specialists of Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatia and Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia. It helped to develop practical recommendations for consolidation of state, society and business efforts for mutual solving of ecological problems and rising of ecological security of nature resources use.

## A workshop of the working group for preparation of Russian-Mongolian plenipotentiaries meeting



01.08.2013, Irkutsk, Russia

The regular workshop of the working group for preparation of Russian-Mongolian plenipotentiary meeting on implementation the agreement between the Governments of the Russian Federation and Mongolia on the protection and usage of transboundary water resources was held in Irkutsk. The Baikal Project

participated the discussion of the working group devoted to the developing of Harmonized water quality monitoring program for the Selenga Basin. The program was presented at the meeting by Dr.Davaa, the head of hydrology sector of the Institute of hydrometeorology (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia).

## Environment and Sustainable Development in Mongolian Plateau and Surrounding Regions



20.08.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The international scientific conference "Environment and Sustainable Development in Mongolian Plateau and Surrounding Regions" was held in Ulan-Ude. The conference purpose was to promote the multilateral academic and educational exchange and cooperation

for the problem of Environment and Sustainable Development in Mongolian Plateau and Surrounding Regions. The project scientific expert L.Radnaeva informed scientists about projects results and got their comments.

## High-Level International Conference on Water Cooperation



20.08.2013, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

The General Assembly welcomed the offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host in August 2013 in Dushanbe the high-level international conference on water cooperation in its resolution A/RES/67/204 on the "Implementation of

the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013". The Dushanbe conference constitutes one of the milestones of the International Year of Water Cooperation. The Mongolian Project Technical Director Tumurchudur Sodnom presented the implementation of the project.

### The Second "Baikal dialogue" Forum



22.08.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The second "Baikal Dialogue" was dedicated to problems of the Baikal natural territory. The forum was organized by State Duma Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Ecology; parliamentary group "Baikal"; the Government and National Khural of the republic of Buryatia; the Fund for

Protection of Lake Baikal. The Project Manager Sergey Kudelya presented the current status and options for enhancing the legal and institutional frameworks of cooperation in the protection and sustainable management of transboundary waters between the Russian Federation and Mongolia.

### Pilot sport fishing program



03.09.2013, Istomino, Russia

The third Baikal eco-schools was organized by Baikal Institute of Nature Management of the Russian Academy of Sciences with supporting of the Baikal Project in the international environmental educational center "Istomino" in Kabansky region of the Buryatia Republic. It was attended by schoolchildren from

the special class with ecological bias. For three days, 29 students were attending lectures and participated in different activities. In addition students took part in the pilot sport fishing program "catch and release" developed by the Baikal Project.

## Award for the Outstanding Professional in the Tourism Industry

03.09.2013, Ulan-Ede, Russia

The competition "Best in Tourism Profession" was organized in Buryatiya Republic. Some reputable representatives from the tourism industry participated in the competition. The main purpose was to improve the quality of tourism services and to increase the prestige of labor and motivation of employees in travel sector in the republic. The competition was organized by Tourism Agency with the participation of the Committee on Industry, Consumer Market and Tourism Administration, Ulan-Ude, the East-Siberian State Academy of Culture and Arts, and the UNDP-GEF Project "Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem". The Baikal Project awarded "The best tour guide in the field of eco-tourism" ELENA Myasnikova, Ltd.

## Making the documentary "Baikal without Boundaries" in Russia



04.08.2013, Mongolia

From 2 September 2013 till 12 September 2013 the project team had a mission in central Mongolian and around Lake Khubsugul making documentary "Baikal without boundaries". About 6000 km were captured.

## The campaign "Clean Olkhon Island"



15.09.2013, Olkhon, Russia

More than 100 volunteers took part in the action "Clean Olkhon Island", which was conducted on 14-15 September 2013 with supporting of the Baikal Project. In total, 3 tons of garbage were collected. About 4 km<sup>2</sup> were cleaned.

## A training for raising awareness and improvement in management of stakeholders in Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Russia



01.10.2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

A training seminar in order to raise awareness of specialists of environment supervision state bodies and other stakeholders in question of POP/PTS problems, consequences of their impact on environment was held in Buryatia. A study guide in Russian considering the Baikal Basin POP and PTS data, including

their production (if any), use in industry and agriculture, as well as data about abandoned warehouses with expired pesticides, etc was developed and published.

## A training for raising awareness and improvement in management of stakeholders in Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Mongolia



04.10.2013, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The training workshop was organized at the Fresh Water Resource and Nature Conservation Center in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and was headed by Dr.L.Jargalsaikhan, the chair of the National Chemicals Management Council

in Mongolia. Totally 36 participants took part in workshop including 6 persons from 4 provinces which belong to the Baikal Basin. A POPs/PTS training brochure for the purpose to increase public awareness was prepared. It contains 54 pages and was published in 100 copies in Mongolian for participants of training workshop and other interested persons.



## Khobsogul clean-up campaign



04.10.2013, Khatgal, Mongolia

The project continued supporting the cleanup works around the Lake Khuvsgul in 2013 year. A cleaning up campaign was implemented in cooperation of Sayan Zone Nature conservation Community Association NGO (Soyony Bus NUTBB). By the Khatgal soum Governor decree the day of 04 October 2013 was announced

as a cleaning up campaign day for all citizens of the village. Government and non-government organizations were involved and cleaned the solid wastes around the Khuvsgul Lake.

## EUROPARC Annual Conference 2013



09.10.2013, Debrecen, Hungary

EUROPARC Annual Conference 2013 was hosted by the Hortobágy National Park and took place in Debrecen, Hungary and the Hortobágy National Park from October 9 - 13, 2013. The representatives

of Baikal State Nature Biosphere Reserve and Zabaikalski Protected Area took part in this conference. This trip was organized by the Baikal Project for developing Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and involvement of Russian protected areas into EUROPARC network.

## 3rd meeting of The Joint Russian-Mongolian comission of environment preservation.



28 October 2013

On 28 October, 2013 the Russian delegation headed by the Chairman of the Commission, Deputy Head of the Rosprirodnadzor, Amirhan Amirhanov,

Mongolian - Chairman of the Committee, the Vice Minister of the Environment and Green Development of Mongolia Tulga Buyaa.

## 7th GEF Biennial international waters Conference in Bridgetown (Barbados) with presentation of Project activity results

26-31 October 2013, Bridgetown, Barbados



The GEF IW Conference objectives are to facilitate cross-sectoral and portfolio-wide learning and experience sharing. It strives to solicit advice from the existing GEF IW portfolio on burning issues, and to assist in building participant capacity in key management and technical areas. Participants sum up progress achieved and also look to the future of

programming within and beyond the GEF IW focal area.

## Sub-regional workshop: "Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Water Management in North and Central Asia"

18-20 November 2013, Almaty, Kazakhstan



Economic Forum of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) "Comprehensive and sustainable development through regional cooperation" and the Eighth session Governing Council was held on 19-22 November 2013 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. It was attended by

representatives of the governments of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, as well as a number of intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions active in Central Asia.

## IV All-Russian congress of environmental protection of Natural Resources Ministry of Russia.

2- 4 December 2013, Moscow, Russia



Congress is the biggest event of the Year of Environmental Protection, which is being held in Russia. Among the participants - representatives of government, business, scientific and educational organizations, experts and social activists.

## Lake Baikal Project - the partner of tourism year.

06 December 2013, Ulan-Ude, Russia

10 events and services were supported by the project during the year of tourism. There are participation in EUROPARK conference, "Baikal without boundaries" documentary preparation, development of touristic plans compatible with biodiversity were developed.

## Baikal Informational Center Workshop

05 February 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia

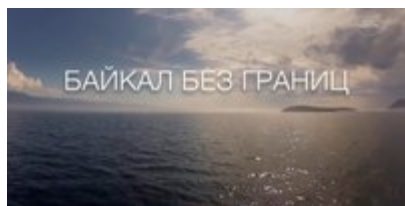


Baikal Informational Center (BIC) Workshop was held in Ulan-Ude, Buryatia. Representatives of "Orkhon Golyn Sav Gazryn" organization and Baikal Institute of Nature Management (BINM), which both were contracted as the executors of BIC maintenance service met each other in BINM Laboratory of Geoinformational systems. They agreed the structure of BIC and

discussed many work issues to continue cooperation.

## Presentation of documentary “Baikal without boundaries”

07 February 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia



A presentation of HD film "Baikal without boundaries" was held in Baikal Institute of Nature Management on 07 Feb 2014. Representatives of The Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatia, The Ministry of Culture of

Buryatia, Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage, Buryat Scientific Center, Buryat Academician institutions, local NGOs and Reserves were invited to run-through of the film.

## IW:LEARN ICT Workshop on Data Sharing and Management using Open-Source Geospatial Platform (GeoNode)

08 February 2014, Manila, Philippines



UNEP/IW:LEARN ICT Workshop on Spatial Data Management was attended by Project Manager, Sergey Kudelya to improve interaction between IWLEARN Geonode system and Baikal Informational Center Webportal.

Co-organized by the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank, the workshop aimed to help projects and their partners communicate spatial data using maps by providing an in-depth understanding and transferring and enhancing the skills needed for spatial data management using best practices and standards. The workshop evolved mainly on the use of GeoNode platform, which is an open source, online collaborative platform that enables the managing, sharing and increased use of geospatial data, and which can aid decision-making processes for the management of marine and freshwater ecosystems and resources.

<http://geonode.org/>

## Installation of ion chromatograph in Central laboratory of environment and metrology

20 February 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



To provide a successful implementation of intercalibration procedures in the framework of RFQ\_EMO\_2013-038 «Intercalibration of analytical procedures for analytes, included into harmonized program of

hydrochemical monitoring for Selenga river basin (Mongolia)» and in accordance with a decision of the Project Steering Committee, new ion chromatograph was procured and installed in Central Laboratory of Environment and Metrology (CLEM), Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. This new modern equipment allows to determine low concentration of some anions (and optionally, cations) in water samples, so now CLEM has enhanced its analytical capabilities in order to make a cooperative actions together with Mongolian and Russian analytical institutions.

## Presentation of documentary “Baikal without boundaries” in Mongolia

21 February 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



The Documentary "Baikal without boundaries" was presented to the project stakeholders in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

## Round table in Russian State Library: “World Water Day 2014: Water and energetics”

20 March 2014, Moscow, Russia



On 20th of March, a meeting with students and readers of Russian State Library was held with support of Informational UN Centre. The meeting was devoted to International Water Day.

Alexander Shekhovtsov, National Technical Director of UNDP/GEF Project, opened a discussion of experts. He told, that, UNDP/GEF project started in 2011 to study these areas. Rivers and streams that flow into lake Baikal, located in Irkutsk region, Buryatia, and they are quite dirty. Another problem - the Selenga River, the largest tributary of Lake Baikal, which originates in Mongolia. It is planned to build several power plants that may affect the lake. Currently The Project is working together with scientists from Russia, Mongolia and UN staff to monitor the status of Lake Baikal.

The film “Baikal without boundaries” was demonstrated to the readers and guests.

Source (text and photo): <http://www.rsl.ru/ru/s7/s409/2014/voda>

## Round table on water resource management

24 March 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia



On 24th of March, a round table, devoted to World Water Day, was held in Buryatia with the support of the Project. This event was organized by Rosprirodnadzor and The Ministry of Natural Resources of Buryatia. Representatives of federal and local environmental organizations, public prosecution



office, local administration, scientific and public organizations took part in the round table. Many current issues were discussed, such as lake Baikal preservation in new social and economic conditions and sustainable use of its water resources. The participants noted an importance of taking of well-timed decisions for reduction and prevention of anthropogenic load on natural objects of lake Baikal.

Source: [http://prnadzor.e-baikal.ru/news?record\\_id=1022](http://prnadzor.e-baikal.ru/news?record_id=1022)

### **Strategic action program meeting**

24 March 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

A meeting within the framework of the Project output (Strategic Action Programme) was organized in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) on 24 March 2014.

Work under this Outcome will generate a Strategic Action Programme for shared actions by the Russian Federation and Mongolia. This SAP for Baikal Basin will emphasize mainstreaming biodiversity management objectives into economic sector policies and practices and facilitate the maintenance of essential aquatic ecosystem functions that sustain human welfare. This SAP will provide a holistic review and strategy development for the transboundary basin-wide ecosystem.

### **Second Workshop: River Basin Commissions and other Joint Bodies: Technical Aspects**

09 April 2014, Geneva, Switzerland



The Second Workshop, was held 9-10 April 2014, was focused on specific areas and technical aspects of cooperation in the framework of joint bodies, such as preservation and restoration of ecosystems, water infrastructure, etc. Topics for the Second Workshop were developed taking into account the recommendations of participants made during the First Workshop.

## Mid-term evaluation of the Lake Baikal project

11 April 2014, Kurumkan, Buryatia, Russia



The field trip over protected areas in Kabansky, Barguzinsky districts and cattle mortuaries constructed in Kurumkansky district (Buryatia) was organized by PMU team for international expert-evaluator during mid-term evaluation of the project.

## Seminar of heads of municipal authorities and managers of protected areas of the Baikal region (18 Apr 2014)

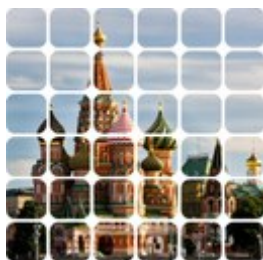
18 April 2014, Istomino, Buryatia, Russia



During the workshop a wide range of problems was discussed. The problems are associated with the solution of socio-economic and environmental problems in the coastal areas of the Baikal region. The need was confirmed for a close and continuing coordination of municipal authorities as the closest level management interacts with the public.

## Eco-week in Moscow

23 April 2014, Moscow, Russia



The second Eco-week was held on 17-21 May 2014 on the Red Square, Moscow. This project includes an installation on the central square of the capital some objects: ecological pavilions, demonstrating new technologies and innovations, art and cinema, spherical cinema, eco-market etc.

## Baikal treasure learning kit presentation in Mongolia

28 April 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



The educational workshop for presentation of learning kit “Baikal treasure” was organized on 26-30 April 2014 in Ulan-Bator. Four authors of the learning kit participated in preparation of the workshop. More than 70 participants

attended the workshop.

## Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia

29 April 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia was held on 29-30 April 2014. The Project Manager met the Head of the National Water Committee, Mr. Badrakh Tsend.

## Workshop of Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation

22 April 2014, Geneva, Switzerland



The workshop provided a platform to:

Discuss between stakeholders with different backgrounds (water practitioners, politicians, parliamentarians, journalists, researchers...) the benefits of transboundary water cooperation and how benefits assessment can support the transboundary water cooperation processes;

Share experiences, good practices, challenges faced and lessons learned on the identification, assessment and communication of the wide range of benefits that can be generated by transboundary water cooperation;

Support the further development of the draft Policy Guidance Note on identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of transboundary water cooperation.

### **Workshop, devoted sanitary and epidemiological monitoring**

20 June 2014, Istomino, Buryatia, Russia

The issues of estimation of epidemiological risk of pollution of transboundary waters to the health of population were discussed during the workshop.

### **International Academic Conference on Applied and Fundamental Studies “Environmental Ethics and Sustainable Development Technologies in the XXI Century”**

30 June 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia

The conference is the preliminary stage to the World UNESCO Conference on Education for Sustainable Development Learning Today for Sustainable Future, which is to take place in November 10-12, Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

The conference is supposed to focus on issues of environmental ethics, education for sustainable development, globalization, noosphere conscience development, cultural values preservation, hermeneutical methodology, sustainable development technologies at Baikal territory and other issues.

### **OECD coordination group meeting**

04 July 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia



The instruments for water resources management were discussed during the meeting. Best practices of international experiences and brief summary were presented.

### **International research-to-practice environmental conference with participation of Russian and Mongolian environmental community**

23 July 2014, Gremyachinsk, Buryatia, Russia

The purpose of the conference is bringing together the efforts of scientists and specialists of Russia and Mongolia in the field of preservation of the environment in the Baikal basin.

## Steering committee meeting

24 July 2014, Greymyachinsk, Buryatia, Russia

The Third regional Steering committee meeting of UNDP-GEF Project “Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem” was held on 24 July 2014 in Greymyachinsk (Buryatia), Russia.

The purpose of the Third Steering committee meeting:

Presentation of results, achieved by the Project in 2013, work plan and budget of 2014; consideration of the Project mid-term evaluation, made by an independent international expert; consideration of development progress of SAP for the lake Baikal basin and discussion of enhancement of international cooperation in the field of use and protection of transboundary water resources between Russia and Mongolia.

## Field trip to Ushkanii islands, Lake Baikal.

25 July 2014, Lake Baikal, Buryatia



The field trip was organized to observe the route to the seasonal haul for the Baikal seal on the island Tonkii. (Ushkanii Islands), which is

located on the territory of the Zabaikalsky National Park. The eco-trail was constructed in the frameworks of the Project activities.

## Educational learning kit “Baikal treasure” was presented during international workshop

26 July 2014, Greymyachinsk, Buryatia, Russia



The workshop “Environmental education in lakes areas: practical experience and innovation technologies” took place on Baikal shore 26 – 28 July to present the English version of Educational learning kit “Baikal treasure”. The workshop was supported by United Nations Development Program

(Moscow), the project GEF/ UNDP/ UNOPS and Global Nature Fund (Radolfzel, Germany).

### **The 3rd International Forum “Baikal dialogue”**

21 August 2014, Greymyachinsk, Buryatia, Russia



The 3rd International Forum “Baikal dialogue” was held on 21-25 August 2014 in Ulan-Ude and Greymyachinsk (Russia). The perspectives of Baikal region development were discussed on the Forum, as well as issues of international collaboration to

preserve the unique ecosystem of Lake Baikal.

Photo: <http://www.mvslipenchuk.ru>

### **International research-to-practice environmental conference “Natural objects and eco-tourism”**

25 August 2014, Greymyachinsk, Buryatia, Russia

The International research-to-practice environmental conference “Natural objects and eco-tourism” was attended by the specialists of Moscow State University, Buryat State University and professors of Serbia and Switzerland. The topic of the conference is development of the eco-tourism in protected areas.



## The Baikal Olympiad for schoolchildren

28 September 2014, Pribaikalskii district, Buryatia, Russia



XII Baikal Olympiad for schoolchildren was traditionally organized on the shoreline of Lake Baikal in children educational center "Baikalskie volny". The purpose of the Olympiad is to determine the knowledge level of schoolchildren about the Lake, drawing attention to the environmental problems.

## XIVth Baikal International Festival of Documentary and Popular-Science Films "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT"

29 September 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia



The XIVth Baikal International Festival of Documentary and Popular-Science Films "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT" that took place in Irkutsk on 29 September 2015.

The film festival "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT" was conceived by the organizers as a platform to make people think about inter-relations between mankind and nature.

The Festival aims at raising environmental awareness by means of cinematography.

Source (photo and text): [http://www.baikalkinofest.ru/en/for\\_massmedia/](http://www.baikalkinofest.ru/en/for_massmedia/)

## Heritage Interpretation Training Seminar for NAI Certified Interpretive Guides



29 September 2014, Tankhoi, Buryatia, Russia

The workshop was targeted on strengthening and expanding interpretive skills, learn some additional interpretive techniques, explore ways to lead effective

training seminars for colleagues, and together make plans for continuing to build a network of professional interpreters in Siberia.

### **The Bringing together Selenga-Baikal Research conference**

01 October 2014, Leipzig, Germany

The Bringing together Selenga-Baikal Research conference was held at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research in Leipzig, Germany.

The purpose of the conference is expanding of contact networks between Russia and European countries in the field of investigation of the unique water bodies like Baikal and Leman Lakes.

### **Meeting “Social ecological organizations in economic development and environment preservation”**

06 October 2014, Ulan-Ude, Russia

Meeting “Social ecological organizations in economic development and environment preservation” was a platform to discuss problems and contradictions in environment and economy development on the territory of Buryatia.

### **Festival of ecological films H20: documentary “Baikal without boundaries”**

11 October 2014 , Ulan-Ude, Russia



The documentary “Baikal without boundaries” was created under order of UNDP and GEF. The cinema project raises completely new topic. This is a narration of what type of lands, rivers are the sources of Baikal water. The film is a

fascinating journey over the center of Russian Siberia and Mongolian steppes. The route of cinema expedition is about of 10 000 km

<http://www.h2ofilmfest.ru/ru/festivals/336/films/3750>

## The 17th Wildscreen Festival “Panda”

24 October 2014, Bristol, UK



The film “Baikal without boundaries” was presented of the 17th Wildscreen Festival “Panda”.

For the first time this movie presents the Lake Baikal Basin in the transboundary context. A film-making expedition organized by the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Development Programme captured more than 10000 km in Russia and Mongolia. The documentary shows what Lake Baikal and its basin look like and what they consist of and answers on follows questions. What makes Lake Baikal? Which lands and territories does the giant lake collect the world’s purest water from? How could it happen that right in the middle of the Eurasian continent there appeared a real sea of fresh water which contains as much as one fifth of the globally available surface freshwater? On the one hand, the Lake Baikal Basin is presented as one ecosystem shared between two countries, Russia and Mongolia, and encompasses waste territories with rivers bringing waters to the lake. So its future depends on the joint efforts of both Russia and Mongolia. On the other hand, this vast land of Mongolian Steppe and Russian Siberia is home to people representing many different countries and nations, who live in peace and harmony. Altogether, they form a fascinating diversity of ancient traditions, great religions, and unique spiritual practices. And Lake Baikal is right in the heart of that bright kaleidoscope of cultures, being universally loved and revered. The local people understand perfectly well the level of responsibility they have for the present and future of Lake Baikal. The main message of the documentary is to make the global community aware of the problems that the Baikal Lake Basin is facing and the need to preserve it as a unique natural, ecological and social and cultural phenomenon.

## Presentation of film “Baikal without boundaries” at the exhibition hall “Nagornaya”



25th of January 2015

On 25th of January 2015 at the state exhibition hall “Nagornaya” a number of ecological events under the common name “Baikal days” were organized by Lake Baikal Protection Fund.

The head of the project of popular scientific movies, a film-maker Mikhail Chumak and the national project technical director of the Lake Baikal Project Alexander Shekhovtsov told about the most important problems of Lake Baikal;

The documentary “Baikal without boundaries” was presented to the audience. After the presentation the discussion of the film started.

## Presentation of film “Precious necklace of Baikal” for the staff of Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage (Buryatia) and directors of Protected areas of Buryatia during the annual meeting of the Federal Service.



26 February 2015

The documentary “Precious necklace of Baikal” was presented at the annual meeting of Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage (Buryatia). The meeting was dedicated to the discussion of the 2014 year’s results. The directors of protected areas of Buryatia took part in this

meeting. The Project Manager, Sergey Kudelya discussed the documentary with the audience. The participants highly appreciated the film and noted its importance for development of eco-tourism in Baikal region.

The online conference of Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation, dedicated to the development of ecotourism in the protected areas.

26 February 2015

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation organized the online conference <http://ecotourism.cbi-mpr.ru> “Protected areas as the key elements for ecotourism development in the Russian Federation” on 26 Feb 2015. The purpose of the conference – is to improve the efficiency of state policy in the environmental sphere. Rinat Gizatulin, deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation made a welcome address. The reports were made by the heads the organization of ecotourism sphere, specialists and heads of the protected areas. The media-project “Precious necklace of Baikal” was presented by Sergey Kudelya, project manager of the lake Baikal project.

### The presentation of the media project “Precious necklace of Baikal”

11 March 2015



The presentation of the media project “Precious necklace of Baikal” was held on 11 March 2015 in the government of Buryatia. The representatives of bodies of power, protected areas, mass media, tour operators, Rosprirodnadzor of Buryatia, the Irkutsk Region, Zabaykalsky Krai took part in this event. The

purpose of this media project is informing of Russian citizens as well as international community about the state and touristic potential of the protected areas and national parks of the Baikal region. The main task – is to demonstrate the objects of unique flora and fauna, the peculiarities of wild landscape. Special focus will be on eco-trails, which give an opportunity to observe the protected area in a state of nature. Every protected area is presented in full-length HD film as well as separate video clip. A special edition

of magazine “World of Baikal” is prepared, it contains the descriptions of all PAs of the Baikal region and the structure of eco routes over there. Both the film and the magazine are made in Russian and English.

## World Water Day, Lake Baikal



22 March 2015

The Baikal Project presents a short World Water Day 2015 video message. Special acknowledgements to the administration and local environmental inspectors of protected area “Zapovednoye

Podlemorye” who created amazing the GEF logo from ice directly on Lake Baikal ice surface. We express our sincere gratitude for production of this video to our partner Atlas Media Studio Co., Ltd.

## The joint Russian-Mongolian meeting



30 March 2015

The joint Russian-Mongolian meeting, specially organized to share and exchange information about transboundary water and environmental issues in regard to the implementation of the protocol of 4th meeting of the commission of the Governments of Russia and Mongolia in the

sphere of environmental cooperation. The joint meeting was organized in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 30-31 March 2015. The delegation of the Lake Baikal project took part in this event.



## The Strategic Action Programme Meeting



31 March 2015

The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) Development Meeting was organized in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 31 March – 01 April 2015. SAP consultants and Lake Baikal Project technical team took part in this event. The activities to

be conducted for updating SAP and deadlines were discussed. The next day was dedicated to the Work Group Meeting in expanded format, including representatives of natural resources ministries, Mongolia and Russia. The role of ministries in SAP endorsement and implementation was discussed; review of targets, strategic actions was made.

## World water day, Mongolia



22 March 2015

Every year the world water day is celebrated on March 22nd. In the frame of this event, with the support of UNDP-GEF Project “Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem” project the Orkhon River Basin Council organized the meeting on the theme issues regarding development of the IWRM in

Mongolia and introduce the Mongolian Hydrologists Association among the water sector and administrative organizations as MEGDT. Totally 25 persons participated in the meeting. The meeting opened by the National Water Committee, Secretary General Ts.Badrakh The Head of the Yenisei Basin Water Management, Federal water resources agency of the Russian Federation, Krasnoyarsk, Russia Mr. Vladimir K. Blagov.

## The 7th World Water Forum



13 April 2015

In 2015, the World Water Forum, the largest water-related event in the world took place in Daegu & Gyeongbuk of Korea. The World Water Forum is a large-scale international conference that is held every three years since 1997 in cooperation with the public, private sectors, academia, and industries. It was first launched in an effort

to facilitate international discussions on global water challenges.

The objectives of the session are to identify the current situation of trans-boundary ecosystem management, to explore the opportunity to develop joint project among those countries. The session is made to strengthen the partnership and share information on trans-boundary ecosystem management in the region to accomplish the proposed targets.

The presentation of the major achievements of the Lake Baikal project was made by Sergey Kudelya.

### The workshop of municipalities of Pribaikalye and heads of the protected areas.



23 April 2015

The workshop of municipalities of Pribaikalye and heads of the protected areas "About the implementation of the Federal

special purpose programme "The preservation of Lake Baikal and social and economic development of the Baikal natural area for 2012-2020 and integrated natural resource management in the Baikal basin transboundary ecosystem" was held on 23 April 2015. The report on the implementation of the Lake Baikal project and the presentation of media-project "Precious necklace of Baikal" were made by Sergey Kudelya. In the organization of the event took part the Ministries of Natural Resources of Buryatia and the Irkutsk

Region, Baikal Institute of Nature Management SB RAS and the Administration of municipality “Olkhonsky district” of the Irkutsk Region.

### Ecological film festival “Meridian Nadezhdy”



24 April 2015

The Fifth All-Russian ecological film festival “Meridian Nadezhdy” has finished in St. Petersburg. The official ceremony was in the film art centre “Rodina”.

The award panel has determined the best films, which was awarded with the diplomas of the film festival and special prizes, manufactured in china workshop of Russian Academy of Education, under auspices of academician Lev Solodkov.

As part of competitive program, People's Choice Award was given to the documentary “Baikal without boundaries” (Rostov-on-Don) and «The Amur leopard. Struggle for the taiga throne».

### Official visit of the delegation of the Republic of Buryatia in Ust'-Ordynski national district and Olkhonsky district of the Irkutsk Region



24 April 2015

During the official visit the information about the implementation of the Federal special purpose programme “The preservation of Lake Baikal and social and economic development of the Baikal natural area for 2012-2020” was presented by

Ministers of natural resources of Buryatia and the Irkutsk Region.

The progress of the Lake Baikal Project implementation was presented by the project Manager Sergey Kudelya. Director of Institute of Geography SB RAS told about the Baikal basin Atlas.

## The meeting of the Joint working group for implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement (Russia and Mongolia) for transboundary water preservation and usage



Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia).

28 April 2015

In accordance with the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia for transboundary water preservation and usage, which was signed on 16 Feb 1995 (and by invitation of Mongolian side), the meeting was held on 28-29 April 2015 in

## 2nd Meeting for SAP development



22 May 2015

The second meeting for Strategic Action Programme development within the framework of the Lake Baikal Project was held in Moscow on 22 May 2015.

The national coordinator of the Lake Baikal Project, acting Head of Federal Service for Supervision of

Natural Resource Usage, Amirkhan Amirkhanov opened the meeting. The discussion of the offered changes of actions and indicators of the SAP was made by Russian and Mongolian experts together with international SAP consultant, Paul Gremillion. The conclusion on the work implemented, on interaction of the Russian and Mongolian experts with profile country ministries was made by the project manager, Sergey Kudelya.

## “Precious necklace of Baikal” on Rostov TV



25 May 2015

Media project «Precious necklace of Baikal» was presented on TV-channel, All-Russia State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, Rostov-on-Don. The discussion of the new forms of ecological tourism in protected

areas has been taken through the example of the Baikal region by way of the development of domestic tourism in Russia and dissemination of the experience of the Baikal region in the Rostov region and the South of Russia.

## The 14th meeting of the basin Council of Angara-Baikal basin area.



26 May 2015

On 26th May 2015 the 14th meeting of the basin Council of Angara-Baikal basin area was held. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: the situation in Angara-Baikal basin during the winter season, the results of works of the governments of Irkutsk region and

Buryatia. The results of the work of the Lake Baikal project was reported.

## Exhibition of Baikal photographs in Sheremetyevo



11 June 2015

The photo exhibition of the Lake Baikal was launched on 11 June in Terminal C at the airport Sheremetyevo, Moscow. The main purpose of the exhibition is to form pro-active attitude of the population in regard to the

environment. More than 50 000 people from around the world goes through Sheremetyevo International Airport per day.

## The children ecological festival in Buryatia (as part of the 1st All-Russian children ecological festival)



05 June 2015

The 1st All-Russian festival was held on 05-07 June 2015, it combined two celebrations - the Children's Day and the Earth Day. This festival is a social and educational event, dedicated to the nature preservation, wildlife and plant life, organized specially

for children. The main purpose of the event is development of ecological culture. The organizers of the festival in Buryatia are Rosprirodnadzor, Lake Baikal Protection Fund, UNDP-GEF Lake Baikal Project.



## Doors Open Day in Baikal Biosphere Reserve.



06 June 2015

The Doors Open Day took place in Baikal Biosphere Reserve on 06 June 2015 as part of Earth Day and the 1st All-Russian children ecological festival. The amusement rides were launched

for children. Ecological games were organized by volunteers of the Great Baikal Trail.

## Environmental Day in the landscape reserve “Teplyy Stan”



06 June 2015

Ministry of natural resources of Russia together with Moscow Government traditionally organize the celebration of Environmental Day. In 2015 this event was opened in landscape reserve “Teplyy Stan” (Moscow) on 06

June. The celebration is accompanied by ecological entertainment show. Media project “Precious necklace of Baikal” was presented during the celebration.

The photo show “Precious necklace of Baikal” was presented during the VI session of the Security Council of Russia.



25 June 2015

The VI international meeting of the Security Council was held in Ulan-Ude. A meeting of the representatives in charge of security, is held annually on the initiative of the Russian side.

It is attended by secretaries of security councils, ministers,

assistant to the president and prime minister for national security, security chiefs and other responsible leaders of over 70 countries, and the UN delegation.

Russian delegation head is Nikolai Patrushev, Russian Security Council Secretary.

The issues related to international cooperation to combat the growing threat of global extremism and its new manifestations. In addition, participants discussed the theme: "Fresh water as a strategic resource for sustainable development of international security", "The role of Russia in ensuring biological safety at the international level", "Formation of the system of international information security."

Within a framework of the session, the photo show "Precious necklace of Baikal" was organized.

### The documentary "Leman-Baikal. Trans-Eurasian overflight"



16 July 2015

On July 16, a presentation of the documentary "Leman - Baikal. Trans-Eurasian overflight" (directed by Michael Chumak) was in the Buryat business center. The film has made during the Russian-Swiss expedition. Within three years the investigations were

carried out using hyperspectral survey equipment mounted on ultralight trikes on Lake Geneva (Switzerland) and Lake Baikal (Russia). The film includes unique footage with scenic views of the lake, taken from a ultralight trike. The film was made by the studio "Atlas of Culture" with the support of Lake Baikal Protection Fund and the United Nations Development Programme.

## Trip to the area of Lake Ugii and Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan in Selenga basin in Mongolia



18 July 2015

The field mission to the area of Lake Ugii and Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan (Mongolia) was organized to carry out activities consistent with project objectives to support the people and organizations most immediately responsible for watershed and basin-wide management of the lakes and its

aquatic ecosystems. The main objective is organize meeting to motivate the local people the topic on the protection of the lakes and conservation of globally significant biodiversity, threatened and near-threatened species around the areas Ramsar sites including Lake Ugii and Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan (Ugii nuur an Tariat soum of Arkhangai province) involvement in decision-making and implementation of integrated natural and water resources management and consult with rangers and local Government representatives.

## The first International Baikal Ecological Forum "Clean Planet"



03 October 2015

The venue chosen for the Forum is Irkutsk. Irkutsk is located next to the unique Lake Baikal, which is UNESCO World heritage site. Lake Baikal is a part of the Baikal natural territory, which is located on the territory of the Republic of Buryatia, the Irkutsk region, the Zabaikalsky krai.

12 protected areas, including 3 nature reserves, 2 national parks, 6 nature sanctuaries directly adjoin to the coast of Lake Baikal. In addition to them, another 23 protected areas there and more than 400 monuments of nature

located on the Baikal natural territory. The area of the Baikal natural territory is of 386 000 square kilometer.

As many global environmental problems are transboundary, the chain of issues will be discussed in the framework of the I Baikal International Environmental Forum: the pressing problems of the region associated with the implementation of the activities of the Baikal nature territory, exchange of experience, best practices in environmental preservation and management.

#### 4th Regional Steering committee meeting of the Lake Baikal Project



28 July 2015

The new visit-center of Baikal biosphere nature reserve hosted the 4th Regional Steering committee meeting of the Lake Baikal Project.

The final Steering committee meeting was dedicated to presentation of the results, achieved by the project during the whole period of implementation.

UNDP Regional technical advisor, Vladimir Mamaev and Project Manager of the Lake Baikal project noted in their speeches, that Baikal Informational Center (BIC) was created with support of the project. BIC disseminates the electronic results of scientific and nature conservation organizations. The results are also covered in the magazine “World of Baikal”, in the series of films.

Due to the support of the project, in the national parks and reserves the eco-campings, pilot treatment facilities, eco-trails were constructed; learning courses were organized for the heads of the nature conservation organizations; the “White book of the Baikal basin” with the list and description of ecological NGOs was published.

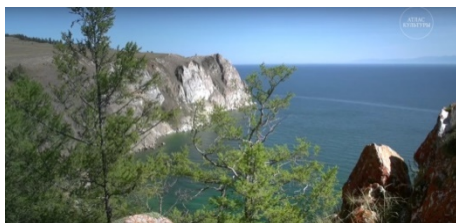
## Strategic Action Programme final meeting



28 July 2015

The final meeting, devoted to the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), produced as a part of Lake Baikal Project, took place in the visit center of Baikal biosphere reserve on 28 July. The group of SAP consultants, chaired by Leading international Expert (Paul Gremillion) has discussed the last changes and approved the final version of the document. On 29 July the final version of SAP was also approved by the Steering Committee Meeting of the project.

## The 4th International forum “Baikal dialogue” in Chita.



23 August 2015

The purpose of the forum – is creation of a discussion platform for government agencies, NGOs, commercial and non-commercial sector, scientific organizations of Irkutsk region, Zabaikalsky krai and Buryatia. It is expected, that forum provides the basis for sustainable development and preservation of lake Baikal.

## The International geographical union regional conference in Moscow

17-21 August 2015

The program of the 2015 IGU Regional Conference was focused on diversity and interdisciplinary dialogue. It included the following meeting formats:

- sessions organized by IGU commissions;
- sessions on relevant interdisciplinary themes proposed by groups of scholars;
- thematic sessions devoted to IGU projects and to the role of geography in international
- programs such as Future Earth;

- plenary sessions and lectures by leading geographers as well as specialists from other earth sciences and the humanities;
- lectures by practitioners from a wide variety of fields.



Geographical education and the integration of young scholars within the international geographical community are the main priorities for the IGU Regional Conference in Moscow. The conference program included two special events: a day for young scholars with a competition

for best presentation and other awards, and a day for special sessions on “Academic Geography for Secondary Schools” and “Teaching Geography at the University.” The conference also hosted the International Geographical Olympiad.

The media project “Precious necklace of Baikal” was presented by Sergey Kudelya.

## World Water Week in Stockholm



25 August 2015

World Water Week is hosted and organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and has been the annual

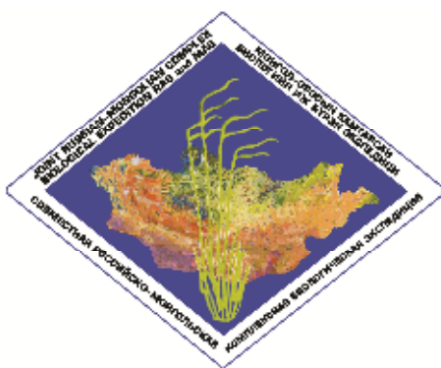
focal point for the globe’s water issues since 1991. The aim of World Water Week is building capacity, promoting partnership and reviewing implementation. World Water Week provides a unique forum for the exchange of views, experiences and practices between the scientific, business, policy and civic communities. It focuses on new thinking and positive action toward water-related challenges and their impact on the world’s environment, health, climate, economic and poverty reduction agendas by:



- Linking scientific understanding with policy and decision making to develop concrete solutions to water and development challenges.
- Fostering proactive partnerships and alliances between individuals and organizations from different fields of expertise.
- Highlighting ground-breaking research, best practices and innovative policy work by stakeholders and experts around the world and from multiple disciplines.
- Reviewing the implementation of actions, commitments and decisions in international processes and by different stakeholders in response to the challenges.
- Awarding outstanding achievements.

Sergey Kudelya presented his thesis about the Lake Baikal Project progress, the approach used and the main results.

### The International conference “Ecosystems in Central Asia in modern social and economic conditions.



08 September 2015

The conference took place on 08-10 September 2015 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The main topics of the conference are: ecosystem biodiversity, modern processes of transformation of soil cover, modern state of the protected areas and its development.

## XV Meeting of geographers of Siberia and Russian Far East



10-14 September 2015

The XV Meeting of Geographers of Siberia and Russian Far East "Geographical, socio-economic, environmental and ethno-cultural factors of development of the eastern territories of Russia" took place on 10-14 September for the first time in Ulan-Ude.

Scientists spoke about the urgent problems of geographical science, economic and geopolitical factors of Russia, the current state of the environment and the socio-economic development of Siberia in the early twenty-first century, the role of geography in the study of the eastern territories of Russia and affected many other important issues.

Before the plenary session the presentation of the Ecological Atlas of the Lake Baikal basin was made. A few copies of the Atlas were handed over to representatives of universities, libraries, museums and conservation agencies.

During the meeting a round table was organized, where the program of the improvement of electronic topographic map of the XXI century was discussed.

The organizers of the XV Meeting of Geographers of Siberia and the Russian Far East were: Buryat branch of the Russian Geographical Society, Baikal Institute of Nature Management (Ulan-Ude), Institute of Geography (Irkutsk), Pacific Institute of Geography RAS, Buryat State University. The XV meeting was also supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research, the UNDP-GEF project "Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem".

## An implementation of the Agreement on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters

28 October 2015

XII Meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on implementation of the Agreement on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters took place on 28-30 October 2015 in Ulan-Bator (Mongolia).



The Russian delegation was headed by Marina Seliverstova, the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Russian Federation, Head of the Federal Agency for Water Resources.

Within the framework of the meeting, the conference "Selenga - river without borders" was organized. The conference was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (1995). The reports on the history of water relations between the two countries and the current state of water resources of transboundary Selenga river, with a particular attention to climate change. Sergey Kudelya, Project Manager of the UNDP-GEF Lake Baikal Project, presented the results of the project and the unique edition of "Environmental Atlas of basin of Lake Baikal". The final version of the Strategic Action Programme was approved during the meeting.

## The International Project Management Day



05 November 2015

The International Project Management Day has been designated to raise awareness within project based organizations

like UNOPS about the value a professional project manager brings to it. It is a space of recognition and acknowledgment for project managers and project teams. Held every year on the first Thursday of November, this year will be celebrated on November 5th.

As part of this event, the online session was organized by UNOPS. In report Sergey Kudelya told about Knowledge Management (“Knowledge management for environment and natural resources in UNOPS/UNDP/GEF projects”).

## IX International conference "Rivers of Siberia and the Far East"

10-11 November 2015



IX International conference "Rivers of Siberia and the Far East" was held on 10-11 November 2015. The Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Irkutsk region, Oleg Kravchuk said: "The support of scientific community, research institutions,

environmental NGOs and water users allows us to confidently form a position to address emerging issues for sustainable development and conservation of rivers and lakes biodiversity." The conference participants discussed many issues such as environmental regulation of acceptable impacts, conservation of rivers and lakes biodiversity, the protection of certain species of fish, the problems of the Baikal-Angara-Yenisei basin, as well as problems in the mining industry.

# Project Implementation Unit







Dr. Vladimir Mamaev,  
Regional Technical Advisor,  
International Waters  
UNDP – Global Environment Facility  
Bureau for Policy and Programme  
Support  
UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for  
Europe and the CIS  
E-mail: [vladimir.mamaev@undp.org](mailto:vladimir.mamaev@undp.org)  
Skype: vladimirm45



Kirk Bayabos  
UNOPS, Head of Cluster Manager -  
Small Grants,  
GPSO, Small Grants  
E-mail: [KirkB@unops.org](mailto:KirkB@unops.org)  
Phone: +1 (212) 457 1890  
Cell: +1 917 640 4526



Katrin Lichtenberg  
UNOPS, Senior Portfolio Manager  
GPSO, Water and Energy  
E-mail: [KatrinL@unops.org](mailto:KatrinL@unops.org)  
Skype: [k\\_lichtenberg](https://www.skype.com/user/k_lichtenberg)  
Phone: +45 4533 7623



Dr. Sergey Kudelya

Project manager

E-mail: [SergeyK@unops.org](mailto:SergeyK@unops.org)

Skype: SKudelya

Phone: +7 983 534 45 95

Fax: +7 3012 275004



Uriel Heskia

Associate Portfolio Manager

GPSO, International Waters

E-mail: [UrielH@unops.org](mailto:UrielH@unops.org)

Skype: urielheskia

Phone: +45 4533 7624



Dr. Alexandr Shekhovtsov

Technical director - Russia

E-mail: [opd@eco-cip.ru](mailto:opd@eco-cip.ru)

Skype: shalan-eco

Phone: +7 499 165 52 08



Tumurchudur Sodnom

Technical director - Mongolia (since 2013)

E-mail: TumurchudurS@unops.org

Skype: s\_tumur

Phone: +9 765 1264575



Munkhbat Tserendorj

Technical director - Mongolia  
(November 2011 - December 2012)

Skype: munkhbat\_tseren



Dr. Larisa Radnaeva

Bioresources and Data Management  
Expert

E-mail: LarisaR@unops.org

Skype: radld49

Phone: +7 902 565 1074



Dr. Boris Baduyev

Finance Officer

E-mail: BorisB@unops.org

Skype: boris.baduyev

Phone: +7 924 454 5669



Popov Dmitry

Project Administration and Logistics  
Officer

E-mail: DmitriP@unops.org

Skype: popov-dv1

Phone: +7 914 839 1774



Altanchimeg Chimiddorj

Administration and Finance Officer

E-mail: AltanchimegC@unops.org

Skype: altanchimeg.chimiddorj

Phone: +976 9912 8490

### Project office in Russia

Buryat Scientific Centre of SB RAS,  
room 13, 8, Sakhyanovoy St.,  
Ulan-Ude, 670047, Russia  
Phone: +7 3012 415759  
Fax: +7 3012 275004

### Project office in Mongolia

Room 207, Water Agency building,  
Chingunjav Street, Bayangol district  
Ulaanbaatar-161050, Mongolia

<http://baikal.iwlearn.org>

