

BELARUS

Socio-economic indicators

	2002	2005
Income and poverty		
• GDP (million, constant 2000 USD)	14 012	18 261
• Annual GDP growth rate 2002-2005 (%)		9.2
• GDP per capita (PPP, constant 2000 international dollars)	5 343	7 051
• Poverty rate (% of pop. below USD 2/day)	2.0 ^a	
Demography		
• Population (million inhabitants)	9.93	9.78
• Urban population (%)	70.9	72.2
Economic structure (as % of GDP)		
• Agriculture	11.8	9.5
• Industry	37.0	41.2
• Services	51.2	49.3
Exports (% of total exports)		
• Agricultural products		10.8
• Fuels and mining products		35.3
• Manufactures		51.9
Financial flows		
• FDI (inward flows as % of GDP)	1.7	1.0
• ODA (% of GNI)	0.2	0.2

a) or closest available year.

Data based on PPP, constant 1993 international dollars.

Note: An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GDP as the USD has in the United States.

The poverty rate is the percentage of the population living on less than USD 2.15 a day at 1993 international prices.

Source: UNCTAD, World Bank, WTO.

Environmental priorities

The **2006 National Action Plan on the Rational Use of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection** (2006-2010) identifies the following main priorities:

1. Waste management.
2. Protection of atmospheric air, ozone layer and climate.
3. Protection of rational use of water resources.
4. Protection of land and soils.
5. Rational use of sub-soil resources.
6. Preservation of biological and landscape diversity.
7. Improvement of environmental legislation.
8. Further development of economic instruments of environmental policy.
9. Environmental monitoring.
10. Education for environment.

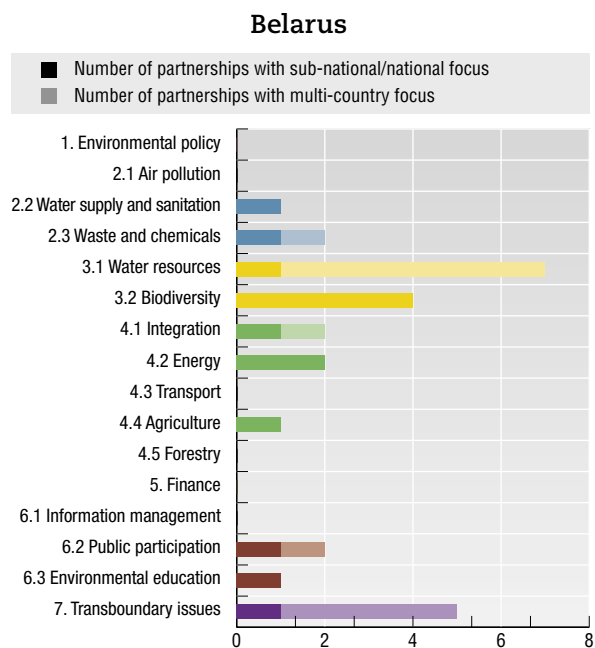
The **2004 National Strategy for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development** (2004-2020) identifies the following main priorities:

1. Improvement of economic instruments of environmental policy.
2. Waste management.
3. Water resources protection and management.
4. Land protection, enhanced productivity and rational land use.
5. Rational use of mineral resources and raw materials.
6. Protection of forests and reforestation.
7. Biodiversity conservation and biosafety.
8. Air protection.
9. Climate change mitigation.
10. Ozone layer protection.
11. Management of toxic chemicals (POPs).
12. Environmental security (emergency situations).

International co-operation

Main environmental co-operation partners of Belarus include GEF, the World Bank, UNDP, EC/TACIS, OSCE, Sweden (SEPA) and Germany (Bavaria Federal Ministry of Environment).

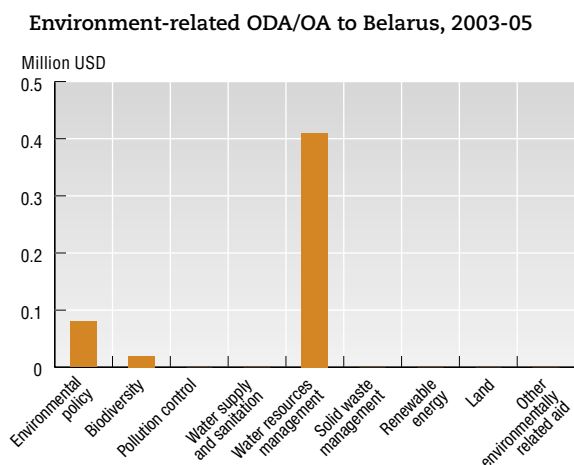
Number of registered partnerships



Note: The chart includes only the partnerships registered in the EECCA Partnerships Database as of 31 March 2007.

Source: EECCA Partnerships Database.

International assistance for environment



Source: OECD DAC Aid Activity database, donors and IFIs reporting.

Implementation highlight

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The disposal of solid waste in rural areas has been a long-standing problem in Belarus. The country had been cleaning up 20 000 unauthorised dumping sites each year at high budgetary cost. In 2003, the implementation of a new policy led to the development of a network of mini-landfills for provisional storage of waste, and gave local authorities the responsibility of choosing the method of waste collection and transfer to the mini-landfills. By the end of 2003, 6 090 mini-landfills and 2 871 grounds for provisional waste storage had been opened. Financial transfers from the national environmental fund made it possible to purchase 9 bulldozers, 66 tractors, 394 sanitation vehicles and 32 000 containers for the operation of the new services. By 2005, illegally disposed waste decreased from 0.7 to 0.4 million tonnes. In order to facilitate the recycling of waste materials, 84 stations for sorting municipal waste were opened in 2005. This has allowed a reduction of 30-40% in waste volumes to be landfilled (extending the life of disposal sites), generated new jobs and reduced the operation costs of disposal sites by 4-6%.

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus.

Policy matrix

The following two pages summarise actions taken by the Government of Belarus that contribute to achieving the objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy. Unless otherwise stated, information is taken from the EAP Task Force Questionnaire. Accordingly, the period covered is June 2003-June 2006 for qualitative information and 2002-2005 for quantitative information.

The other sources referred to in the matrix are:

- (1) Report to the Ramsar Convention.
- (2) EPR of the Republic of Belarus.
- (3) Report to the Aarhus Convention.
- (4) ECOLEX Database.
- (5) Main text of this report (see thematic chapters for sources consulted).
- (6) Additional information provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.

Considerable efforts were made to bring out relevant information, but the policy matrix is not exhaustive.

BELARUS ENVIRONMENTAL

	Institutional strengthening (re-organisation, system creation, staffing, training, equipment)	Planning (SoE monitoring, analyses, targets, action plans, performance monitoring)	Command-and-control instruments (bans, direct regulation, permitting)
Air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 new air quality monitoring stations were established • Air quality information centre established (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM₁₀ standard introduced (5) • PM₁₀ monitoring introduced (5) • 5 air protection norms and regulations developed (6) • Methodological work on EMEP inventories carried out (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previously developed fuel quality standards introduced (6) • EURO2/EURO3/EURO4 standards introduced (6)
Water supply and sanitation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean water programme approved (6) 	
Waste and chemicals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste data system improved (5) • Waste separation system introduced (6) • Persistent organic pollutants strategy approved (6) • POPs-related project launched (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Decree of the MoE and the Ministry of Agriculture on pesticides management issued (4) • New version of waste law drafted (6)
Water resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nr. of monitored water parameters increased from 46 to 70 (standards cover 952 parameters) • 16 lakes included in surface waters monitoring programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical regulations on water abstraction and consumption introduced for 145 industrial enterprises (6)
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-agency committee on the Ramsar convention established (6) • 22 structures for managing protected areas established (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora law passed (2) • Inventory of wetlands and Ramsar database created (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nr. of protected areas decreased from 1 476 to 1 433 due to consolidation at higher level of protection (6) • Protected areas increased from 7.6% to 8.3% of the country's territory (6)
Integration into key economic sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National JI/CDM agency designated • Agriculture and environment working group established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto Protocol ratified • Some 20 JI proposals prepared (6) • SEA pilot implemented (5) • Integration of environmental issues into national development strategies significantly improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing of treatment of ozone depleting substances mandated (6)
Cross-cutting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoE budget increased by 61% • Salaries of department heads and senior specialists tripled • Inspectorates asked to focus on priority sectors • Inter-agency monitoring commission created (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEAP for 2006-2010 and NSSD up to 2020 approved (6) • National Environmental Monitoring Programme for 2006-2010 passed (6) • Concept of Environmental Code of the Republic of Belarus approved (6) • Espoo convention ratified (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decree on natural resource extraction and pollutant discharge limits issued (4)

POLICY MATRIX

Market-related instruments (property rights, tariffs, charges, taxes, deposit-refund schemes, trading)	Information-related instruments (labelling, information disclosure, public participation, education, technical advice)	Direct provision of services (investment programmes, funding)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charges for air pollutants (including SO₂, nitrogen oxides and others) increased by 55% Gas tariffs for households increased by 37% Average power energy tariffs increased by 76% Taxes on transport fuels increased 3-4 times 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget for energy efficiency programme was increased 6 times to 4.6 million Icu Expenditures on urban public transport increased by 387% to 67 million Icu 	<p>Air pollution</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water tariffs for households increased by 94% Maximum water abstraction fee for utilities was increased by 70% Water and wastewater levies reduced for users installing meters (6) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater volume decreased by 60% 73 wastewater treatment plants with a capacity of 190 000 m³/day built and reconstructed (2) 	<p>Water supply and sanitation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended producer responsibility principle being introduced (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social advertising used to promote separation and processing of secondary material resources (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste disposal capacity in sanitary landfills increased by 16% to 30 000 tonnes (43% for hazardous wastes) Network of mini-landfills supported 795 rural municipal waste services and 95 sorting stations created (6) 86% of stockpiled pesticides containing CO₂ re-packaged (6) 	<p>Waste and chemicals</p>
			<p>Water resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Order of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Finance on collection of fees for logging published (4) Order on the responsibility and compensation for damage to public forests published (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A system of voluntary certification of forest plantations created Websites on biodiversity and biosafety developed (6) 		<p>Biodiversity</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber certification promoted (5) 		<p>Integration into key economic sectors</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nr. of environmental levies increased from 6 to 9 Amount collected by environmental levies increased by 385% Economic incentives for sustainable natural resource use introduced – including about 10 zero tax rates, 6 increasing and 2 decreasing coefficients to environmental tax rates (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental information hotlines set up in all regions (3) Aarhus Centre established (6) ESD/EE conceptual separation formalised (5) 		<p>Cross-cutting</p>