Ukraine

The EU-funded programme European Union Water Initiative Plus (EUWI+) has supported Ukraine in its water policy reform journey since 2016. Ukraine is the country with biggest territory in Europe yet, the availability of renewable freshwater resources for its 42 million inhabitants is roughly twice smaller on average than in European countries, making good water governance highly important for the country. Water availability is unevenly distributed between north and South and climate change is expected to deepen the water challenge further. Ukraine is committed to the approximation of its water legislation to the EU standards and good practice. The country has signed in 2014 an Association Agreement with the EU and is committed to improving the management of water resources with a particular focus on transboundary river basin management. EUWI+ has worked in partnership with key stakeholders on thematic areas including legislation, policy development and institutional capacity building; integrative river basin management, water quality monitoring systems; data management and public awareness.

**NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE**

- Re-establishment of national-level coordination platform of NPD Steering Committee in 2016 with the EUWI+ project
- Supported policy coherence through 3 meetings with over 325 participants representation including environment, water, energy, agriculture, economy, health, infrastructure, regional development and European integration, with an average 43% female participation.

**TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION**

- Support to establishment of the bilateral Moldovan-Ukrainian Dniester Commission
- Guidance for creation of a Moldovan-Romanian-Ukrainian working group under International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)
- Support to reporting under the UNECE Water Convention and SDG 6.5.2 and to participation of more than 20 Ukrainian experts in ICPDR meetings
- Transboundary coordination of groundwater bodies and of the groundwater monitoring network with Belarus in the Pripyat basin

**WATER GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

- Support towards developing a national water strategy including review of state of play in Water Supply and Sanitation sector
- New national targets prepared to implement the UNECE/WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health, Strategic Environmental Assessment launched for the national targets and the programme of measures

**IMPROVED DATA MANAGEMENT**

- Better collection of data and indicators (2 main data producers)
- Integration of the data into a new management platform for both operational and analytical uses: 2 new data servers purchased and installed at the State Agency of Water Resources and the Central Geophysical Observatory
- Visualisation tools (dashboard, maps) to meet the information needs of different end users

**WATER MANAGEMENT AT THE RIVER BASIN LEVEL**

- First part of River Basin Management Plan for the Dniipro completed (biggest river basin of Ukraine covering 65% of the country, bigger than most European country alone: 300,000 km², 20.7 Million inhabitants)
- 30 Ukrainian experts involved in RBMP development, 6 extended Basin Council meetings with 321 participants including 50% women.
- 37 comments incorporated in the draft River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)
- With the experience gained, guidance documents for RBMP development produced concerning: risk analyses of surface and groundwater bodies, protected areas, economic analysis, monitoring, surveys in surface water

**EXTENDED WATER MONITORING NETWORK**

- Renovation of Vyshgorod Laboratory and purchase of new high-end equipment for sampling, sample preparation, field measurement and analysis of WFD priority substances, physico-chemical and biological parameters
- 4 field surveys for surface and groundwater covering more than 130 sites
- 19 national and regional staff trainings on monitoring, sampling and quality management
- 13 technical reports on water monitoring + 6 translations, including surface water and groundwater monitoring development plans

**PUBLIC AWARENESS**

- 9 outreach events, with Dniipro Day, Dniipro Day and Clean Beach Day held annually and High-level Laboratory Opening Ceremony at the Vyshgorod Laboratory
- 5 campaigns on social media (phosphate and plastic pollution on the occasion of Dniipro and Clean Beach Day, consultation on RBMP 2020)
- More than 15,000 people reached
- 100 press releases and web news, 5 newsletters, 26 videos

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