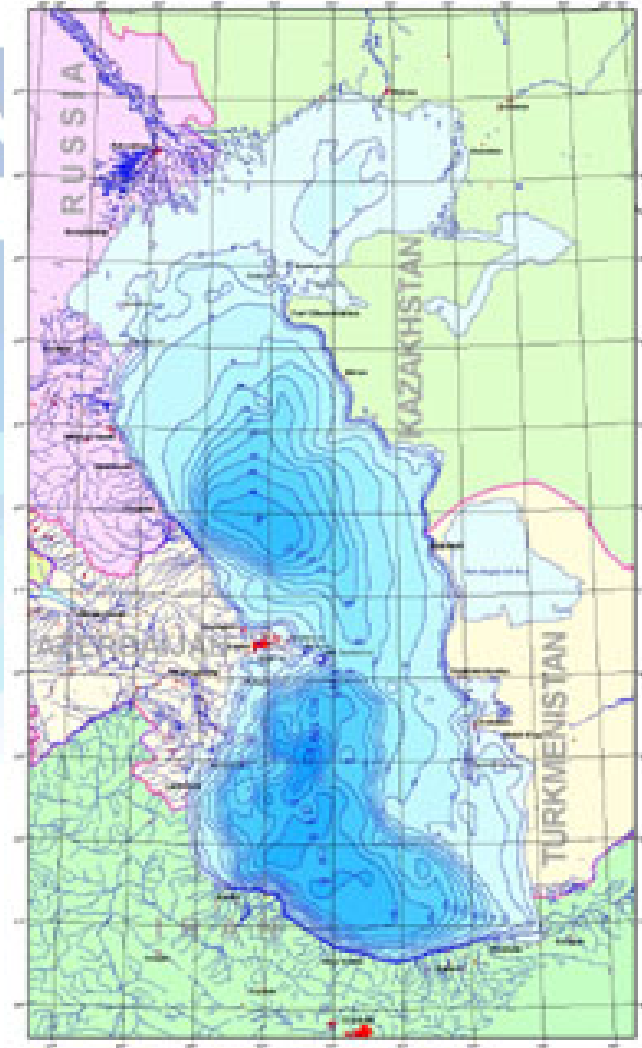
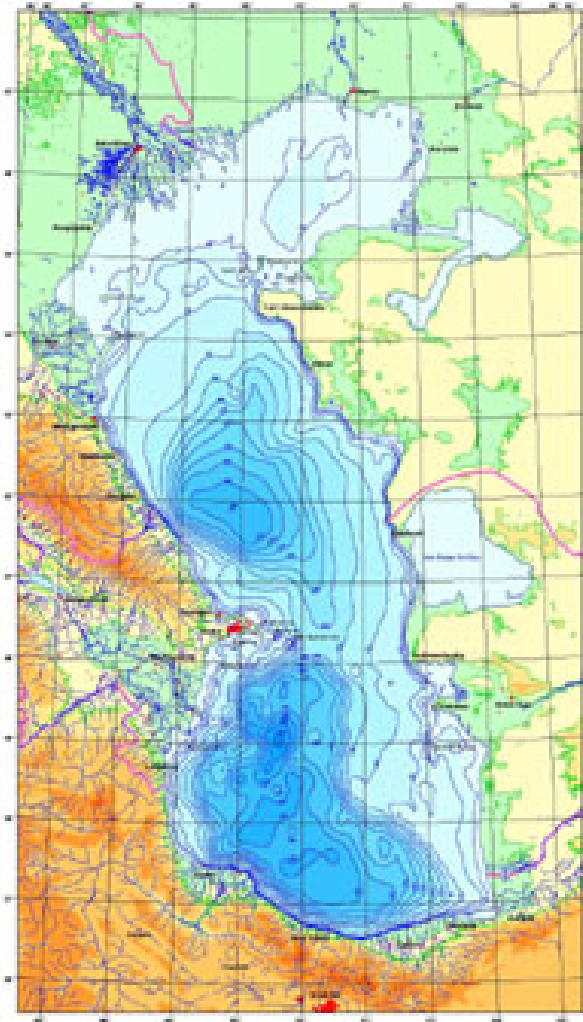




**Caspian Environment Programme & Tehran  
Convention ,  
Guayaquil: November 25/27 , 2008**

# CEP & TC

## Map



## CEP and TC

# CASPIAN ENVIRONMENT

*Recall that:*

- *CEP is an inter- governmental regional environmental programme assisted by GEF and EU; in operation since 1998 with a budget of some \$ 30 since.*
- *World Bank, UNDP and UNEP are major International Partners .*
- *Presently based in Tehran with a network in the region.*
- *It is an engine for regional environmental dialogue; diagnostic work and resource mobilization*
- *Centre piece of Dialogued is the TC signed in 2003 in Tehran and enforceable since 2006*

# CEP & TC

# CASPIAN



# CEP and TC

Why should we be concerned with the Caspian?:

- *Not so rich but **unique biodiversity** due to geographical isolation ; Caspian Seals and Sturgeon*
- *Rich commercial bioresources **worth \$ 5 billions** a year*
- *Rich **Hydrocarbon resources**-perhaps **third** after Middle east and **Siberia***
- ***Strategic location & Transport Corridor** between expanding **EU**, **Russia** , **Middle east**, **Central Asia** and **'Tiger'** economies of **Asia***
- *Huge **Eco-tourism** potentials*

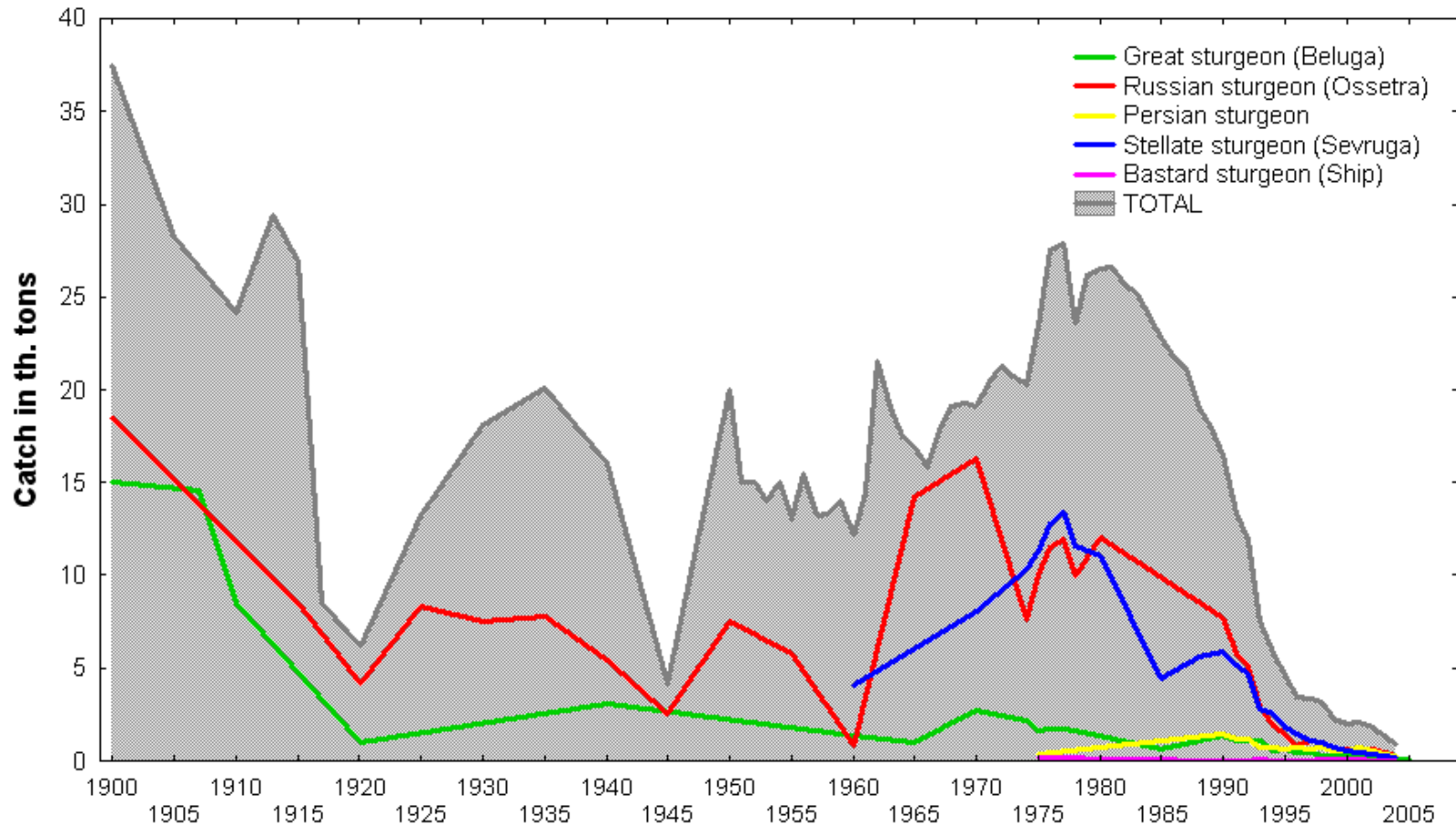
# CEP and TC

Why should we be concerned with the Caspian?

- **Flashpoint for conflict due to unsettled legal regime impacting access to resources; ethnical differences & political disputes** : here environmental dialogue is a conflict prevention activity
- **Highly stressed environment** with huge decline in fisheries ; hugely reduced Seals; invasive species, serious pollution hotspots ; big first timer algae blooms ; unsustainable coastal development
- **Window for Climate Change impact** with water level fluctuations

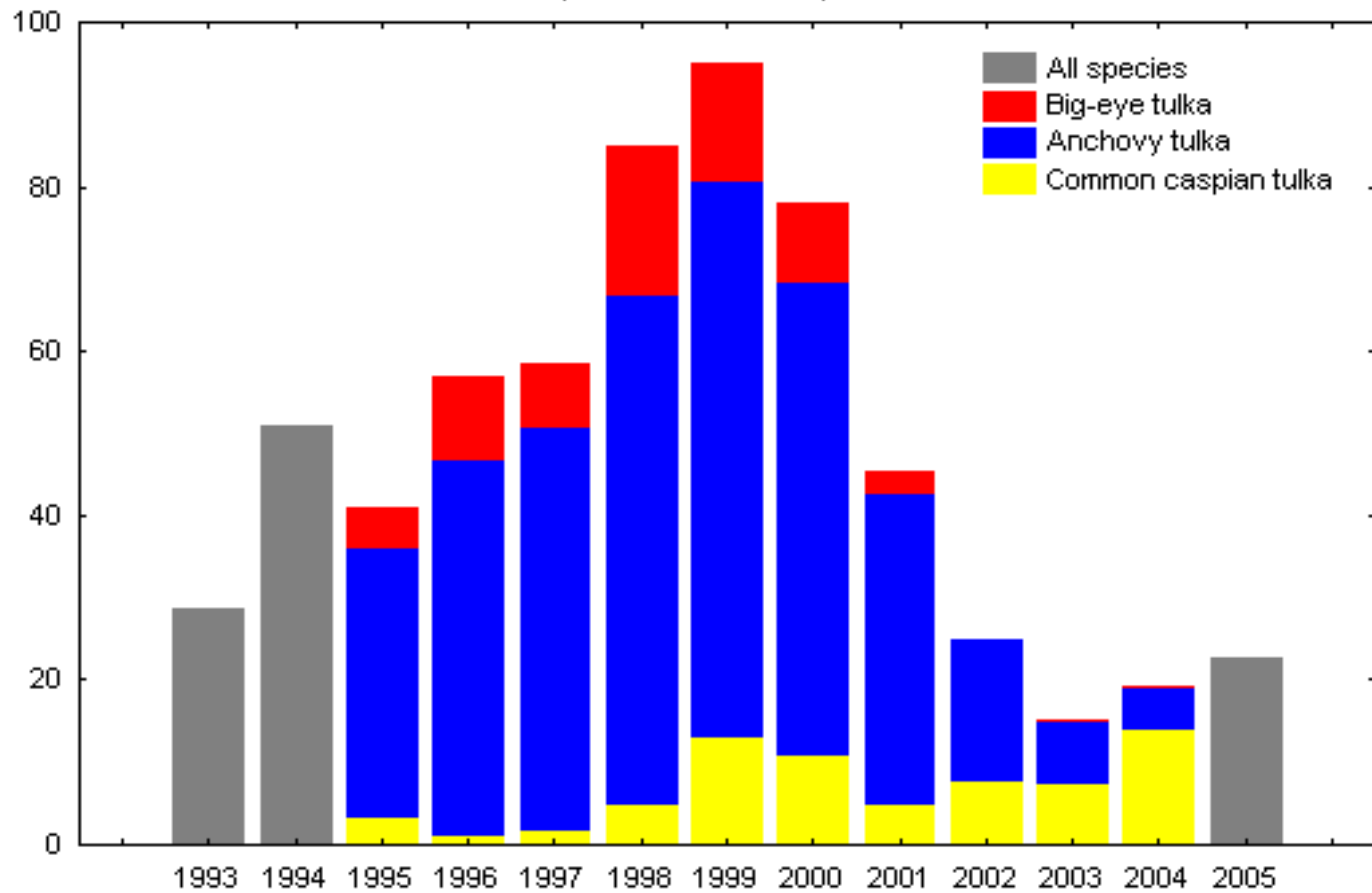
# Caspian Dialogue III

## Sturgeons catches in the Caspian sea



# Caspian Dialogue III

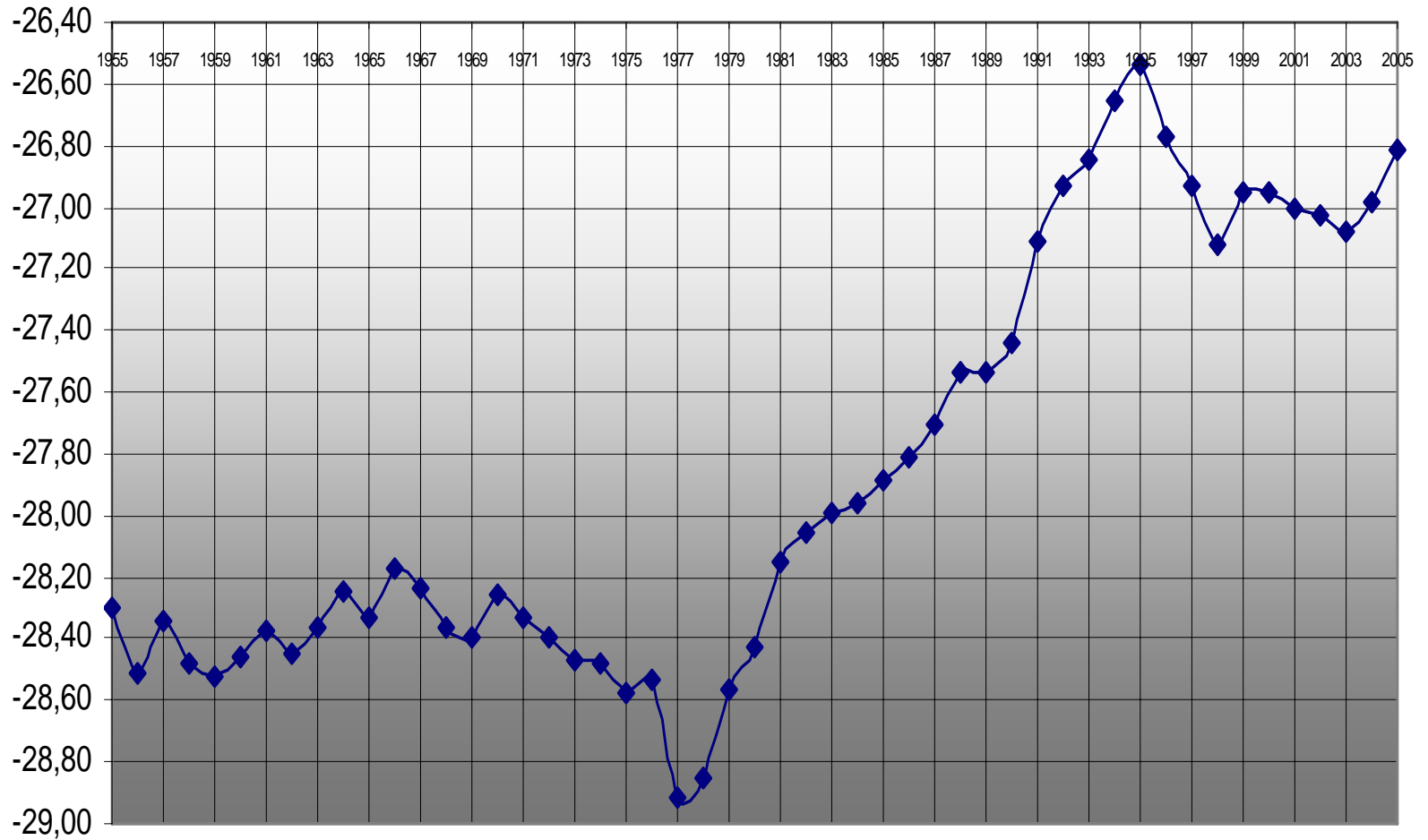
Tulka catch by Iran in 1993-2005  
(in thousands tons)

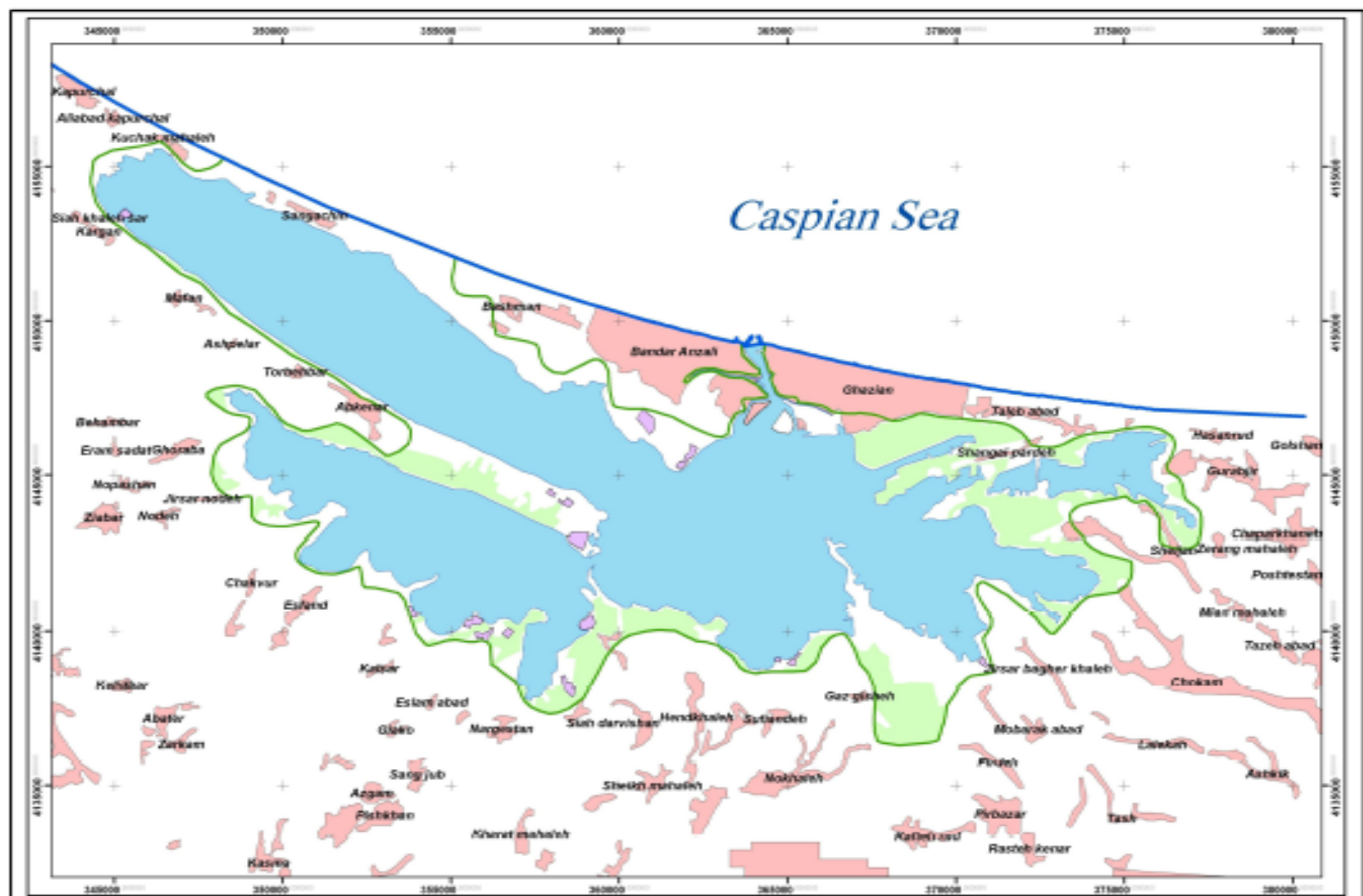




# CEP and TC

The Caspian Sea level variability tendency by Baku data for 1955-2005.





**Map Title** Prediction of Anzali Wetland Border Caused by 0.4 Metre Caspian Water Level Increase

**Sources** IRS-1D Satellite Data & DEM



**Legend**

- Anzali Wetland Border in the Year 2004
- Anzali Wetland Border Caused by 0.4 Metre Caspian Water Level Increase
- Pool
- Rice Fields into 0.4 Metre Border
- Village or City
- Coast Line

**Anzali Lagoon Project**

پروژه ساینلوت طبیعی تالاب انزلی

# CEP and TC

*Have we sufficiently helped ?*

- *Knowledge based Strategies , Policies and Plans : produced in plenty*

- *Diagnostic activities : TDA ( 2002) and TDA Update (2007) based on original research as well as existing information and data*
- *Strategic Action Programme ( SAP) ( 2004 ) and Updated ( 2007)*
- *National Caspian Action Plans ( NCAPs)*
- *Public participation Plan*
- *Seals Conservation Plan*
- *PTS/POPs Regional Action Plan*
- *Review of Legislations*
- *Regional Environmental Monitoring Programme*
- *Pollution Monitoring Programme*
- *Control and Mitigation of Invasive Species Traffic Road Map*
- *And more .....*

*BUT mostly of advisory nature awaiting TC instruments that are expected to have more legal teeth*

# CEP & TC

Implementation & Monitoring Institutional Structures: have built quite a few

- *CEP Steering Committee ; National Focal Points ; Coordination Unit Thematic Centres and Thematic Regional Advisory Groups*
- *TC Interim Secretariat ; Conference of Parties ; National Focal Points ; Out-posted TC Liaison Persons*
- *Inter agency coordination committees*
- *Selected national monitoring authorities*

But fisheries- environment gap has remained and the set up does not work effectively

# CEP and TC

## Have attempted to mobilize resources

- *Produced NCAPs*
- *Higher oil revenues have led to increased environmental investment*
- *Have provided education/training on environmental economics*
- *Produced fundable projects*
- *Funded matched grants*
- *Have funded sustainable livelihood grants*
- *Have funded micro environmental grants*
- *Have dialogued with the oil industry*

But environmental investment remains insufficient and is likely to hugely suffer from global economic decline



# CEP & TC

## Integrating aligning & merging processes

- *CEP has been a fertile ground for the growth and gestation of the TC*
- *CEP documents are being hammered into TC documents*
- *CEP structures are being used by TC*
- *Excellent UNDP – UNEP collaboration has helped the processes.*
- *Two COPs held with mixed results*
- *Four protocols being discussed , two more in future*

Progress impacted by the political /legal issues and by fisheries challenge

## CEP and TC

### GEF is considering a third project in support of CEP/TC

- Two components , one dealing with eco-based approach to bioresources management and the other dealing with regional environmental governance through support to TC processes
- Total close to \$ 6 million for three years
- Based in Astana in Kazakhstan
- Hope to have fisheries people on board



# CEP & TC

## CASPIAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

- All in all satisfactory: good value for money
- Need to go higher levels of government than environment
- Need assist to convince EU and UNEP put more money into the Caspian
- Need more assist from oils
- Need more country ownership





# CASPIAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

[WWW.CASPIANENVIRONMENT.ORG](http://WWW.CASPIANENVIRONMENT.ORG)

