

EU funded project

Hulla& Co. Human Dynamics KG

Environmental Protection of International River Basins

Preparation of methodological documentation for WFD compliant
monitoring programmes in support of implementation of the 2014 Water
Code of the Republic of Belarus
(THE UPPER DNIEPER BASIN)

INCEPTION REPORT

Draft

Prepared by

Republican Center on Radiation Control and Environmental Monitoring,
Belarus

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INTRODUCTION

The present inception report is prepared by specialists of Republican Center of Radiation Control and Environmental Monitoring within the signed contract in the scope of EU funded project “Environmental Protection of International River Basins”.

WFD requires all Member States to prepare River Basin Management Plans and Programs of Measures, designed to prevent deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and to achieve at least good ecological and chemical status for all surface waters within river basin districts, whenever possible. The main goals of the WFD apply to all rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters. The good status for each type of water body is defined by a set of biological, chemical and physical standards.

The Republic of Belarus has a Water strategy until 2020 year. One of the long-term strategic aims is harmonization water legislation according to requirements WFD EU. On May 2014 President of the Republic of Belarus approved the new Water Code which contains the articles requiring creation of basin councils, development of river basin management plans (RBMP) and providing hydro-morphological, hydro-chemical and hydro-biological monitoring of the surface water objects.

In the Republic of Belarus within 2012-2013 years some methodological documents in the sphere of surface water monitoring were prepared:

1. Technical code (TC) “The rules for definition of the ecological status of river ecosystems”,
2. TC “The rules for definition of the ecological status of lake ecosystems”.

Prepared methodological documents use next biological parameters for assessment of the ecological status: phytoplankton, zooplankton, periphyton, macro-invertebrates. The current procedures of biological sampling and laboratory analyses are based on recommendations published in the former Soviet Union. These recommendations are significantly different from EU standards and have no legal status in Belarus. Water legislation in EU has the next documents in this field:

1. EN 16698 Water quality. Guidance on quantitative and qualitative sampling of phytoplankton from inland waters,
2. EN ISO 10870:2012: Water quality. Guidelines for the selection of sampling methods and devices for benthic macroinvertebrates in fresh waters,

3. EN 15708:2009 Water quality. Guidance standard for the surveying, sampling and laboratory analysis of phytobenthos in shallow running water,
4. EN 15110:2006 Water quality; and Guidance standard for the sampling of zooplankton from standing waters.

Adaption this standards into water legislation and monitoring practice gives opportunity to provide hydrobiological monitoring and assessment in the Upper Dnieper basin compliance WFD requirements.

Similarly in 2012-2013 years 2 European hydro-morphology standards were prepared and adopted into national water legislation:

1. EN 14614:2004 Water quality - Guidance standard for assessing the hydromorphological features of rivers,
2. EN 15843:2010 - Guidance standard on determining the degree of modification of river hydromorphology.

Prepared standards can be used in the hydro-morphological survey and assessment of the rivers. At the same time in the Upper Dnieper there are a lot of lakes and reservoirs. Monitoring basin system is needed in the methodological document (standard) which could regulate process of the assessment hydro-morphological features for lakes and reservoirs. Most effective solution is adopting into national water legislation of the EU standard EN 16039:2011 Water quality guidance standard on assessing the hydromorphological features of lake.

Belarus has a national procedure of the development and adopting international methodological documents which presents below.

METHODOLOGY

National practice of international documents adaptation and adoption in term of national standards consists of few steps: preparation, development and confirmation / adoption.

First step is preparation to development, where technical tasks for standards and codes are developed according to the TC 1.2-2004 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for Developing of Governmental Standards”, and are confirmed with State Comity of Standardization. Notifications for governmental standard development start are developed and put in Internet site of State Comity of Standardization according to the TC 1.8-2008 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for Developing of Notifications for Technical Reglaments, Technical Codes, and

Governmental Standards”. Structure and content for developing documents, list of requirements, list of organization that will examine documents are listed in technical tasks for standards development.

Next (second) step is development of standards and technical codes, where it is developed documents in first redaction, explanatory notes and notifications for development of governmental standard according to the TC 1.9-2007 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for Adoption of International, Regional and National Standards of other Countries as Governmental Standards”, TC 1.5-2004 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for construction, presentation, design and contents of technical codes and governmental standards”, TC 1.2-2004 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for Developing of Governmental Standards”. Then developed documents and explanatory notes to them are sent to the follow organizations and authorities from list in technical tasks:

- Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus;

- Republican center of analytical control and environmental monitoring;

- Republican hydrometeorological center;

- National Institute for Standardization and Certification;

- Belarusian State Technical University;

- Brest State Technical University;

- Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources.

Listed organizations and authorities could examine documents during 60 days, give remarks and proposition. Then it is carried out analyze of remarks and proposition, that in turn will base for developing second redaction of documents which are listed to this organization and authorities that gave remarks. This process continues until all opinion would positive.

That redaction has all positive notes will last, which will send to Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus for confirmation. It starts last step of developing (step of confirmation / adoption). This step may consist of state ecological expertize where it is necessary. After confirmation special dossier is developed and sent to normalize control and technical expertize in National Institute for Standardization and Certification according to TC 1.2-2004 “System for Technical Regulation and Standardization of the Republic of Belarus. Rules for Developing of Governmental Standards”. After positive conclusion of normalize control and technical expertize documents are considered as developing and National Institute for Standardization and Certification

carries out the registration them and send to State Committee of Standardization for adoption with special resolution.

Reporting, Deliverables

Inception Phase

This phase provides **Deliverable 1**: Inception report outlining Contractor appreciation and implementation methodology with deadline June 23 2014.

Phase 1. Deliverable 2: First draft of methodological documents and first consultation meeting – due date 15 August 2014.

Phase 2. Deliverable 3: Second draft and second consultation meeting – due date 30 September 2014

- **Phase 3. Deliverable 4**: Final methodological documents – due date 30 November 2014

Final report – due date 15 December 2014/

All phases will implemented according to a methodology written above.