

# European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

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# 1. Background

- \* 2006 EU Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues (NPDs) started in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- \* Currently ongoing in 10 countries
- \* Funding from: European Commission, Finland, Norway
- \* EUWI EECCA Working Group chaired by Romania
- \* EUWI+ project for the 6 Eastern Partnership countries; 24.5 mln EUR (23.5 mln EUR funding from DG NEAR/European Commission); Sep 2016 – Aug 2020; Implementing Partners: UNECE, OECD, EU Member States Consortium (Austria and France)
- \* To support partner countries in bringing their national policies and strategies in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and other multilateral environmental agreements.



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18

### Central Asia

- \* Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan: revision of targets in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health and implementation of selected measures (FinWaterWei II)
- \* Kyrgyzstan/Kazakhstan: Comprehensive report on climate change impacts in the Chu-Talas basin and implementation of selected adaptation measures (FinWaterWei II)
- \* Kazakhstan: cooperation with Russia on transboundary Ural, Kigach, Uzen rivers (EU Green Economy)
- \* Kazakhstan: Study on the Shardara Multi-Purpose Water Infrastructure
- \* Tajikistan: Support to the irrigation sector reform and promote the use of economic instruments (tariff reform) for irrigation (FinWaterWei II)
- \* Kyrgyzstan: (i) Economic Instruments for water resources management; and (ii) Water Security Indicators in (FinWaterWei II)



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 1, OECD)

- \* Armenia: Support to implementation of the national water-food security policy. Analysis of harmful subsidies in the irrigation sector
- \* Azerbaijan: Support to finalization, adoption and start of implementation of the National Water Strategy
- \* Belarus: Development of National Water Strategy
- \* Georgia: Development of National Water Strategy
- \* Republic of Moldova: Support to the implementation of the reform in water supply and sanitation
- \* Ukraine: Development of National Water Strategy



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 1, UNECE)

- \* Armenia: Roadmap for harmonization with EU water Directives under CEPA, revision of targets under the Protocol on Water and Health
- \* Azerbaijan: Formal adoption of targets under the Protocol and beginning of implementation
- \* Belarus: End of 2nd phase of transboundary cooperation on the Neman, Launch of SEA process of the draft Water Strategy
- \* Georgia: Support to finalization of draft Water Law and revision of by-laws
- \* Republic of Moldova: Support to revision of the Water Law, Protocol on Water and Health work
- \* Ukraine: revision of targets under the Protocol



### 3. Lessons learned and future plans I

- \* Since 2016 gap in core funding for Central Asia and uncertainty about future,
  - \* EU WECOOP project only for NPD logistics
- \* Continuous interest from countries of Central Asia
- \* Request to maintain EUWI EECCA format and keep exchange between Eastern Europe/Caucasus and Central Asia
- \* Need to maintain strong ownership of NPDs by countries
- \* EUWI+ Regional Steering Committee meeting (Tbilisi, November, 2018)



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 2, EU MS consortium - UBA)

### Laboratory development - towards ISO 17025 certification

- ✓ Assessments are completed (assessment reports)
- ✓ Priorities for Lab development, including investments, are agreed
- ✓ Participation in international proficiency tests (except BY)

In addition

- \* Armenia: Government Resolution for Lab relocation
- \* Azerbaijan: Min. decision for fundamental Lab refurbishment
- \* Belarus: Procurement trainings; 2 partner labs selected
- \* Georgia: 3 Partner Labs; including Coastal & transitional aspects
- \* Republic of Moldova: Re-accreditation ISO 17025, completed
- \* Ukraine: final selection of 3 partner Labs, Procurement trainings

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



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 2, EU MS consortium - UBA)

### Development of Surface water (SW) and Ground water (GW) monitoring

- ✓ Assessments completed (assessment reports)
- ✓ Priority equipment needs (investments) and training needs agreed

In addition

- \* Armenia: reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation started (local tenders)
- \* Azerbaijan: reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation; Coastal & trans. WSs
- \* Belarus: reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation tenders in preparation
- \* Georgia: reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation; Coastal & trans. WSs
- \* Republic of Moldova: reg. WSs, MONERIS assessment, dev. roadmaps
- \* Ukraine: reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation tenders in preparation



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





## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 2, EU MS consortium OIEau)

**Strengthening of RBM Planning including transboundary harmonisation with direct application of data administration management (knowledge integration)**

- ✓ RBMP: Priorities assessment, new RBMP development & implementation
- ✓ Data: Metadata base dev., web mapping, data set access improvement
- \* Armenia: 2 (out of 6) new RBMP in development (Sevan Hrazdan); 8 800 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Azerbaijan: 1 new RBMP in development (upstream Kura); 18 480 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Belarus: 1 (out of 5) new RBMP in development (Pripyat); 52 700 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Georgia: 2 new RBMP in dev. (Alazani-lori & Khrami Debed); 19 140 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Republic of Moldova: Danube-Prut and Black Sea RBD; 14 700 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Ukraine: First phase of Dnieper RBMP (out of 9 RBDistricts); 296 320 km<sup>2</sup>



## 2. Key achievements/milestones in 2017/18 Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Result 3, EU MS consortium OIEau)

**Development of stakeholder participation mechanisms at different basin scales and awareness rising as key for policy implementation**

- \* [www.euwipluseast.eu](http://www.euwipluseast.eu) project web site to be visited!
- \* Newsletter in national language, leaflet, flyers
- \* Communication strategy dev.& implementation at basin, national & regional scales
- \* Development of a video clip for wide public awareness rising on the main measures to be implemented on new RBMP
- \* AM, BY and MD: from project based to sustainable River Basin Committee
- \* BY & UA: Launching of a joint “Dnieper day” on 7 July 2018



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# 3. Lessons learned and future plans II

- \* Change is a constant
  - \* 5 out of 6 resp. Ministers in the EaP have changed since Sept 16
- \* EUWI+ is a pilot project in new technical cooperation
  - \* Increased responsibility & ownership in the EaP countries
  - \* Tight partnering between EU member state and national experts
- \* Investment possibilities are important
  - \* Investments of in total 6 mln EUR; supply, works & services
- \* Sustainability of development is key
  - \* Countries have shown willingness for far-reaching decisions (e.g. AM: new Lab premises; AZ: complete Lab refurbishment, MD: extraordinary monitoring budget ...)



# The next « EUROPE – INBO 2018» conference

**17-20, October 2018, Seville (Spain)**

Information and inscription on  
<http://www.inbo-news.org/>

