

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE BALKANS AND EASTERN EUROPE

CONTRIBUTION TO THE 6-th WWF, MARSEILLE, 2012

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ORGANISER:



**EAST AEGEAN RIVER BASIN DIRECTORATE –
PLOVDIV, BULGARIA**

PARTNERS:



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER, BULGARIA



ARTOIS-PICARIE WATER AGENCY, FRANCE



CEENBO



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR WATER, FRANCE

Porto, 27-30 September 2011



Time – 21-22-23 March 2011

Place – Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Dedicated to – World Water Day and the 10th anniversary of the Water Framework Directive



Participants:

- All interested parties in water management in Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans (water authorities and stakeholders) were invited
- 113 participants from 14 countries attended the event
- Bulgarian Minister and Vice-minister of environment and water, the President of INBO, members of Liaison Bureau of CEENBO, the directors of the Bulgarian river basin authorities

Goals:

- to share experiences and best practices in the field of integrated water management
- to discuss the implementation of measures and successful practices to improve the water state
 - to cover the issues and challenges in terms of climate change
 - to share good examples of cooperation between water authorities and interested contributors, opportunities for new ways of collaboration
 - discussion on major topics regarding regional and transboundary water

Porto, 27-30 September 2011



THE AGENDA

- **More than 30 presentations organized in 6 thematic sessions:**

- **Session 1** - Preparation to the 6th World Water Forum – Marseille, March 2012
- **Session 2** – River Basin Management (Implementation of the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plans)
- **Session 3** – Urban Water Management
- **Session 4** – Measures for improvement of water status and win-win solutions in water management
- **Session 5** – Long-term perspectives for water in climate change conditions
- **Session 6** – International cooperation in South Eastern Europe and in the Balkans – future possibilities

Porto, 27-30 September 2011



THE AGENDA

- **Interactive sessions:** round tables, thematic discussions, “Water cafe”
- **Discussion with young people “Youth Water Parliament”** – students from high schools and universities in Bulgaria
- **Children’s plain-air drawings**
- **Meeting of the liaison bureau of the The Network of Basin Organisations in Central and Eastern Europe CEENBO**
- **Social events**



Porto,



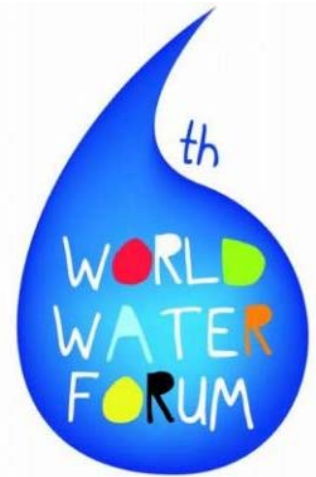
OUTPUTS

- More than 50 preliminary proposals for solutions
- Issuing a movie about the event which is planned to be disseminated among the participants of WWF6
- Follow up meetings of Youth Water Parliament – activities, meetings, statute, regulations



SOME OF THE PROPOSALS FOR SOLUTIONS

Contribution for the 6th WWF



- creating a “helpdesk” for exchanging practices in implementation of EU Water Directives between “new” member-states and neighboring countries;
- development of a Guidance document on methods, best practices and case studies for river restoration at Balkans level by 2014;
- creation of a webpage devoted to adaptation to climate change to collect ideas and existing experiences;
- initiating of agreements on transboundary basins;
- by 2015 affordable water pricing policy is defined, then ratified by legislative body and implemented by 5 governments in the region;
- in the Balkans and Eastern Europe regions, initiate 4 new agreements on transboundary basins by 2013 and accomplish 2 of them by 2015.

Thank you for your attention!

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