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AGENDA
REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON
QUANTITATIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING
TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES
IN EASTERN PARTNER COUNTRIES

Date:
8 July 2024
morning

Venue:
Online meeting (English with
simultaneous interpretation to/from
AZ/AM/GE/MD/UA)

2 hours duration:
13:00 – 15:30 Paris Time
14:00 – 16:30 Chisinau/Kyiv Time
15:00 – 17:30 Yerevan/Baku/Tbilisi Time

EEST Time	Item
14:00-14:20	Opening and introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word of introduction by the Directorate-General for Environment of the European Commission (<i>Lukas Repa, DG ENV</i>) Water Convention work on allocation (<i>Alexander Belokurov, UNECE</i>) Quantitative Water Management Planning in the context of River Basin Management Plans (<i>Margot Clarys, OiEau</i>)
14:20-14:35	A case study within the EU countries Introduction of the French experience to enforce quantitative management in priority area (<i>Guillaume Poincheval, representative of local water management department in France</i>)
14:35-14:55	Presentation of the Guide on Quantitative Water Management Planning at the local level with a focus on EaP countries (<i>Xavier Goossens, OiEau</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives and target audience of the guide A 5 steps guidance to develop and implement a quantitative water management plan
14:55-15:05	A case study within the EaP countries Quantitative management planning pilot exercise in Kazakh river basin (<i>Alexander Arakelyan, Taturyan Consultant</i>)
15:05-15:45	Interactive session Participants will share their feedback and experiences on quantitative management planning (<i>Animation OiEau</i>)
15:45-16:10	Context and perspectives on quantitative water management challenges and strategies in EaP countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Lilit Ahrhramyan, Head of Water Policy Dept. – Ministry of Environment of Armenia</i> <i>Rafiq Verdiyev, Deputy head of the environmental policy dept., Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan</i> <i>Mariam Makarova, Head of Water Division, Dept. of Environment and Climate Change – Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</i> <i>Victoria Gratii, Head of Dept. of Integrated Water Resources Management Policies - Ministry of Environment of Moldova</i> <i>Nataliia Zakorchevna, on behalf of Vitaliy Zhuk, Head of Dept. of the Protection and Reproduction of Water Resources and Marine Ecosystems Division of the Strategic Planning and Balanced Nature Management Dept., Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine</i>
16:10-16:25	Q/A
16:25-16:30	Next steps and concluding remarks (<i>Pierre Henry de Villeneuve, OiEau</i>)

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Background

In the frame of the programme EU4Environment Water and Data in Eastern Partner countries (<http://eu4waterdata.eu/en/>), the implementation of River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) must achieve the good qualitative and quantitative status of water bodies in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The preparation of a River Basin Management Plan in line with the WFD follows a formal process with different steps at large basin scale. An RBMP consists of several documents, among which the programme of measures identifies various actions to be implemented in the basin to restore deteriorated water bodies.

Among the measures to be included in the programme of measures of an RBMP, quantitative water management plans can then be seen as a meta-measure to tackle the quantitative issue in the priority areas, addressing simultaneously socio-economic challenges and the preservation of biodiversity and natural resources. RBMPs include insufficient quantitative aspects, while the resources and scales of RBMP basins are too vast to deal in detail with allocation and quantitative tensions over water resources. Consequently, this guide has been designed to specify the methodology and approach to QMPs to provide operational guidance to decision-makers and water resource planners in the Eastern Partner countries on deepening quantitative water management planning at the local level. QMPs are thus a valuable prolongation to RBMPs to be applied in priority sub-basins or large groundwater tables that experience quantitative challenges.

Therefore, in the range of Output 1.2 of the EU4Environment Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries programme, activity 1.2.1 aims at preparing a regional guidance document on participative planning for sustainable water allocation at the local level as a new tool for reinforced action in priority sub-basins, that will be presented at the workshop.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

In light of the ongoing development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans (RMBPs) in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, this online workshop will demonstrate how quantitative water management can be integrated as a key component of the programmes of measures (PoM), while also facilitating peer-to-peer knowledge exchange between Eastern Partner Countries. In detail, the objectives are as follows:

- Improve the understanding of the quantitative water management approach and harmonise it among partner countries.
- Facilitate the future use and appropriation of the quantitative water management planning guidance.
- Provide an opportunity for EaP countries to present a short synthesis of their plans and support needs on quantitative management.

The workshop will also provide an excellent opportunity to promote coordination between the EU4Environment – Water and Data programme and other projects on quantitative water management currently underway or under preparation in Eastern Partner countries.

Targets

This regional workshop is dedicated to:

- National bodies and experts involved in the preparation and implementation of PoM,
- Sectoral stakeholders and water user representatives,
- Donors involved in the region,
- Local and regional organizations involved in quantitative water management.