



European Union Water Initiative plus for the Eastern Partnership

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR LOCAL CONTRACTOR

DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HRAZDAN RIVER BASIN IN ARMENIA: PART 1 - CHARACTERISATION PHASE

MARCH 2018

1. Financing

European Union (ENI/2016/372-403)

2. Procedure

Single tender according to EU PRAG

3. Contracting Authority

International Office for Water (IOW)

4. Nature of contract

Service contract

5. Time period of implementation

April 2018 – March 31st 2019

6. Contract amount (optional)

Max. amount: 20 000 EUR

7. Background information

I. Background and Objectives

The EUWI+East project addresses existing challenges in both development and implementation of efficient management of water resources. It specifically supports the Eastern Partnership¹ countries to move towards the approximation to EU acquis in the field of water management with a focus on trans-boundary river basin management as identified by the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The overall objective of the project is to improve the management of water resources in the EaP countries. The specific objective is to achieve convergence of national policies and strategies with the EU Water Framework Directive, Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

The EUWI+East project is divided into three result areas as follows:

- Result 1: Legal and regulatory frameworks improved in line with the WFD, IWRM and MEAs;
- Result 2: River Basins Management Plans (RBMPs) designed and implemented in line with the WFD principles;
- Result 3: Lessons learnt regularly collected, shared and communicated to stakeholders.

River Basin Management Plans are recommended planning tools that give the overall orientations of water management in the basin and the objectives to be reached, the delay and the priorities in the actions to be developed. In Armenia, Sevan and Hrazdan River Basin Districts are selected as pilot areas for the implementation of the activity 2.3.2. “Technical Support in the elaboration and implementation of the pilot RBMPs” under result 2.

II. Scope of work

This assignment concerns the preparation of the draft of the RBMP - Part I -for the Hrazdan river basin of Armenia (Cf. annex 1) in line with the RBMP model outline annex 2 adopted by governmental resolution no 45-6 on October 26, 2017 and adapted to Hrazdan basin’s major specificities (annex 2 & annex 3) and the methodological indications for developing river basin management plans (annex 4).

The following chapters of the model outline RBMP are concerned by the assignment:

¹ The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a policy initiative launched at the Prague Summit in May 2009. It aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union and its six Eastern neighbours: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

- I. INTRODUCTION
 2. Legal and Institutional Framework
 3. Linkage to Other Strategic Documents

- II. INITIAL CHARACTERIZATION OF THE RIVER BASIN DISTRICT
 1. Natural Conditions in the River Basin District (RBD)
 2. Population and Demography
 3. Hydrological Characteristics of the RBD
 4. Water balance and water-economic balance

- III. PRESSURES AND IMPACTS
 1. Pressures and trends (incl. infrastructure development)
 2. Impacts on surface water bodies
 3. Impacts on groundwater bodies

- IV. PROTECTED AREAS
 1. Identification of protected areas in the RBD and specificities of management
 2. Mapping of protected areas in the RBD

- V. ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF WATER BODIES
 5. Vulnerability of Water Resources within the Context of Climate Change
 6. Synthetic presentation of the water status of all water bodies of the Hrazdan basin

III. Deliverables & format

The **deliverables** will consist for the Hrazdan basin:

- to produce ***three technical reports*** corresponding to chapters I & II, chapter III, chapter IV & V with relevant content including descriptive text, data analysis, illustrations (maps, tables, schemes, etc.), information sources, etc. The documents will be straightforward, synthetic and pedagogical. One of their goals is also to raise a wide awareness towards sustainable development and WFD concepts². Reports will be delivered according to the schedule in part V. The draft river basin management plan will have to follow rigorously its specific outline in annex 3 and the methodological indications provided in annex 4. A graphical charter will be provided for the reports and the maps symbols to be preferably used.
- ***One thematic summary*** to prepare the main issues consultation ; This concise document (< 10 pages) will be used to prepare stakeholders consultation to collectively identify main issues. It will describe in a synthetic manner main results through 5 stakes: health, quality, quantity, ecosystems, governance.
- ***An atlas*** will be produced from the priority list of maps provided in annex 5. The content of the atlas will depend upon i) the availability and reliability of data and GIS layers produced by national institutions and ii) prioritization by the national focal points to be agreed with the national representative on the way. The atlas will be delivered as a set of Qgis files and their exported TIF files (300 dpi) presenting the maps based on the template provided in annex 6. All data and information collected will be provided in their original forms (paper, files) and their valorised forms (GIS layers, data base, Excel, etc).

² Examples of EU RBMPs can be provided on request.

- **A metadata catalog** will describe data used in the RBMP and their availability. The specifications in annex 7 will necessarily be applied for datasets and for GIS layers production. The framework provided in annex 8 will be used for metadata description (in English and Armenian). A list of the main “data topics” has been established and is available in annex 10. This list can be complemented by specific topics.
- **The reports consulted** will be listed in a separate table according to the following criteria : Date, Authors, Title, Edition, comments (eventually). This table will be provided separately on request of the national representative.
- **The draft RBMP** will be transmitted in one paper format and digital form which can be corrected (MS Office 2007). The format of the annexes is preferably numeric, but not necessarily.

IV. Global coordination

Meetings & trainings

The assignment will be rhythmized by different workshops with different public (expert groups, stakeholders). These workshops will preferably comprise an information/training session and an active involvement session. In a first approximation, 4 to 5 workshops intended to a limited number of stakeholders will be organized to cover the following topics: pressures & impact analysis, protected areas designation, status & risk assessment, main issues.

For each workshop, presentations will be produced by the contractor in national and English language. They will take place either in the capital or on the basin.

In parallel to this assignment, several other studies and surveys are going on the basin, as regards:

- water bodies delineation,
- monitoring programme,
- Determination of the status of water bodies and protected areas
- Irrigation water accounting,
- Laboratory equipment,
- Water information system for integrated water resource management,
- Stakeholders participation,
- Communication.

In addition, the same assignments will unfold in parallel in Sevan & in Hrazdan basins which may require some exchanges between consultants under the National representative coordination.

On each basin, the different assignments will be coordinated according to followings:

- The project team will synchronise the results of the water bodies delineation (surface and groundwater) studies with the current assignment, ie. water bodies delineation and types will be incorporated as inputs from other assignments and used as such in the other parts of the RBMP. In the meantime, results will be established and presented at minimum at the basin level, and/or at an infra “water management unit” level.
- Preliminary data collection to assess the data gaps and data need for the water balance and water economic balance calculation in Part II.4. must be considered as the preparatory work for the second phase. It is expected to focus on physical data analysis (volumes, schedules...) for water balance and data collection on economic analysis. The irrigation water accounting contract will contribute to it and to the pressures assessment. However water balance and water-economic balance calculation will be made in the part 2 of the RBMP development.

- Results of the monitoring program & of the laboratory equipments will be used in the chapter V.1 to V.4 of the model outline (Cf. part II. of this assignment).
- All along the RBMP, the analysis of data, the production of maps and figures will have to be coordinated with the consultant hired for the data management contract. The identification of any new data set must be communicated to the project team. Data gaps and needs for digitizing and data capture from miscellaneous, paper and non-directly usable will also be transmitted.
- Stakeholders participation. Comments received through the consultation process will be considered to review the reports, in coordination with the project team. It is important to notice that the planning process will be co-constructed with local partners. The participative process in RBMP construction is an important aspect of the assignment. There might be some meetings at national level as well. Maximum number of the meetings (basin or capital) the consultant will be assigned to is 8 (eight).

The results, events and actions will contribute to feed on a continuous basis the communication actions, under the project team coordination.

V. Schedule & implementation modality

V.1. Schedule

Duration of the assignment will be up to March 31st 2019 and is expected to start from April 2018. The assignment is divided into phases. The successive chapters have to be prepared according to the schedule underneath and delivered to the project team in due time. Any delay must be announced as early as possible.

Payment for the deliverables shall be considered only when the work is accepted by the project team on behalf of the country beneficiaries.

Summary of the work schedule

Deliverables	Approx. number of pages outside annex	Language of deliverable	Start date	Due date for draft report	Finalization
Technical report 1 chapters I & II	40	National language / English	M1	september	March 19
Technical report 2 chapter III	30	National language / English	M2	october	March 19
Technical report 3 chapter IV & V	40	National language / English	M3	december	March 19
One thematic summary	10	National language / English	M6	december	March 19
Atlas	~15 maps	National language / English	M1	december	March 19
Metadata catalog		National language / English	M1	To define on the way	March 19
Bibliography table		English		On request	March 19
Draft RBMP report (Part 1)		National language / English		February 2019	March 19

V.2. Implementation modality

Works shall be implemented by a local company or group of NGO(s), university, research institution, etc. that are not representing the project beneficiaries. The studies will be closely coordinated, assisted and monitored by the project team, consisting mainly of the Focal Points representatives (WRMA and SCWS), the thematic leader on RBMP, and the country representative. Close relationships will be formed and maintained with the beneficiary who will own the product and take full ownership of the RBMP produced.

Technical issues as data description (producers, availability, quality, scales, collection frequency, etc), related difficulties to collect them, data formatting requirements, methodological aspects (average ratio to convert socio-economic data into pressures data), etc. will be discussed regularly with the project team.

The contractor will have to designate competent specialists for each part of the assignment as well as a coordinator who will be responsible of managing these specialists, harmonise the document, and inform regularly the project team. As a matter of illustration, the contractor's team could be typically composed of the following expert profiles:

- 1 team leader and redactor of the plan;
- 1 pressures and corrective measures specialist of water quality (sectoral pollutions, chemical & ecological status)
- 1 pressures and corrective measures specialist of hydraulic systems management and agriculture sector in Armenia
- 1 GIS specialist for map production with knowledge of the water sector;

The repartition of the use of the budget in function of the outputs is indicated as follows:

Deliverables	% of allocated budget
Technical report 1 chapters I & II	15
Technical report 2 chapter III	25
Technical report 3 chapter IV & V	25
One thematic summary	10
Atlas	15
Metadata catalog	9
Bibliography	1
TOTAL	100

Contact details:

Local Representative of the EU Member State Consortium in Armenia:

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The responsible thematic leader:

Florence Pintus, International Office for Water, f.pintus@oieau.fr

VI. Participation to the tender

Interested parties (individual and legal persons) are invited to inquire the full tender dossier containing instructions and further information about the tender procedure from “Ilke CICEKOGLU” , “Project Assistant”, International Office for Water (IOW) and “Florence PINTUS” , “ Project Manager” , International Office for Water (IOW)

(email address : i.cicekoglu@oieau.fr)

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Deadline for submission of the technical and financial offer is **3 April 2018** , “**17:00**” (CET)

LIST OF ANNEX

Annex 1 : Map of Hrazdan river basin

Annex 2: RBMP model outline adopted by governmental resolution no 45-6 on October 26, 2017

Annex 3: Hrazdan RBMP outline annex 2

Annex 4 : Methodological indications for developing river basin management plans

Annex 5 : provisional list of maps

Annex 6: template for map production

Annex 7: Specifications for datasets, metadata and maps production

Annex 8: metadata sheet description (AM and EN)

Annex 9 : metadata user manual (AM)

Annex 10 : list of data producers per topic (as produced during the WIS workshop in Armenia in November 2017)