

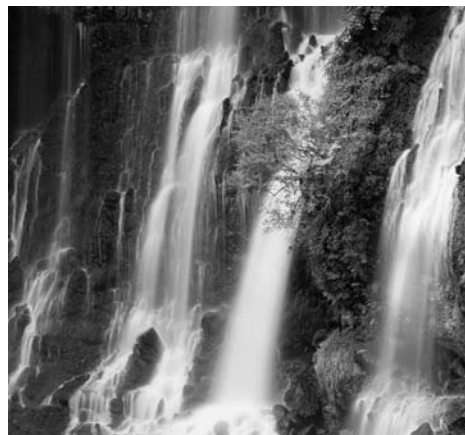


National Policy Dialogues – What, Why and How?

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Content

- Starting point
- What?
- Why?
- How?
- Questions - here
and now



Starting point

- EUW EECCA Component Working Group approved the need of National Policy Diabgues at its meeting in Yerevan
- Draft document, titled "National Policy Diabgues - From Work Programme to Action", exists
- Country specific background papers exist for all EECCA countries but Belarus, Russia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

- Approach is clear
 - EECCA is not Africa
 - Policy diabgues more developed at all levels
 - Bilateral assistance from EU Member States fairly limited, not least within the water sector
 - Most EECCA countries in favour of EU harmonisation
 - Demand driven
 - Link between WSS, Financing and WRM
 - Policy reform oriented

What?

- Major instrument within the EUW I, including the EUW I-EECCA Component..
- ... to be developed and implemented in line with the approach of the EUW I-EECCA Component...
- ... and with one strategic partner (EU Member State, non-EU Member State or international organisation) for each NPD



- Global objective
 - To contribute to the achievement of the water-related MDGs and WRM targets in the EECCA region, 5 EUW I objectives and 8 EUW I-EECCA Component objectives

- Specific objective

- To initiate joint activities regarding WSS, Financing and WRM concentrating upon a certain issue (e.g. permitting, monitoring or concession) aimed at improving the regulatory and administrative framework, priority setting and project development capacity in the EECCA region, thereby contributing to the development of road maps to the water-related MDGs and WRM targets

- Outputs

- Implemented policy packages (ie. a coherent mix of policy tools, such as new laws, regulations, standards, procedures, charges and concession arrangements)...
- ... each addressing a certain issue



- Possible activities

- Setup of an EECCA Country Steering Group for each National Policy Dialogue
- Analyses
- Preparation of action plans for reform
- Experience sharing
- Training and capacity building
- Assistance in developing and implementing the policy tools

Why?

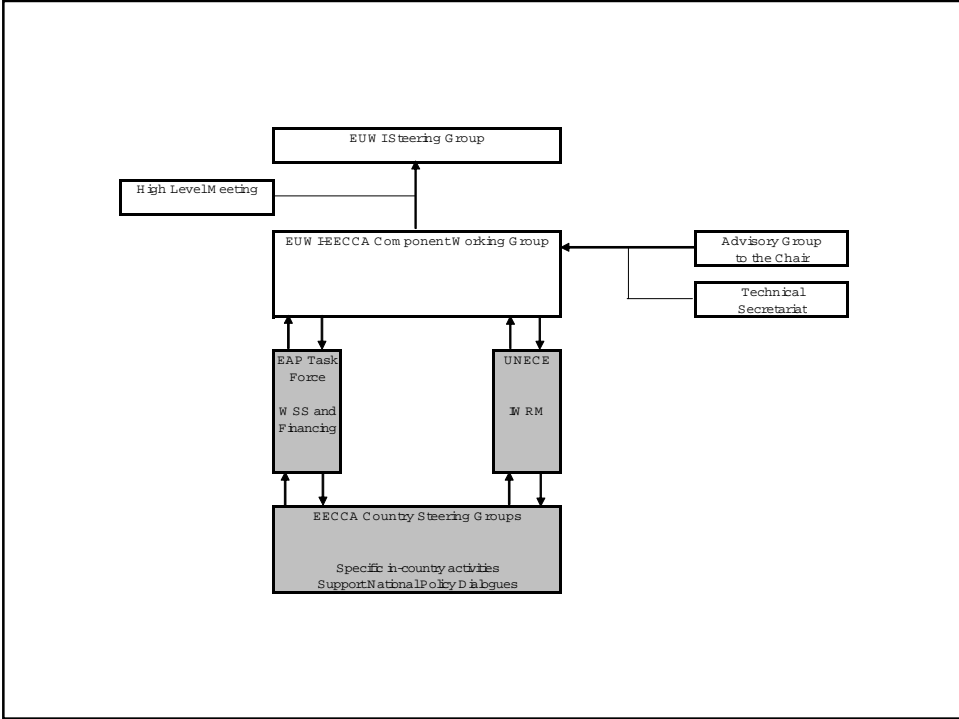
- Policy reforms in the EECCA countries are much more in need than \$, € or £...
- ... and these can only be promoted through a policy dialogue involving key stakeholders in the EECCA region



- So what's in it for the EECCA countries?
 - Easy access to relevant experts in the EU , including practitioners
 - Easy access to best practices from the new EU Member States , such as Lithuania
 - Easy access to best practices from the EECCA region
 - Easy access to useful tools - for environmental financing , quality standard setting , tariff policies , monitoring , etc .

How ?

- At least, two National Policy Dialogues to be launched in 2006
 - One focusing on WSS and Financing - OECD/EAP Task Force acting as strategic partner
 - One focusing on WRM - UNECE acting as strategic partner
- Thus, the OECD/EAP Task Force and UNECE are envisaged to play a key role



- Selection criteria
 - Commitment of the EECCA country in question
 - Capability of strategic partner
 - Compliance with overall objective and specific objective of the National Policy Dialogues
- Relevance for the EECCA region

- Terms of Reference to be developed for each National Policy Dialogue under the auspices of the Chair
- The EC may provide financial support to the National Policy Dialogues through its various programmes (e.g. Twinning, INCO and ENP)
- Others, including the EU Member States, may provide financial support, as well

Questions - here and now

- Any comments to the document, titled "National Policy Dialogues - From Work Programme to Action"?
- Which EECCA countries are sincerely interested in launching a National Policy Dialogue?
- Which issues to be addressed in a National Policy Dialogue?
- How to link WSS, Financing and WRM?