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EU4Environment

Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries

AGENDA

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS REGIONAL WORKSHOP NBS TO ADDRESS WATER CHALLENGES IN EASTERN PARTNER COUNTRIES.

Date:
6 July 2023

Venue:
Online meeting
[Registration form](#)

Time:
8:00 – 11:30 Paris Time
9:00 – 12:30 Chisinau/Kyiv Time
10:00 – 13:30 Yerevan/Baku/Tbilisi Time

AGENDA

EEST Time	Item	Speaker
09:00-09:10	Welcoming words Current trends on NbS	Karin ZAUNBERGER, DG ENV
09:10-09:30	EU4Environment and NbS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interests of NbS for water resources - NbS in the frame of the PoM/RBMPs - EU4Environment activities related to financing NbS 	Alexander Belokurov, UNECE Philippe Seguin OIEAU Matthew Griffiths, OECD
09:30-10:10	Presentation of the NbS catalogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objectives of the catalogue - Selecting NbS to solve issues - Previews - Q/A 20' 	Maxime Fouillet, OIEAU
10:10-10:50	Examples: NbS for diffuse source pressures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Georgia: Flourishing dams against suspended matter pollution - Ukraine: Contour and remedial agriculture 	<i>Moderator: OIEAU</i> Ana Ungiadze, Sustainable Caucasus Andrii Achasov, KhNU
10:50-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-12:00	Examples: NbS for hydromorphological pressures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Armenia: Rehabilitation of Khor Virap Ramsar site - Azerbaijan: Kura ecological restoration - Example: NbS for point source pressures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moldova: Constructed wetlands 	<i>Moderator: OIEAU</i> Karen Jenderedjian, Ministry of Environment Rafig Verdiyev, EU4Environment – Water and Data Tudor Bostan, project engineer, Skat Foundation
12:00-12:10	Feedbacks and expert view on NbS challenges and perspectives in EaP countries	James Dalton, IUCN
12:10-12:25	Further Q/A	<i>Moderator: OIEAU</i>
12:25-12:30	Concluding remarks in view of PoM	Alexander Zinke, UBA

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Background notes on the NbS regional workshop

Background

In the frame of the programme EU4Environment Water and Data in Eastern Partner countries, the implementation of RBMPs (River Basin Management Plans) must achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of water bodies in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. A RBMP consists of several documents among which the programme of measures identifies various actions to be implemented in the basin to improve deteriorated water bodies.

Among the measures to be included in the programme of measures of a RBMP, Nature based Solutions (NbS) are relevant, as they address simultaneously societal challenges and preservation of biodiversity and natural resources.

Therefore, in the range of Output 1.1 of EU4Environment Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries programme, activities 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 respectively aim at preparing a catalogue describing the different NbS that can be implemented (thereafter named NbS catalogue), and at preparing guidance for funding of NbS projects.

In this perspective, the National Policy Dialogues held in late 2022 and 2023 have been the opportunity to discuss NbS at national level. They allowed high level discussion on the definition of NbS, and exchanges about experiences of NbS implemented in Eastern Partner countries. They took place:

- In October 2022 for Armenia,
- In December 2022 for Georgia,
- In April 2023 for Azerbaijan and Moldova,
- In June 2023 for Ukraine.

To complement these national exchanges, an online regional workshop is to be organised on 6th of July 2023, in line with the activities 1.1.3 and 1.1.4.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

The regional workshop aims at a better appropriation of the NbS concept and its finance by Eastern Partner countries, in view of the inclusion of NbS inside the programme of measures of RBMPs. In details, the objectives are as follows:

- Improve the understanding of the approach and harmonize it among partner countries,
- Enable peer-to-peer experience sharing in the light of the past NPDs,
- Facilitate the future use of the NbS catalogue for the elaboration of programmes of measures.

The workshop will also be a good opportunity to promote coordination between the EU4Environment – Water and Data programme and other projects on NbS currently underway in Eastern Partner countries.

In addition, specific expectations from the EaP beneficiaries could be collected during the workshop.

Targets

This regional workshop is dedicated to:

- National bodies and experts involved in the preparation and implementation of PoM,
- Sectoral stakeholders and water user representatives,
- Donors involved in the region,
- Local and regional organizations involved in NbS implementation.