



**Technical Information Workshop
regarding the national Prut River Basin Management plans of MD, UA RO
26 November 2015, Chisinau, Moldova**

WORKSHOP REPORT

Venue

Labour Institute, Conference-Hall “Polivalent”
Zimbrului Street 10, Chisinau, Moldova
<http://www.institutulmuncii.md>

Agenda

Agenda of the Prut River Basin Consultation meeting is attached to the minutes (Annex 1).

Participants

List of Participants of the meeting is attached to the minutes (Annex 2).

Objectives:

This Technical Information Workshop aims to

- **Bring together relevant experts and representatives** from Moldova, Ukraine and Romania, the EPIRBP Project and if possible from the ICPDR Secretariat to share and discuss the three national Prut River Basin Management Plans.
 - In the above context, MD and UA will present their national Prut RBMPs, which have been developed in the frame of the EPIRBP Project to inform all involved including Romania.
 - RO to present their RBMP 2015 of the Prut and compare and discuss all three RBMPs.
- **Identify overlaps, similarities and also differences** between the three national Prut RBMPs;
- **Discuss the need and potential of harmonization** of the three RBMPs including all assessments and their related results;
- **In the above context**, collect views of the participating representatives making use of break-out groups and outline practical cooperation steps that would be needed for harmonization of the three RBMPs;
- **Discuss current shortcomings and key challenges** regarding the national Prut RBMPs specifically those for MD / UA and discuss steps towards further analysis and improvement;

- **Present the key findings of the international Danube River Basins Management Plan**, outline the contributions of MD and UA and highlight remaining information gaps;
- **Discuss next steps** in the frame of the Prut Working Group and determine key aims towards improvements of the MD and UA Prut RBMP as well as cooperation to harmonize these Plans with the RO Prut RBMP;
- Come up with **conclusions and a rough road map for 2016**.

Workshop Summary – Brief Overview

During the morning session the work, activities and tasks of trilateral technical workshop were presented. The EPIRB project outcomes to date and the planned outcomes for 2016 were presented by the team leader Mr Tim Turner. The EPIRB WFD Expert, Ms Birgit Vogel, outlined activities within the EPIRB project regarding the Prut working group taking into account past activities and the future perspective,

The Executive Secretary of the ICPDR, Mr Ivan Zavadsky, presented the international Danube River Basin Management Plan 2015 and provided a comprehensive overview of the Danube RBMP's findings paying special attention on the Prut River Basin. The Danube RBMP is aimed to be approved at the ICPDR's Ordinary Meeting in December 2015. A subsequent ministerial conference of the environment Ministers of the contracting parties to the Danube Protection Convention is planned for February 2016 aiming for an adoption of the DRBM Plan.

In follow-up, project representatives CWME and RBMP contractors from Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (Mr Victor Bujac; Mr Iurii Bejan, Ms Natalia Zakorchevna and Ms Marta Korchemlyuk) presented the draft national RBMPs of their portion of the Prut River Basin.

The Romanian delegation provided a presentation on their experience of WFD implementation and the second cycle (2016-2021) of RBMP development for the Prut-Birlad River Basin. Ms Irina Tutunaru from the RBMB Office of Prut–Barlad Water Basin Administration presented the second national RBMP, developed for the international Prut River Basin District. This RBMP will be submitted to the European Commission by 22 March 2016 under the WFD reporting requirement.

The MD and UA representatives expressed high interest in the RO Prut RBMP. Specifically, the participants emphasised the need to adapt and harmonisation of the MD and UA RBMPs with the existing Romanian RBMP, which would improve governance in the Prut River Basin. A first step would be the identification of potential overlaps and differences between the plans to establish a basis for harmonisation.

Further issues that were discussed in the frame of the meeting addressed (i) public consultation of the three RBMPs, (ii) the chapters on flood risk management and climate change issues in the RO RBMP as well as (iii) the designation of nitrate sensitive areas according the EU Nitrates Directive.

Workshop Conclusions

A part of the afternoon session was dedicated to the discussion on existing and future cooperation in the international Prut River Basin District focusing on outcomes and development of the MD, UA and RO RBMPs. The following questions guided the discussion:

- 1) What are the key overlaps, similarities and also differences between three national RBMPs?
- 2) What are the key issues to be harmonised between the three RBMPs?
- 3) What would be a possible cooperation mechanism to enable harmonisation of key issues between the three RBMPs? Discuss and describe a possible coordination mechanism.
- 4) List the next steps towards harmonisation that seem most useful to you.

The discussion allowed the initial identification of several key issues to be investigated in follow-up activities, including comparison of water body delineation between countries; pressure identification and risk assessment; and status assessment.

Romania expressed appreciation of the information provided regarding the EPIRB Project and the MD/UA Prut RBMPs and emphasised the importance to harmonise any activities and outcomes in the Prut River Basin with the Romanian WFD activities and assessment results. In addition, RO expressed willingness to contribute with their WFD expertise to the EPIRB Project work in the Prut Basin within Moldova and Ukraine. The ICPDR also expressed its appreciation and mentioned that initial work to identify overlaps, similarities and differences between the three RBMPs would be an added value regarding cooperation in the Prut River Basin. The ICPDR Executive Secretary highlighted that the EPIRB project and outline of intended activities in the Prut River Basin will be mentioned at the upcoming ICPDR Ordinary Meeting.

The following key conclusions achieved during the workshop can be summarised:

- It has been concluded that the work within the Prut Working Group and the EPIRB Project regarding the international Prut River Basin District can be supported under the existing bilateral/multilateral agreements between the three countries (MD/UA/RO) but would not replace the work under these.
- Hence, the Prut Work Group under the EPIRB Project should make best use of any bi-/multilateral cooperation mechanisms that are in place;
- In the above context, the upcoming EPIRB Project activities can provide preparatory work towards possible harmonisation of the existing Prut RBMPs by an initial identification of overlaps, similarities and differences;
- Upcoming activities should primarily focus on selected key issues. This includes a first screening and checking of water body delineation in order to identify potential differences and to see if and how a harmonised approach could be achieved;
- In follow-up, other approaches and results within the three RBMPs shall be compared (e.g. significant pressures and their identification; inventory of sources of pollution and related pressures; Artificial and Heavily Modified Water Bodies; Programme and Measures, overlaps and possibilities towards harmonisation towards joint measures);

- Furthermore, under EPIRB activities the location of existing and future monitoring sites for international basin management should be reviewed and addressed;
- The project will provide support to all three countries (MD, UA, RO) and the River Prut WG until September 2016 including technical support from the EPIRB project team experts;
- The involvement of Romanian experts is seen as a crucial for the success of the project activities;
- Comparison of the RBMPs shall be initiated as soon as possible supported by two further River Prut WG meetings in 2016 at which the comparative results will be presented and discussed;
- Related TORs will be drafted in detail and the work contracted to national consultants;
- In parallel, the comparison results should be reflected in the final MD and UA RBMPs as part of a chapter on harmonisation efforts in the Prut River Basin District;
- It was highlighted that technical and harmonisation approaches that have been used in the ICPDR framework shall be taken into account;
- In addition, the EPIRB Project team will have to discuss and decide if and how GIS can be used to compare results of the three RBMPs, applying the most effective and best possible solution;
- It has been concluded that communication exchange between the ICPDR, the EPIRB Project and the Prut WG needs to be ensured and take place on a regular basis.

Next Steps

- Develop a Road Map on the upcoming tasks and activities based on the following workshop conclusions:
 - **Phase 1:** Comparison of water body delineation and identification of significant pressures (Duration: 2 months)
 - Prut WG meeting in March/April 2016 to present and discuss results;
 - **Phase 2:** Focus on the comparison regarding monitoring, risk assessment/status assessment and Heavily Modified Water Bodies (Duration: 2 - 3 months)
 - Prut WG meeting in July/August 2016 to present and discuss results.
- Continued communication between the three countries, the ICPDR Secretariat and EPIRB project.
- Development of related Terms of References.

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

Thursday, 26 November 2015

Time	Thematic Item	Presenter
9:00 – 9:15	Registration	
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome address by the host and the EPIRB Project	Andrei Ursache (MD host) Tim Turner (EPIRB Project Team Leader)
9:15 – 9:20	Adoption of the Agenda	
9:20 – 9:30	Tour de Table: Introduction of all participants	All
9:30 – 9:45	The EPIRB Project – Overview on outcomes so far and the 2016 activities	Tim Turner (EPIRB Project Team Leader)
9:45 – 10:00	Recalling the activities with the EPIRB Project and the Prut Working Group	Birgit Vogel (Senior Expert EPIRB Project)
10:00 – 10:30	The Danube River Basin Management Plan - an overview on its findings paying special attention on the Prut River Basin	ICPDR Secretariat Ivan Zavadsky, executive secretary
10:30 – 10:45	Questions and Answers; Plenary Discussion	All Participants
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:15 – 12:00	Prut River Basin Management Plan for Moldova <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of results including all key aspects of the EU WFD including WB delineation, monitoring, significant pressures, water status assessments and POM; • Outline of existing shortcomings and information gaps; • Outline of planned improvements in Prut river basin management. 	Victor Bujac, Iurie Bejan (EPIRB Project CWME, RBMP contractor)
12:00 – 12:45	Prut River Basin Management Plan for Ukraine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of results including all key aspects of the EU WFD including WB delineation, monitoring, significant pressures, water status assessments and POM; • Outline of existing shortcomings and information gaps; • Outline of planned improvements in Prut river basin management. 	Nataliia Zakorchevna, Marta Korchemlyuk (EPIRB Project RBME, RBMP contractor)
12:45 – 13:00	<i>Plenary Discussion</i>	

13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 – 15:15	The Romanian River Basin Management Plan for the Prut RBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of results including all key aspects of the EU WFD including WB delineation, monitoring, significant pressures, water status assessments and POM. 	Representative from RO Irina Tutunaru, Prut-Birlad RBM Authority, Agency “Apele Romane”
15:15 – 16:00	Two Break out groups to discuss the status of Prut RBMPs and the way forward, specifically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overlaps, similarities and also differences between the three national Prut RBMPs; • Key issues for harmonisation between the RBMPs and outline of a possible cooperation mechanism; • Outline of next steps. Note: The groups will be guide by questions to be provided	All in Break Out Groups
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
16:30 – 17:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report back from the two break out groups (each 15 minutes) • Questions, answers and discussion 	Break-Out Groups All
17:15 – 17:30	Outline of related activities towards Prut RBMP improvement in MD and UA as well as towards harmonisation between MD/UA/RO within the frame of the EPIRB Project	All
17:30 – 17:45	Wrap-up and key conclusions	ICPDR Secretariat EPIRB Project
17:45 – 17:50	Closing of the Meeting	MD Host/EPIRB Project
18:00	<i>Dinner</i>	



ANNEX 2: List of Participants

#	Name	Organization	Position	Country/City	E-mail
Representative from ICPDR					
1	Mr Ivan Zavadsky	ICPDR Secretariat	Executive Secretary	Austria/ Vienna	ivan.zavadsky@unvienna.org
Representatives from RBMP Institutions (Romania)					
2	Ms Madalina David	National Administration Romanian Waters	Dr. Chem.	Romania/ Bucharest	madalina.david@rowater.ro
3	Ms Irina Tutunaru	River Basin Management Plan Office, ABA Prut-Barlad	Engineer	Romania/ Iasi	irina.tutunaru@dap.rowater.ro
Representatives of the Beneficiary Institutions (Moldova)					
4	Mr Andrei Ursache	Ministry of Environment	Head of Water, Soil and Subsoil Section	Moldova/ Chisinau	ursache@mediu.gov.md
5	Ms Diana Celac	Ministry of Environment, Water Management Division	Deputy Head of Division	Moldova/ Chisinau	celacd@mediu.gov.md
6	Ms Natalia Zgîrcu	SHS, Environmental Quality Monitoring Dpt.	Department Deputy Chief	Moldova/ Chisinau	nataliaracovet1901@yahoo.com
7	Mr Boris Iuirciuc	Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources	Head of Geological Fund	Moldova/ Chisinau	geofond@agrm.gov.md



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project (EPIRBP)

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8	Mr Iurie Bejan	Institute of Ecology and Geography	Deputy Director	Moldova/ Chisinau	iurie.bejan@gmail.com
9	Mr Nicolae Boboc	Institute of Ecology and Geography/Moldavian Academy of Science	Head of Laboratory	Moldova/ Cahul	nicboboc@gmail.com
10	Mr Petru Bacal	Institute of Ecology and Geography/Moldavian Academy of Science	Leading Scientist Researcher, PhD in Geography	Moldova/ Chisinau	p_bacal@yahoo.com
11	Mr Dumitru Proca	Agency "Apele Moldovei"	Leading Specialist	Moldova/ Chisinau	dima.proca@apele.gov.md
Representatives of the Beneficiary Institutions (Ukraine)					
12	Ms Iryna Boltenko	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses	Leading Specialist	Ukraine/ Kyiv	boltenko@menr.gov.ua
13	Ms Marta Korchemlyuk	Carpathian National Nature Park	Head of Laboratory for Analytical Control and Monitoring	Ukraine/ Yaremche	martakor@yahoo.com
EPIRB Project/Human Dynamics Consortium					
14	Mr Timothy Turner	HD/EPIRB	Team Leader, KE1	Ukraine/ Kiev	trturner@btinternet.com
15	Ms Birgit Vogel	HD/EPIRB	WFD Expert, NKE	Austria/ Vienna	bv@rbm-solutions.com



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16	Ms Nataliia Zakorchevna	HD/EPIRB	RBME	Ukraine/ Kiev	nataliia.zakorchevna@blacksea-riverbasins.net
17	Mr Victor Bujac	HD/EPIRB	CWME	Moldova/ Chisinau	victor.bujac@blacksea-riverbasins.net
18	Mr Evgenii Grigorenko	HD/EPIRB	OM	Ukraine/ Kiev	evgenii.grigorenko@blacksea-riverbasins.net



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MEETING PARTICIPANTS (from left to right): Mr Iurie Bejan, Mr Andrei Ursache, Mr Ivan Zavadsky, Ms Irina Tutunaru, Ms Diana Celac, Ms Iryna Boltenko, Mr Timothy Turner, Ms Nataliia Zakorchevna, Ms Marta Korchemlyuk, Ms Birgit Vogel, Mr Victor Bujac, and Ms Madalina David.