



The European Union Water Initiative in the EECCA countries: Future Developments

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European Union Water Initiative EUWI

Political priorities :

- Global ambition : sustainable inclusive socio-economic development, security & stability
 - Water-energy-food security nexus
 - Green economy agenda
 - Water diplomacy
- Key principles
 - Comprehensive approach : environmental, social and economic components
 - National Policy dialogues, an inclusive multi stakeholder policy process at national level to define priorities in the long term and appropriate reforms
 - Regional dimension and collaboration, transboundary waters and exchange of experience
 - Support to change for ambitious and fair reforms, and support to their implementation
 - Promote international conventions & best practice and EU experience
 - Coordination of all initiatives. Key role of partner country

The EUWI: an umbrella initiative

- EUWI as an **umbrella initiative** for water policy **at national level**.
 - Policy changes and ambitious reforms : see more benefits than challenges
 - Work at policy level needs link with projects in the field to implement the policy reform agenda, test its effectiveness and obtain direct feedback
 - Exchange of experience between national processes
 - Focus on policy and technical assistance. Support to investment should come from Banks (EBRD & EIB - NIF & IFCA)
- EUWI as **an umbrella initiative** for **regional collaboration**, particularly on transboundary waters
 - Establishment of mechanisms to work together for mutual benefits
 - Towards development of river basin management plans

The EUWI EECCA: related projects

- Main related ongoing initiatives in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus
- Platforms for EaP and Central Asia – Romania, Italy
- Programmes

EU funded - regional :

- EU WI EECCA (OECD-UNECE)
- Environmental Protection of International Rivers (EPIRB)
- Towards a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)
- European Union regional environmental programme for Central Asia (EURECA)

EU funded - bilateral:

- Water Sector Budget Support in Ukraine and Moldova
- Environment & water one of the pillars of EU-CA strategy for a new partnership

MS funded :

- Finland - FinWaterWEI I & II
- Germany

EUWI EECCA: what coordination is about

Coordination in targeting and designing interventions

- Division of labour, open communication channels between ministries, selection of pilot river basins
- Select and prioritize areas of intervention at national / trans-boundary level
- NPDs should also focus on identifying opportunities for future investments with a view to ensure post-project sustainability of results

Coordination in data collection and sharing

- Data use & sharing for policy-making is unsatisfactory (SEIS !)
- Fragmented data collection practices, different methodologies, limited compatibility of countries' data collection systems
- EU supports partner countries to overcome such constraints through TA projects at national level and in the field (sampling, processing, testing, methodology etc.)



EUWI EECCA: the way ahead

- EUWI beyond 2014 currently under review by the European Commission services:
 - **Future budget & strategy still not defined**
 - **Continuation of EU support possible but depends on :**
 - results achieved (intermediate milestones) and expected impacts
 - countries' commitment
 - sustained momentum for the NPD
 - Regional dimension
 - Ambition of the reforms & approximation to EU acquis & experience (WFD, int. conventions & commissions)
- Future support method & priorities will be based on project results assessment and on the signals provided by Partner Countries: trans-boundary dimension will be crucial



Thank you for your attention!

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