

# **EU Water Initiative**

**Michal Nekvasil**  
**EC Delegation to Georgia**

**Tbilisi, 28 June 2011**

# EUWI – Water for life

## The key objectives:

- ▶▶ To contribute to the achievement of Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) and targets of the World Conference on Sustainable Development (WSSD) on
  - Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS)
  - Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
- ▶▶ To ensure a balance of the human water needs with those of the environment and to contribute to halting or reversing the loss of environmental resources

# Approach

- ◆ **Partnership approach** – to involve all parties concerned through a multistakeholder dialogue (EU, countries, international organisations, NGOs, private sector, international financial institutions, other donors, etc.)
- ◆ **Modular approach**
  - Regional components (Africa, EECCA, Mediterranean, Latin America)
  - Horizontal components (**Finance**, Research, Monitoring)

## EUWI Particular Objectives

- ◆ To reinforce political commitment to action;
- ◆ To promote better water governance arrangements;
- ◆ To improve efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multistakeholder dialogue and co-ordination;
- ◆ To encourage regional and sub-regional co-operation on water management issues;
- ◆ To catalyse additional funding.

## Key issues for EUWI – EECCA (1)

- ◆ **National Policy Dialogues** as the main mechanism for identification of priority actions and for establishing a multi-stakeholder dialogue with the EECCA countries





## Key issues for EUWI – EECCA (2)

- ◆ **WSS, Financing and IWRM plans**, as part of the National Policy Dialogue activities:
  - establishing adequate legal and institutional frameworks;
  - developing implementation capacity for operation and maintenance;
  - looking into institutional structures and potential reforms;
  - developing stakeholder consultation on water management issues;
  - fostering decentralisation and the development of local responsibility and local government capacity;

## Key issues for EUWI – EECCA (3)

- ◆ Establish and support appropriate mechanisms of **co-ordination** on water issues in the EECCA countries.



## Major achievements

- ◆ Work Programme for EUWI-EECCA Component till 2015 approved
- ◆ Country-specific background papers drafted
- ◆ Country dialogues launched
- ◆ Organisational set-up re-inforced
- ◆ Monitoring and reporting mechanism



# **EUWI-EECCA & OECD Environmental Action Programme Task Force (EAP TF) + United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) - an obvious co-operation!**

- ◆ Overlap in the WSS & IWRM sectors:
  - topics addressed and activities
  - participants
- ◆ Obvious benefits from joining forces

# Co-operation in practice

- ↪ To reinforce synergies between WSS & IWRM
- ↪ To provide a one-stop-shop for assistance on water in EECCA
- ↪ To ensure OECD EAP TF support on WSS aspects
- ↪ To ensure UNECE support on IWRM

# Benefits of the co-operation

- ◆ National Policy Dialogues under the EUWI: dissemination of best practices & approaches from the OECD EAP TF and the UNECE
- ◆ An opportunity to build on OECD and UNECE work in several EECOA countries
- ◆ Saving money: meetings, travels, etc.



## A key concern - financing

- ◆ Lack of finance is one of the main constraints for meeting the MDG targets on the WSS
- ◆ Inability of the water sector to access funds due to:
  - institutional weakness
  - lack of knowledge on financial instruments available and an insufficient capacity to make use of them

## The EUWI Finance Working Group

- ◆ Supports elaboration of strategies for financing the WSS at the country level
- ◆ Organizes workshops on water project financing
- ◆ Contributes to the Task Team on Sustainable Financing to Ensure Affordable Access to Water Supply and Sanitation
- ◆ Hosted by the Global Water partnership (GWP)

# More information on the EUWI

*EUWI*

<http://www.euwi.net>

*EC Delegation to Georgia*

<http://www.delgeo.ec.europa.eu/>

*E-mail: [michal.nekvasil@ec.europa.eu](mailto:michal.nekvasil@ec.europa.eu)*





**Thank you for your  
kind attention!**

