

Capacity Development Workshop on Water-related SDGs Integration and Implementation in Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries and beyond

- virtual workshop on ZOOM, 23-24 November 2020, 09:15-12:30 CET -

Registration: <https://meetoecd1.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAtc-uoqTMvHNfP21eRlcQ8mafeR3mQ0D7H>

Background

Since 2015, Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries¹ have made some progress in nationalising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), often with support from development partners. However, the countries still face challenges in both: (i) integrating SDGs into policy frameworks, using them as policy objectives in strategies and plans; and (ii) meeting the water-related SDGs by 2030, recognising that many countries in the region and internationally are behind schedule. Challenges include those linked to national data collection and monitoring frameworks and the lack of coherent, prioritised strategic and mid-term plans. The present crisis triggered by Covid-related restrictions has reduced household income and fiscal capacity of many countries, exacerbating affordability constraints and compounding these challenges. These challenges reduce opportunities for: mobilising sufficient finance for delivering water-related SDGs, using available funds in the most cost-effective way and measuring the development impact in terms of progress towards the SDGs.

The workshop is organised by the OECD GREEN Action Task Force with support by the Government of Norway and the European Union through the *European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership* (EUWI+).

Objectives. To develop capacity of the EaP countries in this domain through sharing good practices and lessons learned from the EU and OECD countries and from within the Eastern Partnership and wider Eurasia region: it concerns establishing monitoring frameworks for nationalised SDG indicators, integrating them into national policy documents, and effectively using finance for water-related SDGs.

This workshop will demonstrate the role of water-related SDGs as a tool for strengthening water management in terms of building confidence in, mobilising finance for, and driving the implementation of, strategic water management plans; and for tracking progress towards achieving national water policy objectives and international obligations, as well as measuring development impact of interventions in the water sector.

Structure. Prior to the workshop, a **questionnaire** will be circulated to participants and relevant stakeholders, based on which a **discussion note** will be prepared to support the workshop. The workshop will be held **virtually, on ZOOM**, with simultaneous interpretation in **English and Russian**. It will consist of two parts, half a day each, from 09:15 to 12:30 CET.

Invitees: Government officials and experts from all EaP and selected EECCA countries, donors, selected EU and OECD members, International Organisations (IOs) and think tanks, national and multilateral development financing institutions (DFIs) operating in the region.

¹ The Eastern Partnership countries are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

ANNOTATED PRELIMINARY AGENDA
23-24 November 2020

Part I (Day 1, 09:15 – 13:00 CET)

Chaired by: Ms Kumi Kitamori, Head of GGGR Division, OECD Environment Directorate

Item 1: Opening and Welcome (09:15-09:30)

The objectives of the capacity development workshop (as outlined above) and the workshop agenda will be presented.

- a family photo
- Overview by OECD Environment Directorate, Matthew Griffiths, Senior Programme Manager

Meeting document: pre-final annotated Agenda (*based on this draft*)

Item 2: Scene-setting (09:30 – 10:00)

Scene-setting presentations will focus on: (i) progress with implementing SDGs in general, and water-related SDGs in particular, globally and in developed countries (OECD, EU) and developing countries and transition economies; (ii) importance of using an integrated approach to SDGs in line with IWRM principles; and (iii) lessons learnt, outstanding issues, existing barriers and opportunities.

- Mr. Federico Properzi, Chief Technical Advisor, UN-Water, on the SDG 6 Global Acceleration framework
- Mr. Colin Herron, Global Coordinator, Water Solutions for the SDGs (GWP)
- Q&A session (5-10 minutes)

Item 3: Nationalising water-related SDGs (10:00 – 11:35)

Moderator: Mr. Peter VAN DE VEN, Head of National Accounts Division, Statistics and Data Directorate, OECD

This session will aim to foster exchange of country experiences with nationalising of, and establishing monitoring framework for, water-related SDGs. Other complementary indicators, such as Green Growth Indicators, will be discussed where relevant. The results from the pre-workshop questionnaire shared prior to the event will serve as a basis for discussion. Speakers from EaP and other EECCA countries will present their countries experience and exchange on lessons learnt (each country presentation up to 12 min.):

- **Belarus:** country experience with adopting methodology to monitor “nationalised” indicators for specific tasks under SDG 6.3-6.5
 - Ms Dubianok, Deputy Director for Research, Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources (CRICUWR); and
 - Ms Poleshchuk, Head of Environment Statistics Division, BelStat
- **Ukraine:** country experience with nationalising SDGs and associated challenges
 - Ms Hanna Tsvetkova, Environment Academy and NWP of Ukraine
- **Russian Federation:** water related SDGs in Russia
 - Ms Natalia Shashlova, Head, Department of Agriculture and Environment Protection Statistics, Federal State Statistics Service (ROSSTAT)
- **Armenia:** establishing an integrated monitoring system for SDG 6 in Armenia
 - Ms Alisa Savadyan, GWP Armenia

- **Q&A on the experiences from Armenia, Belarus, Russia and Ukraine**
- **Exchange of other experiences (6 -7 min each, with option to support with PowerPoint slides)**
 - Participants from Kazakhstan on developing water security indicators consistent with water related nationally adopted GGIs and SDGs
 - Ms. Iulia Trombitcaia, Environmental Affairs Officer, Water Convention, UNECE, on assisting EECCA countries in developing their capacity to report on SDG 6.5.2.
 - Open discussion

Meeting documents:

- (i) reports on experience of Belarus with implementing water related SDGs; and of Kyrgyzstan on establishing a national framework for water, food and energy security indicators
- (ii) draft OECD ENV Working paper on developing water security indicators in Kazakhstan

Technical break (11:35-11.45)

Item 4: Integrating water-related SDGs into national policy documents (11:45-12:50)

Moderator: Matthew Griffiths, Senior Programme Manager, OECD Environment Directorate

This session will focus on country experiences of integrating nationalised SDGs into national policy documents. To launch the discussion, a presentation of the pre-workshop questionnaire will serve as a basis for discussion.

- **Why integration into policy documents and budgets is critical to progress implementation of SDGs**
 - **Mr Alexandre Martoussevitch, Project Manager, OECD Environment Directorate**
- **Moldova:** SDG 6 integration into: (i) the national WSS Strategy and (ii) the National Programme on Water and Health
 - **Ms Tronza, Principle consultant, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment**
 - **commented by Ms. Nataliya Nikiforova, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNECE**
- **Ms. Zsuzsa Steindl, GWP Hungary Foundation,** will speak on Integrating water related SDGs into Hungarian policy documents
- **Tour de table:** other countries will be invited to present their experience with integrating water related SDGs into national policy documents and eventually also into policy documents at sub-sovereign level (3-4 min each):
 - **Mr. George Dzumukashvili, Chair, NWP Georgia**
- **Q&A followed by open discussion**

Meeting document: an issue note prepared by the OECD secretariat

Wrap up of Day 1 (12:50-13:00)

Part II (Day 2, 09:15-12:30 CET)

Chaired by: **Matthew Griffiths, Senior Programme Manager, OECD Environment Directorate**

- a family photo

Item 5: Mobilising and effectively using finance for water-related SDGs (09:20 – 10:40)

Moderators: Mr Paul HORROCKS, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate

This session will aim to exchange good practices in mobilising and effectively using finance for water-related SDGs. Representatives of countries and development banks will be invited to present their experience with mobilising sovereign and non-sovereign, public and private finance and ODA for water-related SDGs (incl. blended finance).

- **Mr Paul Horrocks, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate**, a short introduction
- **Ms. Juliana Ramos, Operations Policy and Project Support, NDB**, will present case study examples of water-related infrastructure projects in the Bank's member countries
- **Ms. Claudia Neuschulz, EBRD**, ERBD experience in mobilising finance for SDG 6: Green finance for municipal water services and corporate water use
- **Q&A**
- **Tour de table:** country representatives will be invited to present their experience with mobilising and effectively using finance for water related SDGs
 - **Ms. Gvantsa Sivsivadze, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia**
- Open Discussion

Technical break (10:40-10:50)

Item 6: SDGs as a tool for measuring development impact of water-sector investment (10:50 – 12:15)

Moderator: Matthew Griffiths, Senior Programme Manager, OECD Environment Directorate

SDGs can be used as a tool for measuring the development impact on the ground of interventions in the water sector financed from the public budget, ODA or blended financing. During this session, countries, national and multi-lateral Development Financing Institutions would share their experience in this domain. The facilitator will give the floor to speakers:

- **Mr. Luiz Loures, Strategy and Partnerships Division, NDB**, will present the NDB's SDG mapping methods and alignment with water-related SDGs
- **Ms. Anna Lvova, Head of International Relations and Communications Department, the International Investment Bank**
- **Q&A session**
- **Exchange of experience from other countries and development institutions** (5-7 min each, speakers invited)
 - **Belarus** on using water related SDGs as target and performance indicators of the new Water Strategy
 - **Other experiences – open floor for interventions**
- Open discussion

Wrap-up and closing (12:15-12:30)