European Union Water Initiative plus for the Eastern Partnership
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Securing water for all is emerging as a top human development priority in the Post-2015 Development Agenda for EaP countries

Policy makers need sound evidence connecting sustainable water management to economic growth and development

Water related investments in infrastructure, institutions and information are an integral part of national long-term economic development planning and strategies

Coherence between water and water-related policies is essential

Support innovation: technical and non-technical options to contribute to sustainable water management
NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUES: THE PLATFORM TO SUPPORT REFORM

* Proven process over 10 years of experience in EECCA (e.g. Armenia, Moldova)

* EUWI+ provides an opportunity to reenergize/launch NPD (new mandate, revised scope)

* Political ownership (chairmanship), engagement of line ministries and public and private stakeholders and sustainable process

* Suggested key areas to be covered:
  - Support to national level reform (legislation, regulation)
  - Support to implementation of river basin management principles
  - Monitoring of emerging needs and demands
  - Communication of results and coordination with other donor activities on water
RESULT 1: Legal and regulatory framework improved in line with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), Integrated Water Resources Management and Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

RESULT 2: River Basins Management Plans designed and implemented in line with the EU WFD principles.

RESULT 3: Lessons learnt regularly collected, shared and communicated to stakeholders.
IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS VISION
ON MAIN CHALLENGES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

* Legal and regulatory reform
  - bylaws, regulations, guidelines to support the implementation of the principles of Water Framework Directive
  - National Water Strategies

* Transboundary cooperation
  - Preparations for transboundary basin management plans
  - Bilateral meetings at different levels and support to joint basin commissions

* Implementation of Treaties (Water Convention, Protocol on Water and Health)

* Sustainable Development Goals - methodological support on national indicators for reporting on progress, reporting under Water Convention

* Local capacity development (in partnership with well-established local training institutions where appropriate)
Economic health-check for implementation of the EU water acquis and water sector reform:

- Assessment of financial realism to meet the agreed deadlines
- Affordability of implementation for public budget and water users
- Best value for money, prioritization of reform steps

Economic and financial realism of water strategies and plans

- How to make RBMPs financially sustainable and affordable

Reform of economic instruments for WRM

- Implementation of economic principles of the WFD, water pricing: full cost recovery principle, environmental and resource costs.

Water for economic development; policy integration and policy coherence

- How to ensure best value for water (trade-offs and allocation efficiency)
- Economic incentives and financing for improving water productivity and water use efficiency