



# EUROPEAN UNION WATER INITIATIVE PLUS FOR THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP (EUWI+)



Republic of Moldova Newsletter May 2019

The objective of the EUWI+ East project is to improve the management of water resources in the Eastern Partnership countries i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine. The specific objective is to achieve convergence of national policies and strategies with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the UNECE Water Convention and its Protocol on Water and Health. The Republic of Moldova signed the “Moldova-European Union Association Agreement” in June 2014. The Agreement came into force on 1 July 2016. This is now a major driver for national legal frame adaptation and for all activities under EUWI+.



The very first River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for the Danube-Prut and Black Sea (DPBS) River basin district (RBD) to be implemented in the current period (cycle I) was approved on 3 October 2018 by Governmental Decision No. 955 and published on 3 December 2018 in the Journal “Monitorul Oficial”.

The new River Basin Management Plan for cycle II of the Danube-Prut and Black Sea River District is in the process of development. After months of efforts, the first part of the plan corresponding to the basin characterisation is being concluded and will be used as a base to prepare the Programme of Measures from 2021-2027. This new cycle II is being prepared in synchronisation with all other Danube countries to facilitate harmonisation.

On 15 November 2018, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova adopted Law No. 249, developed with the support of EUWI+, featuring amendments to the Water Law. With these fundamental steps, major progress is being made in structuring the country’s water resources management policy.

This newsletter features recent progress and describes main activities planned for the coming year.

**ALL NEWS:** <http://www.euwipluseast.eu> > **Partner countries** > **Moldova**

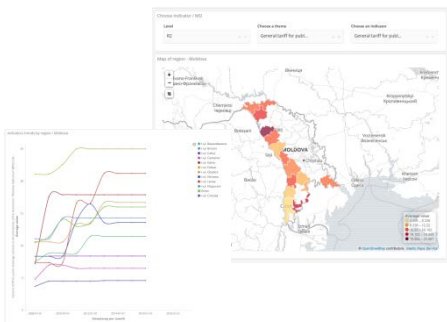
## PROJECT OVERVIEW

EUWI+ aims to foster progress in 3 result areas:

- 1- Reform the legal and regulatory framework for water in convergence with the Water Framework Directive
- 2- Establish, develop, and implement 10 river basin management plans (RBMP) in the Eastern Partnership countries, including provision of equipment and services, to monitor water resources status.
- 3- Ensure active participation of key water stakeholders.

National work programmes are being delivered based on key principles of the EU Water Framework Directive, including regular reviews of progress in the frame of National Policy Dialogue meetings in the 6 beneficiary countries of the Eastern Partnership.

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



### EUWI+ empowers Moldova with a new on-line data management platform

In the framework of the EUWI +East project, IOWater (International Office for Water) has developed a pilot data management platform providing web services and on-line visualisation of data produced by the beneficiary countries. After over 2 years of project implementation, this platform is now fully operational in Moldova and the project focus now to enrich it with new datasets managed by the data-producing organisations. It fosters increased knowledge of water related issues and access to the latest technology for data management i.e. web mapping, data source catalogues, and a dynamic dashboard presenting basin indicators.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Expert Group meeting on the Protocol on Water and Health activities**  
10 April 2019

The second meeting of the Expert Group took place on 10 April 2019 in Chisinau. The aim of the event was to revise the National Programme for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health 2016-2025 in the Republic of Moldova and guide implementation of its Measure No. 18 on equitable access to water and sanitation. The experts agreed on the main directions of revising the National Programme, the workplan for 2019, and the dates for key activities including a Stakeholder Consultation Meeting.



**Workshop dedicated to the new rules on design and construction of small water supply and sewerage systems, Chisinau**  
14 March 2019

A workshop dedicated to the new rules on design and construction of small water supply and sewerage systems (especially for rural areas) took place on 14 March in Chisinau. During this workshop, sustainable business models for operators of rural Water Sanitation Supply (WSS) systems were also discussed.



**Workshop on how to predict the impact of diffuse pollution on rivers, Chisinau**  
14 March 2019

On 14 March, a first workshop on emission modelling (MONERIS) was held in Chisinau. Experts from the Environment Agency Austria (UBA/ICPDR) informed beneficiaries about the Moneris tool to calculate emissions of nutrients, heavy metals and organic pollutants. Discussions were also held on how to use emission modelling results in the management cycle (to analyse pressures and impacts, assess surface water quality and calculate the impact of mitigation measures). In the afternoon, a parallel meeting with the Moldova Environment Agency was held, where Specific Implementation Activities (SIAs), equipment needs and the workplan were discussed and agreed on and the next steps were planned.



**Workshop on River Basin Management Plan development in "Apele Moldovei".**  
31 January 2019

A second workshop on River Basin Management Plan development (cycle II) was held at the Agency "Apele Moldovei". The general objectives were to understand and master the next steps of River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) development. This workshop helped to finalise the first thematic summary of the basin characterisation and identify the main issues subject to consultation from April to September 2019. The fruitful cooperation was also continued with Romanian planners from the National Agency "Apele Romane", working on the right bank of the Prut river basin.

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*Participative river basin planning for Danube Prut and Black Sea River District*

## ACTIVITY PROGRESS IN MOLDOVA

### Support for national policy reforms

- The 4th meeting of the Coordination Committee of the National Policy Dialogue (NPD) took place on 15 June 2018. The meeting aimed to inform the Committee and provide stakeholders with an update on recent changes in the institutional set-up and developments in policies and legislation on the environment and water in Moldova. It also gathered feedback from local stakeholders on interim results of activities implemented through the NPD with support from the EUWI+ project. About 70 people participated in this 4th meeting, representing committee members, governmental organizations, the EUWI+ team, civil society (NGOs), the expert community and consultants, international organisations and bilateral donors. A summary of the main topics of each session is available on EUWI+ website.



*Ms Valentina Tapis, State Secretary for environment, chairing the 4th National Policy Dialogue meeting*

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- On 15 November 2018, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova adopted Law No. 249, developed with support of EUWI+, containing a comprehensive set of amendments to the 2011 Water Law (No. 272), to bring it in line with the Water Framework Directive (WFD), Urban Waste Water Directive (UWWWD), other directives and relevant laws, programmes and strategies adopted in the country since the adoption of the Water Law.
- Work is ongoing to develop the Medium-Term Action Plan (2019-2023), part of the Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy. The current draft was revised and appropriate consultations took place with key stakeholders (such as the Ministry of Finance) before resubmitting it to the State Chancellery during the EUWI+ experts' mission (11-15 March 2019).
- A new study on the use of economic instruments for managing water resources and water infrastructure in Moldova was launched and will be available by end 2019.



## Implementation of river basin management principles

- On 13 November 2018, a 'crossroads' workshop was organised by the Agency 'Apele Moldovei' with the support of the International Office for Water (IOW). It included one expert from the 'Apele Romane' Agency working on the development of the River Basin Management Plan for the Romanian part of the basin. The aim of the meeting was to share the experience of EU countries including neighbouring Romania in the characterization of the Danube-Prut and Black Sea River district and developing the River Basin Management Plan for the Prut river basin for the second cycle (2021-2027).
- The third mission relating to data management in Moldova was held on 8-11 April 2019. The main objectives of this mission were first to present recent progress on data management, second to update information needs for data processing and data exchanges at the level of various local partners, and third to identify action to be subcontracted in relation to data management in the water sector.
- A regional workshop on economic analysis related to River Basin Management Plan development was held in Kyiv, Ukraine on 27-28 March 2019. The workshop gathered representatives of the Republic of Belarus, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine. This workshop aimed to support beneficiary teams and local consultants working on economic analysis for the 2 main steps of the river basin management plan: to describe the economic importance of water uses and draft a financially balanced programme of measures to improve water resources.



Regional Workshop on economic analysis related to River Basin Management Plan development for experts from Belarus, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.

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## Capacity development for water analysis and natural resources monitoring

- From 15-18 October 2018, a groundwater mission was organised by experts from Environment Agency Austria (UBA). It included a training workshop on groundwater sampling on 16 October 2018 at the Agency of Geology and Mineral Resources in Chisinau. The main objective was to facilitate an understanding of Water Framework Directive (WFD)-compliant methods with a special focus on supporting chemical parameters.
- From 10-14 December 2018, a 3-day laboratory training course on implementing ISO 11369 was held in Chisinau. It was organised by the Environment Agency Austria (UBA) for laboratory staff from the Environmental Agency of Moldova. The workshop "Water quality - Determination of selected plant treatment agents - Method using high performance liquid chromatography with UV detection after solid-liquid extraction" aimed at determining pesticides in surface waters. (See photo)



Laboratory training for the Environmental Agency of Moldova.

## Communication activities

- The EU Delegation of Moldova was informed about the results of the second Regional Steering Committee meeting in Tbilisi (Georgia) and the progress of the project. In addition, the country's progress and its work plan on EUWI+ activities were shared with all stakeholders. A new communication strategy for participative RBM Planning and an action plan (road map) were developed. The documents are currently awaiting official approval by the beneficiary.
- Information support was provided to improve understanding of EU WFD, RBPM, significant management issues, etc. through project communication channels and information material (factsheet, infographics, video).



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## Regional activities

- The second Regional Steering Committee Meeting took place in Tbilisi, Georgia on 15 November 2018. The meeting was held back-to-back with the ENI SEIS II East Regional Steering Committee Meeting. The European Commission, 6 EaP country senior delegations, all implementing partners, and ENI SEIS II representatives attended the meeting. The EU Delegation to Georgia and the French and Austrian Embassies also attended the opening session. Moldova signed a framework agreement so that it can, as for the six partner countries, start tender procedures in 2019 and purchase modern laboratory equipment for improving monitoring of surface and ground waters.  
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- In February 2019, with the support of EUWI+ EAST, the Republic of Moldova finalised its national report under the Water Convention and for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 6.5.2 on transboundary water cooperation.
- On 2 April 2019, two national experts participated in a regional workshop on Water and Health: Synergies and Joint Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health, Related EU Directives and SDGs in the Eastern Partnership Countries, organised under EUWI+ in Geneva by UNECE with support from the OECD, the Environmental Agency Austria (UBA) and the International Office for Water (IOW).



*Moldova is ready to launch the modernization of its laboratories*

## COMING SOON IN MOLDOVA WITHIN EUWI +



### Cross-cutting activities

- The next National Policy Dialogue (NPD) Coordination Committee meeting is tentatively planned to take place on 18 June 2019.
- EUWI+ will participate in the Europe Days on 11-12 May in Chisinau and 18-19 May in Cahul (Prut River Basin)
- Launch of the first Dniester Day on 26 May!
- Don't miss Danube Day on 29 June!



### Implementation of river basin management principles

- Development of the second part of the River Basin Management Plan including the programme of measures to be implemented for 2021-2027.
- Support for the implementation of the measure of the current RBMP including to monitor water resources and develop a local scheme for water sanitation and supply in the Nirnova basin.



### Stakeholder involvement

- Public consultation (April-September 2019) on a first thematic summary on RBMP will be organised with stakeholders.
- Stakeholder consultation meeting on a revised national programme for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health and equitable access to water and sanitation (May-June 2019).

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## EUWI PARTNERS

The project is funded by the European Union



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