

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

EPIRB 5th and Final Steering Committee meeting, Kiev 19th -20th September 2016

Outputs, Outcomes, Lessons Learnt and Next Steps



Tim Turner
Team Leader

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Location and Partners

Armenia

- Water Resources Management Agency, MNP

Azerbaijan

- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
- *State Agency of Water Resources, MES*

Belarus

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection

Georgia

- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection

Moldova

- Ministry of Environment

Ukraine

- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
- *State Agency of Water Resources*



Start Date: 30 Jan 2012

End Date: 29 Oct 2016

Duration: 48 months+9 months

Budget: € 7.5 million + 1 million

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Overall Project Objective

To improve water quality in the
transboundary river basins of the wider
Black Sea region and Belarus



Specific Project Objectives

- To improve availability and quality of data on the ecological, chemical, and hydro-morphological status of transboundary river basins including groundwater;
- To develop River Basin Management Plans for selected river basins / sub-river basins according to the requirements of the WFD.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

History and Project decisions

- River Basin Management Planning at National vs transboundary level
- Execution of River Basin Management Plans by National Consultants and managed by beneficiaries. Project providing mentoring and on-the job-training
- Technical focus on Development of the Ecological Status Classification System and supporting surveys for the duration of project
- Emphasis on Selected Measures identified by the beneficiaries and executed by national consultants with technical support provided by the project
- Focus on GW monitoring in the pilot River basins
- Development of SEIS and WISE compativle database for pilot basin data

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Outputs

- In development and strengthening of the monitoring programmes and systems in the project has delivered:

- Four years of Ecological Monitoring identifying reference sites and creating a baseline in the pilot river basins

- Gap filling surveys of priority substances in the pilot river basins

- Development of sub-regional Ecological Status Classification Systems for Upper catchments.

- Water Information System for Europe (WISE) database for pilot river basin data

- First contributions in Danube GIS format to the Danube Management and River basin plans from Ukraine and Moldova.

- Country monitoring strategies for implementation of EU WFD

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Outputs

- Training, formal and informal has been delivered in:
 - Laboratory QA.QC procedures
 - Biological monitoring (macro-invertebrate, macro-benthos, macro-phyte_
 - Hydromorphology monitoring
 - Coastal and transition waters monitoringa
 - Delineation and Typology
 - RBMP planning at each critical stage
 - GIS databases including SEIS, Danube GIS and WISE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Outputs

- Technical Guidelines have been drafted on :
 - Hydromorphology and Physico-chemistry for a Pressure-Impact Analysis/Risk Assessment, according to the EU WFD
 - Development of Programme of Measures (PoMs) and the Achievement of Environmental Objectives (Eos) according to the EU WFD
 - Chemical Status of Surface Water Bodies for a Pressure-Impact Analysis/Risk Assessment according to the EU WFD
 - Auxiliary Guidance Document on prioritizing selected Programme of Measures (PoMs) and simplified Cost Effectiveness Analysis (CEA)
 - Ecological, Groundwater and Priority Substance monitoring in accordance with EU WFD
 - Monitoring of Coastal and Transitional Waters in accordance with EU WFD and MSFD

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Outputs

- Six RBMP developed in compliance with the WFD.
 - Akhurian Basin District (Armenia),
 - Central Kura (Azerbaijan),
 - Upper Dnieper Basin (Belarus, Ukraine),
 - Chorokhi-Adjaristskali Basin (Georgia),
 - Prut Basin (Moldova, Ukraine)
- Pilot coastal zone plan compliant with the WFD and MSTD for the Chorokhi-Adjaristskali basin
- First steps towards development of an umbrella plan for the River Prut involving Moldova, Ukraine and Romania
- A total of 26 Selected Measures and pilot projects worth 600K euros implemented

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Project Outcomes

- Engagement and ownership of the approximation process
- A sense of pride in the project outputs and consequently an enhanced applicability
- Strengthened national strategies for the implementation/approximation of WFD and clear aims and desires
- Strong relationships and understandings forged between the project and beneficiaries

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Lessons Learnt

- Do not be too ambitious - small incremental steps and take a long-term perspective
- The project worked best when closely supporting the countries' agendas/
- The WFD although not comprehensive provides a strong framework for the strengthening of water governance for all six countries
- There is good technical capacity in all countries in the Ministries, Government and Academic Institutions and NGOs which needs to be accessed, mobilised and harnessed.
- The selective measures/pilot projects at national and basin level provided real impetus and momentum to the project

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by
the European Union

Next Steps

- Government commitment to the implementation of RBMPs and deeper approximation of the EU WFD
- Strengthening of conventional (SW and GW) and biological/hydro-morphological monitoring programmes
- Improved water resource planning at national and basin levels to underpin the WFD RBMP and the clear strategies for use of economic instruments in the sector
- Strengthening of the analytical capacity in the Ministries and Institutions, breaking down traditional barriers between the management and technical mandates.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS PROJECT

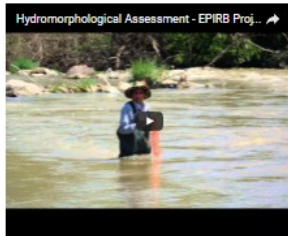
EUROPEAID/131360/C/SER/MULTI



This project is funded by the European Union

E-Learning

HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT GUIDE



BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING



GROUND WATER SAMPLING GUIDE



RBMPs add value to water protection schemes

Competing water uses and different demands for water resources and associated systems within a river basin require an integrated management approach, which means bringing together a range of topics and disciplines.

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), published in 2000, establishes a framework for protecting rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwater. It takes a pioneering approach, namely by protecting water bodies on the basis of their natural geographical formations (i.e. as river basins) and sets the ambitious objective of ensuring that all waters achieve "good" status. Approaching the river basin as a whole is the best way to identify solutions to many of the problems arising in rivers.

The tool of choice for achieving WFD goals is the creation of river basin management plans (RBMPs). The RBMP scheme has grown out of a novel approach in which ecological considerations are deemed just as important as economic and social factors. With such an approach in mind, the WFD sets out a comprehensive process for the development of RBMPs, through which measures can be carried



A COMBINED EFFORT: Experts work along a stretch of the Drut River in Belarus during a JFS III and gap-filling survey conducted in the Upper Dnieper pilot basin.

out until the water bodies in question achieve "good" status.

In the EPIRB project countries, certain

in five pilot river basins: the Akhuryan Basin District, the Upper Dnieper basin, the Central Kura basin, the Chorokhi-Aharsietekal basin, and the Drut basin.

Thank you for your attention!

This project is implemented by a Consortium led by Hulla and Co. Human Dynamics KG

