

**Cycle of Telecasts on Caspian Coasts about Problems of
Natural Environment of the Caspian Coast of Dagestan
MEG-RU04-04**

Grant Budget: USD 3,000

Objective of the project:

To educate the public through the preparation of 6 movies on the status of the Caspian environment and to air them on local TV

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Background and formulation of a problem

The Dagestan coast of the Caspian sea, or Seaside Dagestan, is characterized various and by rather sharp ecological problems. It is possible to consider this seaside territory as microanalogue of naturally-economic system of all Caspian basin. Here with the sea the various kinds industrial, agricultural, fishery and recreational activity cooperate, along coast the large lines of the communications (automobile lines and railway, interregional pipelines and electrotransmission lines) are pulled, on a coast the cities, settlements and numerous bases of rest are located, the places at coast kept unique natural complexes – the relict forests, deltaic lakes, grandiose dune landscapes etc. The palette of ecological problems of Seaside Dagestan is accordingly motley also, which aggravation last decades was promoted common for all country by socio-economic crisis, and also specific natural processes (sea transgression, aggravation of a freshet situation on the rivers). However till now low level of ecological culture of the local population, remains weak social concern by a condition of natural environment; still pulse of political life in republic is defined by economic interests of the population, and the ecological cares are removed on last plan.

Goals and Objectives

- To educate Education of broad masses of the population in the field of ecological problems of the Dagestan coast of the Caspian Sea and scientifically proved measures on their overcoming
- To lift a level of ecological education and ecological culture of the local population;
- To raise the responsibility of the workers of nature protection sphere with the help "voice and eyes" of a public;
- To strengthen pressure on the part of a wide public on the chiefs of the enterprises and firms polluting and ruining natural environment of region;
- To unit ecological and political directions of initiative public movements in region;
- To take possession of experience of complex geographical illumination of problems of an environment of Seaside Dagestan through republican TV for the subsequent realization of the acquired skills in other regions of the Caspian basin.

Proposed Project Activities

Preparation of the scripts, shooting and computer installation of six 45-minute color-television movies and their demonstration on republican TV with the preliminary general name "The Caspian coast: ecological problems and judgments ". The participants are members of the Dagestan

geographical society, including the graduate and post-graduate of the chief of the project. The basic places of performance of works - territory of the naturally-economic conflicts and industrial objects, where will conduct shootings and popular scientific comments, interview with managers and local population. The necessary equipment includes digital equipment for sound and video-recording of plots, reporting, interview and comments; the computer with the professional specialized video-card for installation, edition, sound, musical and illustrative registration of television movies; the cartographical programs. Phases of realization of the project are consecutive preparation of television films and their demonstration on republican TV approximately in a 2-month's interval for the period since December 2004 till December, 2005. It is necessary to consider each such interval as a separate stage of realization of the project.

Implemented project activities:

The necessary video equipment for shooting TV-films on a theme of the project was purchased. The scripts for six telecasts on a ecological cycle for Republican TV "Caspian Coast" were developed and verbal agreements were made with Mr. S. Khavchaev, director of State TV-Radio Company of Dagestan on providing available files of video materials on ecology of the Caspian Sea and its coasts for montage of future telecasts and allocation of broadcasting time for demonstration of future telecasts at the price of Rb1,500 per minute of broadcasting time. Also, verbal agreements were made with Mr. D. Aliev, Chief of Dagestan Specialized Marine Inspection of the Ministry of Natural Resources, about payment by inspection for broadcasting time for demonstration of ecological telecasts "Caspian Coast".

Interviews were shot with local and Moscow experts and scientists, competent in environmental problems of the Caspian coast. Moreover, interview was shot with Professor V. Alexandrov from Stavropol State University (expert on problems of sea level and coastline dynamics of the Caspian Sea. Landscapes were shot of a coastal strip of the Caspian Sea near the cities of Makhachkala, Izberbash and Derbent and also on the coast of Kizlyar Bay and deltas of Terek and Samur rivers.

Preparation of video materials for 6 telecasts for their montage and computer edition on the basis of the equipment rendered by State TV-Radio Company "Dagestan" is near completion. In brief, the following activities have been conducted in this project:

- The necessary video equipment for shooting of the TV films were purchased;
- scripts for six telecasts on the ecological issues of Caspian Sea were developed for the Republican TV;
- Agreements were made with the TV-Radio Company of Dagestan and the Ministry of Natural Resources;
- Interviews were shot with local experts and scientists as well of environmental scientists in Moscow;
- Travels were made to the Caspian coastal strips near Makhachkala, Izberbash and Derbent and the natural environment and landscapes were shot on location;
- the montage and computer edition of the 6 movies are underway;

The project is extended until the end of August 2006 for montage and compute edition of the movies.