



PRESS RELEASE

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Launching of Automated Gauging Stations in Adjara by the EU funded project “Environmental Protection of International Rivers Basins”

On September 4 2015 the Environmental Protection of International River Basins (EPIRB) project will launch hydrological monitoring network in the Adjara Region of Georgia. The above work was implemented as part of the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) development process through the selected Programme of Measures (PoM) and aimed to assist the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources (MENRP) of Georgia, as well as Directorate of Environment and Natural resources of Adjara Autonomous Republic and the Hydrometeorology Department of the National Environmental Agency (NEA) for establishing EU WFD compliant Monitoring Network and strengthening their capacity for data collection, analysis and processing in the Chorokhi-Adjaristskali Basin District of Georgia.

The “Environmental Protection of International River Basins” (EPIRB) project is an EU-funded project managed by the European Commission and implemented by a consortium led by Hulla & Co “Human Dynamics”. The project aims to reinforce actions in environmental protection and water resources management in the Eastern Partnership countries in terms of cooperation towards the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD – 2000/60/EC). The project activities and outcomes are designed to improve the quality of water in selected transboundary river basins through joint water monitoring activities and the development of River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) in selected pilot river basins. The project focuses on the wider Black Sea region and aims to support the beneficiary countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

In the frame of the current pilot activities in Adjara region of Georgia the project will install six (x 6) fully automated hydrological monitoring stations in the Chorokhi-Adjaristskali pilot basin, two of which, at upper Adjaristskali reaches of Keda and Shuakhevi towns, in addition to the water levels measuring equipment, will be equipped with modern devices to measure precipitation, necessary for flood risk assessment and forecasting. The total cost of the project, including installation, connection to the NEA Telemetry and testing, will amount to **EUR 54,486**. The final installation of the stations and linking to the existing telemetry system is planned for the end of August 2015. Official launching and hand over ceremony of the gauging stations will take place on **September 4 2015** in Batumi, Georgia.



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The European Commission is the EU’s executive body.

“The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.