



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project

Contract No. 2011/279-666



This project is funded by
The European Union

A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**1st National Coordination Committee (NCC) Meeting for Moldova
12 of November, 2013, Conference-Hall, 7 floor, Ministry of Environment
9 Cosmonautilor Str., Chisinau MD 2004, Republic of Moldova**

Agenda

Agenda of the 1st NCC meeting is attached to the minutes

Participants

NCC Members and Representatives of the Ministry of Environment (MoE)

- **Mr. Lazar Chirica**, vice minister of Ministry of Environment
- **Mr. Andrei Ursache**, head of section for water resources, soil, subsoil, Ministry of Environment
- **Mrs. Diana Celac**, Chief Specialist, section for water resources, soil, subsoil, Ministry of Environment
- **Mrs. Nadejda Chilaru**, consultant, Department of Water Management, MoE.
- **Mr. Ivan Cuceinic**, Head of Department of Water Management, Agency “Apele Moldovei” (“Waters of Moldova”)
- **Mr. Sergiu Lazar**, senior specialist, Department of Water Management, Agency “Apele Moldovei”
- **Mrs. Svetalan Stirbu**, deputy head of Department of Environment Quality Monitoring, State Hydrometeorological Service.
- **Mrs. Natalia Ungurean**, hidrobiologist, Department of Environment Quality Monitoring, State Hydrometeorological Service.

Governmental Institutions

- **Mr. Iurie Bejan**, vice director, Institute of Ecology and Geography of Academy of Science of Moldova
- **Mr. Nicolae Boboc**, chief of landscape division, Institute of Ecology and Geography of Academy of Science of Moldova.
- **Mr. Genadii Syrodoev**, deputy chief of geomorphology and geodynamic section, Institute of Ecology and Geography, Academy of Science of Moldova, GIS expert for SW.
- **Mr. Oleg Bogdevici**, vice director, Institute of Geology and Seismology, Academy of Science of Moldova, GIS expert for GW.
- **Mrs. Natalya Curosu**, hidrolog, Basin Water Management Authority
- **Mr. Alexandru Tabacaru**, specialist geodesy & GIS Basin Water Management Authority.

Non-Governmental and Private Organizations, synergy projects

- **Mr Ilya Trombitsky**, executive director, NGO “Eco-tiras”
- **Mrs. Daniela Petrushevshi**, Millenium Challenge Fund, “Compact” Program, MCC project
- **Mrs. Ludmila Gofman**, deputy team leader Irrigation Sector Reform Activity (ISRA) of “Compact” programme



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project

Contract No. 2011/279-666



This project is funded by
The European Union

A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

EPIRB team:

- **Mr Tim Turner**, team leader (TL)
- **Mr Victor Bujac**, Country Water Management Expert (CWME)

Summary of Discussions

Introduction and Opening

The EPIRB NCC meeting was organized jointly with Ministry of Environment. The meeting was opened by **Mr. Adrian Ursache** head of section for water resources, soil, subsoil, Ministry of Environment. Welcoming remarks were made by **Mr. Tim Turner**, Team Leader of Environmental Protection of International River Basins (EPIRB), an EU funded project implemented by Human Dynamics Consortium, where they focused on the overall objectives of the meeting and expected outcomes of it.

Meeting was dedicated to the EPIRB National Coordination Committee (NCC) meeting for Republic of Moldova that, together with the Regional Steering Committee (RSC), represents advisory mechanism for close cooperation of the project team to the beneficiary institutions to oversee achievement of the project goals and objectives. The National Coordination Committee (working group) for Republic of Moldova was established by Ministerial Order # 106 in December 21, 2012. All their members were involved in number of national and regional events organized by the project, including 1st RSC meeting in Kiev (July 2012), 2-nd RSC Meeting in Tbilisi (September 2013), WFD compliant monitoring workshop in Batumi, joint field visits at pilot Prut river basin, regional laboratory training and workshop in Chisinau, etc.

The session was opened by **Mr. Tim Turner**, by presenting the project objectives and results of activities undertaken in 2012-2013, 2-nd Regional Steering Committee meeting hold in Tbilisi and main its results. He summarized the outcomes of the 2-nd Progress report, including findings of the existing monitoring systems and Joint Filed Surveys undertaken for ground and surface water bodies. Further Mr Tim Turner presented in details activities and achievements of the current implementation phase, training course on Quality Assurance/ Quality Control (QA/QC) for the national monitoring laboratories in Chisinau; fact finding field missions in the pilot area resulting in River Basin Analysis (RBA) for the selected pilot basin of the Prut River. In his presentation, **Mr. Tim Turner** described all on going activities in beneficiary countries, as delineations and typology of surface and ground water bodies, analyses of baseline situation and JFS results.

Mr. Victor Bujac, CWME and **Mr. Nicolae Boboc**, who represented Institute of Ecology and Geography, EPIRB contractor for the RBA study, in their common presentation described major steps of development River Basin Analysis for the Prut pilot river basin in 2012-2013. **Mr. Nicolae Boboc** outlined main findings of the RBA and described in details the following four chapters developed as a result of this activity: general and hydrological characterization of the basin; human activities in the basin; identification of pressures and impacts by four major groups of the driving forces (i. water abstraction and flow regulation; ii. diffuse sources of pollution; iii. point sources of pollution, iv. physical and morphological changes of water objects) and monitoring practice in the pilot area. He also presented number of supporting visual materials developed for the RBA study based on the data provided by beneficiary institutions. In addition **Mr. Nicolae Boboc** and **Mr. Victor Bujac** answered to number of questions from an audience related to the technical details of the RBA study, further development and finalizing component A, River basin Analyses. Also **Mr. Victor Bujac** thanks



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project

Contract No. 2011/279-666



This project is funded by
The European Union

A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

beneficiary institutions as State Hydrometeorological Service, State Water Agency, Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources and Hydrogeological Expeditions from Moldova who presented sufficient data and information for developing RBA and prepared feedback and comments.

Mr. Lazar Chirica vice minister of Ministry of Environment informed that Romania as EU member developed RBMP for Prut river in 2009; we have bilateral cooperation in the frame of agreement on transboundary cooperation and protection of water of Danube and Prut rivers signed in 2010. EPIRB project should put more attention in existing cooperation between Ministries of Environment of both RO/MD countries and reflect it in RBA.

Mr. Ilya Trombitky, executive director, NGO "Eco-tiras" tell that it will be important to have in future trilateral agreement between Moldova, Ukraine and Romania on whole Prut river basin, as it was done with support of OSCE and UNECE bilateral agreement on Dniester river basin

Mr. Genadiy Syrodoev, as **GIS expert** contracted for activity **2.2. Identification and typology of surface water bodies**, as well as to the **Activity 2.3 - Analysis of baseline situation, including Preliminary classification of SWB** described water delineation process in cooperation with key expert in hydrology and hydromorphology **Mrs. Tatjana Koltova** and results for Prut pilot river basin. He presented number of supporting visual materials, including GIS maps developed for the RBA study based on the data provided by beneficiary institutions.

Mr. Oleg Bogdevici, as **GIS expert** contracted for activity **2.2. Identification and typology of ground water bodies** as well as to the **Activity 2.3 - Analysis of baseline situation, including Preliminary classification of GWB** described water delineation process in cooperation with key expert in ground water **Mr Bernadas Paukstus** and results of identification 9 ground water bodies for pilot area.

Mrs Svetlana Stirbu in common presentation **with: Valentina Iurcu, chief chemical laboratory of SHS, Valentina Ceres, deputy head of hydrology division form SHS**, described findings from first joint field survey (**Activity 2.4 - Joint field Surveys to cover the gaps**) in Prut pilot river basin which took place from 27 of July to 3 of August 2013. She mentioned about training organized by key expert in hydrobiology **Mr. Svetoslav Cheshmedjiev** for sampling aquatic organism (macrozoobentos) in the field. As already mentioned, the main objective of the JFSs will be collecting missing data for classification of water bodies in the pilot areas. Normally the JFSs should include the following three sections of every surface water object, or river basin: a) river upstream sections to demonstrate reference conditions in each basin with 'high' to 'good' ecological status; b) middle flow sections, where significant impact caused by human activities is still not clearly visible – 'good' to 'moderate' ecological status; and c) downstream flow sections, or at the crossings with industry/agriculture and highly populated areas to demonstrate changes in the ecological status from 'moderate' to 'poor', or 'bad' ecological status.

However, since the water quality monitoring practice and thus the monitoring data in the selected pilot areas are very limited and studies to identify reference conditions never have been done previously, first priority during the JFSs this year will be sampling and analysing of hydro-biological, physical-chemical and hydro-morphological quality elements for potentially 'high' and 'good' ecological status of the identified water bodies. Further examination of the classified WBs with lower classes ('moderate' to 'bad') ideally should be conducted at a same time, but due to time limitation, this will be done only at the next JFS in summer 2014.



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project

Contract No. 2011/279-666



This project is funded by
The European Union

A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

In addition **Mrs. Svetlana Stirbu** mentioned that one of the main goal of the joint filed expedition was the hidrological land hydromorphological researches, and hydrobiological monitoring surface water quality in the basin of the Prut River, to cover information gaps in the existing monitoring and complete analysis for Prut river basin prepared by the Institute of Ecology and Geography of the Academy of Sciences. During first JFS were investigated 24 places (sites) which was on the channel of the river Prut (town Lipcani downstream of the bridge, locality Pererîta district Edinet, loc.Sculeni, district Ungheni, town Leova hydrometric station) and also on Prut tributaries: Vilia, Ciuihureţ, Racovat, Camenca, Ustia, Delia, Girla Mare, Nîrnova, Lăpuşna, Sarata, Sirma, Valea Galmadjei, Tigheci and others and without name).

Mr. Victor Jeleapov, hydrogeology engineer, SE “Hydrogeology Expedition from Moldova” in common presentation with **Boris Iurciuc**, chief of geological fund division, Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources presented result and findings on **Activity 2.4 - Joint field Surveys to cover the gaps for ground water bodies**. **Mr. Victor Jeleapov** highlighted that it was very important and first time such training in Moldova done by **Mr. B. Paukstus** on monitoring ground waters, sampling with rented by EPIRB equipment.

Second presentation of team leader **Mr. Tim Turner** was dedicated to the ongoing activities of the third reporting period and plans for next years 2014-2015. He particularly focused on the following up activities on developing of Monitoring Programmers, progress on last two months, upcoming regional monitoring and classification workshop to be held in Moldova 20/21 of November in Chisinau with presenting proposal from experts of EPIRB project for biological/ecological, hydro morphological and ground water monitoring and classification systems. In addition, he described outline of timetable on designing of the second Joint Filed Surveys in pilot area. Further **Mr. Tim Turner** informed NCC members on river basin planning and **Activity 2.5 Developing Programme of Measures** and starting thinking on selecting one of measures as pilot project.

Discussion session after the presentations session led the meeting to the valuable comments and updated information that the team will take into account and reflect in the common RBA study for Prut River basin for Ukrainian and Moldavian parties of river basin that is available on the EPIRB website and printed versions for the beneficiaries and general public in two languages - English and Russian.

At the end of the workshop **Mrs Diana Celac**, highlighted the importance of implemented activities and cooperation with synergy projects for developing RBM for Dniester river basin. She appreciated productive discussions and outcomes of the meeting and expressed optimism that the new Moldavian water law and specific normative documents related to design of river basin management plans for two river districts (Dniester, Danube-Prut and Black Sea), including identification of water bodies, assessment of methodology, implementation program of measures, other basin management principles should be reflected in terms of reference for elaboration RBMP for Prut river. In addition, she mentioned that part of Danube Delta region is not included in pilot area and can be proposed by beneficiary as pilot project, but also it is necessary to discuss this issue with all stakeholders.

Mr Andrian Ursache, head of section for water resources, soil and subsoil, behalf of Ministry of Environment summarized the meeting results and expressed the importance of further cooperation between all stakeholders and RBM synergy projects in Moldova.