



## Achievements of the European Union Water Initiative in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EUWI-EECCA)

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EUWI-EECCA Component

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## **EUWI for EECCA region**

### **- Objectives-**

- Improve institutional and regulatory framework
- Ensure financial viability of utilities
- Investments in water supply, sanitation and rehabilitation
- Ensure access of the poor to water services as a basic human rights
- Safeguard public health
- Protect the environment
- Establish and implement national policies for IWRM
- Develop the inter-state cooperative structures for river/lake basin management

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## **EUWI for EECCA region**

- Covers 12 countries (former Soviet Union)
- Implement IWRM and WSS through National Policy Dialogues (NPD) as the main operational instrument
- UNECE is key strategic partner on IWRM, transboundary waters => NPDs are part of the Water Convention programme of work
- OECD is key strategic partner on water supply and sanitation as well as water resources management financing
- WG for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia is chaired by the Romanian Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

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## **NPD – a policy process rather than a technical project**

- NPDs are a platform for the policy discussions and preparation and implementation of national policy documents (e.g. Governmental and Ministerial Orders) – “policy packages”
- NPD are led by a senior official, usually the Deputy - Minister for Environment/Water Resources
- High-level officials representing different sectors of economy (water, agriculture, industry, other) comprise NPD Steering Committee
- Stakeholders include governmental entities, NGOs, science, private sector entities,
- Donors and international organizations take part in the SCs meetings

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## **Major issues addressed by the NPDs IWRM**

- Strengthening water legislation (EU WFD and other directives, Water Convention): development of water strategies, laws, regulations based on IWRM principles (AM, AZ, GE, MD, UA, TJ, TM).
- Issues of drinking water quality (UNECE – WHO Protocol on Water and Health) (MD, UA, AM, GE).
- National policies for management of transboundary waters (UNECE Water Convention) (AZ, GE, MD, UA, TJ),
- Adaptation of the water sector to climate change (MD, UA).

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## **EUWI EECCA National Policy Dialogues Selected outcomes**

- accession to Water Convention by Turkmenistan facilitated through NPD process
- Kyrgyzstan: basin management plan and Basin Management Council for Chu river; reform of economic instruments for water management
- Azerbaijan and Tajikistan develop Water Sector Reform Strategies
- Moldova develops a strategy to adapt water services and infrastructures to climate change
- Ukraine reforms the scale and scope of WSS services
- progress in transboundary cooperation (Dniester, Chu-Talas, Kura river basins)
- SFP and investment plans for WSS in Armenia, Moldova, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, etc.

13-14 February 2013

Bishkek

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## **Policy packages developed in 2013/2014 in EECCA region**

- New national Water Law/Code drafted in line with IWRM & EU WFD (Georgia, Turkmenistan)
- National Water Sector Reform Strategy drafted (Azerbaijan, Tajikistan)
- Water management institutional restructuring carried out to support IWRM (Tajikistan)
- Strengthening the use of economic instruments for water management at national level (Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia) and at transboundary level (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia)
- Developing national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health (adopted- Kyrgyzstan, set-Tajikistan, under development - Armenia)

More information:

EUWI Annual Report 2014 -

2014 Report on implementation of the EUWI NPDs on IWRM and WSS prepared by UNECE and OECD

## Workplan for the future

### Managing water for green growth

- Water quality in the Caucasus (in cooperation with EU-funded EPIRB project)
- The economic dimension of RBMP (Tajikistan)
- Water supply and sanitation (Armenia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan)
- Work on water and health (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan)

### The water-energy-food security nexus

- UNECE pilot nexus assessment for transboundary rivers in 2014-2015 (Alazani, Syr Darya)
- Support to the development of basin management plans (Kyrgyzstan)
- Reform of the economic instruments for water management (Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia)
- Water and agriculture (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan)

### Transboundary water diplomacy

- OECD calculation of economic benefits of transboundary water management
- Supporting transboundary negotiations and projects (Kura, Chu-Talas, Dniester)

# Thank you for your attention!

More information:

[www.euwi.net/wg/ecca](http://www.euwi.net/wg/ecca)