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Mission Report

RBA Start-up Missions to Chisinau (Moldova) and Kiev (Ukraine)

Dates: 03-08 December, 2012

Venues in Moldova:

- 1) Ministry of Environment of Moldova -MENR
- 2) Water Agency „Apele Moldovei” -AAM
- 3) State Hydrometeorological Service -SHS
- 4) Institute of Ecology and Geography –IEG
- 5) Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources -AGMR
- 6) State Enterprise „Hydrogeological Expedition of Moldova” -EHGeoM
- 7) Irrigation Sector Reform Activity of “Compact” project of MCC- ISRA

Venue in Ukraine:

Human Dynamics office with invited participants from:
Hydrometeorological Service of Ukraine
UCEWP, contractor of Dnipro RBA.
Dnipro River Basin Management Board – Dnipro BUVR
Geoinform-Ukraine

Participants of the mission to Moldova

EPIRB Project Team:

Mr Bernardas Paukstys, KE5 - Groundwater Expert
Ms Tatjana Kolcova, KE4 - Hydro-morphology Expert
Mr Victor Buzhak, CWME for Moldova

Ministry of Environment of Moldova

Ms Valentina Tsapish, Vice-Minister
Marin Adam, Director of Water Agency

MENR subordinated institutions:

Mr Michail Pencov, Deputy director of Water Agency „Apele Moldovei”
Mr Ivan Cuceinic, Chief of Water Resources Management division, Water Agency „Apele Moldovei”
Ms Elina Plesco, Deputy Director of the State Hydrometeorological Service
Ms Valentina Ceres, Deputy Head of Hydrological Department, State Hydrometeorological Service
Ms Svetlana Stirbu Chief of the Environmental Quality Monitoring Department State Hydrometeorological Service
Mr Yurie Bezhan, Deputy Director, Institute of Ecology and Geography
Mr Nicolae Bobok, Chief of Landscape Laboratory, Institute of Ecology and Geography
Mr Andrey Zhuraveli, Director, Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources
Mr Dumitru Coadă, Deputy Director, Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources
Mr Boris Yurchuk, Chief of Section of State Underground Information Fund
Mr Ion Panciuk, Administrator, EHGeoM
Ms Maria Titovet, Principal hydrogeologist, EHGeoM
Mr Victor Zheliapov, Hydrogeologist, EHGeoM
Mr Gary Merkley, Director, Team leader, ISRA project
Ms Ludmila Gofman, Deputy Team Leader, ISRA project

Participants of the mission to Ukraine

EPIRB Project Team:

Mr Andriy Demidenko, KE1, TL



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Mr Zurab Jincharadze, KE2 - River Basin Management Expert / Deputy Team Leader
Mr Bernardas Paukstys, KE5 - Groundwater Expert
Ms Tatjana Kolcova, KE4 - Hydromorphology Expert
Ms Natalya Zakorchevna, River Basin Management Expert, Ukraine

Invited participants:

Mr Mark Zheleznyak, UCEWP, contractor of Dnipro RBA
Mr Aleksandr Desiron, State Hydrometeorological Service of Ukraine
Mr Igor Strelets, Deputy Chief, Dnipro BUVR
Ms Olga Kravcova, Head of Laboratory, Dnipro BUVR
Ms Natalya Pyshna, Head of Groundwater Resource Accounting Division, Geoinform-Ukraine

1. Objective and task of the mission, and project activity/ies to which the mission will contribute

Objectives: Objective of the missions was to support the local CWME (Moldova), River basin management expert (Ukraine) and RBA implementation team in both countries for the startup of the Phase 1 of the study; to evaluate the level of existing information for the River Basin Analysis (RBA), discuss cooperation with the local institutions and on-going water related activities in Moldova and Ukraine.

Project activities: The mission will contribute to the Activity 2.1.2 – River Basin Analysis

2. Outline the programme of the mission: meetings held, assessment made, workshop provided etc.

04.12.12

10:00 – 10:30 Meeting at Ministry of Environment of Moldova

11:00 - 12:00 Meeting at Water Agency „Apele Moldovei”

13:30 - 16:30 Meeting at the State Hydrometeorological Service

16:30-17:30 Meeting at the Institute of Ecology and Geography

05.12.12

10:00 -11:00 Meeting of KE5 and CWME at the Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources

11:00 - 12:00 Meeting of KE5 and CWME at the State Enterprise „Hydrogeological Expedition of Moldova”

10:00- 14:00 Meeting of KE4 with representatives of the State Hydrometeorological Service

15:00 - 16:00 Meeting with the ISRA Project

06.12.12

Travel to Kiev.

16:00 - 17:00 Meeting at the project Office with the TL, Deputy TL and River Basin Management Expert.

17:00 – 18:00 Meeting with representative of the State Hydrometeorological Service and potential RBA contractor

07.12.12

10:00 – 14:00 Meeting with the Dnipro River Basin Management Board, Geoinform-Ukraine



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14:00 – 18:00 Meeting of Project Key experts. Planning of future activities

Results from the mission

Meetings/visits:	Findings/results:
MOLDOVA	
Ministry of Environment of Moldova	At the meeting with the Vice-Minister an on-going and planned activities in terms of launching RBA studies at Prut pilot basin, future trainings for Moldovian experts, Ministerial Order for establishment of the working group for implementation of the project have been discussed. Ms. Tsapish promised full support in providing data and necessary assistance from the Ministry for implementation of RBA and further project activities.
Water Agency „Apele Moldovei”	Development of RBA and River Basin Management Plans have been discussed. KE4 stressed importance of description of protected areas according to the WFD requirements. AAM representatives mentioned that in by-laws and regulations elaborated by AAM river basin catchments >500 km ² are included. According to KE this does not fit any WFD typology. Necessity of development of GIS capacities in Moldova, cooperation with Romania were among other topics which have been discussed during the meeting.
State Hydrometeorological Service	Participation of State Hydrometeorological Service in developing RBA, training and field trips have been discussed. Experience of other projects in Prut basin from the Czech, World Bank, MCA, UNDP donors should be also used in RBA. KE visited laboratories of HydrometService (soil, air, hydrochemical, hydrobiological). Employees of the laboratory expressed their wish to get certificates from the training seminars
Institute of Ecology and Geography	The Institute will act as a contractor for RBA. Deadlines for the RBA chapters have been discussed (chapter 1 and 2 – 25.12.12, Chapters 3 and 5 – February 2013 Importance of involving of national experts from SHS, Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources, Hydrological Expedition has been stressed. KE4 explained that protected areas under the WFD include Natura 2000, Ramsar sites, sanitary protection zones of surface and ground water abstraction for drinking water supply, bathing zones, etc. IEG asked KE to send list of maps which are needed for RBA
Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources	Participation of AGMR in RBA has been discussed. All geological-hydrogeological information is stored in the Geological fund of AGMR but mainly in hard copies. All maps are on paper. Training of AGM experts, rent of equipment, improvement of communication with Hydrogeological Expedition, methodology for delineation of ground water bodies prepared by Paul Holmes, ISRA project, were the main topics of discussion. Boris Yurchuk has been nominated as AGMR representative
State Enterprise „Hydrogeological Expedition of Moldova”	Participation of Hydrogeological Expedition in RBA has been discussed. It would be useful to get a letter from the Ministry of Environment for the use information from the Geological Fund, although almost all hydrogeological data is available in the Expedition, as Expedition is responsible for groundwater monitoring. Field training using rent equipment has been also discussed. Victor Zheliapov has been nominated as representative of Hydrogeological Expedition.



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Meetings/visits:	Findings/results:
MOLDOVA	
“Compact” project “Irrigation Sector Reform Activity” of MCC	The objectives of both projects are very similar. ISRA is preparing Nistru River Basin Management Plan. It has been agreed to coordinate activities, inform each other on the ongoing work, use of common platform and methodology for identification, delineation and classification of groundwater bodies. It was agreed that Romanian experience in implementing WFD would be useful. Creation of River Basin Committees (Councils), terms and schedules for development of river basin management plans, by-laws for the new Water Law were the topics of discussion. Inception report of HD project in English has been emailed to ISRA project by CWME
- UKRAINE	
Meeting with representative of the State Hydrometeorological Centre (SHC) and potential RBA contractor	The institutional capacity of SHC and Central Geophysical Observatory (CGO) namely in regards to the Dnipro and Prut RBA was discussed with the SHC representative Alexander Desiron. CGO is responsible for the hydrometeorological monitoring and estimation of water resources in UA. All hydrological data for the Dniepr and Prut RBA could be obtained in the CGO. Various options of contract have been discussed with Mark Zheleznyak, Director of UCEWP. It was agreed that the TL of the project will inform Mr. Zheleznyak on the final decision of KE on the form of contract.
Meeting with the Dnipro River Basin Management Board and Geoinform-Ukraine	Technical details and deadlines of RBA report have been discussed. Representatives of Dnipro River Basin Management Board and Geoinform, Ukraine described which information is available in their institutions. It was agreed that separate chapter of RBA report will be shared with KE upon their preparation. The deadline for the draft final RBA report is end of February 2013.

3. Recommendation / Proposed next steps

It has been found during the mission that quite large amounts of hydromorphological, chemical/biological and groundwater information is available in the countries. The problem is that some of this information (particularly in Moldova) is in hard copies. Available data and information will be processed and used for basin review, as well as for characterisation of human pressures and impacts of the Dnipro and Prut pilot river basins. There will be a need to digitise some paper information. The project will try to improve cooperation between local geological organisations (AGMR and Hydrogeological Expedition) of Moldova. Important outcome of the mission was to learn that the local water institutions and Ministry of Environment are willing to support the project with their active contribution, data collection, processing and analysis.

The KE and CWME promised to:

- Draft a letter of the Ministry of Environment of Moldova to the AGMR asking for permission to use information from the Geological Fund;
- Send to IEG list of maps which are needed for the RBA;
- Prepare and send certificates to the participants of the laboratory training seminar from Moldova;
- Send Inception report in English to the ISRA project;
- Discuss with Birgit Vogel a possibility to meet Romanian experts who were involved in the preparation of Prut river basin management plan.



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4. Photos



Meeting at Water Agency „Apele Moldovei“, Moldova



Meeting at the Hydrometeorological Service, Moldova



Discussion with the Institute of Ecology and Geography, Moldova



Meeting at Hydrogeology Expedition, Moldova



Meeting with ISRA project, Moldova



Meeting with Aleksandr Desiron, State Hydrometeorological Centre of Ukraine



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Meeting with representatives of Dniepr RB Management Board



Meeting with Natalya Pyshna, Hydrogeologist, Geoinform, Ukraine

**Photos by Bernardas Paukstys and Victor Buzhak*