## EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT – SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

# **COUNTRY REPORT OF UKRAINE**



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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) is a European Union initiative to modernize and simplify the collection, exchange and use of the data and information required for designing and implementing environmental policy. The project was launched to promote the protection of the environment in the European Neighbourhood region through the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument (ENPI). There are three priority themes – air, water and waste – identified for ENPI East countries, such as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.

This Country Report was prepared by Zoi environment network in close cooperation with National Focal Points and involvement of the local experts. The Report reflects current state of the environmental monitoring, infrastructure and inter-institutional cooperation on environmental protection within a country, also it provides information on gaps that should be filled and areas where environmental monitoring and data exchange could be improved.

For preparation of the Report the official documents were studied such as national environmental reports, strategies and policies etc. The regional and national environmental monitoring network and links between main monitoring actors for information and data exchange were observed. The Country Report also includes outcomes of the seminar and bilateral meetings with representatives of the executive bodies of Ukraine.

**Chapter 1** of the Country Report reflects the national system with the reference to environmental information. The development of national state of the environment reports is ensured by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine according to Article 25 of the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Environment". The environmental information is also provided in a series of other reports that are published in Ukraine. They include:

- 1. National report on the state of technogenic and natural safety in Ukraine;
- 2. National report on the state of drinking water and water supply,
- 3. National report on the state and perspectives of implementation of the state policy on energy efficiency;
- 4. National communication of Ukraine on climate change; and
- 5. The Statistics books and other information documents.

The statistical observations about the protection of the environment in Ukraine are carried out by the bodies of state statistics as well as other sector ministries and agencies. The statistical information is collected in relation to the natural environments (air, surface waters, soils, etc.) using sector forms, such as form No2-tp (air), form No2-tp (water), form No1-waste etc.

Several groups of environmental indicators are traditionally used in the development of national state of the environment reports. They are an air pollution and depletion of the ozone layer, climate change, water resources, biodiversity, land resources and soils, waste, agriculture, efficiency indicators of the environmental policy implementation. Since 2007, indicators on energy and transport have also been used in the reports. Most of environmental indicators (from the above mentioned groups) are developed according to the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in the Countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Not all of the indicators in the Guidelines can be produced in Ukraine due to limited or absent of data (for example, there is no data on the emissions of solid particles of fraction PM10 and PM2,5).

**Chapter 2** describes national monitoring system and departmental resources of primary environmental information, as well as the interaction between all environmental monitoring bodies based on information and data collecting, processing, exchange and dissemination. There are 8 actors of environmental monitoring on the national level:

- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources;
- Ministry of Emergency Situations;
- Ministry of Health Protection;
- Ministry of Agricultural Policy;
- State Agency of Forestry of Ukraine;
- State Agency of Water of Ukraine;

- State Agency of Land Resources of Ukraine;
- Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine.

At the regional level, environmental monitoring is carried out by the oblast departments (including regional environmental inspections) of the listed above organizations.

Bilateral agreements on cooperation in the field of environmental monitoring have been concluded between the Ministry of the Ecology and Natural Resources and bodies of the State System of Environmental Monitoring to regulate the process of information exchange on indicators and terms of environmental information provision. The data received from the regional and national bodies of the State Environmental Monitoring System is passed to the Information Analytical Center of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources and accumulated in the environmental databanks (<u>www.ecobank. org.ua</u>) ensuring information exchange with regional monitoring centers and bodies. The general structure of the current State Environmental Monitoring System and information flows inside this System are presented there.

**Chapter 3** refers to multilateral environmental agreements and obligations of Ukraine. Thus, Ukraine is a party to 20 international environmental conventions; two more agreements have been signed but not ratified (<u>http://www.unece.org/env/epr/epr\_studies/Ukraine%20II.pdf</u>). Ukraine has joined nine protocols to environmental conventions and signed but not ratified six of them. Ukraine reports to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and the secretariats of the current multilateral agreements/conventions on a regular basis.

**Chapter 4** provides cross-analyses of SEIS components, i.e. legislation, technical capacity, monitoring, reporting. In Ukraine there are many modern software products as well as scientific and technical solutions for provision and analysis of environmental information that could be used in the implementation of the Ukrainian SEIS component. However, there is no single centralized electronic data transfer network that would cover the information resources of all bodies of environmental monitoring. Besides, there is no single methodology of data interpretation and exchange of results of environmental monitoring. This hinders comprehensive assessment of natural environments. Obviously, the country needs to continue further improvement of legislation in the sphere of environment monitoring and improvement of environmental statistics reporting. Also, there is a need to develop methodology to assess the quality of the environment.

On the basis of cross-analysis of the current state of informational provision in the sphere of statistical reporting and environmental monitoring **Chapter 5** has identified the priority objectives for the development of information environmental infrastructure of Ukraine and areas of work related to the establishment of a shared European environmental information system SEIS. The table with proposed actions and implementation plan is presented in the Chapter.

#### I NATIONAL SYSTEM TO REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

In the outcome of the bilateral meeting between the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine and European Environment Agency held on September 22, 2011 at the Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (Astana, Kazakhstan) the parties have agreed on the importance of implementing ENPI-SEIS project "Towards the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the European Neighborhood" in Ukraine. The main goal of the project is to assist the protection of the environment in countries that participate in "European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument" Program.

The first phase of the project included:

- One-day seminar with participation more than 60 people representatives of the European Environment Agency, UNECE, various executive bodies of Ukraine, scientific institutions, national and international non-governmental organizations;
- Bilateral meetings with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine (with the involvement of the State Environmental Inspection, State Environment Investment Agency, State Agency of Water Resources); State Statistics Services of Ukraine; EU delegation in Ukraine and State Hydrometeorological Centre (with the involvement of the Ukrainian Scientific and Research Hydrometeorological Institute and Central Geophysical Observatory) and
- Preparation of the Country Report of Ukraine focused on assessment of the current state of environmental monitoring and infrastructure, as well as the prospects of its improving, particularly in the framework of the ENPI-SEIS project.

#### 1.1 Development of national state of the environment reports

The development of national state of the environment reports is ensured by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine according to Article 25 of the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Environment". The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 07.02.1992 N61 "On provision of the development of the national state of the environment report in Ukraine" envisages establishment of an inter-departmental commission to coordinate development of reports.

Every year an order of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources approves the structure and short guidance on the development of the sections in the national report. Over the last years, the structure of the report has been provisionally discussed with representatives of the public (mainly via the Public Council at the Ministry).

The national report is developed using information materials from more than 50 organizations – ministries, agencies, scientific and public organizations.

The draft report is sent for consideration to the ministries and agencies, whose representatives are members of the inter-departmental commission. Follow-up revision of the report is undertaken on the basis of consideration of results, comments and suggestions from the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

The developed report is forwarded to the Supreme Council of Ukraine for approval. Following that, the national report is printed publication and is uploaded on the website of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

At the time when this Country Report was written, the National state of the environment report of Ukraine for 2010 had been developed and approved by the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

Generalized environmental information is also provided in a series of other reports that are published in Ukraine. They include:

1. National report on the state of technogenic and natural safety in Ukraine;

2. National report on the state of drinking water and water supply,

3. National report on the state and perspectives of implementation of the state policy on energy efficiency;

- 4. National communication of Ukraine on climate change; and
- 5. The Statistics books and other information documents.

#### **1.2 Sources of statistical data and environmental information**

Statistical observations about the protection of the environment in Ukraine are carried out by the bodies of state statistics as well as sector ministries and agencies. In the first case, the state statistics data is being collected, in the second – administrative data is collected. The main statements and principles of the statistical observations are determined by the Law of Ukraine "On State Statistics". The system to collect information about the state of the environment is presented in Figure 1.

The main tasks of the state statistics bodies in the sphere of environment protection are:

- Collection, analysis, dissemination, storage, protection and usage of environmental information on the basis of statistical methodology;
- Ensuring reliability and objectivity of information;
- Interaction of the information system of the statistics bodies with the information systems of the authorities, international organizations and statistics services of other countries via mutual information exchange;
- Coordination of the activity related to collection and use of administrative data;
- Ensuring availability and openness of statistical information, its sources and compilation methodology.

The laws of Ukraine that regulate statistical observations are:

- On State Statistics;
- On Environmental Protection;
- On Air Protection;
- On Waste;
- On Nature Reserve Fund;
- Forest and Water Codes of Ukraine;

The following international documents are used when conducting statistical observations in Ukraine:

- Recommendations of the UN Statistical Commission on the inventory of air emissions (CORINAIR-99);
- European classification of air emission sources (SNAP);
- European waste classification (EWC-Stat);
- EU Waste framework directive;
- Classification of areas of the nature protection activities and costs (Cepa-2000).

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