

GEF / UNDP / OSCE / UNECE DNIESTER PROJECT OVERVIEW OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2020 AND PLANS UNTIL THE PROJECT END (MAY 2021)

Dear colleagues, we open this digest issue with the sad news that Viktoriya Mikhailovna Boyko, head of the Hydrological Forecasts Department of the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Center, a member of the working group on monitoring and information exchange of the Dniester Commission, passed away on January 24 of this year. Ms. Boyko will be greatly missed.

2020 has been a year of challenges for all of us. However, thanks to the joint efforts of all project participants, the GEF Dniester project achieved its goals. In the new year of 2021, we have about three months before the completion of the project. We invite you to familiarize yourself with the achievements of the project in October - December last year, and with plans before the end of the project.

Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

Results

- ✓ The draft SAP was submitted for consideration and decision to be signed by the respective ministers of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (December).
- ✓ Presentation of the results of the inventory of tailings storage facilities in the Dniester River basin at the workshop on the safety of TSF, organized by the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (December).

Plans

- SAP signing (tbd).
- Publication of recommendations for optimizing the spring ecological reproductive releases from the Dniester reservoir from a hydrobiological point of view (February).
- Press conference on the results of the inventory of tailings (February).
- Release of a video clip on tailings storage facilities in the Dniester basin (March).

Dniester Basin Commission

Results

- ✓ Online meetings of two working groups were held: on planning and river basin management (October 23) and on emergency situations (December 10); also, meeting of heads of working groups of the Dniester Commission was held (December 22).

Plans

- Working groups continue operating online.

Floods Directive

Plans

- Completion of the development of flood hazard maps and flood risk maps for the following extreme hydrological scenarios: 10% probability, 1% probability, 0.2% probability (by the end of January).
- Development of a Flood Risk Management Plan for the Ukrainian part of the Dniester Basin (April).

Public awareness

Results

- ✓ International conference “European Integration and Dniester Basin Management” took place online on October 8-9. Conference materials: <https://dniester-commission.com/novosti/registraciya-uchastiya-v-mezhdunarodnoj-konferencii-evrointegraciya-i-upravlenie-bassejnom-reki-dnestr/>.

Plans

- Completion of installation of 69 information boards in the Dniester basin (February-April).

Demo projects

Results

- ✓ Within the framework of the demo project on restoration of the Iahorlyk River, a detailed project design was developed for carrying out restoration work at the pilot site; the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure was successfully completed.
- ✓ The tender procedure related to implementation of the restoration work at the pilot site is nearing completion.
- ✓ An educational film was published to help amateur fishermen identify the fish species listed in the Red Data Book of the Republic of Moldova (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPj6Oh2wOWE&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2a6bGrOGL1v-YeqB-bPDGqoHJs_ocPvsJBxBp8hTcFe6gTG-o4OZRF10) and a publication has been developed (<http://eco-tiras.org/books/RDB-fish-final.pdf>).

Plans

- Presentation of guidelines for the restoration of small rivers in arid conditions (April).
- Presentation of recommendations for further rehabilitation of the entire Iahorlyk river basin (April).
- Press tour and presentation of the results of restoration of a part of the Iahorlyk River (April).
- Release of a video on restoration of small rivers (March).

Other activities

Plans

- WMO Hydrology Training Course for the staff of Hydrometeorological centers of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (March).
- Terminal project evaluation (February-March).
- Final project conference (tbd).
- Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (tbd).

*Best regards and stay healthy,
GEF / UNDP / OSCE / UNECE Project Team*