

Integrated Drought Management in Central and Eastern Europe

**2nd Quarterly report
(April – June 2014)**

Short summary of the programme activities

1) IDMP CEE participated at 5 international events:

- 16th session of the WMO Commission of Agricultural Meteorology in Antay, Turkey (10-12 April 2014)
- International Conference on Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus in Bonn, Germany (19-20 May 2014).
- Interreg IVC thematic capitalisation event “Policy sharing, policy learning” in Brussels (22 May 2014)
- 39th River Basin Management Expert Group Meeting, ICPDR in Zagreb, Croatia (5-6 May 2014)
- GWP Regional Days and Consulting Partners Meeting in Port of Spain, Trinidad (23-28 June 2014)

2) Regional cooperation:

- Review of the current status of the implementation of Drought Management plans and measures within RBMP according to EU WFD (act. 1.2) is finalized also Implementation guide on drought information exchange platform (act. 1.3).

3) National planning

- 1st cycle of the National Consultation Dialogues has finished, with the last one organized in Bulgaria.
- Slovak Case study (an example of procedure how to develop the key items of Drought Management Plan) was finalized and draft version of the Guidelines was prepared.

4) 2nd IDMP CEE Workshop took place on 8-9 April in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

5) Drought photo contest was launched on 17 June 2014 and scenario for the **IDMP CEE video** is being prepared.

Work package 1	Regional and Transboundary Cooperation
Activity	Act. 1.1: Cooperation with international basin commissions and regional organizations
Responsible	<i>RWP Coordinator, IDMP CEE Programme Manager</i>
<p>Side event on IDMP was organized within 16th session of the WMO Commission of Agricultural Meteorology in Antalya, Turkey (10-12 April 2014). The IDMP side event was well attended by 60 delegates and included an introduction by Bruce Stewart, Director CLW at WMO; Dr Elena Mateescu, Romania on the IDMP CEE; and Frederik Pischke on the IDMP globally.</p> <p>IDMP CEE was presented in a poster session at International Conference on Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus in Bonn, Germany from 19-20 May 2014. Andriy Demydenko participated in the Conference on behalf of Country Water Partnerships from Moldova and Ukraine, which collaborate, in particular, within two projects on the transboundary river Dniester that they share. Both projects supported by WMO-GWP IDMP and IFMP, present good examples of cooperation within WEF nexus. A special focus was put on one of the IDMP CEE demonstration projects “Upgrading agricultural drought monitoring and forecasting in the Dniester River Basin” (act. 5.6) for which a special poster was prepared.</p> <p><i>More about this event in BTOR.</i></p> <p>The Programme Manager Sabina Bokal participated at the Interreg IVC thematic capitalisation event “Policy sharing, policy learning” in Brussels on 22 May 2014. Over the last seven years, the INTERREG IVC programme has been enabling institutions all over Europe – over 2000 in total – to learn through cooperation across 204 different interregional projects aimed at improving regional policies. For two years a team of thematic experts have been analysing benchmarking and capitalising on the wealth of the knowledge generated by projects working on similar regional development issues. Focus of the event was on presentation of the policy recommendations and lessons learnt from the analysis of all implemented projects.</p> <p><i>More about this event in BTOR.</i></p> <p>Elena Fatulova was invited to participate at the 39th River Basin Management Expert Group Meeting, which was organized by ICPDR, on 5-6 May 2014 in Zagreb. She was a member of the RBM expert group six years ago, so she had the possibility to compare the progress made in the development of joint RBMPs for the Danube river basin. Currently the document focused on the actualization of Characteristics of the river basic district is being completed, based on the data provided by individual Danube countries. Concerning the drought there is positive news that this issue is included in the table of contents of this document.</p> <p>One general IDMP CEE presentation was made at the GWP Regional Days and two more during Consulting Partners Meeting held in Port of Spain on 23-28 June 2014. The latter were related to IDMP CEE and demonstration projects concerning ecosystems. Presentations are uploaded on Slideshare.</p> <p>Article “From national to regional plans – the Integrated Drought Management Programme of the Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe” which was prepared for the last year High-level meeting on national drought policy was published in Weather and Climate Extremes and can be read here.</p>	
Activity	Act. 1.2: Review of the current status of the implementation of DM plans and measures within RBMP according to EU WFD
Activity Leader	Elena Fatulova GWP Slovakia elena.fatulova@gmail.com
Partners	All 10 countries
<p>Review of the current status of the implementation of DM plans and measures within RBMP according to EU WFD (act. 1.2) was finalized by the end of March. The report summarizes the assessment of the drought</p>	

relevance within the region and identifies the gaps in the national drought management strategies in comparison to EU strategy. The report is [published on GWP CEE website](#).

Activity *Act. 1.3: Drought information exchange Platform*

Activity Leader **Gregor Gregorič**
Slovenian Environmental Agency /DMCSEE
Gregor.Gregoric@gov.si

Partners All 10 countries

The Implementation guide on drought information exchange platform was finalized (act. 1.3). This document provides partners (which are also contributors of the data) with information on already existing platform [JRS's European Drought Observatory](#), its use and technical details about how to integrate national data into this platform. Primary goal of this activity is to enable countries to participate in exchange of data, relevant for detecting drought onset and analysing its magnitude. You can find the Implementation guide [here](#). As a next step, partners are now preparing information about existing data within each country for integration into the platform.

Activity *Act. 1.4: Development of GIS Based Communication Technology Platform for the Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in Lithuania, Poland and Kaliningrad Region (Russia)*

Activity Leader **Bernardas Paukstys**
GWP Lithuania
bernardas@iti.lt

Partners GWP Poland
Kaliningrad district
Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources, Belarus

In year 2014 a new activity has joined IDMP CEE.

The main objectives of this activity are to develop GIS based communication platform for the sustainable management of transboundary water resources in Lithuania, Poland, Belarus and Kaliningrad Region (Russia). GIS maps and databases for the transboundary Nemunas (Neman) and Pregolya river basins which are shared by Lithuania, Kaliningrad Oblast (Russia), Belarus and Poland (Baltic Sea Region) will be prepared as part of this activity.

On 3rd July GWP Lithuania organizes a technical workshop "[GIS mapping of water bodies in Lithuania, Poland, Belarus and Kaliningrad oblast for the management of transboundary Neman and Pregolya river basins](#)".

Work package 2 **National planning processes**

Activity *Act. 2.1: Guidelines for Drought Management Plan (WP2)*

Activity Leader **Elena Fatulova**
GWP Slovakia
elena.fatulova@gmail.com

Partners All 10 countries

The Guidelines should be a practical tool based on the practical experiences of the countries which prepared DMPs. Within the programme only in Slovakia all the steps described in the Guidelines were tested until now and in detail explained in the Slovak Case Study. This report will be an important input for the Guidelines. The Slovak Case Study can be found on "internal partners' web page".

The first draft of the Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans was prepared till the end of June and will be sent to all partners after PRG review in the middle of August. This draft will be the main point of

the discussion on the 2nd cycle of the National Consultation Dialogues (October, November 2014). The Activity leader is also preparing instructions for the 2nd cycle (objectives and further steps) with the template for providing national experiences into the Guidelines.

Activity **Act. 2.2: National Consultation dialogues (WP2)**

Activity Leader **Elena Fatulova**
GWP Slovakia
elena.fatulova@gmail.com

Partners All 10 Country Water Partnerships

The last National Consultation Dialogue (NCD) in the 1st round of NCDs was held in Bulgaria on 3rd April 2014. You can find the report [here](#). All the reports from the 1st cycle of the NCDs can be found on our web site under “[national planning](#)”.

The Czech Republic already organized their 2nd NCD on 12th June 2014. The main topic of the seminar was a discussion on the draft of the Guidelines for Drought Management Plan with the aim to provide national experiences and contribute to completion of the Guidelines. 2nd cycle of the NCDs in other countries will start in October and November 2014. Gergana Majercakova from Regional Secretariat participated in the dialogue. Photos are on [Flickr](#).

Work package 5 **Demonstration Projects**

Activity **Act. 5.1: Drought management by agricultural practices and measures-increasing soil water holding capacity (WP5)**

Activity Leader **Pavol Bielek**
Slovak University of Agriculture
pavol.bielek@gmail.com

Partners Research Institute for Soil and Water Conservation (Czech Republic)
Institute of Agricultural and Forest Environment, Polish Academy of Sciences (Poland)
Biotechnical Faculty (Slovenia)

Partners within this demonstration project are testing several approaches to agricultural practices which can improve the conditions for soil water holding capacity (traditional tillage, mouldboard ploughing, no-till farming, subsoiling, fertilizing (organic fertilizers) and combinations of them).

Field experiments have been observed with the help of planned methods. Time table of the results, their structure and content in 2014 have been accepted by all partners.

They will present their results in November, after the end of the “growing season”.

Based on invitation of Prof. Bielek, Regional Secretariat participated in measurements of soil compaction with a soil penetrometer in experimental field of Slovak University of Agriculture in Kolinany. Photos from measurements are on [Flickr](#).

Activity **Act. 5.2: Assessment of drought impact on forest ecosystems (WP5)**

Activity Leader **Galia Bardarska**
GWP Bulgaria
bardarska@dir.bg

Partners Vilnius university; Dept. of Hydrology & Climatology (Lithuania)
Institute of Forestry; Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry (Lithuania)
Slovenian Forestry Institute, Department for forest ecology (Slovenia)
National Scientific Centre for Global Changes (Bulgaria)
Forest Research Institute (Bulgaria)
Ukrainian Research Institute of Forest and Forest Melioration (Ukraine)

In the 1st quarter of 2014 experts have started to work on their second output “*Determination of vulnerability forest zones in contemporary climate (1960-1991), 2050 (realistic scenario) and 2070 (optimistic, realistic and pessimistic scenarios)*”. They are finishing with their first step which will be production of maps for different

periods and scenarios as the basis for defining vulnerability zones later.

Activity *Act. 5.3:* Natural small water retention measures (WP5)

Activity Leader **Tomasz Okruszko**
Warsaw University of Life Sciences (Poland)
t.okruszko@levis.sggw.pl

Partners University of Debrecen (Hungary)
HYCOMP (Slovakia)
Limnos Ltd (Slovenia)

Partners have developed draft Guidelines (first four chapters) which give an **overview of the needs and possible ways to improve the landscape capacity for storing water**. The Guidelines will give information on the technical and non-technical measures which can be used in order to store the water at its origin. The role of small water retention as well as tools for choosing the best location has been also introduced into the Guidelines. A template for collecting best practices has been sent around to all 10 countries to enrich the guidelines with experiences from other countries.

Activity	Act. 5.4: Drought Risk Management Scheme: a decision support system (WP5)
Activity Leader	Tamara Tokarczyk Institute of Meteorology and Water Management, National Research Institute (Poland) tamara.tokarczyk@imgw.pl
Partners	Institute of Technology and Life Sciences (Poland) Vilnius University, Department of Hydrology and Climatology (Lithuania) National Meteorological Administration (Romania)
<p>In the previous period they have started working on their second Output “<i>Methods for drought hazards and risk management</i>”. The work is concentrated on building methodology for the drought hazard and risk mapping with the use of GIS techniques that will constitute the key tool for drought management.</p> <p>List of working definitions connected with drought issues was sent around to all partners for collecting their comments. Final version will be uploaded to the “partners’ web site”.</p>	
Activity	Act. 5.5: Policy oriented study on remote sensing agricultural drought monitoring methods (WP5)
Activity Leader	János Tamás University of Debrecen (Hungary) tamas@agr.unideb.hu
Partners	Institute of Hydrology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (Slovakia) University of Oradea (Romania)
<p>In the last period partners have started their work on the identification of remote sensing and GIS data tools for agriculture drought monitoring and forecast. The purpose of this part of their work is helping farmers and decision makers to identify drought at an early stage, to predict area-specific yield forecasts, to calculate possible yield loss, etc. Output will be finished in the next period.</p>	
Activity	Act. 5.6 Upgrading agricultural drought monitoring and forecasting: the case of Ukraine and Moldova (WP5)
Activity Leader	Tatiana Adamenko HydroMet Centre of Ukraine (Ukraine) adamenko@meteo.gov.ua Ecaterina Kuharuk Soil Research Institute (Moldova) ecostrategii@yahoo.com
Partners	State Agency of Water Resources (Ukraine) GWP Ukraine GWP Moldova
<p>On 3 June Moldavian partners organized a workshop for farmers with the purpose to inform them about the IDMP CEE, to identify their expectation from the programme and to present them the main moisture conservation practices existed in Moldova. Photos on Flickr.</p>	

Work Package 6	Capacity Development
Activity	Act. 6.1 Workshops
<p>IDMP CEE partners met for a second time in the half way until the end of the Programme. The workshop was held on 8-9 April in Ljubljana, Slovenia. While the first workshop was more introductory, the main goal of this one was to find connections between all activities and to discuss the conceptual approach one more time. Beside that the experts also defined the tasks that can be done jointly in the future and updated each other with</p>	

the progress made so far and plan for the following months. Additional info in the [Worskhop minutes](#), [Photogallery on Flickr](#) and in the [article](#).

3rd IDMP CEE workshop will take place on 2-4 October in Budapest, Hungary. It will be organized together with the [Drought Management Center for Souteastern Europe](#) (DMCSEE).

Activity *Act. 6.2 Capacity building trainings*

Together with the DMCSEE and the 3rd workshop (on 2nd October), a capacity building training will be organized. The training will try to cover different aspects from “drought monitoring to end users”. Experts and organizations outside of our region will be invited to share with us their experiences and good practices.

Activity *Act. 6.3 Peer Review Group (PRG)*

On our last workshop in Ljubljana, new procedure of reviewing milestone and final outputs was discussed and accepted. You can find meeting minutes with detailed description of the new procedure [here](#).

Work Package 7 **Knowledge and awareness**

Activity *Act. 7.1: Good practice Compendium*

After this activity was presented in detail on our last workshop in Ljubljana, the activity leader collected comments and suggestions from all partners on the following questions:

- What are final outputs of your activity which are applicable to include?
- For whom will the Compendium be prepared?
- Other ideas for content of Compendium?

As a next step, the current status of the existing Drought Management Plans across Europe and other existing policy and management documents will be analysed and later on included into the Compendium.

Activity *Act. 7.2: Rising awareness (dissemination activities)*

On 17 June (World Day to Combat Desertification) drought photo contest was launched. More information [here](#).

A video producing company was selected for preparing a video about IDMP in CEE. The video will be finished in September 2014. Video team will shoot in locations in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia identified in cooperation with IDMP CEE experts. Regional Secretariat members will accompany the video team during shooting.

Work Package 8 **Governance and Fundraising**

Activity *Act. 8.1: Improving fundraising capacity of CWP and RWP*

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Check the latest news on our web page:

<http://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-CEE/IDMPCEE/News-and-events/>

Here you can access all Activity Lists, milestone reports, past BTORs and other internal documents:

[IDMP CEE for partners.](#)

Upcoming events

- Technical workshop: GIS mapping of water bodies in Lithuania, Poland, Belarus and Kaliningrad oblast for the management of transboundary river basins (act. 1.4), Warsaw, Poland, 3 July 2014
- COP4 - Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention in Mikulov, Czech Republic on 23-25 September
- 6th edition of the European River Restoration Conference, integrated with the Final event of the SEE River project on 27 - 29 October in TechGate in Vienna.
- Third IDMP CEE workshop and capacity building training, Budapest, Hungary, 2-4 October 2014