



Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project

Contract No. 2011/279-666



This project is funded by
The European Union

A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

Terms of Reference

The creation of basin institutional structures as a platform for implementation IWRM principles to ensure the sustainability of the EPIRB project results in Upper Prut pilot river basin, including implementation of the River Prut RBMP

I. Background

The EPIRB project targets the improvement of water quality in the trans-boundary river basins of the wider Black Sea region and Belarus. It supports the move towards modern management tools and compliance of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) by building capacities learning-by-doing, and through the development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans for selected pilot river basins according to the requirements of WFD.

In the River Prut basin in the territory of the Ukraine there is a need *to create a model of integrated water resources management*, which would allow:

- Coordination of the actions and work of the together at all levels of government;
- Efficient use of environmental, economic, social, and other information for basin planning;
- Increased involvement in basin management and decision-making to improve the ecological status by the water users, community organizations and local governments;
- Devolution of management decisions from the central to the basin authorities;
- Coordination and integration of efforts at regional, national and international levels;
- Active cooperation with the basin agencies of the River Prut in Romania, the Republic of Moldova and the ICPDR.

The objective of following pilot project is **to assist in the development of an institutional framework to deliver IWRM in the River Prut basin**. There are three made outputs:

II. Scope of Work

1. Enhanced basin management structure

- 1.1. Regulations for basin management in the River Prut
- 1.2. Establishment of the River Basin Council, consultation body

2. Inter-agency basin agreements on cooperation in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Prut River Basin

3. Regulation and concept for information and data exchange for water resources within the basin of the Prut

These outputs will complement the RBMP being developed for the River Prut on the territory of Ukraine under the main EPIRB project.

The main project objective: The creation of the model of integrated water resources management as a platform of implementation IWRM principles on basin level in Upper Prut pilot river basin

The project beneficiaries are:

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine,
Prut River Basin authority (State Water Agency of Ukraine),
local authorities, local communities, local business, NGOs.

The main outputs and deliverables as described in the Terms of Reference below.

1. Enhanced water basin management in the River Prut*1.1. Regulations for basin management in the River Prut*

Basin water management will introduce the principle of the Prut river basin planning based on data collection and analysis of ecological state of basin for implementing measures for environmental improvement of water bodies and ecosystems under the Prut River Basin Management Plan.

Creating Basin Council in the pool requires the preparation of the relevant decisions of the central and regional authorities, preliminary negotiations, coherence and consistency of the process of signing, which requires institutional support from the project experts.

The contractor shall develop in conjunction with the beneficiaries the regulations and procedures for River Basin Management in accordance with national policy and legislation.

The main to be addressed under the regulations are:

- Establishment of Basin Council as a consultative body to the Basin Authority;
- Implementation of programs and basin management plan;
- Monitoring and management of data on the status of water bodies, both Ground Water and Surface Water to determine at risk water bodies and data gaps.
- Financial support for the implementation of water conservation measures programs and plans in the basin;
- Regulation of the use of water resources in the basin;
- Control over the implementation of plans of measures in the Prut basin.

1.2. Establishment of the River Basin Council, consultation body

The consultant will assist the beneficiary establish a Basin Council which will act as a consultative body to the Basin Authority. The consultant will help define the role and responsibility of the Basin Council based upon best international practice and to prepare its rules and procedures. The consultant will advise on the composition of the Council and provide secretariat services for the first two Council meetings. After completion of the EPIRB contract these services will be provided by the Administration of the Carpathian National Park, under the management of the Ministry of Ecology. The main task of the Council in its initial period will be to approve and to oversee the implementation of the River Prut basin plan. The composition of the Basin Council will include representatives of the public administration as well as water users, the public, local authorities, scientific and educational organizations.

Creating River Basin Council requires the preparation of the relevant decisions of the central and regional authorities, preliminary negotiations, coherence and consistency of the process of signing, which requires institutional support from the project experts.

2. Development of the inter-agency basin agreement on cooperation in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Prut River Basin

Ukrainian agencies (Ministry of Ecology, state agency for water management and local authorities) already have experience from other river basins signed agreements (Dnister, South Bug, Tisza, Low Danube). Prut river is the last basin without River Basin Council in Ukraine. The purpose of the agreement to be signed by the various agencies responsible for water resource management in the basin, will be to:

- Strengthen cooperation and coordination in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems Prut;
- Agree to the establishment and operation of the Basin Council;
- Facilitate the exchange on a regular basis of ecological, economic and water information in the basin of the Prut River;
- Raise funds to address priority environmental issues;
- Establish working groups on specific issues;
- Adoption and implementation of RBMP.

3. Regulation and concept for information and data exchange for water resources within the basin of the Prut

The consultant will develop draft regulations information exchange between data producers and users in the area of water resource management, which includes the following:

- Legislative background and principles of cooperation and exchange of environmental information between all parties;
- List of data providers and users;
- Listing of environmental data information, the rules of its transfer;
- Obligation of the subjects of information exchange;
- Format of data to be provided;
- Coordination of data collection and distribution.

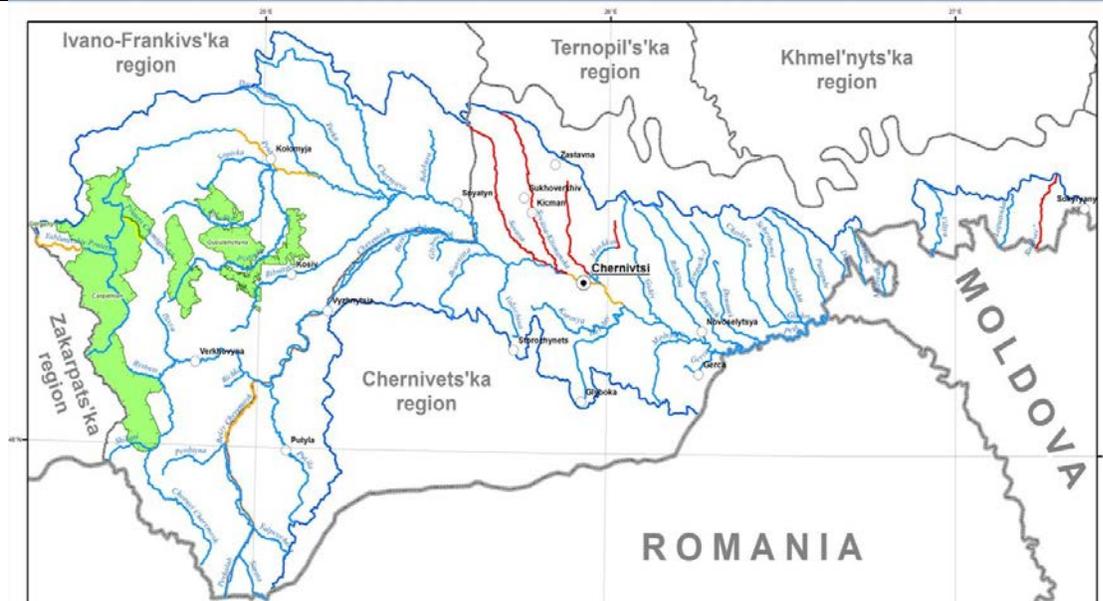
The consultant shall undertake a study to establish the current data information flow and needs between the producers and users.

The main beneficiary of environmental information will be the River Prut basin authority. Information management system should:

- Be output oriented (built to answer to needs)
- Be based on and should allow the enhancing of the infrastructure of the partners
- Respect the confidentiality of data defined by the partners
- Look for comparability of data and interoperability of the various systems related to water at national, basin and local level.

The information should be:

- managed as close as possible to its sources (if possible by the producer itself)
- collected once and shared with others for many purposes
- available to public authorities and enable them to fulfil their legal obligations



Picture 1. Overview map of the Upper Prut River basin (Ukraine)

III. Implementation, deliverables and timeframe

The major steps and deliverables are described below:

Deliverable 1: Inception report - outlining contractor's appreciation and implementation methodology.

Deliverable 2: Development of inter-agency basin agreement on cooperation in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Prut River Basin.

Upper Prut Basin Council will be established in frame of the *Basin Agreement*. The basin agreement will be guided by the principles of UNECE Water Convention. The Upper Prut River Basin Agreement will be grounded on a multilateral basis between key water managers and water users, for example, between the basin water resources management authority and water users.

Deliverable 3: Preparation of the Documents for the creation of the Prut River Basin Council: Regulation of the work, provision of the Basin Council etc.

It should be provided two Upper Prut Council meetings and added Minutes to the final report.

Basin Council is a coordinating body of the Basin Agreement. Regulations on the Basin Council should contain:

- the legal basis for the activities of Basin Council;
- the purpose, objectives and main directions of its activities;
- member panel and procedure of its formation;
- the rights and duties of its members;
- the procedure for organizing activities;
- maintenance of the Council.

Basin Information management system designed and draft agreement on information and data exchange.

The contractor will design a Information management system of Prut river basin and draft an agreement on information and data exchange between members of the Council. All activities should be accompanied by regular information and educational support to improve communication and information exchange between all interested stakeholders. A key function of the Basin Council will be sharing of scientific and technical information regarding environmental problems of the Upper Prut river basin.

Deliverable 4: Final report to include a summary of activities and lessons learnt.

Duration of the assignment is 8 months. The expected commencement date for implementation of the assignment is March, 2015, and the completion date – October, 2015. The assignment is divided into four phases and five key deliverables with the following general schedule:

<i>The creation of basin institutional structures as a platform for implementation IWRM principles to ensure the sustainability of the EPIRB project results in Upper Prut pilot river basin, including implementation of the River Prut RBMP</i>	2015							
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Deliverable 1: Inception report - outlining contractor's appreciation and implementation methodology								
Deliverable 2: Development of inter-agency basin agreement on cooperation in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Prut River Basin.								
Deliverable 3: Preparation of Documents for the creation of the Prut River Basin Council: Regulation of the work, provision of the Basin Council etc. Programme for basin Information management system and draft agreement on information and data exchange								
Deliverable 4: Final Report to include a summary of activities and lessons learnt								

The approximate schedule and description of the deliverables for each Phase is given in the table below:

Summary of the work schedule and deliverables for the Prut River Basin in Ukraine

Deliverable	Max. No. of pages excl. Appendices	Language of deliverable	Start date	Due date for draft report	Finalization
Deliverable 1: Inception report - outlining contractor's appreciation and implementation methodology	10	English	02 Mar 15	26 Mar 15	31 Mar 15
Deliverable 2: Development of inter-agency basin agreement on cooperation in the use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Prut River Basin.	20	Ukraine / English	01 Apr 15	18 June 15	30 June 15
Deliverable 3: Preparation of Documents for the creation of the Prut River Basin Council: Regulation of the work, provision of the Basin Council etc. Programme for basin Information management system and draft agreement on information and data exchange	40	Ukraine/ English	01 July 15	21 Sep 15	30 Sep 15

Deliverable 4: Final Report to include a summary of activities and lessons learnt	70-100	Ukraine/ English	01 Oct 15	19 Oct 15	31 Oct 15
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The draft deliverables reviewed by the beneficiary and the project team members and final approval of deliverables will be given by the EPIRB Team Leader. Payments shall be made on approval of deliverables and divided into four tranches given below:

Tranche 1: 10% on acceptance of inception report;

Tranche 2: 30% on acceptance of Deliverable 2;

Tranche 3: 30% on acceptance of Deliverables 3;

Tranche 4: 30% on acceptance of Deliverable 4.

Drafting, reporting and implementation of above deliverables will be coordinated, advised and monitored by the project team, consisting of the Team Leader, respective River Basin Management Expert and the project Key and Non-key experts. In addition, the target and other beneficiary institutions, as well as members of the National Coordination Committee (NCC) and the Prut Basin Management Authority will take an active part in collecting data, reviewing of deliverables and final report.

IV. Qualifications and requirements to the service provider/contractor

- Experience in Integrated Water Resources Managements (River Basins) issues and similar projects completed.
- Experience in basin planning and demonstrated working relationship with the main beneficiary
- Demonstrated knowledge of WFD and IWRM principles and experience of implementing these principles in the country/region
- Existence of qualified staff able to fulfill above mentioned tasks and demonstrated commitment to involve other national/international professional consultants

V. Detailed budget proposed

The assignment shall be implemented by a company or consortia of companies that are NOT representing the project beneficiaries.

The activities will be closely coordinated, assisted and monitored by the EPIRB project team members, respective RBM Expert and the project director. In addition, the target and other beneficiary institutions, as well as members of the National Coordination Councils might take active part in the actions as well.