Making water resources management more adaptive – Opportunities and barriers for implementation
13 April 2011, 13-15h, Room VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Special side event at the UNECE Water Convention’s “Second workshop on water and adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins: challenges, progress and lessons learnt” (12 and 13 April 2011, Palais des Nations, Geneva)

Background
Where uncertainty cannot be reduced in the short-term, or where policy decisions cannot be postponed until better knowledge is available, adaptive approaches to water resources management are required. The Twin2Go project – together with regional experts and stakeholders – has synthesised past and ongoing research and best practices on adaptive water governance from 29 river basins around the world.

In this first of a series of policy dialogues, Twin2Go aims to share preliminary results and discuss transferability of best practices and lessons learnt, with decision makers and practitioners.

Objectives of the session
In a panel discussion, decision makers and practitioners from Russia and the New Independent States will share their experiences and perspectives on adaptiveness and best practices in water resources management, particularly in the context of climate change. Together with regional scientists they will discuss barriers and opportunities for implementing adaptive approaches; and how adaptive water governance can be included into existing policy processes.
Panellists

- Mr. Georgy Fomenko (Institute "Cadastr", member Science & Technology Council of RF Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment)
- Ms. Elena Ostrovskaya (UNESCO-IHE)
- Mr. Mykola Babych (State Committee of Ukraine for Water Management)
- Ms. Irina Gromova (PhosAgro)
- Ms. Elena Nikitina (EcoPolicy and Twin2Go)

Session outline

1.5 h Panel discussion moderated by Annika Kramer (adelphi research, Twin2Go)

- 30 min - Individual inputs by panellists
- 30 min - Panel discussion
- 30 min - Open Q&A with the audience

- The discussion will be held in Russian and English with simultaneous interpretation
- Sandwiches and drinks will be served for lunch

Leading questions

- What are essential features of a water governance system that is able to cope with complexity and uncertainty in the context of climate change?

- What are barriers and opportunities for implementing adaptive approaches? To what extent can adaptive governance approaches be transferred across different basins?

- How can water policies and programmes support transitions towards more adaptive water governance?

About Twin2Go

The Twin2Go consortium, consisting of 8 international partner organisations, has synthesised research and undertaken expert and stakeholder dialogues in Africa, Latin America, South and South East Asia, Russia/New Independent States, and Europe. Funded under the EU's 7th Framework programme, Twin2Go runs from 2009 until 2011. An Advisory Board has continuously validated and aided the project’s work, and includes members of international water organisations such as UNECE Water Convention, GWP, GWSP, and UNESCO-IHP.

For more information on Twin2Go please refer to our website www.twin2go.eu

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