

# EU Water Initiative (EUWI) and National Policy Dialogues

**Ms. Iulian Jugan**

**Romania / State Secretary, Ministry of  
Environment, Waters and Forests**

7th session of the Water Convention Meeting of the Parties  
Budapest, 17-19 November 2015



# 1. Main achievements since 2013

- ▶ Regular stakeholder discussion on water policies through national and regional meetings under EUWI National Policy Dialogues in 9 countries
- ▶ Work on water legislation:
  - Elaboration of a new Water Law and its by-laws in Georgia
  - Elaboration of a new Water Code in Turkmenistan
  - Development of Water Sector Reform Programme in Tajikistan
  - Development of National Water Sector Strategy in Azerbaijan
- ▶ Support to basin planning in Chu basin (Kyrgyzstan)
- ▶ Support to planning in irrigation sector (Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan)
- ▶ Work on Protocol on Water and Health (in Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan)



## 2. Lessons learned for future work, (a)

- ▶ EUWI has made important contribution to development of water sector reforms and achievement of water-related MDGs in the region > future role in implementation of SDGs
- ▶ Leadership and commitment of national actors (incl. Chairs of the NPD Steering Committees) is key for success
- ▶ Political leadership provided by the European Commission and by Romania as Chair is important
- ▶ Stability and predictability are important for national dialogues (longer term goals, regular meetings, same format, measurable results)
- ▶ Need to maintain flexibility to be able to meet changing national needs



## 2. Lessons learned for future work, (b)

- ▶ Regular coordination important with development partners (bilateral donors, other UN agencies, World Bank, etc.)
- ▶ Coordination of EUWI activities with other EU activities (European Neighbourhood Policy, EU Central Asia Strategy, EU Water Diplomacy Initiative)
- ▶ Utilizing competence of strategic partners UNECE and OECD also from other departments (UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews programme, EAP Task Force, etc.)
- ▶ Level of funding activities (NDPs are typically set for several years and require a medium- to long-term perspective)



### 3. Suggested future work

- ▶ More focus on exchange of knowledge:
  - With EU Member States (especially for countries with EU Association Agreement)
  - Between countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- ▶ More emphasis on transboundary and regional cooperation
- ▶ More emphasis on capacity building and trainings
- ▶ Increasingly differentiated focus in sub-regions:
  - Neighbourhood (Eastern Europe and Caucasus): harmonization with EU water legislation, capacity building, support to basin planning
  - Central Asia: water diplomacy and regional cooperation, water–food–energy–ecosystems nexus, green economy





Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes