

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)



REPORT on first consultative meeting

Prepared by

Republican Center on Radiation Control and Environmental Monitoring,
Belarus

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ABBREVIATIONS

CRICUWR	Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources (MNREP, Belarus)
EPIRB	EU-funded project “Environmental Protection of International River Basins”
EU	European Union
MNREP	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus
RCRCM	Republican Center of Radiation Control and Environmental Monitoring (MNREP, Belarus)
WFD EU	Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (EU Water Framework Directive)

INTRODUCTION

The present report is prepared by specialists of RCRCEM in cooperation with specialists of CRICUWR on the first consultative meeting to discuss the preparation of the draft methodological documents. Meeting was held on 6 August 2014 at RCRCEM, avenue Nezavisimosti, 110A, r.102.

Persons present were:

1. Zavyalov Sergey –head of department of the MNREP, deputy head of the project NCC;
2. Stankevich Alexandr - CWME;
3. Tischikov Gennadij – head of the unit of ecological monitoring of RCRCEM;
4. Tischikov Igor – head of the hydrobiological unit of RCRCEM;
5. Tischikova Ekaterina – leading engineer of the unit of ecological monitoring of RCRCEM;
6. Veremchuk Svetlana – head of the methodological sector of RCRCEM;
7. Dudnik Larisa – leading engineer of the methodological sector of RCRCEM;
8. Marach Nataliya - leading engineer of the methodological sector of RCRCEM;
9. Rusaya Inna – deputy head of RCRCEM;
10. Bahadziash Elena – senior researcher of CRICUWR.

Belarus has two types of the methodological documents in the field of environmental protection and monitoring:

1. Governmental standard (STB), which need to be approved by State Comity of Standardization of the Republic of Belarus and Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection.

2. Technical code of practice (TCP) which need to be approved only by Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection.

The following experts made presentations:

Bahadziash Elena; Tischikov Gennadij, Tischikov Igor, Tischicova Ekaterina.



Pictures 1-2 – Consultative meeting

Objectives of the consultative meeting

1. The preparation process discussion of methodological documents and degree of readiness.
2. Stakeholders involved in the preparation of documents.
3. The connection between methodological documents and both articles of the new Water code of the Republic of Belarus and criteria of WFD EU.
4. The role of the methodological documents in the surface water monitoring system, the connection with other methodological monitoring documents.
5. The next planned steps.

1-st methodological document GOVERNMENTAL STANDARD ON ASSESSING THE HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF LAKES

Main expert for preparation of the methodological document is Bahadziash Elena. Her presentation is summarized as follows.

Methodological document (governmental standard) bases on the EU standard EN 16039:2011 “Water quality guidance standard on assessing the hydromorphological features of lake” according to the requirements of WFD EU. Draft methodological document is guidance standard on assessing the hydromorphological features of lakes (Annex 1) was prepared and sent to the following organizations, involved in the realization of surface water monitoring:

1. Republican center of the analytical control in the field of the environmental protection, Minsk,
2. Republican hydrometeorological center, Minsk,
3. Byelorussian state institution of the standardization and certification, Minsk,
4. Byelorussian national technical university, Minsk,
5. Brest state technical university, Brest,
6. Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus,
7. Central research institute for complex use of water resources, Minsk.

This organizations are obligatory for examination of the standard because of needing to use standard for monitoring, research and other their activities. Also the governmental standard was placed on the official Internet site of State Committee of Standardization of the Republic of Belarus (www.tnpa.by) for other stakeholders (both legal and physical person) that could learn, examine document and give proposition.

All responses for draft standard were positive, Republican hydrometeorological center and Byelorussian national technical university give some proposals regarding improvement of the paragraph 3 “Terms and definitions”. Other stakeholders will have been learning document by 10 of

September, during second version of standard is examined by official organizations according to their propositions.

The article 6 “Ecological status of the surface water bodies” of the new Water Code determines “Hydrobiological, hydrochemical and hydromorphological features determine in the framework of the National environmental monitoring system (NEMS) in the Republic of Belarus’. On present day system of the hydromorphological monitoring does not exist in Belarus, but in future program of the NEMS for 2016-2020 years this system will be developing by budget funding.

During 2012-2013 years two European hydromorphology 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.

This standards will be using in the hydromorphological survey and assessment of the rivers. At the same time in the Belarus (including Upper Dnieper basin) there are a lot of lakes and reservoirs. Preparation and legislative approval of the hydromorphological standard for lakes gives the full methodological base for undertaking hydromorphological monitoring for both rivers and lakes.

Next step is preparation of the second version of the standard taking account receiving proposals. New version of the standard will be sent to the Republican hydrometeorological center and Byelorussian national technical university for final conclusion. After positive reply standard will send to Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus for final confirmation and state ecological expertize. After confirmation by Ministry standard will send to normalize control and technical expertise in National Institute for Standardization and Certification. That will be the last step of the preparation and approval of the hydromorphology standard for lakes.

2-nd and 3-rd methodological documents

TECHNICAL CODE OF PRACTICE. PROCEDURE FOR THE SAMPLING AND DEFINITIONS hydrobiological indicators. PHYTOPLANKTON

TECHNICAL CODE OF PRACTICE. PROCEDURE FOR THE SAMPLING AND DEFINITIONS hydrobiological indicators. ZOOPLANKTON

Main experts for preparation of the draft methodological document are Tischikova Ekaterina and Tischikov Igor. Their presentations are summarized as follows:

The new Water Code of the Republic of Belarus (article 6, paragraph 3) determines “The ecological status of water bodies is classified as high, good, satisfactory, poor and bad”. In 2013 year RCRCEM prepared TCP “Rules of the definition of ecological status for lake ecosystems”. This TCP was approved by Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection and put into effect

since 01.07.2014. TCP defines 5 classes system for ecological assessment of the lakes according to the requirements of the WFD EU. The main hydrobiological parameters using in TCP are zooplankton and phytoplankton. At the same time methodological documents which regulate process sampling and definition of the characteristic of the zooplankton and phytoplankton for lakes are absent in Belarus now. Therefore preparation and approval above mentioned methodological documents give opportunity to provide full circle of the biological monitoring for lakes according to the monitoring criteria of WFD EU.

Methodological documents base on the EU standards EN 16698 “Water quality. Guidance on quantitative and qualitative sampling of phytoplankton from inland waters” and EN 15110:2006 “Water quality. Guidance standard for the sampling of zooplankton from standing waters” which correspond to the criteria of WFD EU. The first versions of draft methodological documents (Annex 2 and Annex 5) were prepared and sent to organizations involved in the providing of the biological surface water monitoring:

1. Brest state technical University, Brest.
2. Ministry natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus.
3. Central research institute for complex use of the water resources, Minsk.
4. Institute of the nature use, National Academy of science, Minsk.

Also documents were placed on official Internet site of Center of technical normalization and standardization in the field of natural use and environmental protection (www.ecoinv.by) for any stakeholders could learn and examine documents.

All responses for draft methodological documents were positive, Ministry gives some technical remarks regarding paragraph 5 “rules of the sampling and conservation of samples”.

The next steps will preparation the second version of the TCP and send to above mentioned organizations for final conclusion and approval final versions of TCP by Ministry natural resources and environmental protection.

4-th and 5-th methodological documents

TECHNICAL CODE OF PRACTICE. PROCEDURE FOR THE SAMPLING AND DEFINITIONS hydrobiological indicators. PHYTOPERIFITON (phytobenthos)

TECHNICAL CODE OF PRACTICE. PROCEDURE FOR THE SAMPLING AND DEFINITIONS hydrobiological indicators. MACROZOOBENTHOS (macroinvertebrates)

Main experts for preparation of the above mentioned methodological documents are Tischikov Gennadij and Tischikov Igor. Their presentation is summarized as follows:

Methodological documents base on the EU standard EN 15708:2009 “Water quality. Guidance standard for the surveying, sampling and laboratory analysis of phytobenthos in shallow running water” and EN ISO 10870:2012 “Water quality. Guidelines for the selection of sampling methods and devices for benthic

macroinvertebrates in fresh waters”. The first version of draft methodological documents (Annexes 3 and 4) were prepared and sent to organizations, involved in the providing of the biological surface water monitoring. This methodological documents correspond to TCP “Rules of the definition of ecological status for river ecosystems” which use the phytobenthos and macroinvertebrates for definition of the 5 classes of the biological status of surface water bodies according to the criteria of WFD EU. Other information regarding process of preparation coincides with information for 2-nd and 3-rd methodological documents.

SUMMARY

Representative of MNREP Mr. S.Zavyalov gives common assessment fulfilled activity. He informed that Ministry had prepared Plan of the preparation of the methodological documents for support of the articles of the new Water Code of the Republic of Belarus. All five above mentioned methodological documents included in Plan of Ministry. He stressed that first phase of preparation of the methodological documents fulfilled on 100 % and he expects that experts will continue their activities in the same direction. New methodological documents will play active role in the implementation new Water Code of the Republic of Belarus and will introduce the principles of the WFD EU in practice of surface water quality monitoring in Belarus. He wishes to experts the success in the next activities for preparation monitoring methodological documents.