

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GEF / UNDP / OSCE DNIESTER PROJECT (RESULTS IN JULY-SEPTEMBER 2018 AND PLANS FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2018)

Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)

Done:

- A meeting of experts involved in the development of the TDA was held in Kyiv on July 26: key issues on methodologies and further actions were agreed upon.
- Typology and delimitation of surface waters for the entire Dniester River and its tributaries in Moldova and Ukraine has been completed. Water bodies were identified, maps and description of groundwater water bodies have been developed.
- To identify reference conditions, a number of expeditions have been organized along more than 40 sections of the basin, the study of the lower reaches of the Dniester River continues. Main types of anthropogenic impacts and pressures are being calculated.
- In the context of the Nitrate Directive, a joint methodology for calculating nutrients load and risks of pollution from diffuse sources has been agreed upon, data collection for analysis (amount of population that is not connected to sewerage, number of livestock, soil types, etc.) is being finalized, over the allocation / mapping of areas of river basins.
- The first meeting on the inventory of tailing mines in the Dniester basin was held in Ivano-Frankivsk on July 2. Inspection of tailing mines took place in seven enterprises.



Plans:

- A first version of the main text of TDA will be prepared, concise and focused on the presentation of results (60 pages of text, about 15 cards, in the style of PURB-Tisa) by the end of November. Work on clarification at the national level will last until March 2019.
- A second meeting on tailing mines will be held (Kiev, first half of October).

Hydropower

Done:

- A meeting of the expert group on the impact assessment of the Dniester hydropower complex on ecosystems and water use in the basin was held in Chisinau on September 14. Preliminary outputs of the assessment were presented at the first meeting of the Dniester Commission (Chisinau, 17 September).
- At the first meeting of the Dniester Commission (September 17) and at a short bilateral meeting (September 18), the main parameters of water releases from the Dniester hydropower

complex and recommendations to the updated draft rules for the operation of Dniester reservoirs were presented and discussed.

Plans:

- Final version of the recommendations by project consultant in written will be distributed in early October.
- Upon a request of Ukgidroenergo and Ukgidroproekt: responses to letters with recommendations to the updated draft operation rules of the Dniester reservoirs will be sent to the authors of the recommendations in the near future (early October).
- Further discussion of the draft operation rules will be conducted within the framework of the Strategic Working Group under the bilateral Dniester Commission (information about the format, date and location will be provided additionally).

The Dniester Basin Commission and Basin National Committees / Councils

Done:

- The first meeting of the bilateral Dniester Commission took place in Chisinau on September 17. Session materials: rules of procedures, TOR of the working groups, protocol, ppt presentations are available at <http://dniester-basin.org/en/2733-2/>.
- Experience of national basin committees / councils in Belarus, Germany, Kazakhstan, Poland, Portugal and France has been presented to the relevant agencies in Moldova and Ukraine.

Plans:

- The first meeting of the Ukrainian part of Dniester Basin Council will be held in Ivano-Frankivsk on November 15 (an updated date).
- The study tour to learn enforcement of the IWRM principles and the Albufeira Convention operation in the Iberian peninsula (Spain and Portugal) will take place on 19-23 November.



Other topics

Done:

- Calculation of current and future water balance: an updated (18 plots) and detailed zoning (39 plots) has been developed, the system interface has been improved, almost all data has been collected (including for the flow map).
- EU Flood Directive: a TOR to carry out a preliminary flood risk assessment in Ukraine has been developed, and needs for the Directive in Moldova have been identified.
- A TOR to improve the Dniester reservoir system inflow system has been drafted.
- Demonstration projects: on the restoration of the Yagorlyk river – first study on the state of the river has been discussed, further actions identified.

Plans:

- Field survey of the Yagorlyk River and selection of a site for restoration.
- Preliminary flood risk assessment will be conducted in Ukraine in October 2018 - February 2019. Works are organized based on the experience of developing a flood risk management plan in Moldova.

Education and communication

Done:

- The Dniester Commission website is being developed, it is to start operation around mid-October.
- 77 schoolchildren, students, teachers, NGOs and the media from two banks of the Dniester took part in the Dniester Summer School and an expedition In July.

Project management

- The second meeting of the Project Steering Committee is scheduled for December 18, 2018 (Odesa).
- Since the end of July, Nadejda Mazur, the National Project Coordinator, joined our team. Nadejda works from the premises of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, her e-mail is nadejda.mazur@osce.org- please contact her on all project-related issues at the national level.
- Last, but not least: our colleague, Hanna Plotnykova starts working in the Secretariat of the UNECE Water Convention in Geneva since 1st of October. Anna is a strong expert and a very positive person, we will miss her in our team thought she will keep on assisting us from Geneva and will start applying her knowledge and experience at the global level.

With respect and best wishes,
GEF / UNDP / OSCE project team