



## European Union Water Initiative Plus for Eastern Partnership Countries (EUWI+) Azerbaijan

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR LOCAL CONTRACTOR “RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN - FINALISATION”**

10 September 2020

#### **1. Financing**

European Union (ENI/2016/372-403)

#### **2. Procedure**

Single Tender Procedure according to EU PRAG

#### **3. Contracting Authority**

International Office for Water (IOW)

#### **4. Nature of contract**

Service contract

#### **5. Time period of implementation**

1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 – 21 October 2020

#### **6. Contract amount**

Maximum amount 5 000 €

#### **7. Background information**

The EUWI+ project addresses existing challenges in both development and implementation of efficient management of water resources. It specifically supports the Eastern Partnership<sup>1</sup> countries to move towards the approximation to EU acquis in the field of water management with a focus on trans-boundary river basin management as identified by the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The overall objective of the project is to improve the management of water resources in the EaP countries.

The specific objective is to achieve convergence of national policies and strategies with the EU Water Framework Directive, Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

The EUWI+ project is divided into three result areas as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a policy initiative launched at the Prague Summit in May 2009. It aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union and its six Eastern neighbours: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

- Result 1: Legal and regulatory frameworks improved in line with the WFD, IWRM and MEAs;
- Result 2: River Basins Management Plans designed and implemented in line with the WFD principles;
- Result 3: Lessons learnt regularly collected, shared and communicated to stakeholders.

This assignment will contribute to the implementation of the Result 2, activity 2.3.2. “Technical Support in the elaboration and implementation of pilot River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs)” and activity 3.1.2. “Organization of exchanges in pilot projects to support public and stakeholder participation in the preparation, implementation, review and update of RBMPs developed under result 2.3.2.”

## **8. Scope of works & deliverables**

### *8.1. Scope of works*

The main objectives of this assignment are to ensure the production of final draft RBMP for Kura upstream Mingachevir reservoir river basin, taking stocks of the preliminary reports produced within the project and to integrate the comments and proposals collected during the consultation phases during the previous phases of RBMP elaboration.

As a working base, the following previous reports elaborated in the frame of EUWI+ project will be transmitted for each basin:

- Description of the basin
- Identification and delineation of surface water bodies
- Identification and delineation of groundwater bodies
- Analysis of pressures & impact,
- Identification of protected areas
- Economic analysis, part 1.
- Risk assessment and Environmental objectives
- Programme of measures
- Economic analysis Part 2.
- Technical summary on characterisation and main issue
- Technical summary on Programme of measures
- Consultation reports

Note that these documents are available in English as well as in Azerbaijani. Data, shapefiles and information are available with these documents. The reports are available on request to the Azerbaijan country representative (see below section 9.3).

The activities requested are listed below:

1. Elaboration of the final Draft RBMP after selection of relevant comments.

### *8.2 Deliverables*

The deliverables will include:

1. The final Draft RBMP for Upper Kura upstream of Mingachevir reservoir river basin, reviewed from contribution of the public consultations. The outline will be in line with the Water Framework Directive annex 7 (see annex below) and could be enhanced with the proposed outline (see annex below). Around 150 pages.

### 8.3 Data collection

The basic principle of action is that all the complementary datasets presented or used in a map or a table or an indicator must be described in a catalogue of metadata (see the template established by the project in annex 2).

### 8.4 Format

All the documents consulted, maps, data and information collected, interviews' records will be transmitted in their original forms (paper, files, GIS layers) and their valorised forms (data base, Excel, etc).

Reports will be transmitted in digital form which can be corrected (MS Office 2007). Priority will be focused on illustrations, synthetic tables and straightforward style.

All the documents will be produced in Azeri and in English.

The documents produced (reports, presentations, maps, etc.) will have to follow format and templates which will be provided to the contractor at the beginning of the assignment.

### 8.5 Meetings & trainings

Regular meetings will be held with the contractor by the project team (at least 2 meetings). Because of current sanitary context, these meetings would be held online.

## 9. Implementation modalities

### 9.1 Schedule

Duration of the assessment will be up to 1 months and is expected to start from September 2020 and finish on October 2020. The contractor will have to inform regularly the experts' team about the problems and the progress. The experts' team will be allowed to question the contractor.

*Table 1 : Summary of the work schedule*

<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Volume</b>	<b>Language of deliverable</b>	<b>Start date</b>	<b>Due date for draft report</b>	<b>Finalization</b>
Final Draft Kura upstream Mingachevir reservoir river basin RBMP reviewed from contribution of the public consultations and beneficiaries	150 pages	Azeri and English	September 2020	15 October 2020	23 October 2020

### 9.2 Implementation modality

Works shall be implemented by a local company or group of NGO(s), university, research institution, etc. that are not representing the project beneficiaries. The studies will be closely coordinated, assisted and monitored by the project team, consisting mainly of the thematic experts (RBMP, data management), the country representative, the national thematic focal points for RBMP, and the National Focal Point or his/her representative. Close relationships will be formed and maintained with the beneficiary who will own the product and take full ownership of the RBMP.

Technical issues as data description (producers, availability, quality, scales, collection frequency, etc), related difficulties to collect them, data formatting requirements, methodological aspects, etc. will be discussed with the project team.

The contractor will have to designate competent specialists for each part of the assignment as well as a coordinator who will be responsible of managing these specialists, harmonising the document, and will inform regularly the project team.

As a matter of illustration, the contractor's team could be typically composed of the following expert profiles:

- 1 team leader expert for RBMP;
- 1 expert for GIS and maps
  
- 1 expert for communication.

### *9.3 Contact details*

The coordinator on behalf of EUWI+ (relevant country representative): Rafiq Verdiyev

The responsible thematic leader: Yannick Pochon, International Office for Water

## **10. Participation to the tender**

Interested parties (individual and legal persons) are invited to inquire the full tender dossier containing instructions and further information about the tender procedure from Ms. Zohra OUARTI, Project Assistants, International Office for Water (IOW) and Mr. Yannick POCHON, Project Manager, International Office for Water (IOW).

Email address: z.ouarti@oieau.fr

Email address: y.pochon@oieau.fr

Deadline for submission of the technical and financial offer is 24 September 2020, 17.00 CET.

*Annexes:*

*Annex 1: RBMP contents from WFD text*

*Annex 2: Proposal of an enhanced outline*

**Chapter 1. A general description of the characteristics of the river basin district required under Article 5 and Annex II, including:**

- 1.1 for surface waters:
  - mapping of the location and boundaries of water bodies,
  - mapping of the ecoregions and surface water body type within the river basin,
  - identification of reference conditions for the surface water body types;
- 1.2 for groundwater:
  - mapping of the location and boundaries of groundwater bodies;

**Chapter 2. A summary of significant pressures and impact of human activity on the status of surface water and groundwater, including:**

- 2.1 estimation of point source pollution,
- 2.2 estimation of diffuse source pollution, including a summary of land use,
- 2.3 estimation of pressures on the quantitative status of water including abstractions,
- 2.4 analysis of other impacts of human activity on the status of water;

**Chapter 3. Identification and mapping of protected areas as required by Article 6 and Annex IV;**

**Chapter 4. A map of the monitoring networks established for the purposes of Article 8 and Annex V, and a presentation in map form of the results of the monitoring programmes carried out for the status of:**

- 4.1 surface water (ecological and chemical);
- 4.2 groundwater (chemical and quantitative);
- 4.3 protected areas;

**Chapter 5. A list of the environmental objectives established under Article 4 for surface waters, groundwater and protected areas, including in particular identification of instances where use has been made of Article 4(4), (5), (6) and (7), and the associated information required under that Article;**

**Chapter 6. A summary of the economic analysis of water use as required by Article 5 and Annex III;**

**Chapter 7. A summary of the programme or programmes of measures adopted under Article 1, including the ways in which the objectives established under Article 4 are thereby to be achieved;**

- 7.1. a summary of the measures required to implement Community legislation for the protection of water;
- 7.2. a report on the practical steps and measures taken to apply the principle of recovery of the costs of water use in accordance with Article 9;
- 7.3. a summary of the measures taken to meet the requirements of Article 7 (abstraction of drinking water);

7.4. a summary of the controls on abstraction and impoundment of water, including reference to the registers and identifications of the cases where exemptions have been made under Article 11(3)(e);

7.5. a summary of the controls adopted for point source discharges and other activities with an impact on the status of water in accordance with the provisions of Article 11(3)(g) and 11(3)(i);

7.6. an identification of the cases where direct discharges to groundwater have been authorised in accordance with the provisions of Article 11(3)(j);

7.7. a summary of the measures taken in accordance with Article 16 on priority substances;

7.8. a summary of the measures taken to prevent or reduce the impact of accidental pollution incidents;

7.9. a summary of the measures taken under Article 11(5) for bodies of water which are unlikely to achieve the objectives set out under Article 4;

7.10. details of the supplementary measures identified as necessary in order to meet the environmental objectives established;

7.11. details of the measures taken to avoid increase in pollution of marine waters in accordance with Article 11(6);

**Chapter 8. A register of any more detailed programmes and management plans for the river basin district dealing with particular sub-basins, sectors, issues or water types, together with a summary of their contents;**

**Chapter 9. A summary of the public information and consultation measures taken, their results and the changes to the plan made as a consequence;**

**Chapter 10. A list of competent authorities in accordance with Annex I;**

**Chapter 11. The contact points and procedures for obtaining the background documentation and information referred to in Article 14(1).**

## *Annex 2: Proposal of an enhanced outline*

### **1. Description of the river basin characteristics**

#### 1.1. Geographic overview

- 1.1.1. Climate (effective rainfall, etc.)
- 1.1.2. Topography
- 1.1.3. Geology
- 1.1.4. Soils
- 1.1.5. Vegetation, land cover; ecoregions
- 1.1.6. Outstanding aquatic ecosystems & wetlands

#### 1.2. Water resources

- 1.2.1. Hydrographic network (natural, artificial)
  - 1.1.1. Surface water resources: characteristic flows, annual and inter-annual variations, ecological flows; quality, reference conditions; water bodies: identify and delineate preliminary surface water bodies (rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters including heavily modified water bodies and artificial water bodies) in the selected river basin district according to the provisions of the WFD and the relevant CIS guidance documents of the EU Common Implementation Strategy, based on available and relevant information (e.g. geological maps, profiles etc.); give each SWB a code and a name, considering national provisions; provide the boundaries of the delineated SWB electronically in GIS format.
  - 1.1.2. Groundwater resources: quantitative & qualitative aspects; water bodies: delineate groundwater bodies according to the provisions of the WFD and the relevant CIS guidance documents of the EU Common Implementation Strategy, based on available and relevant information (e.g. geological maps, profiles etc.); give each groundwater body a code and a name, considering national provisions; provide the boundaries of the delineated groundwater bodies electronically in GIS format in accordance with conventional requirements e.g. production of datasets, shapefile layers, QGIS maps and accompanying metadata; characterise each groundwater body in written format.

#### 1.2. Human activities & water uses (description and main trends)

- 1.2.1. Population (urban, rural, trends)
- 1.2.2. Agriculture (crops and livestock husbandry)
- 1.2.3. Fish farms, shellfish aquaculture
- 1.2.4. Forestry
- 1.2.5. Industry, mining, aggregates extraction, dredging
- 1.2.6. Hydropower generation (incl. hydropower potential)
- 1.2.7. Waste disposal, landfills, polluted sites
- 1.2.8. Navigation (incl. project)
- 1.2.9. Tourism
- 1.2.10. Linear infrastructures (incl. winter road maintenance, underground infrastructures)

#### 1.3. Risks (incl. climate change)

- 1.3.1. Flood
- 1.3.2. Scarcity

- 1.3.3. Erosion
- 1.3.4. Health issues
- 1.3.5. Radionuclides pollution
- 1.4. Stakeholders & programmes
  - 1.4.1. Administrative organisation
  - 1.4.2. Directory of water users
  - 1.4.3. Summary of strategies, programmes, plans and development projects concerning water resources
  - 1.4.4. Diagnosis: synthetic description with key figures

The document will focus on topics and activities with likely impacts on water resources with relevant facts and figures which will be used to evaluate their pressures.

## **2. Pressures and impact of human activities on water resources**

- 2.1. Estimation of point source pollution of organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorus, pesticides, hazardous substances, bacteriology (e.g. urban waste water treatment plant discharges: location, connected population (number of inhabitants), and connected industries (name, type and volume of activities, abstraction volume and discharge quality), pollution before treatment and discharged after treatment if measured, sludge management, storm water management, etc.
- 2.2. Estimation of diffuse source pollution of organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorus, pesticides, hazardous substances, bacteriology (e.g. balance estimation from crops yields, agronomic practices, and manure management, etc.)
- 2.3. Estimation of quantitative pressures on surface water and groundwater (water abstraction for households, industrial activities, irrigation; transfers outside/inside the river basin; localisation, volume, trends)
- 2.4. Analysis of other pressures and impacts of human activity on hydromorphological conditions (hydrological regime –abstraction, works, hydropeaking-, river continuity, morphological conditions, etc.)
- 2.5. Other pressures (e.g. invasive alien species)
- 2.6. Synthesis
  - 2.6.1. Quantity of pollution affected by domain of origin and balance during low flows
  - 2.6.2. Quantitative balance between abstractions and surface water and groundwater resources
  - 2.6.3. Global synthesis of pressures and hot spots with key figures
  - 2.6.4. Brief SWOT analysis

Results will be estimated in line with the results of the previous sections at the smallest available scale in order to possibly integrate them per water body and/or sub-basin.

Comparison of theoretical estimations will be made with monitoring results, depending on availability of robust results.

## **3. Identification and mapping of protected areas**

- 3.1. Drinking water abstractions
- 3.2. Economically significant species (fish, shellfish)
- 3.3. Bathing waters



- 3.4. Vulnerable zones (first attempt of designation from nitrate monitoring results and/or areas of intensive agricultural activity)
- 3.5. Sensitive areas (first attempt of designation from signs of eutrophication and population density)
- 3.6. Special areas of conservation (habitats), special protection areas (birds) (first attempt from Emerald Networks and current protection areas)

Identification and mapping will be formatted with results from chapter 1.

#### **4. Monitoring**

- 4.1. Monitoring networks (map, description) for surface water and groundwater
- 4.2. Results of the monitoring programmes & status of surface water (ecological, chemical), groundwater (chemical, quantitative), protected areas. Water bodies' status will be estimated from the national and/or local classification system.

#### **5. Objectives**

- 5.1. Risk assessment
- 5.2. Environmental objectives for surface water bodies (incl. risk analysis, deadline report justification, designation of heavily modified water bodies)
- 5.3. Environmental objectives for groundwater bodies (incl. risk analysis, deadline report justification)
- 5.4. Environmental objectives for protected areas
- 5.5. River basin targets for water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), protocol for water and health
- 5.6. Specific water-related objectives from national strategies and/or policies
- 5.7. Specific water-related objectives established by the Basin Council and/or basin consultation

Risk assessment estimated from pressures analysis (chapter 2) will be completed with elements from water body delineation & status assessment (parallel assignment).

Objectives may go beyond those strictly required in the WFD in order to take into account local issues or specific national regulations.

#### **6. Economic analysis**

- 6.1. Economic weights by relevant water use (results from chapter 2), socio-economic issues, main trends
- 6.2. Water prices, tariffs for discharges by sector and by territory
- 6.3. Description of recipient of the funds and management principles
- 6.4. Funding (investment, maintenance) by sector
- 6.5. Preliminary cost-recovery assessment
- 7.1. Programme of measures costing
- 7.2. Environmental benefits and cost-effectiveness for selecting measures

As the economic analysis in part 2 concerns both environmental objectives (disproportionate costs) and the programme of measures (costing, etc.), the final report could be delivered at the end of the assignment. Costs will be expressed in the national currency and in Euros.

#### **7. Programme of measures**

- 8.1. Basic measures
- 8.2. Supplementary measures

Measures to reach the objectives could be split into five categories: rules, governance, awareness, knowledge improvement and works. They will be described with a view to implementation, detailing the content, associated objectives, localisation, indicators to feed a dash-board, costs, plans concerned, project owners, and schedule, etc. The programme of measures will concern the country's first 6-year planning cycle. Measures with a schedule beyond the first cycle will be presented in a less detailed manner.

Measures will be presented at the best scale to ensure their successful implementation, preferably water body scale. This scale will be adapted to each measure.

The contractor will make an effort to describe the programme of measures in an informative manner and suggest appropriate priorities.