



Reducing
Transboundary
Degradation
in the
Kura Aras River Basin

Civil Society Involvement in the EIA/ESIA Process in the EU and USA

Mary M. Matthews - CTA

Christy Wolf – US NEPA Specialist



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Civil Society Involvement Overview

- Evolution of Public Input to the Environmental Assessment process
- Key highlights for US Approach
- Key highlights for EU Approach
- The Equator Principals
- What's next?



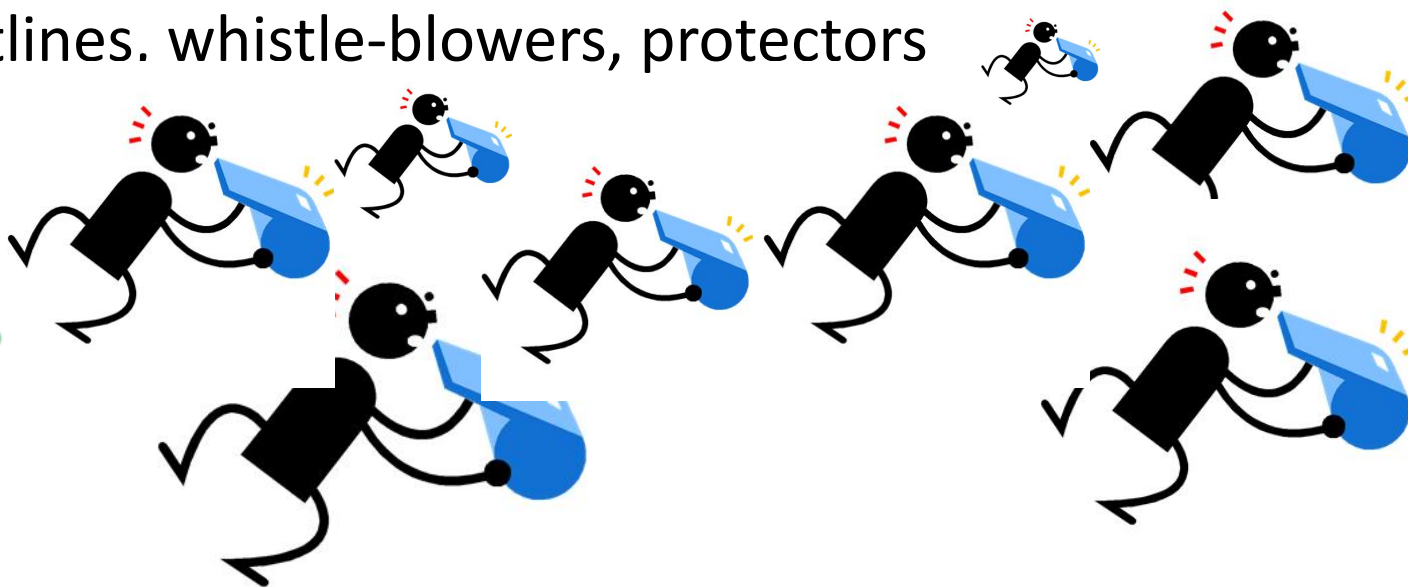
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Evolution of Public Input to the Environmental Assessment process



- Industrialization is bad for the environment
- US National Environmental Policy Act 1969 (NEPA)
- EU EIA Directive – 1985/2011
- Equator Principals 2002
- Public Access laws – UNECE Aarhus Convention 2005
- “public” as key stakeholder, watch-dog and monitor
- Hotlines. whistle-blowers, protectors



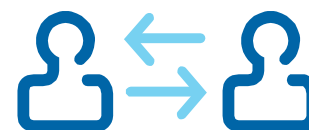
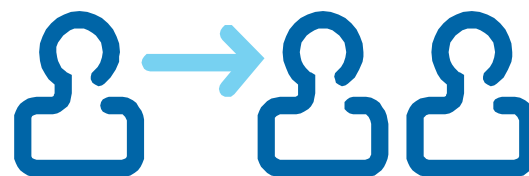
Key highlights for US Approach -NEPA

- National Government Protector of Environment
- Umbrella legislation with acts underneath
- Information shared between agencies
- Public plays important role
- Access to information by the public and NGOs
- Public holds government accountable

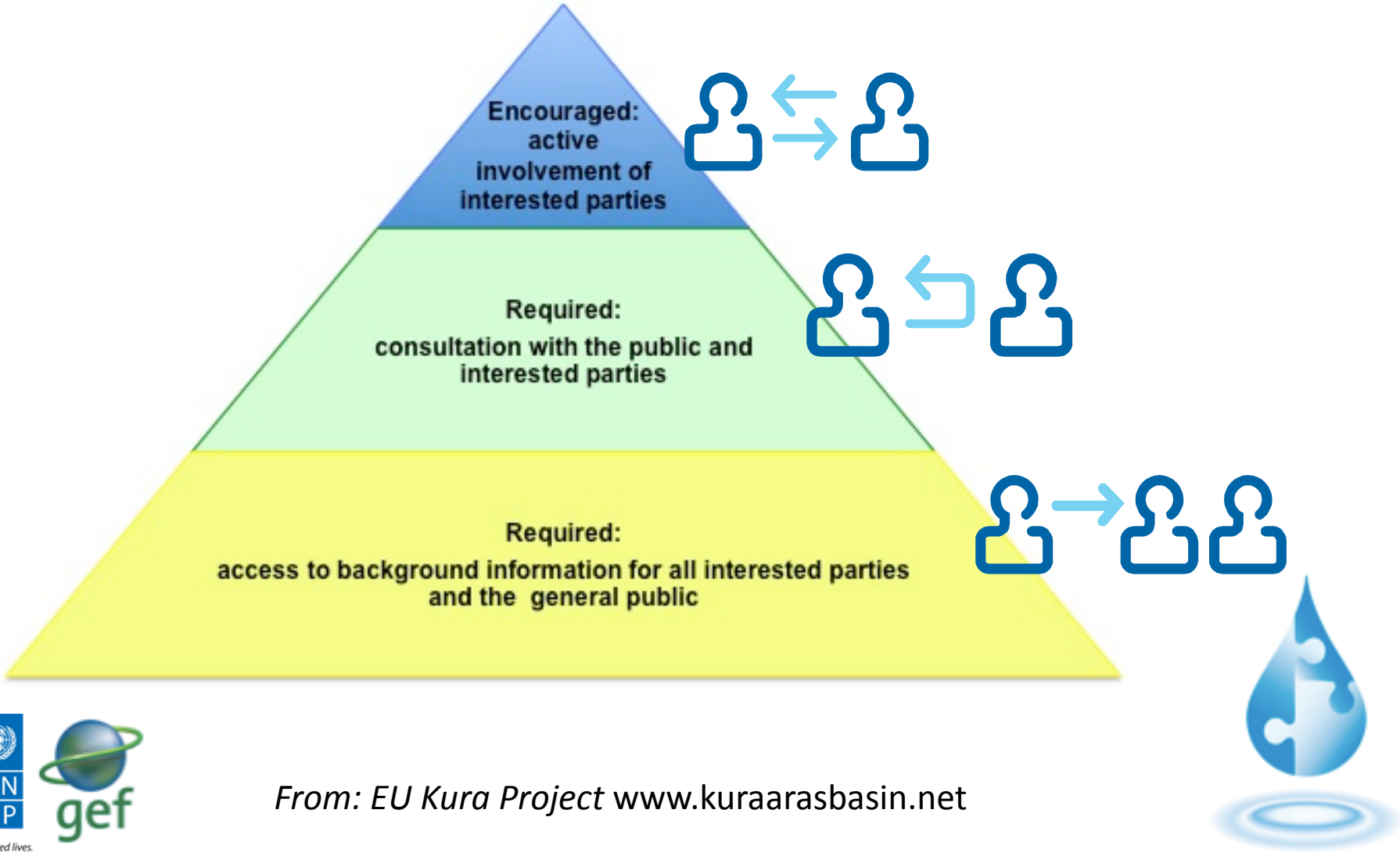


Key highlights for EU Approach – EU EIA Directive

- Government Protector of Environment
- UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice In Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)
- Guarantees rights of public participation in decision making in environmental matters
- Public plays important role
- Access to information by NGOs
- Public holds governments accountable



Key highlights for EU Approach – EU WFD



Key highlights –



EQUATOR PRINCIPLES

- Government and Donors Protector of Environment
- industry framework for addressing environmental and social risks in project financing that could be applied globally and across all industry sectors
- Projects greater than \$10m
- Links with IFC Performance Standards on:
 - Assessment & Management of risks and impacts
 - Biodiversity and sustainable management of living natural resources

1. *Review & categorisation*
2. *Social & environmental assessment*
3. *Applicable social & environmental standards*
4. *Action plan & management system*
5. *Consultation & disclosure*
6. *Grievance mechanisms*
7. *Independent review*
8. *Covenants*
9. *Independent Monitoring & Reporting*
10. *EPFI Reporting*

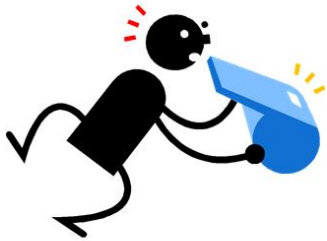


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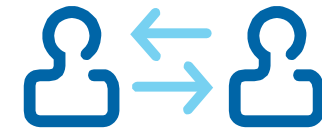
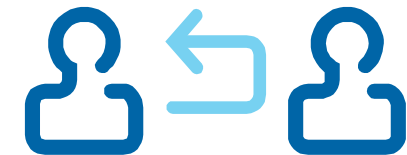
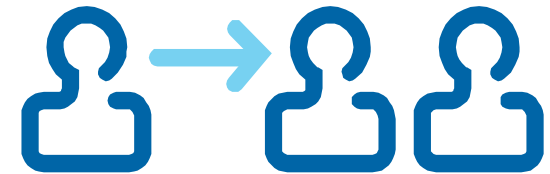
<http://www.equator-principles.com>





What's next?

- In the Kura Aras Basin:
 - Aarhus Convention
 - EBRD, IFC etc.
 - NGOs influence
 - EU Directives => National Policies
- What's Next?
- What needs to be done and how do we get there from here?



It is in your hands



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