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**EPIRB Project Activity 2.7**  
**Public involvement and awareness raising activities**  
Task 2.7.1: Develop a communication strategy for each basin

**Communication Strategy and Plan  
for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin**  
(In the territories of Belarus and Ukraine)



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## ACRONYMS

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Aarhus Convention	Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
CC	Communication Committee
CS&CP	Communication Strategy and Communication Plan
CWME	Country Water Management Expert
DRB	Danube River Basin
DRPC	Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
EPIRB	Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project
EU	European Union
Helsinki Convention	UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
HPP	Hydropower Plant
IRBM	Integrated River Basin Management
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NCCs	National Coordination Committees
PD	Project Director
PoM	Programme of measures
PSPP	Pumped storage power plant
RB	River Basin
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RBM	River Basin Management
RBC	River Basin Council
REC	Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe
TL	Team Leader
WFD	Water Framework Directive

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## INTRODUCTION

This Communication Strategy has been prepared in the context of the project “Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project (EPIRB)” funded by the European Commission – Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid and implemented between January 2012 and January 2016 by the consortium led by Hulla & Co “Human Dynamics”.

The overall objective of the project is to improve the quality of water in the trans-boundary river basins of the wider Black Sea region and Belarus. The specific objectives of this project are:

- to improve availability and quality of data on the ecological, chemical, and hydro-morphological status of trans-boundary river basins including groundwater, and
- to develop River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) for selected river basins/sub-river basins according to the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The project targets the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

There are two main overall project results expected:

- increased capacity of the respective national authorities for hydro-biological, chemical and hydro-morphological monitoring of water quality incl. groundwater; quality assurance procedures in place in laboratories, and
- increased technical capacities by means of development and implementation of RBMPs for selected river basins/sub-river basins, according to the requirements of the WFD.

Under the Activity 2 - development of joint RBMPs for selected river basins- of the project, it is foreseen that communication strategies will be developed for each basin (Task 2.7.1), and awareness building activities will be undertaken throughout the project. (Task 2.7.2) The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) was contracted in April 2013 to carry out/support these tasks in line with the overall Communication and Visibility Plan developed in the inception phase of the project. The Communication and Visibility Plan includes a general communication strategy and specific activities dedicated to communication and the visibility for the overall EPIRB project, with the goals:

- to raise awareness around the project and its communication activities, objectives and impact;
- to develop effective, appropriate messaging of interest to the target groups and initiatives.<sup>1</sup>

The First Progress Report of the project foresees the development of comprehensive Communication Strategies and detailed Communication Plans for each basin following the completion of the River Basin Analysis in the countries and the delineation and classification activities.

<sup>1</sup> See: Communication and Visibility Plan prepared within the EC-funded project “Environmental Protection of International River Basins”. The overall objectives of the Communication and Visibility Plan are as follows: ensure timely communication to relevant State establishments and/or organisations; ensure effective communication between groups; ensure timely notices for requirements/meetings; ensure optimum results for all communications and project expectations; measure the results of the communication strategy execution and revise accordingly.

The pilot basins were selected and confirmed during the inception phase, as follows:

- Belarus/Ukraine –Upper Dnieper River ;
- Moldova/Ukraine –Prut River;
- Armenia – Akhuryan and Metsamor rivers;
- Azerbaijan – Agstafachay, Tovuzchay, Shamkirchay and Ganjachay rivers; and
- Georgia – Chorokhi-Adjaristskali basin.

In order to ensure consistency among the Communication Strategies and Plans for the above mentioned pilot basins, the following methodology has been undertaken: a general common approach has been developed and is described in the Methodology for Developing a Communication Strategy for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin, and a specific strategy and plan has been developed for each pilot basin adapting the general approach to the given conditions. These latter are described in the current document for the Upper Dnieper river basin: in Part I, Communication Strategy for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin., and Part II, Communication Plan for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin.

The Communication Strategies and the Communication Plans for Pilot River Basins cover the aspects of communication, information access and public participation. They are developed fully in compliance within the overall Communication and Visibility Plan of the project and the EU Visibility Guidelines.

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## PART I: COMMUNICATION STRATEGY FOR THE UPPER DNEIPEP PILOT BASIN

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### 1. Short description of the situation in the pilot basin and identification of needs and challenges the strategy needs to consider

The **Upper Dnieper Pilot River basin** is situated within the bounds of the Republic of Belarus, the state border section between Belarus and Ukraine, and the basin section to the north of Kanev HPP in Ukraine. It is of vital importance for power generation, drinking water supply, irrigation and industry at large in the trans-boundary area between the two countries.

In *Belarus*, the catchment area of the Dnieper basin is 116 400 km<sup>2</sup> – 56,5% of the total country territory. Of this area, 63 700 km<sup>2</sup> is the catchment area of the Dnieper and its tributaries (Berezina, Sozh, Iput) and 52,700 km<sup>2</sup> – of Pripyat River, which then enters the territory of Ukraine. The relief in the basin is plain. Administratively, the Dnieper River catchment area occupies 1% of Vitebsk, 46 % of Gomel, 31% of Minsk and 95 % of Mogilev regions in Belarus. The area is well developed, highly urbanized and moderately populated with 4,1 million people living in the region, about 44% of the total population of Belarus (2012).

In *Ukraine*, the section of interest of the Dnieper basin is situated in northern Ukraine and bound by the Ukrainian state border and Kanev HPP. Its catchment area is approximately 20 000 km<sup>2</sup>. This section of the Upper Dnieper basin has distinctive peculiarities: 1) the river runoff is much overregulated; 2) a rather large volume of river runoff forms in this part of the catchment area – due to inflow of river water from Pripyat and Desna rivers; 3) the 1986 Chernobyl disaster happened here. The largest city in the Dnieper basin is located here – Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. The population distribution in Kiev Region is non-uniform: mostly, people concentrate near Kiev, in the towns of Vyshgorod, Brovary, Borispol, Irpen and Vishnevoye. The population of Kiev Region is 1,72 million people (excluding Kiev, having 2,810 million people).<sup>2</sup>

The recently published “River Basin Analysis of the Upper Dnieper basin in the territories of Belarus and Ukraine” highlights the following, as pressures with significant impact on the water bodies of the basin:

- stationary point sources of pollution (under-treated or non-treated waste water discharges, inadequate management of waste landfills from communal and industrial activities);
- diffuse sources of pollution (runoffs and effluents from agricultural activities, from animal and poultry farms; radionuclides from areas contaminated with radiation as a result from the Chernobyl NPP accident, which wash out to surface water bodies; deposition of radionuclides in still and poorly flowing water bodies).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See: EPIRB Project, River Basin Analysis report for Upper Dnieper basin

<sup>3</sup> See: EPIRB Project, River Basin Analysis report for Upper Dnieper basin

### 1.1 Legal requirements in force (national/international)<sup>4</sup>

The national water legislation of *Belarus* is not yet aligned to the IWRM principles and to the EU WFD requirements. The Water Code does not directly stimulate the management of national water resources under the river basin management approach. Amendment of the national Water Code in line with the IWRM principles and taking into account the requirements of the EU WFD is intended in the context of the Water Strategy until 2020, approved in 2011.

*Ukraine* has taken several steps to develop and harmonize national legislation to the EU Directives including the ones on water-related issues. The ENPI Country Strategy Paper for Ukraine (2007 – 2013) states that Ukraine adopted the Framework Law on Environment Protection in 1991. Since then Ukraine has adopted several pieces of legislation to aim at convergence with EU acquis and the Ukraine legislation contains provisions on environment impact assessment, but these are not always implemented and enforced. The Strategy paper clearly highlights that further implementation mechanisms are needed to address water quality problems, as in some regions water quality needs considerable improvement. As of today, IWRM principles are integral part of the Ukraine Law on Environmental Protection as well as the Water Code (Articles 11, 13) and are, in addition, reflected in an approved State Programme on Water Management Development by 2020. According to the Law of Ukraine, of 21.12.2010 № 2818-VI "On the Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine till 2020", Ukraine has to develop RBMPs for the main rivers.

Both countries, Belarus and Ukraine, are parties to the Aarhus Convention and implementing its requirements.<sup>5</sup> In *Ukraine* relevant mechanism for the implementation of the Aarhus Convention are: (i) order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection from 18 December 2003 №169, registered in the Ministry of Justice 4 February 2004 № 156/8755 «On approving provisions on the procedure of the Ministry for Environmental Protection of Ukraine for giving information concerning the environment» and (ii) order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection from 18 December 2003 №168, registered in the Ministry of Justice 4 February 2004 № 156/8754) «On approving Provisions on public participation in decision-making in the area of environmental protection».

In *Belarus*, Decision No. 734 of 25.05.2008 of the Cabinet of Ministers came into force on 1 July 2008 and concerns regulation concerning creation and maintenance of a state repository of data on the state of the environment and impacts on it and the content of general environmental information subject to compulsory distribution, the holders of such information who are obliged to distribute it, and the frequency with which it is to be distributed.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Draft Overview Report, Status of Country Implementation and Proposals for Support, prepared in January 2013 within the EPIRB Project Activity 1.2, Support to Country Implementation UNECE Water and Danube River Protection Conventions, page 39-49.

<sup>5</sup> See sub-chapter 1.3 „The relevant UNECE Conventions” and Annex 2 of the Methodology for developing a Communication Strategy and Plan for the Prut River Basin.

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/reporting/NIRs%202011/Belarus\\_NIR\\_2011\\_final\\_clean\\_EN.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/reporting/NIRs%202011/Belarus_NIR_2011_final_clean_EN.pdf)

## 1.2 On-going and past activities to build on<sup>7</sup>

There are no RBMPs (except for Tisza basin in Ukraine in the framework of the ICPDR), Action Plans or Programme of Measures according to the EU WFD in place yet neither in Ukraine nor in Belarus. However, several initiatives and projects have been implemented on IWRM principle during the last years. These include:

- Preparation of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Dnieper River Basin and Development of SAP Implementation Mechanisms, (1999-project completion), UNDP-GEF
- Transboundary cooperation and sustainable management in the Dniester River basin - Phase III, implemented by OSCE, UNECE, UNEP.
- Water Governance in the Western EECCA Countries (for EU EuropeAid Cooperation Office)
- Reducing vulnerability to extreme flood and climate change in the Dniester River basin (Dniester III Flood and Climate), implemented by OSCE in partnership with UNECE and UNEP.
- “Capacity building in data administration for assessing transboundary water resources in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)”, (2010-2012).
- Upgrading of the system of management of the water resources of the Lower Dnieper and the Kakhov reservoir (funded by the Swedish International Development Agency)
- Flood-prevention management in Slovakia and Ukraine (funded by Danish Cooperation for Environment in Eastern Europe (DANCEE))

## 2. The goals and objectives of the Communication Strategy for the Pilot Basin

The Communication Strategy for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin will support first of all the project implementation, more concretely, the RBM planning in the pilot basin and its implementation.

The overall goals of the Communication Strategy for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin Area are the following:

- to ensure proper communication, access to information, stakeholder and public involvement in the development and implementation of the RBMPs in the basin;
- to provide assistance to the government authorities in the basin on how to comply with their obligations, including practical support and guidance in addressing communication, access to information, stakeholder involvement and public participation in the development and implementation of RBM Plan;
- to facilitate the establishment of effective structures and mechanisms for public participation in the basin that will continue operating beyond the project.

The specific objectives for the Communication Strategy for the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin are the following:

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<sup>7</sup> See: EPIRB Project Activity 1.2. Support to country Implementation UNECE Water and Danube River Protection Conventions report

- to provide timely information to the key stakeholders and the public in the basin in the specific phases of the project on the development and implementation of RBMP, and particularly on the draft and final documents prepared (active provision of information and access to information including documents);
- to inform stakeholders and the public of the appropriate opportunities for public participation in the development and implementation of the RBMP (consultation or active involvement), to facilitate/collect the input/comments of stakeholders on the draft documents and give them feedback on how these have been taken into account;
- to support the better communication of the project partners (project team and lead beneficiaries) with the key stakeholders at the pilot basin level;
- to assist in keeping the project partners, the key stakeholders and the public regularly informed of the project activities and results at the pilot basin level.

The expected outputs and outcomes of the Communication Strategy for the Pilot Basin will be as follows:

For the overall goal:

- Improved and more efficient communication, involvement of the stakeholders and the public in the development and implementation of RBMP in the pilot basin;
- More effective and meaningful structures and mechanisms established for public participation in the development and implementation of RBMP in the pilot basin which will engage, build confidence and cooperation and promote the active participation and communication of diverse stakeholders in the planning and implementation of RBMP in the pilot basin, and which will continue beyond the project;
- Informed, improved and more transparent decision-making in the development and implementation of RBMP in the pilot basin, through communication, public participation and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

For the specific objectives:

- Communication among the project partners and with the key stakeholders at the basin level is improved and maintained;
- National, regional and local governments comply with their obligations on access to information, stakeholder and public participation in the development and implementation of RBMP in the pilot basin;
- The key stakeholders and the public are informed in a timely manner in the specific phases of the project on the development and implementation of the RBMP, particularly on the draft and final documents prepared;
- The stakeholders and the public in the pilot basin are well informed of the appropriate opportunities for public participation (consultation or active involvement), which enables them to provide input/comments on the draft documents; feedback is given to them on how their input/comments have been taken into account;

- Project partners, the key stakeholders and the public at the pilot basin level are regularly informed of the project activities and results.

The Communication Strategy needs to reach out to the public and the key stakeholders in the pilot basin so that they are properly informed and involved, and to the key actors to enable them for carrying out their role. The key stakeholders and actors, the tools and channels to inform them, involve them and reach out to them are analysed and proposed in the sections 4.1-4.3.

The implementation of the strategy is completed with a Communication Plan which will include the more concrete details how the strategy will be carried out, what activities will be taken, who will be responsible and when to carry these out. (See Part II.) During the EPIRB project, the REC together with the EPIRB Project Team will be responsible to carry out these tasks in cooperation with the Lead Beneficiaries in the country. After the project is over the competent authority at the basin level should take over these responsibilities and ensure their implementation for the following RBM planning cycles.

## 2.1 Key stakeholders to reach

There is a wide variety of stakeholders that have an interest or impact on the management of the pilot river basin and the rivers within the whole basin, such as the general public, people living in the pilot basin who are the end-beneficiary of the project's result, benefiting of the quality and quantity of water resources.

The main stakeholders are the: national, regional local line agencies/authorities in charge of different sectors, national planning agencies, other regional and national research institutions and international organisations with expertise in one or more sectors, NGOs dealing with water management/environmental issues, water users, and those which have or might have activities with potential impact on the water issues in the pilot basin, or which are affected or might be affected potentially by planned measures and activities .

Special attention should be paid to those marginalised or disadvantaged groups who are affected or likely to be affected but have no voice, both positively or negatively by RBM planning and its implementation. Methodological assistance for identification and involvement of the stakeholders are provided by several guidance materials.<sup>8</sup>

The Communication Strategy will as much as possible try to address all stakeholders identified but some stakeholder groups based on the Analysis Report have been designated as key water related sectors. These sectorial stakeholders to be addressed are:

- **Agriculture and irrigation:** In *Belarus*, generally private farms engage in vegetable-growing and large agricultural organizations engage in cattle-breeding. From the overall yearly crop in the Dnieper basin, grains and leguminous crops form 46,7%, technical crops – 11,2%, forage crops –

<sup>8</sup> See for example: Guidance document n.8, Public Participation in relation to the Water Framework Directive; Aarhus Convention Recommendations on Public Participation in Decision-making in Environmental Matters; Harmonizing Collaborative Planning (HarmoniCOP) Learning Together to Manage Together

35,2%, and potatoes – 5,8%. Of animal stock, bovine animals are about 1 353 000, pigs – 1 315 000, sheep and goats – 41 000, and chickens – 13 million. The total area of irrigated lands in Belarus and in the Dnieper basin is rather small: less than 0,2 % of the country's total irrigated area – 30 600 ha (farmlands). Over 50% of all irrigated land is in Mogilev Region – 15 500 ha, almost entirely within the Dnieper basin. In *Ukraine*, in Kiev region, there is a marked contrast between the northern areas, contaminated by the Chernobyl disaster and the other areas of the region. Crop farming is more developed than animal breeding. Poultry breeding is as developed as animal breeding. A series of drainage systems, some rather large and well-known, have been provided in Kiev Region. Most notable among these are the drainage systems on Irpen (the first two-directional system in Ukraine) and Trubezh rivers.

- **Industry:** In *Belarus* large industrial centres of Belarus are located in the Dnieper basin. Many enterprises operate in the machinery (trucks, tractors), furniture, metallurgy, chemical, and mining sectors. Most enterprises are “city-forming”: they employ large numbers of local working-age populations. Some of the largest one are: Mogilev Viscose Fibre Plant JSC (Khimvolokno, Mogilev), Rechitsadrev OJSC (Rechitsa, plywood), Experimental Industrial Hydrolysis Plant (Rechitsa), Zhlobin Repair and Mechanical Plant OJSC (Zhlobin, agricultural machinery), Self-Propelled Combine Harvester Plant (Gomel), Svetlogorsk Khimvolokno OJSC (Svetlogorsk), FanDOK JSC (Bobruisk, wood processing), Byelorussian Steel Works OJSC (Zhlobin), Minsk Tractor Works (Minsk), Belorussian Autoworks JSC (BelAZ, Zhodzina), etc. In *Ukraine*, in the Kiev region significant enterprises are: Ukrhydroenergo (Vyshgorod) – Ukraine's leader in hydropower engineering; Plastic Karta (Vyshgorod) – Ukraine's largest enterprise for plastic cards; Can-Pak Ukraine (Vyshgorod) – Ukraine's largest enterprise for aluminium cans; Complex Agromars (Vyshgorod, Garilovka) – one of Ukraine's largest producers of poultry. In Kiev city enterprises operate mainly in the food, electric power, construction and machine-building sectors. In most cases their impact on the Dnieper is low.
- **Power industry:** In *Belarus* hydropower potential, including that of the Dnieper basin, is operated on a very small scale. There are 41 operational HPPs in the basin, with total capacity of 16,1 MW – which is only 3% of the technically available potential. The largest HPP in the Dnieper basin in Belarus has capacity of 2,175 MW (Osipovich HPP, built in 1953). The state program for construction of hydropower plants for 2011–2015 envisions the construction of a tandem of four HPPs on Dnieper River with total capacity of 20,3 MW: Orsha HPP (5,7 MW) – 2017; Rechitsa HPP (4,6 MW) – 2018; Shklov HPP (4,9 MW) – 2018; and Mogilev HPP (5,1 MW) – 2019. In *Ukraine*, Kiev Region hydropower industry is represented by Kiev HPP (capacity of 433 MW) and Kiev PSPP (capacity of 235,5 MW).
- **Forestry:** In *Belarus* in the Dnieper basin woodlands and bogs dominate in the natural vegetation. The share of pine forests in the area is 52%, of spruce forests – 17%, and of soft-wooded forests – about 20%. In *Ukraine* the Kiev and Chernigov regions are rich in forest resources. The total area of woodlands is 24 000 ha. Forest cover in the area of the Upper Dnieper basin is up to 44% and dominated by pines (63%).
- **Fisheries:** In *Belarus* commercial fishing is developed on four rivers – Dnieper, Sozh, Berezina and Svisloch. The total fishing area is 750 km of river sections, mostly within Gomel and Mogilev

regions. Small and medium-sized lakes (up to 200 ha in surface area) are used for commercial fishing, fish-rearing and recreational fishing. There are only two fish-farms in the Dnieper basin: on Volma River (Minsk Region) and on Svisloch River (Mogilev Region). The structure of fish stock includes: 22 species in rivers, 18 species in reservoirs, and 15 species in the lakes. In *Ukraine* the volume of commercial fishing in Kiev Reservoir is approximately 500 t.

- **Water supply (domestic and industrial uses):** In *Belarus* water supply and wastewater disposal are responsibility of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services and related municipal government bodies. Centralised water supply systems deliver water to 86% of the total country population and 57% of the total rural population. Large volumes of water in *Ukraine* are withdrawn and discharged at PJSC Kievvodokanal, the water treatment works of Kiev. Kievvodokanal has two surface water intakes: from the Dnieper and the Desna. The Dnieper water intake is located downstream of Kiev HPP and upstream of the Desna estuary (at 897 km from the Dnieper estuary). The Desna water intake is located at 3 km from the Desna estuary on its left bank. Finally, Kievvodokanal has a third water intake – from groundwater horizons – at 880 km from the Dnieper estuary.
- **Navigation:** In *Belarus* water Dnieper, Berezina and Sozh rivers are navigable. In the water transport system operate four river ports (Bobruisk, Gomel, Mogilev and Rechitsa) and 2 water traffic companies (Gomel and Bobruisk). The River Shipping Inspectorate of Belarus (Gomel) exercises control over compliance with shipping rules and safety requirements and maintains the state register of vessels. In *Ukraine* passenger water routes are not economically feasible, given alternatives, and exist primarily for recreation and tourism. Only Kiev River Port has passenger terminal and operates passenger transportation on local lines. The Dnieper is the only river in *Ukraine* provided with navigation locks. Desna River is also navigable, yet navigation here no longer exists and only one port remains operational (Chernigov), which stands idle. The navigation map of Kiev Reservoir follows navigation conditions along all four rivers and provides navigation marks for them. Kiev River Port (at 822 km from the Dnieper mouth) is the most important port in the Upper Dnieper basin (1897–). handling scrap metal, sand and crushed stone, mining products, building materials
- **Flood protection, river works:** In *Belarus* flooding during spring flood is observed most frequently (on average once per 2 years) in Gomel (on Sozh River), once per 2–3 years in Loyev (on Dnieper River), once per 4–5 years in Mogilev (on Dnieper River) and Borisov (on Berezina River). Belarus has launched a program of engineering water management for protection of inhabited areas and farmlands against floods in the most flood-prone regions of Polesye (2011–2015). In *Ukraine* the water storage reservoirs with the purpose of normalizing water runoffs and protecting areas from flooding have been built on Desna tributaries, Irsha (Uzh tributary), Teterev and Irpen rivers.
- **Tourism:** In *Belarus* relevant infrastructure for tourism does not exist, generally, water bodies are used mostly for short-term unorganized leisure activities with peaks during summer. Due to the radiation contamination of a large part of the Dnieper water catchment area, significant for recreation are water bodies in the upper reaches of the Dnieper, in the area of big industrial centres in Mogilev and Orsha. In *Ukraine* the development of tourism is hindered by radioactive

contamination from the Chernobyl disaster in the north part of the region as well as by limited infrastructure (especially hotels) for tourism.

During the inception phase of the project the following main project counterparts were identified, who are also part of the main stakeholders and who have indicated already their commitment in the process:

- *Belarus:*
  - Leading Beneficiary Institutions: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection;
  - Other Key Beneficiary Institutions/Agencies: Republican Unitary Enterprise “Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources” (CRICUWR); State institution “Republican Centre of Analytical Control in the Sphere of Environmental Protection”, State Institution “Republican Hydro-meteorological Center”, “Republican Center for Radiation Control and Environmental Monitoring”, Republican Unitary Enterprise “Research and production center for Geology” , Gomel region Committee of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Mogilev region Committee of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.
- *Ukraine*
  - Leading Beneficiary Institution: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine;
  - Other Key Beneficiary Institutions/Agencies: State Agency for Water Resources.

Taking in consideration the above mentioned issues a list of representatives of key stakeholders has been elaborated and proposed, and can be found in Annex 5.

## 2.2 Existing opportunities/structures to reach stakeholders and inform/involve them

In *Ukraine* the competent authority to coordinate and implement national water resources management is the Ukraine Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine. The State Water Resources Agency is aligned to and coordinated by the Ministry to implement IWRM activities on both the national and international levels. Ukraine implements its water resources management via River Basin Authorities and Oblast Water Management Authorities under State Water Agency of Ukraine and River Basin Council (RBC) that consists of government officials, provincial, local and district representatives, scientific representatives, NGOs.<sup>9</sup> The Dnieper RBC was established in 2011 as an advisory body to the State Agency for Water Resources in Ukraine. The Basin Management Authority of Water Resources in the Dnieper, based in Vyshgorod, acts as Council Secretariat. The Dnieper Basin Council was established according to principles of basin water resource management, as provided for in the Water Code of Ukraine and the EU Water Framework Directive. The key aim of Council is associated with establishment of an efficient organisational mechanism for development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans (from DRBC Provision).

Main objectives of the Basin Council include:

- facilitation of ensuring comprehensive water resources management in the Dnieper basin;

<sup>9</sup> Draft Overview Report, Status of Country Implementation and Proposals for Support, prepared in January 2013 within the EPIRB Project Activity 1.2, Support to Country Implementation UNECE Water and Danube River Protection Conventions, page 44-49.

- review and assessment of qualitative and quantitative status of water resources in the basin, causes and effects of its changes for natural ecosystems and economic sectors, forecasting development trends and processes that affect quality of water resources and water use intensity;
- assessment of socio-economic problems and water use development trends in the Dnieper Basin;
- Identification of directions and strategies for balanced water resources management in Basin. Facilitation of coordinated actions for environmental quality improvement of the Dnieper;
- Promoting cooperation of central and local executive bodies, industrial, research and public facilities, organisations and associations, international organisations and experts to ensure environmental quality improvement of Dnieper basin, etc.<sup>10</sup>

As there is no transboundary body, it is suggested that the public consultations to be done under the Dnieper RBC with the inclusion of the Belarussian counterparts.

### 2.3 The best methods/channels of communication

In 2009 the basic source of information of the *Belarussian* citizens was the television. Popular TV channels are: 8-th channel, Belarus-TV, СТБ, ЛАД (LAD) etc.<sup>11</sup> In 2010 the Internet penetration in Belarus was 46.3% compared to the country's population, having 4,436,800 Internet users. While the internet is most widely used for personal purposes, it is an important source for many people searching for information. To this end, in the context of social networking, the number of Facebook users in December 2011 was 354,520, 3.7% penetration rate.<sup>12</sup>

According to different research papers, currently television is the most popular type of media in *Ukraine*, followed by the internet and the printed press and radio. Leading TV channels are: "First National Canal" "Inter", "1+1", "Ukraine", ICTV, and STB.<sup>1314</sup> Internet audience is dynamically growing, the Internet penetration in 2010 was 33.9% compared to the country's population, having 15,300,000 Internet users. The number of Facebook users in December 2011 was 1,686,500, and over 3,000,000 in October 2013.<sup>1516</sup>

Taking in consideration the above mentioned issues and the resources available the general public should be informed of the planned activities in the pilot basin and of the project implementation through the following tools:

<sup>10</sup> <http://dbuwr.com.ua/basejnova-rada-r-dnipro.html>

<sup>11</sup> [http://ejc.net/media\\_landscapes/belarus](http://ejc.net/media_landscapes/belarus)

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.internetworldstats.com/europa2.htm#md>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.slideshare.net/umedia/inmindinternewsmediaaudiencesurvey2012part1eng>

<sup>14</sup> <http://ijc.md/Publicatii/resurse/Media-Landscapes-en.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.internetworldstats.com/europa2.htm#ua>

<sup>16</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_in\\_Ukraine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_in_Ukraine)

- **EPIRB project web site** ([www.blacksea-riverbasins.net/](http://www.blacksea-riverbasins.net/)), up to date information, documents and draft documents placed regularly on the specific web pages/ „microsites” for the pilot basins (<http://blacksea-riverbasins.net/en/pilot-river-basins>) and used also for public awareness activity;
- **website of the competent authority** (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus: <http://www.minpriroda.gov.by/en/>; Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine: <http://www.menr.gov.ua/>);
- **In the Flow** twice-yearly newsletter of the EPIRB project, including also specific information of the pilot basin activities;
- **EPIRB project leaflets**
- **links are made with other relevant web sites** (e.g. websites of relevant scientific institutions, relevant NGOs, Aarhus Centres, as well as with relevant project web sites;)
- **articles** published in local and national media, and information given through TV and radio channels;
- **Press releases**
- **direct e-mail lists** used to reach key stakeholders;
- **social media** such as Facebook, similar national social media
- **different events** related to the project or related to other projects, activities or events when information can be disseminated, or which can be used for public awareness raising, outreach activities etc., such as World Water Day, Dnieper Day, Black Sea Day etc.
- **photos, videos** about the pilot basin (assets, risks, challenges, etc.)

#### 2.4 Key message areas of the communication strategy

Effective communication requires consistent, clear messages confirmed by a variety of authorities. So there is a need to outline a base of key messages while expecting and allowing for variations for these. Messages to be addressed by the communication activities are:

- General:
  - Getting the pilot basin’s waters cleaner;
  - Benefits and results of the river basin management approach
  - Interested and affected stakeholders should be encouraged to actively participate in water resources planning, development and management.
- Specific (these could address based on the identified significant pressures ):
  - Reduce and prevent pollution from
    - from point sources: under- or non-treated waste water discharges, inadequate management of waste and landfills from communal and industrial sources;
    - from diffuse sources: runoffs and effluents from agricultural activities, from animal and poultry farms; fish farming?; radionuclides from areas contaminated with radiation as a result from the Chernobyl NPP accident, which wash out to surface water bodies;

To be effective, communications need to be directed at specific audiences or groups of audiences and should be designed for clearly defined target groups: those whom the information is aimed at. These groups often overlap, but may be divided in categories. The below table includes the different messages to the different target groups including the best channels/tools for communication which are able to effectively deliver the identified key messages.

What?	To Whom?	How?
Integrated river basin management approach: “Together getting the waters cleaner” / Integrated river basin management plans are key to achieving good status of waters	All	Website, Newsletter, leaflet, media, different events, photos, videos
IRBM benefits all sectors	All	Website, Newsletter, leaflet, media, different events, photos, videos
Water is everyone’s interest	All	Website, Mass media, public events, Newsletter, photos
<p>Pollution issues: Urban and industrial wastewater discharge (or lack of these)</p> <p>Inadequate management of waste and landfills</p> <p>Agricultural activities</p>	<p>Decision-makers, Water industry, Local authorities, NGOs and for all stakeholders</p> <p>Decision-makers, Local authorities, industrial polluters, NGOs</p> <p>Agriculture, decision-makers, farmers’ associations</p>	<p>Website, Newsletter, Articles, Professional information, local media</p>

As the Strategy is a “living document”, the specific messages will be regularly updated based on the outcomes/milestones of the project.

## PART III: COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR THE UPPER DNEIPER PILOT BASIN

The Communication Plan of the Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin Area is based on the Pilot Basin’s “Communication Strategy”, previous chapter of the current document, but is more detailed and goes further beyond in the sense that it brings the strategic approach into practical activities ready for implementation in order to meet the objectives of the Communication Strategy.

The Communication Plan should follow the requirements including timeframe set by the WFD. However, despite the efforts, according to the timeline of the project activities it will not be possible to comply fully with these timeframe requirements.

### 3. Activities

EPIRB Project Milestones	Activity	Type	Responsible*	Tentative Timing
<b>General</b>				
<b>During the Project</b>	<b>Communication and active information provision</b> – access to all draft and final project documents on the project website’s microsite dedicated to pilot basins, as soon as they are available; publishing regularly materials on project activities and results for basin stakeholders	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the project website</i> )	From December 2013 on-wards
<b>During the Project</b>	<b>Active involvement and consultation</b> - involvement of representatives of key stakeholders groups	Consultation	REC ( <i>coordinate, input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance</i> )	From December 2013 on-wards
<b>During the Project</b>	<b>Outreach activities</b> (cooperation with interest groups, lead beneficiaries) <b>World Water Day</b> <b>Dnieper Day</b>	Information	REC ( <i>input /preparation of dissemination information</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>coordinate and team member participating to the events (case by case)</i> )	every year: 22 March 7 July
<b>Specific</b>				
<b>Pilot Basin CSs &amp; CPs</b>	<b>Inform stakeholders</b> about the <b>draft CS &amp; CP</b> , encourage feedback	Information Consultation?	REC ( <i>coordinate, sending targeted mass-email</i> )	December, 2013 - February, 2014

EPIRB Project Milestones	Activity	Type	Responsible*	Tentative Timing
			EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the project website</i> )	
	<b>Publish the final CS &amp; CP</b> endorsed by the beneficiaries	Information	REC ( <i>input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>publish documents on the project website</i> )	January - May, 2014
	<b>Inform stakeholders</b> about the expected pilot basin and project activities, <b>timetable</b> for the development of the RBMP, including <b>consultation opportunities</b>	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish relevant information on the project website</i> )	December, 2013 – January, 2014
<b>Report on analysis of the baseline situation/preliminary classification of the water bodies (A. 2.3) &amp; Preliminary PoM/Catalogue of Measures</b>	<b>Notification</b> about the <b>availability of the report</b> and the upcoming Regional Stakeholder Conference	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, targeted mass-email, etc.</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the website</i> )	March-April, 2014
	<b>Regional Stakeholder Conference</b> (in Eastern Europe) to discuss the findings of the report as well as the preliminary PoM	Consultation Feedback on comments	REC ( <i>coordinate, organize</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>input/assistance, logistics</i> )	June, 2014
	Publish <b>information</b> in the EPIRB project <b>leaflet</b> about SWMIs and / final classification of all water bodies	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>input</i> )	May - June, 2014
<b>Selection of Measures</b>	Publish <b>information</b> on the selected measures /online	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate/input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the project website</i> )	March, 2014
<b>RBMP and PoM</b>	Regular <b>information</b> to the public on the <b>work status</b> towards the <b>PoMs</b>	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, targeted mass-emails etc.</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the website</i> )	From 2014 onwards
	Publish the <b>timetable and interim overview</b> of development of RBMP (including PoM)	Information	REC ( <i>input</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>publish documents on the project website</i> )	– February-March, 2014
	Publish the <b>draft RBMP</b> , including the	Consultation	REC ( <i>coordinate</i> )	January-

EPIRB Project Milestones	Activity	Type	Responsible*	Tentative Timing
	PoMs; encourage feedback		EPIRB Team ( <i>input/assistance, publish the documents on the project website</i> )	February, 2015
	<b>Notification</b> about the availability of the <b>draft RBMP</b> and consultation opportunities	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, targeted mass-email, etc.</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the website</i> )	January-February, 2015
	<b>Upper Dnieper Pilot Basin Stakeholder Forum/Conference</b> to discuss the draft RBMP (inclusive PoMs)	Consultation Feedback on comments	REC ( <i>coordinate, organize</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>input/assistance, logistics</i> )	March-May, 2015
	Publish the draft <b>final RBMP</b>	Information	REC ( <i>assistance</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>coordinate, publish the documents on the project website</i> )	June, 2015
	Publish EPIRB project <b>leaflet</b> with summary of the final Upper Dnieper RBMP	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>input</i> )	October - November-, 2015
<b>Implementation of selected measures</b>	<b>Notification</b> about the consultation opportunity on the implemented selected measures	Information	REC ( <i>coordinate, targeted mass-email, etc.</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>assistance, publish information on the website</i> )	July-August, 2015
	<b>Regional Stakeholder Conference</b> (in Eastern Europe) to discuss the implementation of the selected measures and 'vision' of the RBMP	Consultation Feedback on comments	REC ( <i>coordinate, organize</i> ) EPIRB Team ( <i>input/assistance, logistics</i> )	October-November, 2015

\*The beneficiary countries expressed their commitment and support to the EPIRB project. Carrying out of the listed activities is foreseen in close cooperation with the lead beneficiaries.

#### 4. Realization and financing of communication and public involvement activities

The implementation of the activities listed above will be fully financed through the EPIRB project funded by the European Union. The realisation of the activities, range and type of tools is highly depending on the available funds allocated for these. The communication tools will rely on

existing tools ensured by the EPIRB project such as project website, publications in the *In the Flow* project Newsletter, collecting photos of the EPIRB project etc. Furthermore many of the public events/consultations will be timed to coincide with other activities/events in the project.

The activities will be carried out by the REC, EPIRB Project Team in cooperation with the lead beneficiaries. The activities will profile the beneficiaries as key role players in this process, highlighting their role in securing the support, in ensuring the success of the actions and their on-going responsibilities.

## 5. Monitoring, evaluation of success

Milestones	
<b>Communication Strategy and Communication Plan for the pilot basin is developed and endorsed/adopted</b>	<b>Expected outcomes of the communication process/activity</b>
	<p>The key stakeholders in the pilot basin give comment on the draft CS and CP and endorse the finalized version.</p> <p>The public and the stakeholders are informed about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the draft and final CS and CP;</li> <li>the expected pilot basin and project activities, timetable for the development of the RBMP, including consultation opportunities.</li> </ul>
	<b>Performance Indicators</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft CS and CP is circulated for comment among key stakeholders;</li> <li>Comments are collected and taken into account in final version of CS and CP;</li> <li>Final version is endorsed by representatives of NCCM and is disseminated via the project website.</li> <li>Specific notice is prepared and made available for the public and stakeholders about the expected pilot basin and project activities, timetable for the development of the RBMP, including consultation opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>Report on analysis of the baseline situation/preliminary classification of the water bodies (A. 2.3) &amp; Preliminary PoM /</b>	<b>Expected outcomes of the communication process/activity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The public and stakeholders are informed of the Report on analysis of the baseline situation/preliminary classification of the water bodies.</li> <li>The representatives of key stakeholders are aware of the report and provide feedback/ comments on it.</li> <li>The feedback/comments of key stakeholders are taken into account in the final version of the report, and the stakeholders are informed of this.</li> </ul>

<b>Milestones</b>	
<b>Catalogue of Measures</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification about the availability of the report and the consultation opportunities;</li> <li>• Successful organization of the Regional Stakeholder Conference with a working group on the pilot basin report.</li> <li>• The relevant stakeholders are invited and attending the Stakeholder Conference and provide comments. (Verification means: list of invitees and attendees; no. of participants, summary of comments, no. of comments)</li> <li>• Summary of comments provided. Feedback provided on how they have been taken into account.</li> <li>• Information published in the EPIRB Project leaflet for the basin and on the project website/micro site.</li> <li>• Specific messages are formulated and conveyed for the different actors and stakeholders via different channels.</li> </ul>
<b>Selection of Measures</b>	<b>Expected outcomes of the communication process/activity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public and key stakeholders are informed and made aware of the selected measures and their planned implementation.</li> </ul>
	<b>Performance Indicators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information published on the selected measures on the project website/ micro site and the website of competent authority and in the project newsletter.</li> <li>• Specific messages are formulated and conveyed for the different actors and stakeholders via different channels.</li> </ul>
<b>RBMP and PoM</b>	<b>Expected outcomes of the communication process/activity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public and key stakeholders are regularly informed on the work status towards the PoMs.</li> <li>• The public and key stakeholders are informed and aware about the timetable and interim overview of the development of RBMP, including PoMs.</li> <li>• The public and the stakeholders are notified about the availability of the draft RBMP, including the PoMs and of the consultation opportunities and on the possible feedback;</li> <li>• The representatives of key stakeholders are aware and provide feedback/comments on the draft RBMP, including the PoMs, at the Pilot Basin Stakeholder Forum/Conference and/or via electronic means.</li> <li>• The comments of the representatives of key stakeholders are taken into account in the final version of the RBMP, and information is given on how this happened.</li> <li>• The public and the stakeholders are informed of the final RBMP, including PoMs and its content.</li> </ul>
	<b>Performance Indicators</b>

<b>Milestones</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular information published on the work status towards the PoMs on the project website/ micro site, the web site of the competent authority and in the project newsletter;</li> <li>• Draft RBMP including PoM report made available on the project website/ micro site, the web site of the competent authority;</li> <li>• Notification published about the availability of the draft RBMP including PoM report and the consultation opportunities on the project website/ micro site, the web site of the competent authority and in the project newsletter, etc.;</li> <li>• Information published on the timetable and interim overview of development of RBMP (including PoM) on the project website/ micro site, the web site of the competent authority and in the project newsletter and via various channels; number of stakeholders notified by e-mail;</li> <li>• Specific messages are formulated and conveyed for the different actors and stakeholders via different channels.</li> <li>• Successful organization of the Pilot Basin Stakeholder Forum on the draft RBMP, including PoMs.</li> <li>• The relevant stakeholders are invited and attending the Stakeholder Forum and provide comments. (Verification means: list of invitees and attendees; no. of participants, summary of comments, no. of comments)</li> <li>• Summary of comments provided. Feedback provided on how they have been taken into account. Information is prepared for inclusion in the Annex of the RBMP.</li> <li>• Final RBMP is published on the project web site/micro site and the web site of the competent authority.</li> <li>• Information is published in the EPIRB Project leaflet for the basin on the results of Stakeholder Forum and the draft and Final RBMP, and on the project website/micro site</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation of selected measures</b>	<b>Expected outcomes of the communication process/activity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public and key stakeholders are regularly informed on the implementation of the selected measures.</li> <li>• The public and the stakeholders are notified about the opportunities for consultation on the selected measures.</li> </ul>
	<b>Performance Indicators</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification published on the consultation opportunities on the implemented selected measures on the project website/ micro site, the web site of the competent authority and in the project newsletter, etc.;</li> <li>• Successful organization of the Regional Stakeholder Conference;</li> <li>• The relevant stakeholders are invited and attending the Stakeholder Conference and provide comments. (Verification means: list of invitees and attendees; no. of participants, summary of comments, no. of comments)</li> <li>• Summary of comments provided. Feedback provided on how comments have been taken into account.</li> </ul>



## ANNEX 1: List of Stakeholders Upper Dnieper pilot basin

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Other info
Proskuriakov Oleg	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses of Ukraine	MINISTER	National Authority	UA
Kamasa Michael	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses of Ukraine	Head of International Department	National Authority	UA
Bon` Olexander	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses of Ukraine	Head of Water Division	National Authority	UA
Birjuk Yana	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses of Ukraine	Division of Public Relation	National Authority	UA
Savitsky Valentine	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Recourses of Ukraine	Head of Public Council of MoE	National Authority	UA
Stashuk Vasyl	State Water Agency of Ukraine	Head	National Authority	UA
Chunariov Olexiy	State Water Agency of Ukraine	Deputy Head	National Authority	UA
Lysuk Olga	State Water Agency of Ukraine	Head of Water Department	National Authority	UA
Kovtunencko Vita	State Water Agency of Ukraine	Division of Public Relation	National Authority	UA
Romaschenko Michael	State Water Agency of Ukraine	Head of Public Council of State Water Agency	National Authority	UA

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Other info
Mykola Kulbyda	Hydrometeorology Services	Head	National Authority	UA
Deziron Olexander	Hydrometeorology Services	Head of organization devison	National Authority	UA
Pyshna Nataliia	Geoinform, Geology Services	Head of monitoring division	National Authority	UA
Kuznetcova Tatjana	Central Geophysical Observatory of Hydrometeorology Services	Head of Hydrobiology laboratory	National Authority	UA
Volodymyr Zamikula	Poltava Oblast State Administration	Deputy Head – Head of Dnieper River Basin Council	Local Authority	UA
Sakevich Arkadiy	Dnieper River Basin Management Body (BUWR)	Head	National Authority -local	UA
Ivan Dremluga	Dnieper River Basin Management Body (BUWR)	Deputy Head	National Authority -local	UA
Moiseyenko Victor	Dnieper River Basin Management Body (BUWR)	Chemical laboratory	National Authority -local	UA
Potapenko Vadym	Desna River Basin Management Body	Deputy Head	National Authority - local	UA
Baysarovych Iryna	Kyiv State University	Associated professor, geology faculty	–Research Institute	UA

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Other info
Oleksander Klitko	European Union Delegation to Ukraine	Sector Manager, Environment Operation Section 3 - Energy, Transport and Environment	EU	UA
Alexander Chaika	Public Company “Ukrhydroenergy”	Head of technical division	Other stakeholder local	UA
Volodymyr Starodubtsev	National University of of Bioresources and Nature use	Professor	Research Institute	UA
Navrockiy Vasil	International Fund of Dnieper	Deputy Head	NGO	UA
Victor Melnychuk	National Ecological Centre	Head	NGO	UA
Seraya Galina	Head of Aarhus Center	Head	National Authority	UA
Tsvetkova Anna	MAMA 86	Drinking water coordinator	NGO	UA
Sergey Zavyalov	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus	Head of the department of the regulation pressure on atmospheric air and water resources	National Authority	BY
Svetlana Utochkina	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus	Deputy Head of the Republican Center of the analytical control in the field of the environmental protection	National Authority	BY

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Other info
Aliaksandr Stankevich	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus	Head of the Republican Center of the radiation control and environmental monitoring	National Authority	BY
Olga Vasneva	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus	Chief of the unit of hydrogeology and ground water monitoring of Research and production center for Geology	National Authority	BY
Vladimir Korneev	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus	Chief of the unit water monitoring and cadastre of the Central research institute of the complex use water resources	National Authority	BY
Igor Franchuk	Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus	Head of the Republican hydrometeorological Center	National Authority	BY
Valery Kliuchanovich	Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus	Director of the Republican Research Unitary Enterprise "Belarusian Research Center "Ecology" (RUE "Bel RC "Ecology")	National Authority	BY

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Other info
Larisa Sinilo	Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus	Deputy Head of the Gomel region Committee of natural resources and environmental protection	National Authority -local	BY
Konstantin Teplyakov	Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus	Deputy Head of the Mogilev region Committee of natural resources and environmental protection	National Authority -local	BY
Elena RAKOVA	Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Belarus	Operations Section. Project Manager	EU	BY
Uriy Solovyov	NGO «Ecological initiative»	Head of the NGO	NGO	BY
Alexandr Vinchevskiy	NGO «APB Bird Life Belarus»	Head of the Central Council of NGO	NGO	BY
Evgeniy Lobanov	NGO «Center of the ecological decisions»	Director of NGO	NGO	BY
Natalya Porechina	NGO «Center of the ecological decisions»	Member of NGO, expert in the sphere of the water management	NGO	BY
Yulia Yablonskaia	NGO «Ecoproject Partnership»	Head of NGO	NGO	BY
Irina Usava	NGO «Ecoproject»	Head of the Central Council of NGO	NGO	BY
Olga Zaharova	Aarhus Centre of the Republic of Belarus	Head of the Aarhus Centre	National Authority	BY