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Mission reference
2007 C5 T 30 M1, M2, M3 and M4

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Mission report

Expert Name and Function

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Wording of missions: *In short, objective or content of mission*

BSBD Varna- Region of Artois–Picardie - Directorate of water project focuses on specific areas of interest, based on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), that have been identified as:

- Implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD)
- Development of the programme of measures, costs assessment and effectiveness analysis
- Stakeholder process, exchange information and feedback
- Administrative framework (organization of the River Basin authority)

There are specific goals and numerous of expectations associated to the **Region of Artois–Picardie - Directorate of water** project. Overall, from the twinning between the basin organizations, much is expected to be gained regarding the operation of the other's organization, as well as the exchange of practices and knowledge on IWRM will help to improve their work. Based on the TWINBASIN XN project, it is expected that BOs will:

- Promote a friendly cooperation between water managers.
- Strengthen relationships between basin organizations. Improve contact between the basin management organizations participating in the twinning project.
- Encourage the exchange of expertise, knowledge and technical personnel.
- Improve the effectiveness of integrated water management within organizations.
- Improve the overall functional operation of these institutions.

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1. CONTEXT

Place, location	<i>Country visited, Basin Organization concerned, other information about location,</i> FRANCE <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency - DOUAI</i> <i>200 rue Marceline – BP 818</i>
Mission duration	<i>15 – 24 April 2007</i>

2. OBJECTIVES

	Initial objectives	Results	Results indicator <i>explain with some details how far the results have been achieved if compared to initial objectives</i>
1	<p>Exchanging information for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD)</p> <p>Work development in article 5, 9 and 11 of WFD 2000/60/ EC</p>	<p>Concept, methodology, and adaptation of WFD for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i></p> <p>Concept, methodology, and adaptation of WFD for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Malta, Romania, Latvia, Bulgaria and France.</p>	<p>The Bulgarian experts were acquainted with the integrated water management according to the requirements of WFD in the region of <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Legislative framework -Administrative organization of management structures – functions, obligations, responsibilities, subordination. -Practical approaches in decision of specific problems (e.g. technical decisions of problems with water treatment and sustainable freshwater supply and etc). <p>The Bulgarian experts took part in an international workshop during the mission (Rochehaut summit). Participating countries have presented current situation in each Basin Directorate concerning WFD implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative structure - Current situation concerning WFD implementation – implemented and future tasks according to deadlines and stages of WFD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human pressure and impact analysis according to art. 5 of WFD

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Economic analysis of water use according to art. 5 of WFD . Cost recovery according to art. 9 of WFD . Program of measures according to art. 11 of WFD
2	The development of programme of measures, costs assessment and effectiveness analysis	Presenting current situation, concepts and methodology.	<p>The Bulgarian experts have been acquainted with the development of programme of measures, within the requirements of WFD, in Malta, Romania and Latvia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme of measures and costs assessment in Malta – examined specific example; - Programme of measures for HMWB in Banat region, Romania; - Concept, methodology for preparing programme of measures in Latvia; - Methodology for preparing program of measures in the <i>Region of Artois–Picardie</i>. <p>As a result of the Bulgarian experts’ meeting, basic methodological levels were presented for the development of programs of measures and cost assessments. These conceptions would be applicable not only in BD - Varna but in some other water basins in Bulgaria as well.</p>
3	Public Participation and Stakeholder involvement process	Presenting the situation in France, Romania, Latvia and Bulgaria.	<p>Public Participation is required for the preparation of River basin management plans, including programme of measures and individual measures. It is needed or recommended to be done in the following stages: definition of integrated and selection of preferred program of measures; selection of potential measures and pressures and impacts analyses.</p> <p>Basin consul – Bulgaria – 30 people, France – 60, Romania – 15, Latvia – 18, steady and is a missing mandate;</p> <p>Questionnaires – Bulgaria – 11 questions, France – 6 000</p>

			<p>questions; Workshops with stakeholders - Bulgaria – will organize consultation during 2007, 2008 and 2009. France will organize introduction into water price and economic analysis; there will be consultations are with different branches;</p> <p>Dissemination of information - Bulgaria – a water status bulletin, press centre, web page: www.bsbd.org - access to public information, “blue” phone 0886406816 – for taking warnings for water pollution, initiation of ecological campaign, preparation of ecological information subjects;</p> <p>France – press centre, web, preparation of ecological information subjects – films, pictorial, newssheet;</p> <p>Romania – bulletins, press centre, web, exhibitions for general public;</p>
	Administrative framework Organization of the river basin authority: departments an their functions	Technical knowledge about the administrative structure of in <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i>	The administrative framework is quite different; BSBD Varna is a new organization and French <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i> was created 40 years ago. Nevertheless they have some similarities. For example: Organization of working process in authority – coordination and sub –ordination; organization at basin level and execution of all duties, according implementation of WFD.

3. ACTIVITES DEVELOPED during the mission

Activity 1	Topic : (<i>Legal aspects, Regulation, Institutional, Finance, Communication ...</i>) <i>Institutional Framework and Capacity building of Artois-Picardie Water Agency in – DOUAI</i>
Description (<i>Exchange of</i>	Exchange of experience and acquaintance with administrative Framework and capacity of French institution, responsible for integrated

<p>experience or practice, Increasing of knowledge and learning, Development of methodology, Training ...)</p>	<p>water management at the basin level. Visit to <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i> in Douai.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of departments and sectors and their areas of functioning. BSBD experts visited <i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency</i> management structure and observed how it is functioning. - The structure was presented by Mr. Arnaud Courtecuisse - Head of the Department Study, Environmental & Economic Assessment & international affairs. There were discussions regarding the number of experts from each department, which are directly involved in WFD implementation. There were several presentations of French approach, regarding preparation of Programme of measures. <p>Mr. Daniel Bernard, head of drinkable water department presented the Model "PEGAS" for effectiveness assessment of Programmes of Measures and made some conclusions regarding calibration of model.</p> <p>Mr. Meteron, engineer in charge of the WFD's implementation, introduced to Bulgarian experts the hydro geological structure of Artois-Picardie Water Agency area and presented the water supply of drinking water and approaches for sustainable water use. The proportion of drinking water coming from surface and groundwater sources, sanitary protected areas, groundwater monitoring points and etc were presented.</p> <p>Mr. Jean Philippe Kaprinski presented to Bulgarian experts Wastewater treatment processes in Artois – Picardie. He spoke about the number of waste Wastewater treatment Plants situated near the coastline. New technological methods for waste water treatment – lagoon method, membrane method and wetland root plant filter system were presented.</p>
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<p>Activity 2</p>	<p>Topic: Implementation of WFD 2000/60/EC (International workshop)</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>During the workshop each participating country presented the administrative structure of a particular BD and the improvement of the application of WFD as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative structure - Anthropogenic pressure and impact analysis – status assessment and risk evaluation of surface and groundwater bodies. - Economical Analysis, cost-recovery analysis and future development scenario. - Development of measures programs <p>The presentations of the participants were followed by discussions which concluded the following common problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - belated or missing information; - lack of coordination of the informational flow; - problems in aggregation of information about the basin principle; - lack of commitment between institutions and users.

<p>Activity 3</p>	<p>Topic: Development of programme of measures. Costs Assessments</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>Ms. Carmen Delia presented the methodology used in Malta. It was related to the development of programmes of measures and their cost assessment and was illustrated with a concrete example.</p> <p>Ms. Marina Castnikova presented a methodology used in Latvia for the development of programmes of measures and preparation of cost-benefit analysis.</p>

	<p>Ms Mihaela Madar presented the methodology used in Romania showing the development of programmes of measures and their cost assessments.</p> <p>A casus for improvement of the communication and experience and knowledge exchange was played following the theme: “Testing economic assessment for developing the program of measures and River Basin Management Plan for the Stossere Baye (Watecie Kingdom)”.</p> <p>The participants were split into two groups (with representatives from different countries). As a result the countries presented their suggestions for the programs of measures.</p> <p>The presented conceptions and methodologies with actual examples are very important and useful for the Bulgarian experts. The development of programmes of measures is a process, which will be started at the end of 2007 in Bulgaria.</p> <p>The three BD, which presented their experience, presented their methodology step by step to the Bulgarian experts. They showed the development of programs of measures, costs assessment and effectiveness analysis. The practice shows that for the preparation of one effective PoM, the cost evaluation must be done by economical sectors. The three main directions are agriculture, industry and household. When a database is present some sectors like tourism and energetic sectors etc. might be included as well because they are of significance regarding the water usage of the concrete basin region.</p> <p>Mr. Arnaud Courtecuisse explained the conception and the used methodology in Artois-Picardie Water Agency.</p> <p>The obtained knowledge and paper materials BD Varna could use as a manual, when starting the process of development of programmes of measures.</p>
<p>Activity 4</p>	<p>Topic: Public Participation and Stakeholder involvement process</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>After the all presentations of the Bulgarian experts, France, Romania and Latvia presented their methods of work with the stakeholders and public. The similarities and differences were summarized in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment, mandate and members of Basin consul; - Development and distribution of Questionnaires; - Organizing the Workshops with stakeholders; - Distribution of information. <p>In the stakeholder process it is important to involve experts from different organizations (companies, institutions, local governments, NGO`s) who have extended knowledge about the relevant area.</p> <p>There was some discussion, that knowledge could be not only of today, but also historical. With respect to this it can be useful to consult retired officers or senior citizens, who have probably information about what happened in the past (cases of pollution).</p> <p>Involving water users and other stakeholders in the identification of measure options can help identify practical solutions and combinations that enhance the cost-effectiveness and acceptability of measures.</p> <p>The stakeholders should be involved as early as possible, before decisions are taken. Only then the authorities are able to benefit optimally from their insight, experience and knowledge and allow maximum involvement, influence and ultimate acceptance of decisions. The degree of involvement can differ from stage to stage.</p>

2. LESSONS LEARNT during the mission

(What could be shared with other partners and/or introduced in guidelines, as far as IWRM is concerned)

- **About Methodology :**

The following main accents of the approach for integrated water management in the Region of Artois – Picardie and mentioned experience of other BD participants should be shared with other partners or included in Guidance:

- Approaches for integrated management of the waters throughout a development of an adequate program of measures.
- Approaches for a steady management of the waters through the correct costs assessment and analysis for the effectiveness of the programs of measures.
- Methodology of return on investments analysis
- Relations with other institutions – scientific, non-profit and stakeholder organizations. Approaches for their involvement in water management;

- **About Practice:**

The following practical experience should be shared with other partners:

- Projects' development related to the integrated water management;
- Development of programmes of measures;
- Costs assessments and analysis for the effectiveness of the programs of measures;
- Assessment of return of investment for water service
- Interaction with stakeholders when deciding on derogation and identification of practical solutions and combinations that enhance the cost-effectiveness and acceptability of measures

5. DISSEMINATION (opportunities and difficulties).

In what measure these learnt lessons are applicable to:

a) The Basin Organization the expert belongs to:

The learnt lessons are applicable in BSBD Varna especially for the following departments:

- Planning and management department
- Monitoring, prognoses and information assurance;
- Water and water economic cadastre;
- Administrative and economic department;

The dissemination of information could be performed through the BSBD Varna web site (www.bsbd.org) as well as directly by e-mailing information to people involved in relevant issues.

b) National IWRM practice:

The lessons learnt are applicable to the Ministry of environment and water MOeW, Water Direction. The dissemination of information could be performed through the site of MOeW ([www.moew.government..bg](http://www.moew.government.bg)), as well as directly to the people involved in different activities.

c) Regional experiences:

The lessons learnt and information obtained is applicable to the International Network of basin Organizations. In particular the Central and Eastern European Network of Basin Organization on the related to the implementation of WFD the EURO- INBO – group. The information could disseminate by Internet through the site of INBO (www.Inbo.org).

d) Worldwide :

The learnt lessons as well as obtained information are applicable to the International Network of basin Organizations. The information could disseminate by Internet through the site of INBO (www.Inbo.org).

Furthermore the specific web site that has been designed for The TWINBASIN project (www.twinbasin.org), could facilitate the exchange of information on best water resources management practices of River Basin Organization.

6. IDENTIFIED TIPS

Identified tips which could be useful for colleagues

The mission is characterized as a successful, achieving all goals, and some contributing to that are summarized below:

- An agreement on the agenda before the mission;
- Experts should present the related to the agenda topics;
- PowerPoint presentations;
- Interactive game;
- Discussions regarding topics presented;
- Inside visit and discussions with the involved experts;

7. PERSONAL COMMENTS

What does the missionary think about his mission?

The mission was very interesting, useful and well organized. The participants were 15 experts, everyone in their specific field related with the water resources management. Furthermore, the hospitality and warmth of the French turned a business trip to a wonderful experience exchange for all participants. The new friendship and the new relationships between the participants from Malta, Latvia, Romania and Italy will contribute to future joint deeds for the application of the WFD and achievement of “good ecological status” for all water basins.

A very important remark is that water management systems are similar, but we found out also, that the both Directorates have some differences in some activities:

- The main difference is the administrative structure.

The administrative staff has almost three times more persons (180 persons), then Bulgarian, who working in 4 departments, but three of them are quite similar to Bulgarian - administrative department, monitoring and prognosis department and water cadastre department.

- There are four sectors, linked straight to director and support him.
- French water Agency experts' do not have controlling functions like Bulgarian and they do not issue the permits and license for water use.

Artois-Picardie Water Agency is similar in its activities, as BSBD Varna in Administrative aspects as state authority. They have one head office and two local bureaus – in Boulone and in Amiens.

Artois-Picardie Water Agency showed its experience in applying WFD. It was a good opportunity for us to see the French approach for the development of programmes of measures and cost assessment. This approach may find its enclosure at regional level – in BSBD Varna along with the national level – in the other three basin directorates in Bulgaria.

The both Directorates are similar as basin authorities and they are quite close in principles and concepts for implementation of WFD 2000/60/EC.

Due to the good relations created between the both Directorates my suggestion are the contacts to be continued in future. The projects under Twinbasin are good experience for the experts from different institutions, associated to the water management.

Key potential benefits that can result from Public Participation are: more transparent and more creative decision making; increasing public awareness of environmental issues as well as the environmental situation in the related river basin district and local catchments; public acceptance, commitment and support with regard to decision taking processes; making use of knowledge, experience and initiatives of the different stakeholders and thus improving the quality of plans, measures and river basin management; less litigation, misunderstandings, fewer delays and more effective implementation; social learning and experience – if participation results in constructive dialogue with all relevant parties involved then the various publics, government and experts can learn from each other's 'water awareness'.

The importance to interact with stakeholders when deciding on derogation / disproportionate cost issues has been stressed by all. More thinking is required to specify when such input / involvement from stakeholders is expected and for which purpose (e.g. to agree on indicators or thresholds, to review results of assessment, etc.).

8. CONTACTS

Principal local contacts met

Name	Occupation	E-mail	Phone Number
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Manuel Sapiano	MRA - Malta		
Myriam Micallef	MRA - Malta		

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Main documents, manuals or supports used during the mission which could be useful for colleagues

Bibliography	
Name	Description / Notice
<i>WATECO Guidance document</i>	<i>The document has been developed through the EU Common Implementation Strategy (CIS). It provides guidelines for the development of the economic analysis linked with the WFD's implementation</i>
<i>Characterisation Report of Artois-Picardie River Basin</i>	<i>This document consists in the article 5 implementation in the Artois-Picardie River basin</i>

Websites		
Name	Description / Notice	Address
Agence de l'eau Artois-Picardie - FRANCE		http://www.eau-artois-picardie.fr/

N.B. This framework provides necessary information for further capitalisation and dissemination, but should not prevent experts from making any other comments (as far as basins characterisation is concerned, for instance).

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17.05.2007

Financial report

Expert Name:

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Svetlana Pencheva – head expert of Planning and management department
Cenka Vasileva - junior expert Administrative department
Maya Dryanovska – state expert, Water management department

Start	Departure	days	days cost (€)	travel cost (€)	Total (€)
15.04.2007	24.04.2007	9	2 520	1553.86	4073.86

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