AGENDA

for the Training of the Biological Elements for the Ecological Status Assessment of Surface Water Bodies

Tbilisi, Georgia
10-12 June, 2015

Venue: Conference Hall
National Environmental Agency
150a, Aghmashenebeli Ave, Tbilisi, Georgia

Objectives:

- Define the biological elements as element of status classification in order to reflect the basin pressures and impacts.
- Show biological elements approach: taxonomic description, main metrics, results for each basin.
- Explain the overall classification of Biological Quality Elements, according to the ecological status protocol.
- Training on the use of the new Instruction and guidance document for macroinvertebrates sampling.

Language: Russian

For more information please contact the Tbilisi Regional Office:

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PROGRAMME

DAY-1	**in theoretical classes**
10:00 - 10:15	**Welcome - Opening Remarks and Training Objectives** Mr. Zurab Jincharadze, EPIRB Deputy Team Leader (KE2) Ms. Romina Alvarez, EPIRB Biology Key Expert (KE3)
10:15 - 12:00	**Biological/ecological monitoring programs and classification systems** Ms. Romina Alvarez, EPIRB Biology Key Expert (KE3)
10:15 - 10:45	**General information about surface water and the importance of doing the biological monitoring and a briefly review of the main characteristics of the river basin areas of the project.** By Ms. Romina Alvarez, EPIRB Biology Key Expert (KE3)
10:45 - 11:00	***Coffee break***
11:00 - 12:30	**Macroinvertebrates: the benthic macroinvertebrate communities in rivers. The main groups of macroinvertebrates, the main taxonomic characteristics.** By Ms. Ms. Romina Alvarez, EPIRB Biology Key Expert (KE3)
12:30 - 13:30	**Macrophytes & phytobenthos. Explanation about the biological flora elements. Some taxonomic key and some general indexes about diversity or abundance for macrophytes, data interpretation (ecological status, eutrophication);** By Ms. Ms. Romina Alvarez, EPIRB Biology Key Expert (KE3)
13:30 – 14:30	***Lunch***
14:30 - 15:45	**Phytoplankton: a general explanation about the group and some simple indexes and metrics, data interpretation shall be carried out: ecological status, eutrophication, potential status**
15:45 - 16:15	***Coffee break***
16:15 - 17:00	**Icthiofauna (theoretical training; "Integrated WFD approach in biological monitoring and assessment combining all BQEs and other quality elements" - incl. ecological status/potential assessment, relations with pressure, managerial aspects, RB management planning and PoM (special emphasis on control of eutrophication, other pollution control measures and hydro-morphological alterations - fish barriers)**
17:00 - 17:30	*Questions and answers*

18:00	**Dinner at Venue**
DAY-2	**Training in the field in reference sites and other sites with special characteristics in order to get difficulties and try to solve them.** Sampling on Mashavera Kazreti selected point and Khrami-Imiri sampling point **Lake samplings** Sampling on Lake Kumisi ***Lunch to be provided during the field visit***
18:00	**Dinner (tbc)**
DAY-3	**Laboratory work:** after going to the field the team will take the macroinvertebrates samples and we will identify and apply the index in order to have a diagnosis for the stations sampled. Checking some of the material identified in the areas during 2013-2014 to be used as laboratory materials. Once calculation of different indexes & metrics and ecological interpretation/biological assessment of water quality and ecological status/potential). The team will use the stereomicroscope and the dichotomous keys to do the identification of the fauna. It will take place, a part from the training, an explanation the importance of how to create and how to keep a taxonomic collection for future comparisons. The macrophytes taken in the field will be identify and preserved in order to check the difficulties of this group for future projects.
13:30 – 14:30	***Lunch*** ***Two coffee breaks to be provided during the laboratory work***
18:00	**Dinner (tbc)**