



European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON THE EUWI+ PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN BELARUS AND ITS OUTLOOK

Minsk and online, 4 March 2021 (*all times shown are CET+2*)



Venue: hosted by training center of Minprirody, Minsk and virtually via Zoom

(*Working languages: Russian and English with simultaneous interpretation*)

The objectives of the workshop are:

The workshop will focus on discussing recent progress in modernising national water policy, extending access to water supply and sanitation, as well as enhancing transboundary cooperation. As the EUWI+ programme will soon be completing the current phase of implementation, the technical workshop offers an opportunity to address remaining tasks in conjunction with the priorities and activities of the country-specific work programme, as well as discuss next steps towards ensuring sustainability of results and reflect on further needs and priorities in the water sector beyond EUWI+.

AGENDA

11:00 – 11:15	CONNECTION TO ZOOM AND OTHER TECHNICAL DETAILS
11:15 – 11:30	Opening Session (<i>moderated by Alexandr Stankevich, CRICUWR</i>)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms Tatsiana Minguriva, <i>Consultant of Department for the Use and Protection of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus</i> (hereinafter - Minprirody) - Opening of the workshopMr Tomas Stravinskas, <i>EU Delegation to Belarus</i> – Welcoming statementMr Alexander Zinke, <i>Environment Agency Austria (UBA)</i>, Welcoming remarks by

	<p>EUWI+ Implementing Partners</p> <p>Demonstration of a short video on the results of the EUWI+ programme in Belarus</p>
SESSION 1	Recent progress in modernising water policy in Belarus and emerging national priorities (moderated by Matthew Griffiths, OECD and A. Stankevich, CRICUWR)
11:30 – 12:20	<p><i>This session will examine recent progress in modernising national water policy and governance in Belarus and transboundary co-operation, including with support from EUWI+, and discuss emerging national priorities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent progress in modernising water policy in Belarus and EUWI+ contribution: Launch of the publication “Towards Water Security in Belarus: A synthesis report”, Matthew Griffiths, OECD and Minprirody Towards a national Strategy for water resources management for the period until 2030 in the context of climate change: SEA process and alignment with EU water policies. Activities towards adoption and implementation, Alexander Belokurov UNECE and Palina Zakharko, CRICUWR Update on transboundary water cooperation with the neighboring countries and reporting under SDG 6.5.2, Tatsiana Mingurova, Minprirody and Sniazhana Dubianok (CRICUWR) Q&A followed by discussion
SESSION 2	Progress in River Basin Management Planning and enhancing monitoring capacities under EUWI+ (moderated by Philippe Seguin, OiEau and Vladimir Korneev, CRICUWR)
12:20 –13:25	<p><i>This session will discuss the elaboration and implementation of the river basin management plans in Belarus, achievements in the field of enhancing monitoring capacities and future priorities in this regard.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading the water monitoring capacities for surface and ground water bodies, Alexander Zinke, Environment Agency Austria Updates on the Pripyat and Dnieper RBMPs, and additional results (technical guidance documents, sub-basin management plans, consultations), Phillippe Seguin, OiEau, Kanstantsin Tsitou and Palina Zakharko (CRICUWR) Future priorities on river basin management planning in Belarus, Minprirody and A. Stankevich, CRICUWR Q&A <p>Demonstration of a short video on the springs of Belarus, developed by EUWI+</p>
13:25 -14:20	Technical break (lunch)
SESSION 3	Adopting new plans and regulations and addressing the implementation challenge (moderated by Alisher Mamadzhonov, UNECE and Sniazhana Dubianok, CRICUWR)

14:20 –15:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key findings of the OECD-led studies on options for improving taxation of wastewater discharges and sludge treatment – <i>S. Dubianok, CRICUWR, BSTU and A. Martoussevitch, OECD</i> • Assessing options for resuming irrigation in selected areas of Belarus: the case of Gomel oblast – <i>Kanstantsin Tsitou, CRICUWR, Gloria Depaoli, ACTeon and A. Martoussevitch, OECD</i> • Focus on springs inventory in Belarus – <i>Alena Hramadskaya, CRICUWR</i> • Revision of the national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes – <i>A. Drazdova, Ministry of Health, A. Mamadzhyanov, UNECE</i> • Q&A (10 minutes)
SESSION 4	Next steps towards completion of EUWI+, outlook beyond 2021 and closing remarks (<i>moderated by A. Martoussevitch, OECD and T. Minguriva, Minprirody</i>)
15:20–16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange on future activities to address priority issues (<i>Minprirody and EUWI+ Implementing partners</i>) • Concluding statements; and • Closure of the meeting