

Support to the development of a comprehensive framework for international environmental cooperation in the Republic of Belarus

FINAL REPORT

Period covered: 15 August 2011 – August 11, 2014

Minsk, August 2014



The project is financed by
the European Union



The project is implemented by UNDP Office in Belarus

Project Title: Support to the development of a comprehensive framework for international environmental cooperation in the Republic of Belarus

Contract No.: 2010/251-514

Country: BELARUS

Local operator

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Date of report: “ ___ ” _____ 2014

Reporting period: 15 August 2011 – 11 August 2014

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Aarhus Convention	Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
MHME	Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy
MHSO	Municipal and Housing Services Organizations
MNREP	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus
MSW	Municipal solid waste
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OCNREP	Oblast Committee of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United National Environment Programme



1. PROJECT SYNOPSIS

Project Title	: Support to the development of a comprehensive framework for international environmental cooperation in the Republic of Belarus
Contract No	: 2010/251-514
Country	: Belarus

Project objective[s]:	The <u>overall objective</u> of the project is: to introduce effective sustainable development patterns in Belarus, full account being taken of environmental issues and public participation in environmental decision-making processes at the national and local levels.
	The <u>specific objectives</u> are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide harmonization of environmental legislation with the EU body of environmental law and best practices, namely in solid waste management, biodiversity conservation, water management and ecological certification of products. • To support development of inter-institutional platform between state environmental and communal authorities, industry, NGOs and other stakeholders for procedural development and agreement in the field of solid waste management. • To demonstrate principal elements of full cycle of municipal solid waste (MSW) management in two selected sites. • To provide capacity-building for the local counterparts of two MSW management pilot projects, as appropriate to ensure their successful implementation. • To support biodiversity conservation in the Yelnya protected area by means of capacity building of protected area management, researches and sustainable ecotourism practices. • To provide a maximum dissemination and replication potential in biodiversity conservation by inclusion of the interested NGOs and the concerned population in design and implementation processes of the pilot projects. • To ensure adequate awareness of environmental issues, both theoretical and practical, among Belarusian environmental NGOs, the general population, scholars / students and relevant governmental bodies in the fields of MSW management, biodiversity conservation, ecotourism development, etc.



<p>Expected Results:</p>	<p>The results to be achieved by the Project, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment and effective enforcement of a comprehensive, socially-responsible and cost-effective environmental policy framework, which is approximated to European / international best practices, maintained as appropriate, involving the opinion of the civil society in its design and implementation stages, particularly in the field of water management, MSW management and biodiversity conservation. • Formulation of an accurate and realistic strategy and establishment of a medium-term investment needs assessment framework for MSW management at national, regional and local levels, which are aligned with the requirements of the relevant EU Directives and demonstrated through implementation of two pilot projects. • Achievement and strengthening of appropriate legal, human and technical capabilities of all project stakeholders to effectively fulfil their roles and responsibilities under the environmental policy, both at design and implementation stages. • Pilot projects in two cities put in operation to provide benchmarks on the practical use of best practices in MSW management policies at local and national levels. • A pilot project in one wildlife sanctuary put in operation to provide benchmarks on the practical use of EU compatible biodiversity conservation policy. • Enhanced public awareness of environmental issues, both theoretical and practical, in the field of waste management and biodiversity conservation / ecotourism development, in line with the country's commitments under the Aarhus Convention.
<p>Project activities:</p>	<p>Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building component</p>
<p>Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building</p> <p><i>1. Water management legislation in Belarus progressively approximated with the EU regulations</i></p>	<p>Activity 1.1.: Comparative analysis of present national water legislation in Belarus with relevant EU regulations</p> <p>Activity 1.2: Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for water management in Belarus</p> <p>Activity 1.3: Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for water management in Belarus</p> <p>Activity 1.4: Drafting primary and secondary legal acts lacking for proper water management in Belarus</p> <p>Activity 1.5: Organizing water management training workshop</p> <p>Activity 1.6: Organizing a study tour in the area of water management</p>
<p>Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building</p> <p><i>2. EU waste management</i></p>	<p>Activity 2.1: Critical analysis and evaluation of the actual data on MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types</p> <p>Activity 2.2: Elaborating guidelines for assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types</p>



<i>regulations and practices analyzed and used for improvement of the Belarusian relevant legal system</i>	Activity 2.3: Formulating the MSW management strategy for MSW production in pilot districts and MSW treatment
	Activity 2.4: Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus
	Activity 2.5: Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus
	Activity 2.6: Drafting legal acts in the field of MSW management in Belarus
	Activity 2.7: Preparing training materials on MSW management strategy and curriculum for technical training workshops
	Activity 2.8: Organizing study tours devoted to operation of the recommended MSW management options in the EU
	Activity 2.9: Organizing training workshops on MSW management strategy
Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building <i>3. Biodiversity conservation legislation and procedures improved, based on comparative analysis with EU Directives</i>	Activity 3.1: Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus
	Activity 3.2: Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus
	Activity 3.3: Preparing proposals on the improvement of the legal system in the field of biodiversity conservation in Belarus
	Activity 3.4: Organizing training workshops concerning biodiversity protection strategy
	Activity 3.5: Organizing study tours concerning biodiversity protection strategy
Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building <i>4. Proposals to integration of EU procedures and practices in ecological certification of products into Belarusian legislation made</i>	Activity 4.1: Preparing proposals on the progressive approximation of Belarus legislation with the EU legislation in the area of ecological certification
	Activity 4.2: Organizing round tables on enhancement of the national TLF for ecological certification in Belarus
	Activity 4.3: Drafting technical regulations lacking (or introducing changes and amendments in the current technical regulations) in the field of ecological certification in Belarus
	Activity 4.4: Organizing a training workshop concerning for ecological certification in Belarus
Project activities:	Pilot projects component
Pilot projects	Activity 5.1: Conducting a study in support of MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin



5. <i>More elements of full MSW management cycle put into operation in Mosty and Kobrin</i>	Activity 5.2: Organizing a competition of local initiatives to develop technical solutions and preliminary project proposals for the MSW landfills in Mosty and Kobrin
	Activity 5.3: Designing the MSW landfill in Mosty and Kobrin
	Activity 5.4: Developing specifications of MSW management equipment and organizing the bidding process
	Activity 5.5: Ensuring procurement and installation of MSW management equipment in Mosty and Kobrin
	Activity 5.6: Ensuring smooth operation of the pilot projects' MSW management systems
	Activity 5.7: Ensuring the monitoring of the pilot projects' MSW management systems
	Activity 5.8: Conducting comparative study on MSW management before and after implementation of pilot projects
	Activity 5.9: Demonstrating the results of operation of the pilot projects' MSW management systems
Pilot projects 6. <i>New set of activities for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implemented towards sustainable biodiversity conservation at Yelnya protected area</i>	Activity 6.1: Developing a new set of activities for the Yelnya Reserve Management Plan
	Activity 6.2: Organizing the bidding process for equipment for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implementation
	Activity 6.3: Ensuring equipment installation for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implementation
	Activity 6.4: Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: monitoring of surface and groundwater level
	Activity 6.5: Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: ecotourism routes
	Activity 6.6: Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: a visit centre
	Activity 6.7: Capacity building of staff: trainings
	Activity 6.8: Capacity building of staff: guidelines on the best ecotourism practices
	Activity 6.9: Capacity building of staff: Yelnya report
	Activity 6.10: Capacity building of staff: workshops
Project activities:	Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities component
Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities	Activity 7.1: Conducting a feasibility study for establishment of Aarhus centre at oblast level
	Activity 7.2: Establishing a local (pilot) Aarhus Centre
	Activity 7.3: Training the local Center's staff



<i>7. Establishing a local Aarhus centre completed</i>	Activity 7.4: Study tour for staffs of the Aarhus Centres of Belarus
Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities <i>8. Awareness-raising and project results dissemination campaign implemented</i>	Activity 8.1: Expanding the network of Green Schools
	Activity 8.2: Developing additional demonstration materials for Green Schools
	Activity 8.3: Green Schools training workshops
	Activity 8.4: Green Schools network monitoring
	Activity 8.5: Draft legal act “On endorsing Regulation about an access to information, general public participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental issues”.
	Activity 8.6: Biodiversity database Activity 8.7: Study of social and economic benefits from the potential biofuel production in the Chernobyl-affected areas, as well as dissemination of essential information
Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities <i>9. EU visibility and project’s information coverage insured by a web-site</i>	Activity 9.1: Implementing project results dissemination campaign: publications
	Activity 9.2: Implementing project results dissemination campaign: project website
	Activity 9.3: Populating and maintaining the project Internet site
Project activities:	Project management component
Project management <i>10. Effective project management and monitoring ensured</i>	<i>Activity 10.1: Project registration and inception</i>
	Activity 10.2: Project monitoring and finalizing
	Activity 10.3: Project management and project office functioning
Project starting date	15 August 2011 Registration of international technical assistance projects was completed on 15 August, 2011. This date can be considered as starting date of the Action implementation in Belarus.
Project duration	36 months (the implementation of the Action begins on the date when respective Agreement is registered with the relevant authorities of the Republic of Belarus).



2. PROJECT ANALYSIS

European Union contribution agreement with the international organization 2010/251-514 was placed with the United Nations Development Programme for the implementation of the Action titled “Support to the development of a comprehensive framework for international environmental co-operation in the Republic of Belarus”.

The total cost of the Action was EUR 5,079,760, where the contribution of the EU was EUR 5,000,000 and the contribution of the UNDP was EUR 79,760.

Based on the Addendum 1 to the above mentioned Contribution Agreement, the total cost of the Action was increased up to EUR 5,159,469 due to the increase of the contribution from the UNDP (EUR 159,469) while the EU contribution remained unchanged.

2.1. Target groups

National Implementing Agencies of the Action is Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus.

Project partners and beneficiaries: Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy (MHME), local authorities (Kobrin City Executive Committee, Mosty City Executive Committee) and local Municipal and Housing Services Organizations (MHSO), Miory Regional Executive Committee and Yelnya Hydrological Reserve Administration, Oblast Committees of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (OCNREP), Ministry of Forestry and Disna District Forestry Enterprise, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Sport and Tourism, Ministry of Education, regional departments of education in Mosty, Kobrin, Miory and Sharkaushchyna, Energy Efficiency Department, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, State Committee on Land Resources, APB-BirdLife Belarus, Association "Rural and Eco Tourism" (Belarus), other environmental NGOs, communities.

Target groups: Central and local authorities (in particular MNREP, MHME, Executive Committees and MHSOs in Mosty and Kobrin towns, Administration of Yelnya Hydrological Reserve and Miory City Executive Committee, Disna District Forestry Enterprise), civil society organizations, businesses, academia, media, decision-makers, and the general public all over Belarus. In the process of implementation of “Green Schools” project direction new stakeholders are involved, and namely Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, district departments of education of Miory, Mosty, Kobrin and Sharkaushchyna.

2.2. Project staff

The project was implemented through the Project Implementation Unit (PIU). The PIU included permanent project staff in amount of 16 people, and namely:

- Project Manager, who is responsible for overall project management;
- 3 Task Coordinators: on MSW, on biodiversity conservation and on other matters. Task Coordinators are responsible for management of concrete directions within the project scope;
- 8 Thematic Coordinators who are dealing with special issues under the project: Thematic Coordinator on Mosty pilot project (based in Mosty), Thematic Coordinator



- on Kobrin pilot project (based in Kobrin), Thematic Coordinator on Yelnya pilot project (part time, based in Minsk), Thematic Coordinator on Elnya pilot project (part time, based in Miory), thematic coordinator on water management, Thematic Coordinator on ecological certification, Thematic Coordinator on local Aarhus centre, Thematic Coordinator on communication/PR;
- Administrative and Finance Assistant who is in charge of all the administrative and financial issues;
 - Procurement Specialist who is responsible for all the procurements;
 - IT-specialist who is dealing with IT support for all the project offices, project web-site and Internet oriented biodiversity database;
 - Driver.

Short-term and long-term international and national experts and consultants were recruited when required to implement concrete tasks within the defined time schedule. They were not considered as permanent project staff.

2.3 Budget

The project Action budget, with due regards to the increase of the budget pursuant to the Addendum 1 to the Contribution Agreement, is EUR 5,159,469.

3. SUMMARY AND CONTENTS

The project consists of the three specific components, and the fourth component is “project management component” envisaging organization of all the project implementation.

Component 1: Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building

Objectives

- Harmonization of environmental legislation with the EU body of environmental law and best practices, namely in waste management, biodiversity conservation, water management and ecological certification of products;
- Support in development of interinstitutional platform between state environmental and communal authorities, industry, NGOs and other stakeholders for procedural development and agreement in the field of waste management.

Scope

This activity supports the Belarusian authorities, primarily the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (MNREP) and the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy (MHME) in reaching their objective of driving the country along the lines of the EU's framework environmental policy. Besides these two partners, the component seeks the strengthening and streamlining of the policy-making and regulatory bodies in the environment, waste, urban planning sectors.

Component 2: Pilot projects

The pilot projects shall have a maximum dissemination and replication potential in selected fields dealt with under Component 1, and systematically involved the interested NGOs and the concerned population by inclusion in the project design and implementation processes.



This component also includes capacity-building measures for the local counterparts of the pilot projects, as appropriate to ensure their successful implementation.

Within the Action, 2 pilot projects on the municipal Solid Waste Management in Mosty and Kobrin towns were implemented.

Background

The MSW management pilot projects were implemented in two cities, Mosty and Kobrin. Mosty have about 32 thousand inhabitants, about half of which are in town and the rest in village. Kobrin have 90 thousand inhabitants, 62 thousand of which are in town or suburbs and 28 thousand are in villages. Both cities have central sanitary landfills. Waste from villages is mostly disposed off at so called “mini-landfills”, there are about 50 in each city area. Equipment for mixed waste collection is on average old. People bring their waste in bags directly to the collection vehicles. Both cities have relatively poorly equipped separate collection systems from citizens for plastics and glass, but the systems are in place and used by citizens, especially in towns. Collection is provided by steel recycling containers approximately 1 m³ volume. Paper is collected only from organizations. There is no system for regular collection of bulk waste from citizens, collection is on request for extra payment. Mosty have a small sorting plant, sorting plant in Kobrin is planned. There is no separate boasted collection or treatment.

Objectives

The pilot project in **Mosty** will demonstrate 8 elements of full cycle of MSW management, namely:

- separate collection of packaging and similar waste (white and colored glass and cans, plastics, paper) and effective transportation;
- sorting of separately collected packaging and similar waste;
- separate collection of biowaste and effective transportation;
- composting and utilization of biowaste;
- prevention of biowaste;
- separate collection of hazardous wastes from MSW;
- MSW landfill management (including de-gasification);
- bulk waste separate collection and management (construction waste from households, large electric/electronic appliances, used furniture and other bulk waste).

The pilot project in **Kobrin** will demonstrate 2 elements of full cycle of MSW management, namely:

- separate collection of packaging and similar waste (white and colored glass and cans, plastics, paper) and effective transportation;
- sorting of separately collected packaging and similar waste.

Tasks

The specific tasks in **Mosty** include:

- Research of preferences of citizens in private (family) houses in town part of Mosty area to accept home compostainers (free) or to accept biowaste containers (free or at extra charge - to be specified by MHSO in Mosty), specification of number of compostainers and of biowaste containers for private (family) houses in town part of Mosty;
- specification of location of separate collection containers (biowaste containers for municipally owned large houses, packaging waste containers both in town and village)



- part of Mosty area – with assistance from the MHSO in Mosty), and of bulk container station sites (with assistance from the MHSO in Mosty);
- specification of propeller mechanism for biowaste crusher and compost screen (based on the equipment available to the MHSO in Mosty – with their assistance);
 - conceptual design of landfill de-gasification system (probably horizontal gas drains, with a simple biofilter, density of drains, structure of a biofilter) for a part of the landfill to be intensified, conceptual proposal of intensified landfill site development (especially specification of area for landfill of waste, guideline for proper creation of landfill layers and for formation of landfill shape), and proposal of location of composting plant in the landfill territory and conceptual design of compost plant ground (structure of the layers, slopes of ground, effluent water management).

The specific tasks in **Kobrin** include:

1. Specification of location of separate collection containers sites (with assistance from the MHSO in Kobrin).

The third pilot project was implemented on selected measures towards biodiversity conservation at the protected area Yelnya.

Background

Protected area “Yelnya” is a unique bog ecosystem which provides a sanctuary for many rare and endangered flora and fauna species.

Yelnya covers area of 25,301 ha, located in the north of the Republic of Belarus (Miory and Sharkaushchyna rayons, Vitebsk Oblast), close to the border of Latvia and Lithuania.

This protected area of national significance was created in 1968, and is constantly enlarging. Since 2002, it was recognized as wetlands of international importance (‘Ramsar list’). Since 2007, it has a status of republican landscape protected area. From 2006, the management unit of the protected area was created, including 3 specialists and financed by local environmental protection funds. The land of the protected area belongs to the state forest enterprise “Disnensky leskhoz”.

There are 15 plants species and 24 fauna species living there, included in the Red Book of the Republic of Belarus. Among them are the Dwarf Arctic Birch and the Cloudberry which are unique to Belarus. The area is a vital stop-over for migrating geese and cranes.

In the first half of XX century amelioration works have been done at the territory of the Yelnya. Melioration canals cause over drying of the bog which brings about almost annual fires. Although three rivers flow from the bog, there are none actually re-filling it and thus it is solely dependent on rain and ground water.

The management plan “Yelnya” was developed and approved in 2008. In the scope of the GEF Small Grants project implementation, priority activities on restoration of hydrological regime of bogs are completed. A preliminary efficiency assessment of the completed activities shows significant success in water level regulation in the bog. However, there is an evident necessity in establishing a network of tools to monitor water levels and identifying additional activities needed to optimize the hydrological regime of one of the most significant bogs in Europe for biodiversity conservation and climate change prevention.

Objective



The wider objective of the pilot project includes support of biodiversity conservation in the protected area Yelnya by means of capacity building of protected area management, researches and sustainable ecotourism practices.

Tasks

To achieve the above-mentioned objective the following tasks are proposed:

- Collection of additional data and development of a new set of activities for the Management Plan, in particular, in the area of hydrology taking into consideration the EC requirements;
- Assistance in implementation of priority activities of management plan for the protected area;
- Capacity building of management staff: office premises development, trainings and informational support;
- Conduction of field research, establishment of the network for surface and groundwater level monitoring;
- Ecotourism and rural tourism development: establishment of new colouristic routes, establishment of the eco-centre.

Component 3: Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities

Objective

- To ensure adequate awareness of environmental issues, both theoretical and practical, among the population. As far as pilot projects are devoted to waste management and biodiversity conservation / ecotourism development, especial focus should be given to these issues.

This activity supports the Belarusian environmental NGOs, the general population, scholars / students and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (MNREP) in reaching their objective of raising environmental awareness.

Tasks

The following tasks are envisaged:

- Republic of Belarus ratified “*Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters*” (Aarhus Contention) in 2000. In the end of 2005 first Aarhus center started to function in Minsk. At present, process of establishment of such Aarhus centres at oblast level is not enough efficient. Taking into account that pilot projects are implemented at oblast level, it is useful to establish an Aarhus center in one of the oblasts, selected for pilot projects implementation (Vitebsk, Grodno or Brest oblast). Such center can be established at the basis of Oblast Committee of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of MNREP. This center should provide environmental information, as well as to provide support in environmental raising campaigns related to pilot projects topics;
- To develop further and expand the network of Green Schools established with EC funds within the above mentioned districts organizing exchange of experience between teachers and between children, training leaders;
- To publish well illustrated magazine-type publication with the best European practices on biodiversity conservation, activities within the pilot projects for free distribution as a supplementary copy for subscribers of Belarusian nature magazines (Rodnaya pryroda, Dikaya priroda, Ptushki i my, Mir zhyvotnykh etc.);



- The next objective is to conduct separate waste collection campaign in Mosty and Kobrin towns and their surroundings – area of the pilot project # 1;
- To develop national web-site for mapping biodiversity and it's monitoring this way, raising awareness on biodiversity conservation, with emphasis on protected areas and its biodiversity. It will help to decrease pressure of tourism from the protected areas as tourists can use information from the site to find wished species elsewhere.

Results actually received by the project with due regard to the objectives and originally planned tasks are given in the section 4 below.

4. PROJECT EVALUATION

The project was subject to two evaluations by European experts:

- Mid-term project evaluation that was carried out end of 2012 – beginning 2013. Respective report was prepared, discussed with the key stakeholders and duly presented. All the recommendations of the report were duly considered and implemented in the rest life time of the project;
- Final project evaluation that was carried out in the middle of 2014. Final project evaluation report was prepared, discussed with the key stakeholders and duly submitted in June 2014. The report also contains recommendations that should be taken into account for the future projects and programs.



5. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

5.1 ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUR DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD UNDER COMPONENT 1

Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
Component 1. Legal and procedural approximation, and capacity building				
Output 1. Water management legislation in Belarus progressively approximated with the EU regulations	1.1. Comparative analysis of present national water legislation in Belarus with relevant EU regulations	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2012. Concept on approximation of Belarusian and European legislation in the field of water management was prepared and approved by the MNREP. Comparative analysis of present Belarusian water legislation with relevant EU regulations was completed and approved by the MNREP.
	1.2. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for water management in Belarus	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2012. Report with proposals for improvement of legislation in the field of water management in line with the EU directives was prepared and approved by the MNREP. A list of technical normative acts to be developed was defined. These documents introduce new practice on quality assessment of surface waters on the basis of hydro-biological, hydro-chemical and hydro-morphological indicators. The work was done by local and international experts. Report on harmonization of Belarusian legislation with EU acts in the field of water management was prepared by international expert, and approved by the MNREP.



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	<p>1.3. Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for water management in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>No changes</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2012. Meeting of a round table format was organized in March 2012. More than 60 participants took part in the round table including 16 key decision-makers (representatives of the MNREP and MHME, other ministries), EU Delegation to Minsk, Embassies, the UNDP, organizations and institutions working in the field of water management, NGOs. First results achieved under the project were presented and discussed at the round table.</p> <p>Second round table was held on November 28, 2012. First draft of 5 technical normative documents (formulating new practice on quality assessment of surface waters on the basis of hydro-biological, hydro-chemical and hydro-morphological indicators) were presented and discussed. About 50 participants took part in the round table, including 9 decision makers (representatives of the MNREP, regional committees of natural resources, etc.). Minutes of the round tables were duly prepared and signed.</p>
	<p>1.4. Drafting primary and secondary legal acts lacking for proper water management in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>Development of the last draft new technical normative document was completed in the middle of 2014; and the majority drafts (12 documents) were duly finalized and</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>1. Final drafts of 13 new regulatory acts or amendments to the existing ones were prepared and submitted to the MNREP:</p> <p>(i) Technical code of common practice (TCP) "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			submitted at the end of 2013.	<p>The rules for definition of the ecological (hydrobiological) status of limnetic ecosystems";</p> <p>(ii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of the ecological (hydrobiological) status of river ecosystems";</p> <p>(iii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of chemical (hydrochemical) status of lake ecosystems";</p> <p>(iv) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of chemical (hydrochemical) status of river ecosystems";</p> <p>(v) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Analytical control and monitoring. Guidance standard on determining the degree of modification of river hydromorphology";</p> <p>(vi) Amendment No. 1 to the TCP 17.06-08-2012 (02120) "Environmental protection and nature use. Hydrosphere. Order of definition of norms of allowable discharge of chemicals and other substances in sewage waters";</p> <p>(vii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules of observations of the surface waters at accidental pollution";</p> <p>(viii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. Requirements for laboratories performing analytical control and monitoring of surface and</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>sewage water";</p> <p>(ix) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Analytical control and monitoring. Water quality. Determination of mercury. Method using atomic fluorescence spectrometry";</p> <p>(x) TCP "Environmental Protection and Nature Use. Hydrosphere. Standards of maximum permissible concentration of chemical and other substances in water of superficial water objects ";</p> <p>(xi) Resolution of the Council of Ministers "On approval of regulations on composition and function of river basin councils";</p> <p>(xii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature use. Hydrosphere. Rules of development of river basin management plan".</p> <p>(xiii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. Analytical control and monitoring. The order of attribution of surface water object to the classes of ecological conditions (status)."</p> <p>2. 12 manuals on applications of the stated above new regulatory acts and amendments to the existing ones were prepared and agreed with the MNREP.</p> <p>3. Replication strategy for further improvement of the legislation in the field of water management and approximation with the EU legislation was prepared and agreed with the MNREP and the UNDP.</p> <p><i>Note: the majority of the documents prepared were officially approved by the MNREP by the</i></p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	1.5 Organizing water management training workshop	No difficulties	2 training workshops were organized instead of 1 originally planned	<p><i>end of the project.</i></p> <p>Activity is completed in 2013. Due to the introduction of new practice to Belarus on surface waters quality assessment, basin management and approximation of water legislation with the European (see activity 1.4. above), a need in organization of 2 training workshops instead of originally planned one, was identified. And 2 training workshops were organized:</p> <p>(i) 27 specialists and 20 decision-makers were trained at the workshop "Improvement of legislation of the Republic of Belarus in the field of water management" that was organized at the end of May 2013 in Brest. List of participants included representatives of the MNREP, Brest authorities, educational institutions, regional committee of natural resources, other stakeholders. New regulatory acts developed within the project and amendments to the existing regulatory acts were presented at the workshop. Recommendations for further improvement of legislation of Belarus in the field of water management and approximation with the EU legislation were developed by the participants of the workshop and duly presented to the MNREP. Minutes of the workshop were duly prepared and signed.</p> <p>(ii) In 2012 water management workshop was organized on May 22-24, 2012 in Grodno. The topic of the workshop was discussion of the</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>proposed amendments to the water management regulations and standards. More than 50 specialists took part in the workshop including 20 decision-makers and about 30 representatives from the MNREP, its regional departments, specialized institutions functioning in the water management sector.</p> <p>Minutes of the training workshop were duly prepared and signed.</p>
	1.6 Organizing a study tour in the area of water management	No difficulties	3 study tours in the field of water management were organized instead of 1 originally planned.	<p>Activity is completed in 2013.</p> <p>(i) 6 specialists from the MNREP, special institutions working in the field of water management, regional committees of nature resources were trained at the study tour that was organized to France in March 2013. The study tour was devoted to learning of experience of river basin management and functioning of river basin councils. Trained specialists were involved at further project activities in the field of water management.</p> <p>(ii) In 2012, 5 specialists were trained at the study tour that was organized to Slovakia on July 24-27, 2012. The purpose of the tour was to study practical experience on identification of ecological and chemical status of the surface waters.</p> <p>(iii) First study tour was organized in October 2011 for one official to learn the practice of water management in Kazakhstan.</p>
Output 2. EU waste	2.1. Critical analysis and evaluation of the actual	No difficulties	No changes	<p>Activity is completed in 2012.</p> <p>Report containing critical analysis and evaluation</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
management regulations and practices analyzed and used for improvement of the Belarusian relevant legal system	data on MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types			of the actual data on MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types was prepared, approved by the MNREP and MHME.
	2.2. Elaborating guidelines for assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types	The guidelines are the first guidelines of such types to be used for the regions.	There was a little delay in implementation of this activity in comparison with the approved schedule, because testing of the guidelines in the pilot regions has taken longer time than planned	Activity is completed in 2012. Similar European guidelines were carefully studied. Draft guidelines for the assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types were developed, and discussed with the MNREP and MHME. Draft guidelines were tested in the pilot cities (Mosty and Kobrin). Upon results of the testing, final draft of guidelines were prepared and approved by the MNREP and the MHME. The MNREP and MHME distributed the guidelines among regional departments of the Ministries (regional committees of natural resources and regional municipal and housing services organizations).
	2.3. Formulating the MSW management strategy for MSW production in pilot districts and MSW treatment	No difficulties	MSW management strategies for pilot regions were duly prepared and approved earlier than planned. Implementation of the strategies started. Based on recommendations of mid-term project evaluation report framework concept	Activity is completed in 2013. (i) Based on the results of implementation of pilot projects on municipal solid waste (MSW) management in 2 regions (Mosty and Kobrin) and on the strategies on MSW management that were prepared for the pilot regions, framework concept on MSW management at national level was prepared and agreed by the MNREP and MHME. This concept is a good basis for preparation of MSW management strategy at country level.



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>on MSW management at national level, with due regard to the results of implementation of pilot projects, was developed in 2013.</p>	<p>(ii) In 2012 MSW management strategies for the MSW production and treatment for the pilot regions were prepared for each of the regions (Mosty and Kobrin). The strategies contain action plan on improvement of MSW management system in the pilot regions. Before finalization, draft strategies were placed in the web-sites of Mosty and Kobrin local authorities and local MHSOs for possibility of comments from the NGOs and local population. Provisions of the strategies developed for the pilot regions were discussed at the training workshop that was organized in Minsk in June 2012. MSW management strategies were approved by the MNREP, MHME, local municipal and housing services organizations in Mosty and Kobrin and local executive committees of Mosty and Kobrin.</p> <p>(iii) Report on the MSW management policy targets at different levels of implementation was prepared and approved by the MNREP and the MHME in 2012.</p>
	<p>2.4. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>No changes</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2012. Report containing feasibility study on the application of regulatory and economic instruments in the field of MSW management policy, including tariffs, institutional aspects, and information flow was prepared and approved by the MNREP. The report is based on the analysis of the best European practices. The report was developed with due regard to the results of the</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>activities 2.2 and 2.3. Based on the mentioned report, concept for improvement of Belarusian legislation in the field of MSW management is prepared and approved by the MNREP and MHME. The Concept contains justification and proposals on amendment of national legislation with concrete list of lacking normative documents and normative documents to be amended.</p>
	<p>2.5. Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>First round table on legal and institutional framework for MSW management was organized earlier than planned due to the necessity to discuss results achieved under activity 2.4 above. 3 round tables instead of 2 originally planned were organized.</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. Due to the necessity to discuss experience on practical improvement of MSW management systems, based on the proposed amendments to the legislation and results achieved in the project pilot cities, 3 round tables instead of originally planned 2 ones, were organized: (i) All the results achieved in the field of improvement of municipal solid waste (MSW) management legislation were presented and discussed at the round table that was organized on May 13, 2014 in Minsk. In total 53 specialists and practitioners, including 12 decision-makers, took part in the discussions, including representatives of the involved Ministries, institutions working in the field of MSW management and NGOs. Recommendations for further improvement of the legislation in the field of MSW were elaborated and reflected in the minutes of the meeting and submitted to the MNREP. (ii) More than 50 specialists, including 14 decision</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>makers, took part and were trained at the round table that was organized on November 15, 2013. Decision-makers include representatives of state authorities, MNREP, regional committees of natural resources. Other participants included representatives of NGOs, private companies, municipal and housing services organizations of Mosty and Kobrin, etc. Normative documents in the field of waste management developed within the project, involving new technical code of common practice containing general rules of MSW management were presented and discussed at the round table. NGOs running MSW management projects were also given an opportunity to present their results and achievements.</p> <p>(iii) Round table on legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus was organized in March 2012 in Minsk. 60 people took part in the round table, including 12 key decision-makers (representatives of the MNREP, MHME, regional committees of the natural resources), NGOs, representatives of the local municipal and housing services organizations, etc. Draft proposals for improvement of Belarusian legislation in the field of MSW management were discussed. Results of the round table discussions are taken into account for further project implementation.</p> <p>Minutes of the round table meetings were prepared and signed.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	2.6. Drafting legal acts in the field of MSW management in Belarus	No difficulties	Implementation of activity started earlier than envisaged	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. Based on the proposals on amendment of national legislation (activity 2.4 above), the following draft legal acts in the field of the MSW management were prepared, duly discussed, agreed with the key stakeholders and submitted to the MNREP and MHME for further approval in due order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- draft Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus "on approval of a list of municipal waste";- draft Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy "On amendments and additions to the Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus dated April 17, 2009 No. 19 and on cancellation of Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing economy of the Republic of Belarus dated July 30, 2033 No. 26";- draft Resolution of the Ministry of Natural resources and Environment Protection of the Republic of Belarus and Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus "On approval of Rules on municipal solid waste management";- draft law of the Republic of Belarus "On amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On waste



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>management”;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- draft law of the Republic of Belarus “On amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On protection of rights of consumers of municipal and housing services”;- draft Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus “On amendments and additions to the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated January 27, 2009 No. 99”;- draft Decree of the President “On amendments and additions to some Decrees of the President of the Republic of Belarus”;- Instructions on the organization of collection, separation by types, incineration and/ or utilization of waste of goods and package”. (<i>Note: these instructions were already approved by the resolution of the MNREP</i>).- Draft technical code of common practice "Environmental Protection and Nature Use. Wastes. Rules of Municipal Wastes Management". <i>Note: this technical document is to be adopted by joined Resolution of the MNREP and MHME, Once adopted, it will substitute a number of technical documents that are out of time.</i>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	2.7. Preparing training materials on MSW management strategy and curriculum for technical training workshops	No difficulties	More disks with training materials were prepared and disseminated (260 in comparison with 100 originally planned)	Activity is completed in 2014. The following training materials were published and widely disseminated among the stakeholders all over the Republic including during regional workshops on MSW management strategies: (i) 300 hard copies of guidelines for the assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types; (ii) 100 hard copies of MSW management strategies for the MSW production and treatment for the pilot regions; (iii) 100 hard copies of materials on best EU practices in the field of MSW management. 260 DVD disks containing the above mentioned materials and a lot of additional materials on MSW management, including special videos, MSW management strategies, etc. were disseminated in 2012-2014, including during 6 regional seminars organized in Grodno (August 2012), in Kobrin (December 2012), in Minsk (July 2013), in Bobruisk (August 2013), in Gomel (October 2013), and in Vitebsk (December 2013). The disks were also disseminated among the stakeholders during 4 regional workshops on MSW management strategies, final round table (activity 2.5. above) and final workshop on implementation of the 2rd. component that were organized in 2014.
	2.8. Organizing study tours devoted to	No difficulties	The second study tour was organized earlier	Activity is completed in 2013. (i) 18 specialists were trained at the study tour



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	<p>operation of the recommended MSW management options in the EU</p>		<p>than initially envisaged due to the necessity to better study the European practice and proper usage of the equipment and to organize better functioning of the procured equipment</p>	<p>organized to Estonia and Lithuania in April 2013, including representatives of local authorities from Mosty and Kobrin, municipal and housing services organizations from Mosty and Kobrin, regional committees of natural resources, MNREP, etc. Such aspects of the MSW management as separate waste collection, landfilling, production of biogas, landfill management, processing of green and bio waste were studied.</p> <p>(ii) In 2012 14 specialists were trained in the course of the study tour to Sweden that was organized in March 2012. Trained specialists include representatives from the MNREP, MHME, regional committee of natural recourses, local municipal and housing services organization from Mosty and Kobrin, NGOs.</p> <p>During the study tour the best practices on the MSW management were studied, including separate waste collection by households, sorting, landfilling, waste treatment, production of biogas, incineration. Special attention was also given to the experience on organization of work with people, pupils, e.g. implementation of PR-campaign, actions, etc.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	2.9. Organizing training workshops on MSW management strategy	No difficulties	<p>First training workshop was organized earlier than planned because MSW management strategies were developed earlier than planned.</p> <p>Additional 10 workshops were organized, including 6 regional workshops in every region of the country, and 4 practical workshops in Mosty (Grodno region) and Kobrin (Brest region) for the municipal and housing services enterprises from the other 4 regions of Belarus</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) About 165 practitioners and workers in the field of MSW management were trained in the course of 4 regional workshops for municipal and housing services organizations from the rest 4 regions of Belarus: 1st. workshop was organized in Kobrin on March 26-28, 2014 for municipal enterprises of Gomel region, 46 specialists were trained in total; the 2nd. workshop was organized in Mosty on April 2-4, 2014 for municipal enterprises of Vitebsk region and 42 specialists were trained in total; the 3rd. workshop was organized in Kobrin on April 21-23, 2014 for municipal enterprises of Mogiliov region and 37 specialists were trained; the 4th. workshop was organized in Mosty on May 14-16, 2014 for municipal enterprises of Minsk region and 43 specialists were trained. During the regional seminars professionals from a 4 regions of Belarus had a possibility to observe what was done in Mosty and Kobrin on the field and understand results achieved.</p> <p>(ii) More than 200 practitioners and workers in the field of MSW management were trained in the course of six regional workshops that were organized for the municipal and housing services organizations of the regions: in Grodno (August 2012), in Brest (December 2012), in Minsk (July 2013), in Bobruisk (August 213), in Gomel (October 2013), and in Vitebsk (December 2013). The audience included representatives of</p>



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				<p>municipal and housing services organizations of the regions and regional committees of natural resources.</p> <p>(iii) Training workshop “MSW management strategy: international experience and national practice” was organized in Minsk in June 2012. Provisions of the MSW management strategies developed for the pilot regions within the project as well as international experience were presented. More than 50 specialists took part in the workshop including decision makers from the MNREP, MHME, local MHSOs (about 10 people), experts involved in the MSW management, international experts, and representatives from NGOs.</p> <p>Minutes of the workshops were duly prepared and signed.</p>
<p>Output 3. Biodiversity conservation legislation and procedures improved, based on comparative analysis with EU Directives</p>	<p>3.1. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus</p> <p>3.2. Organizing round tables on legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p> <p>No difficulties</p>	<p>No changes</p> <p>2 additional round tables on legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in the country and usage of internet oriented biodiversity database were organized in 2013</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2012. Comparative analysis of legislation of Belarus and the EU in the field of biodiversity conservation was prepared. Appropriate report was approved by the MNREP.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2013. (i) 2 additional round tables on legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus and usage of Internet oriented biodiversity database that was developed within the project, for further improvement of biodiversity legislation were organized in March 2013 and November 2013.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>More than 40 specialists were trained on usage the database as an instrument for practical observation over migration of species and amendment of biodiversity legislation.</p> <p>In 2012, 2 round tables were organized:</p> <p>(ii) First round table on legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation was organized in Berezinsky biosphere reserve in June 2012.</p> <p>Findings of the comparative study (activity 3.1 above) were discussed during the round table. About 40 specialists took part in the round table, including 10 decision makers, as well as representatives of institutions and NGOs working in the field of legislation and biodiversity conservation, National Academy of Sciences.</p> <p>(iii) Second round table was organized in November 2012. Proposed amendments to the legislation of Belarus in the field of biodiversity conservation, and namely joining to Bern Convention were discussed. About 40 people took part in the round table, including 9 decision makers (representatives of the MNREP, Government, etc.) and representatives of National Academy of Sciences, nature reserves, NGOs, etc. Minutes of the round tables were duly prepared and signed.</p>
	3.3. Preparing proposals on the improvement of the legal system in the field of biodiversity	No difficulties	In the process of analysis of Belarusian legislation and preparation of amendments in order to	<p>Activity is completed in 2013.</p> <p>(i) Proposals on improvement of the legal system and amendments to the existing legislative documents in the field of biodiversity conservation</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	conservation in Belarus		join to Bern Convention a necessity to develop one more technical code of common practice on requirements for protection of typical and rare habitats and natural landscapes was found out. The document was duly developed	<p>related to the joining of Belarus to Bern Convention were prepared and approved by the MNREP in 2012.</p> <p>Draft amendments were prepared and sent to the stakeholders for comments.</p> <p>Draft amendments and feedback from the stakeholders were discussed at the second round table on biodiversity legislation held in November 2012.</p> <p>Based on the comments from the stakeholders, final draft Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on joining to Bern Convention was prepared, submitted to the MNREP. The Decree of the President was officially adopted in February 2013 and Belarus joined Bern Convention.</p> <p>(ii) While preparing draft legislative act, the necessity to make official Russian translation of the Convention was raised. The project found resources and made official translation of Bern Convention into Russian that is now used in all the further actions.</p> <p>(iii) Based on the special request of the MNREP the first report of the country on implementation of Bern Convention was prepared by project experts and submitted to the MNREP for further actions.</p> <p>(iv) Final draft technical code of common practice "Environment protection and nature use. Territories. Rules for development and establishment of green routes and their parts-</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>ecological trials, including on the specially protected nature territories" was duly prepared in accordance with the legislation of Belarus and submitted to the MNREP. Special manual on how to use developed new technical code of common practice was developed and also submitted to the MNREP.</p> <p>(v) Final draft of technical code of common practice containing requirements to identification and protection of typical and rare habitat and landscapes was completed and submitted to the MNREP.</p>
	<p>3.4. Organizing training workshops concerning biodiversity protection strategy</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>3 training workshops instead of originally planned 2 ones were organized</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) More than 45 officials, professionals and specialists, including 13 decision-makers, were trained at the third training workshop on implementation of biodiversity protection strategy in Belarus and development of habitat banking activities, including representatives of government bodies, institutes of the National Academy of Sciences, EU, UNDP, Nature Reserves, and NGOs. The workshop was organized on May 5-7, 2014 in Pripyatskij Reserve in collaboration with the APB "BirdLife Belarus" and RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK).</p> <p>(ii) 43 specialists and practitioners and 11 decision-makers were trained at the 2nd. workshop that was organized in the National Park "Braslau Lakes" on July 4-6, 2013. List of participants covered representatives of different stakeholders, including representatives of</p>



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				<p>President's authority, National academy of science, MNREP, land management organizations, educational institutions of Belarus, managers for nature reserves from all over Belarus, NGOs, etc. Problems related to identification and protection of rare and typical habitats and landscapes were raised and discussed at the seminar as well as new regulatory acts that were developed within the project were presented. 3 international experts presented experience on protection of habitats and landscapes in their country, and namely in Lithuania, Latvia and Poland.</p> <p>(iii) 27 specialists and 11 decision-makers were trained in the course of the first workshop that was organized in Berezinsky biosphere reserve in March 2013. Participants included representatives of the President's authority, MNREP, state inspection for protection of wild flora and fauna, nature reserves of the country, National academy of sciences of Belarus, NGOs, etc. Issues on further improvement of legislation in the field of biodiversity conservation were discussed. Experience of Lithuania in improvement and implementation of biodiversity conservation legislation was presented by the international expert.</p>
	3.5. Organizing study tours concerning biodiversity protection	No difficulties	No changes	<p>Activity is completed in 2013.</p> <p>(i) 18 specialists and practitioners were trained in Austria on implementation of hunting legislation,</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	strategy			<p>protection of wild birds, organization of hunting in different seasons of the year, marketing of sports hunting and fishing, etc., at the special study tour organized in September 2013 to Austria. Trained specialists included representatives of the MNREP, Ministry of Forestry, Belarusian society of hunters and fishermen, Presidents' authority, NGOs, regional committee of natural resources and environment protection.</p> <p>(ii) Second study tour to Latvia was organized on September 10- 15, 2012. The purpose of the study tour was: to study peculiarities of the biodiversity protection of the raised bogs; to learn experience of the EU countries in the field of wetlands management and their protection; to study hydrology of the raised bogs; to explore possibilities of tourism and recreation without damage to the biodiversity; to learn public participation in the nature protection activities and propaganda of the nature protection activities. 18 specialists were trained in the study tour, including representatives of nature reserves, Yelnya administration, and decision- makers.</p> <p>(iii) Study tour to Slovakia was organized in June 2012 to learn legislative regulation of ecotourism and agro tourism development at the specially protected nature territories. 14 specialists were trained in the study tour including representatives of the key Ministries, National Academy of sciences, NGO.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
<p>Output 4. Proposals to integration of EU procedures and practices in ecological certification of products into Belarusian legislation made</p>	<p>4.1. Preparing proposals on the progressive approximation of Belarus legislation with the EU legislation in the area of ecological certification</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>There was a delay in implementation of this activity because the activity was implemented in several stages: development of concept, comparative analysis of legislation, proposals on improvement of legislation. There are reports on implementation of each of the stages. The delay did not result in delay in achievement of the final result – drafting technical regulations lacking in the field of ecological certification. In 2014 additional study on possibilities for integration of Belarusian ecocertification system into international system was prepared</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. In 2014 additional study on possibilities for Belarusian ecocertification system to join international organization “Global ecolabelling network” was prepared. Corresponding reports containing (i) description of the main tasks, goals and activities of the "Global ecolabelling network"; and (ii) recommendations and conclusions of the study on possibilities of joining of Belarus to the organization "Global ecolabelling network" were submitted to the MNREP for the further actions in 2014. The main following preparatory activities were implemented in 2012: Concept on integration of EU procedures and practices on ecological certification of products into the Belarusian legislation was prepared and approved by the MNREP. The Concept defines requirements to the analysis of Belarusian legislation. Based on the approved Concept, report on the results of comparative analysis of legislation and practices of Belarus and the EU in the field of eco-labeling of products and packages was prepared and approved by the MNREP. Report on approximation of requirements in the field of eco-labelling of products and packages in EU and Belarus, prepared by international expert, and was duly approved by the MNREP. Based on the comparative analysis and recommendations containing in the report on</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				approximation of legislation, report containing proposals on improvement of existing legislative acts of Belarus and development of new ones on the field of eco-labeling, with due regard to EU legislation and best practices, was prepared, discussed and approved by the MNREP. It was proposed to develop new technical normative documents regulating procedure of eco-labeling as well as standards containing requirements to new groups of products to be certified.
	4.2. Organizing round tables on enhancement of the national TLF for ecological certification in Belarus	No difficulties	Second round table was organized earlier due to the necessity to discuss proposals on improvement of existing legislative acts of Belarus and development of new ones in the field of ecological certification (result of the activity 4.1)	Activity is completed in 2012. The second round table “Improvement of ecolabelling system in Belarus” was organized on July 12, 2012 in Minsk. More than 40 people, including 5 decision makers, representatives of the stakeholders, NGOs, producers of goods that can be certified took part in the round table. Minutes of the round tables were prepared and signed. First round table on legislative support and practices of eco-labeling development in Belarus in accordance with the EU practices was organized in March 2012 in Minsk. 60 specialists participated in the round table. 15 key decision-makers (representatives of the MNREP, Gosstandard (State Accreditation body), Ministry of Industry, and other Ministries) as well as representatives of interested stakeholders, NGOs, mass media took part at the round table. Results achieved under the project and analysis



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				of legislation was presented at the round table. Recommendations of the round table were used in the process of development of proposals on improvement of existing legislative acts of Belarus in the field of ecological certification.
	4.3. Drafting technical regulations lacking (or introducing changes and amendments in the current technical regulations) in the field of ecological certification in Belarus	No difficulties	In spite of the introduction of innovative practice, like for example, ecological certification of accommodation services (this is the first ecocertification of nay services), the main activities on drafting new technical documents or amendments to the existing ones were completed as planned. However, works on ecocertification were extended and continued, and a lot of additional activities to create conditions for practical ecocertification and training of auditors were implemented: - development of training programs on ecocertification of goods	Activity is completed in 2014. 1. The following final drafts of 7 technical normative documents were developed and submitted to the MNREP for further actions in 2013: (i) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for furniture and floor coverings from wood and wooden materials"; (ii) Amendment to the standard STB 1733-2007 "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for synthetic detergents" establishing ecological criteria for detergents; (iii) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for cosmetic hygienic cleaning products, hair care products"; (iv) Technical code of common practice "National confirmation of conformity system of the Republic of Belarus. Environmental certification of products"; (v) Amendment No.1 to the technical code of common practice 5.1.08-2012 "National system of confirmation of the Republic of Belarus. Labels. Description and order of application"; (vi) State standard "Environmental Protection and



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>and accommodation services;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- training of potential auditors on ecocertification;- development of documentation of potential ecocertification body;- development of recommendations for promotion of ecocertification and stimulation of the first producers of goods and providers of services to get certified;- study tour to learn practical functioning of ecocertification systems	<p>Nature Use. Environmental criteria to accommodation and placement services";</p> <p>(vii) Technical code of common practice "National conformation of conformity system of the Republic of Belarus. Environmental certification of accommodation and placement services".</p> <p>2. Five manuals on application of the stated above documents were prepared and submitted to the MNREP.</p> <p>3. Replication Strategy on further development of ecological certification of products was prepared and approved by the MNREP and the UNDP.</p> <p>4. 8 specialists (including representatives of special audit organization, experts of enterprises-producers of goods and providers of accommodation services) were trained at the study tour to Sweden that was organized in June 2013. The study tour was devoted to learning of practical aspects of certification of accommodation services provided by hotels.</p> <p>5. In 2014 preparatory works for practical usage of new documents developed within the project and practical ecological certification of goods and services and promotion of ecological certification was ensured through:</p> <p>(i) Training program for experts-auditors on ecological certification of accommodation services was developed based on the guidelines prepared by the project in 2013. Training program was officially submitted to the specialized training institution in the country to</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>be used for further training of expert- auditors;</p> <p>(ii) Training program of experts-auditors on ecological certification of goods was developed based on the guidelines prepared by the project in 2013. Training program was officially submitted to the specialized training institution in the country to be used for further training of expert-auditors;</p> <p>(iii) 8 experts-auditors were trained on ecological certification of goods and accommodation services (by 2 National and 2 International experts from Lithuania and Estonia) in April 2014;</p> <p>(iv) Local documentation for potential body on ecological certification of goods and services in accordance with the requirements of National certification system was developed and submitted to the MNREP, including regulations on certification body, regulations on board of the certification body, guidelines on quality of the certification body on ecological certification of goods and ecological body on ecological certification of services, etc.;</p> <p>(v) Promotional materials on ecological certification of goods and accommodation services, including 4 special brochures (on "green" procurements; for consumers; for producers of goods; for providers of accommodation services) were published in amount of 900 copies and widely disseminated among enterprises-producers of goods that can be potentially certified, hotels and camp sites</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>providing accommodation services, regional departments of the MNREP and Ministry of Sports and Tourism, NGOs;</p> <p>(vi) Report containing promotional strategy on ecological certification of goods and accommodation services for different target groups was developed and submitted to the MNREP for the further actions.</p>
	<p>4.4. Organizing a training workshop concerning for ecological certification in Belarus</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>3 workshops instead of 1 envisaged originally were organized. This was caused by a broad range of stakeholders involved, including producers of goods and services, and innovative practice to be introduced in the field of ecological certification. The 3rs. workshop was devoted to “green” procurement system that can be used as a good promotional tool for development of ecocertification system</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) 36 specialists and 16 decision-makers were trained on "green" procurements practice at the 3rd. workshop that was organized in April 2014 in Minsk. International experts from Lithuania, Ukraine and Estonia presented experience of "Green" procurements in their countries and use it as an instrument for promotion of ecological certification. List of invited specialists included representatives of the MNREP, potential organizations - producers of products and providing accommodation services that can be certified.</p> <p>(ii) 30 specialists and 10 decision-makers were trained at the second workshop that was organized in June 2013 in Minsk. The workshop was devoted to study of ecological certification of accommodation services provided by hotels and camp sites. Experience of Ukraine, Norway and Lithuania was presented at the workshop by the international experts.</p> <p>(iii) 35 practitioners and 10 decision-makers were</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>trained at the first workshop that was organized on February 26, 2013. Participants list of the event included representatives from the MNREP, regional committees of natural resources and environment protection, NGOs, enterprises-producers of goods and providers of services. Newly developed within the project documents on ecological certification of goods and order of the certification were presented and discussed at the seminar. Experience of Russia and Lithuania in ecological certification of goods was duly presented.</p>
Component closing workshop				<p>Activity is completed in 2013. 1st. component closing workshop was organized in November 2013 with total number of 55 stakeholders invited from all the regions of Belarus. Results achieved by the project on improvement of legislation in 4 fields: water management, ecological certification, biodiversity conservation, MSW management, recommendations for further steps in these areas were formulated and provided for the MNREP.</p>



5.2 ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUR DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD UNDER COMPONENT 2

Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
Component 2. Pilot projects				
Output 5. More elements of full MSW management cycle put into operation in Mosty and Kobrin	5.1. Conducting a study in support of MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2012. Study in support of MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin was conducted. Current situation on MSW volume that was produced, sorted and treated in Mosty and Kobrin as well as collection frequencies, available recycling infrastructure, systems logistics were studied. Results of the study with proposals on effective MSW management cycles in Mosty and Kobrin are incorporated into the MSW management strategies for the pilot regions. The strategies were approved by the MNREP, MHME, local MHSOs and local executive committees (see activity 2.3 above). Study to reveal preferences of citizens in private houses in Mosty to accept biowaste compostainers and to identify number of biowaste compostainers needed was completed. Results of the study are incorporated into the report on the results of the competition of local initiatives (activity 5.2).
	5.2. Organizing a competition of local initiatives to develop technical solutions and preliminary project proposals for the MSW landfills in Mosty and Kobrin	No difficulties	The activity is completed earlier than scheduled	Activity is completed in 2012. Competition of local initiatives to develop technical solutions for the MSW landfills design in Mosty and Kobrin was completed. Representatives of civil society, NGOs, individuals, other interested stakeholders were attracted to submit their proposals on design of landfills in the mentioned cities. Appropriate report describing results of the competition of local initiatives is attached to the



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	5.3. Designing the MSW landfill in Mosty and Kobrin	No difficulties	Initially envisaged activities (proposals on conceptual landfill design) were completed earlier than scheduled. Due to the savings of funds it was decided and duly agreed with the PSC members that the project will also produce engineering documentation for construction of landfills in Mosty and Kobrin. This activity was completed at the end of 2013	report on conceptual landfill design (activity 5.3 below). Activity is completed in 2013. (i) Engineering design documentation for constructing of new landfill for Kobrin and reconstruction of the existing landfill in Mosty was prepared and given to the state expertise in 2013. Positive conclusions of the state expertise were obtained. In the process of development of engineering design documentation for construction of new landfill for Kobrin, special procedure of public hearings and environmental impact assessment was followed in accordance with the requirements of legislation of Belarus. (ii) Report on conceptual landfill design along with proposals of intensified landfill sites development for Mosty and Kobrin with due regard to the best EU regulations and practices was prepared and approved by the MNREP and MHSOs in 2012. Proposals of intensified landfill sites development contain creation of landfill layers, formation of landfill shape, location of composting site in the landfill territory, recommendations on the organization of system of landfill de-gasification, disposal of methane and waste water treatment.
	5.4 Developing specifications of MSW management equipment and organizing the bidding process	No difficulties	Development of specifications was continued till the end of 2013 due to the procurement of additional	Activity is completed in 2013. (i) In 2013 specifications for the procurement of additional MSW management equipment were duly developed and agreed with the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organizations. Namely, specifications for the following equipment were prepared: bioreactor; 3 press-containers for Mosty; 4 additional trucks for Kobrin;



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			equipment because of the savings of funds	<p>loaders to work at the sorting stations in Mosty and Kobrin; compost turner for Mosty; screen crusher for Mosty. However, due to the limited amount of the suppliers, bioreactor was not procured, but instead a compost turner and a screen crusher were procured to work with the compost. All the specifications were reviewed by national and/or international experts. Lists of spare parts for the equipment procured within the project for Mosty and Kobrin were prepared and duly agreed by the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organizations.</p> <p>(ii) In 2012 specifications for bulldozers, trucks, 12 types of containers (including containers for separate collection of different types of waste, for collection of bulk waste, biowaste compostainers, as well as containers of different volumes, containers for collection of biodegradable waste), sorting plants, presses, dozer, crusher and set of containers for collection of hazardous waste were fully prepared and duly approved by the MNREP and local MHSOs. All the specifications were developed by local specialists in collaboration with the international expert and with involvement of the MNREP and local MHSOs. Terms of reference for engineering design documentation for installation of sorting plants in Mosty and Kobrin and for development of engineering design documentation for construction of landfills in Mosty and Kobrin were also developed and agreed by the MNREP and local MHSOs.</p>
	5.5. Ensuring procurement and installation of MSW management equipment	No difficulties	Procurement was started earlier than initially scheduled. Due	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) In 2014 the following equipment was delivered and put into operation: 148 zinc coated refuse containers of 1.1 cubic meters for separate collection of paper, plastic and</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	in Mosty and Kobrin		to the procurement of additional equipment, due to the savings of funds, delivery and installation of the equipment was completed in the Spring 2014	<p>glass waste; 250 containers of 0.75 cubic meters for separate collection of plastic and glass waste; 31 open and closed containers of 12 cubic meters.</p> <p>(ii) In 2013 procurement of the following equipment was ensured, delivered and put into operation: crusher for Mosty; dozer for Mosty; 2 loaders to work at the sorting stations in Mosty and Kobrin; 2 presses and 2 perforators to work at the sorting stations in Mosty and Kobrin; 2 sorting lines for Mosty and Kobrin; 3 press-containers for Mosty; 4 additional trucks for garbage transportation for Kobrin; screener crusher bucket.</p> <p>(iii) Spare parts (tires for refuse collection vehicles, oil, sensor for refuse collection vehicles, oil and air filters, spare parts for lift truck loaders, refuse collection vehicles, etc.) for the procured equipment were duly purchased and delivered to the pilot cities in 2013 and 2014.</p> <p>(iv) The following equipment and machinery was procured in 2012 and were put into operation and installed in Mosty and Kobrin pilot areas: 2 bulldozers to work at the landfills in Mosty and Kobrin; 12 trucks for waste transportation; containers of 0.75 cubic meters of 4 types (containers for separate collection of paper, glass, plastic and mixed waste) in amount of 600 pcs; 276 zinc coated containers of 1.1 cubic meters for separate collection of plastic, paper and glass waste (3 types); biocompostainers of 600 liters in the amount of 920 pcs.; 80 open and closed containers of 12 cubic meters for mixed waste and 20 containers of 8 cubic meters for bulk waste; 3 sets of containers for collection of hazardous waste; 200 biocontainers.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				(v) Engineering design documentation for installation of sorting plants in Mosty and Kobrin was developed in 2012. Positive conclusions of state expertise were received. Based on the developed engineering documentation, sorting lines were duly procured and put into operation in 2013.
	5.6. Ensuring smooth operation of the pilot projects' MSW management systems	No difficulties	Per 4 on-site trainings were provided by European experts to the operators working with municipal solid waste in the pilot cities. More operators were trained than initially planned	Activity is completed in 2014. Assistance in smooth operation of the improved MSW management systems in two pilot regions was ensured through: (i) 20 operators on MSW management in pilot regions (Mosty and Kobrin) were trained through organization of 2 trainings (in April and June 2014) with involvement of international expert from Lithuania. In particular, the specialists were trained on the following aspects: introduction of mechanism of expanded responsibility of producers and importers, collection of hazardous waste (including electric and electronic equipment), bio waste management, proper exploitation of equipment and machinery; (ii) in 2013 international expert from Latvia was recruited and provided two on-site trainings on MSW management for 30 local operators and managers. Trainings covered all the issues of MSW management, from separate waste collection to duly operation of the machinery; (iii) In 2013, 9 operators from Mosty and Kobrin were trained on practical aspects of MSW management in European countries and due usage of the MSW management equipment, especially equipment that is quite new to Belarus such as biocompostainers, compost tuner. The trainings were organized to Latvia (July 2013)



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	5.7. Ensuring the monitoring of the pilot projects' MSW management systems	No difficulties	No changes	<p>and to Lithuania (October 2013) with involvement of international experts.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2014. Monitoring of the pilot projects' MSW management systems was ensured through:</p> <p>(i) In 2014 monitoring visits to the pilot cities (Mosty and Kobrin) were made on quarterly (1st. and 2nd. quarters of 2014) basis by specially recruited local and international experts with the purpose to evaluate the efficiency of the measures on improvement of MSW management systems in the pilot cities. In total 2 visits were made by local and international experts. 2 reports based on the results of the monitoring in 2 quarters of 2014 were duly prepared by each of the experts (international 1 and local). The reports were agreed with the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organizations. Reports contain analysis of the activities done on improvement of the MSW management systems in the pilot regions, efficiency of equipment operation and recommendations for future actions.</p> <p>(ii) In 2013 monitoring visits to the pilot cities (Mosty and Kobrin) were made on quarterly basis by specially recruited local and international experts with the purpose to evaluate the efficiency of the measures on improvement of MSW management systems in the pilot cities. 4 reports based on the results of the monitoring in 4 quarters of 2013 were duly prepared by the international expert and 4 reports were prepared by the local expert. The reports on the results of the monitoring were agreed with the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organizations. Reports contain</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	<p>5.8. Conducting comparative study on MSW management before and after implementation of pilot projects</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>Number of additional studies were made in 2014 after implementation of the project activities: - study on Mosty and Kobrin landfills biogas potential; - study of locals' opinion on the functioning of the improved MSW management systems in the pilot cities, incl. opinion of pupils</p>	<p>analysis of the activities done on improvement of the MSW management systems in the pilot regions, efficiency of equipment operation and recommendations for future actions.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2014. (i) In 2014 a study on efficiency of MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin, after implementation of pilot projects, was conducted on the basis of the developed indicators of effectiveness of MSW management system (indicators of effectiveness were prepared by the project in 2012). Report on the results of the study, including recommendations for further development of the MSW management systems in the pilot towns, was prepared, discussed with stakeholders and submitted to the MNREP and local MHSOs for follow up actions. (ii) In 2014 a study on Mosty and Kobrin landfills biogas potential after implementation of pilot projects was conducted. Report containing results of assessment of Mosty and Kobrin landfills biogas potential was prepared by local expert, discussed with stakeholders and submitted to the local MHSOs for follow up actions. (iii) In 2014 a study of the locals' opinion on improvement of the elements of MSW management system in Mosty and Kobrin after implementation of pilot activities was conducted. Report containing results of study of the locals' opinion on improvement MSW management system was prepared by local expert, discussed with stakeholders and submitted to the local MHSOs for follow up actions. (iv) In 2013 report containing study on efficiency of the pilot projects in Mosty and Kobrin (related to the first</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>improved elements of the MSW management system: separate waste collection and transportation) was prepared by the project experts, agreed and submitted to the MNREP. The study is based on the indicators of effectiveness of MSW management systems that were specially developed within the project to compare the situation before and after implementation of the pilot projects. Report also contains recommendations for further improvement of MSW management systems in Mosty and Kobrin.</p>
	<p>5.9 Demonstrating the results of operation of the pilot projects' MSW management systems</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>No changes</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. 4 reports for the pilot cities on efficiency and feasibility of the improved elements of the MSW management systems were prepared in 2013 and 2014 and approved by the MNREP and local MHSOs. (i) Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 4 elements of MSW management system in Kobrin pilot site was prepared in 2014 and approved by the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organization: - separate collection and transportation of waste; - bulk waste separate collection and management; - sorting; - landfill management. (ii) Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 8 elements of MSW management system in Mosty pilot site was prepared in 2014 and approved by the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organization: - separate collection and transportation of waste;</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sorting; - separate collection and transportation of biowaste; - composting of biowaste; - prevention of biowaste; - separate collection of hazardous waste; - bulk waste collection and management; - landfill management. <p>(iii) Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 2 elements of MSW management system in Kobrin pilot site was prepared in 2013 and approved by the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - separate collection of waste and transportation; - landfilling. <p>(iv) Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 6 elements of MSW management system in Mosty pilot site was prepared in 2013 and approved by the MNREP and local municipal and housing services organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - separate waste collection and transportation; - separate collection of biowaste and transportation; - composting of biowaste; - separate collection of hazardous waste; - bulk waste collection and management; - landfill management.
<p>Output 6. New set of activities for Yelnya Reserve Management</p>	<p>6.1. Developing a new set of activities for the Yelnya Reserve Management Plan</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>Revised Yelnya Reserve management plan was prepared a little bit later than was</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2012. Analysis of implementation of the current Yelnya Reserve management plan was done. Recommendations for revision were made. Report containing recommendations was duly approved by the MNREP. Revised management plan was completed, discussed</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
<p>Plan implemented towards sustainable biodiversity conservation at Yelnya protected area</p>			<p>initially planned due to the necessity to implement additional hydrological research at Yelnya bog</p>	<p>with the local Miory and Sharkaushchyna authorities, society of fishermen and hunters, Disna forest enterprise, other local stakeholders and the public. Before public discussions revised management plan was placed at the web-sites of the local authorities for about one month. Revised management plan was agreed by the MNREP and approved by executive committees of Miory and Sharkaushchyna (districts where the territory of the bog is situated) in accordance with the legislation of Belarus. The main areas that were revised: development of ecotourism, biodiversity conservation, proposals for restoration of the hydrological regime, sustainable use of berries resources.</p> <p>Report on hydro- geological and hydrological peculiarities and current status of water regulating devices at Yelnya raised bog and report on analysis of implementation of biodiversity and ecotourism sections of Yelnya Management Plan were prepared by the experts, discussed and approved by the MNREP. Business plan on use of berries resources at Yelnya raised bog was prepared and agreed by Miory executive committee and administration of Yelnya reserve.</p> <p>Report containing distribution of plant associations in the zone of impact of drainage canals at the bog and recommendations on revision of Yelnya Reserve Management Plan was prepared by the project expert and duly approved by the MNREP.</p> <p>Amendments to the management plan are based on the recommendations of the mentioned reports and business plan on use of berries.</p>
	6.2. Organizing the	No difficulties	Equipment	Activity is completed in 2014.



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	bidding process for equipment for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implementation		initially envisaged in the project was procured earlier than scheduled. Due to the procurement of additional equipment needed for ecotourism development procurements were finalized in the middle of 2014	<p>All the specifications for the following equipment mentioned below were duly prepared, agreed with the MNREP and Yelnya Reserve administration:</p> <p>(i) two recorders for bird cameras, 3 info terminals in 2014;</p> <p>(ii) ten bicycles for tourists, twenty pairs of snowshoes, two bird listening devices, two birdhouses with cameras, 10 large containers for aquatic insects investigations, thirty small containers for aquatic insects investigations, 60 tool kits: large insect nets, aquarium nets, tweezers, loupes; furniture, video and audio equipment, and 2 info terminals for the visit centre in 2013;</p> <p>(iii) waterproof coveralls warm, waterproof coveralls light, working clothes, level working station, GPSs, water level gauges, swamp buggy, tents, binoculars, cross-country vehicle, radio stations, playing terminals, flashlights, skies, knapsacks, thermoses, cameras, telescopes in 2012.</p> <p>Bids for the procurement of the stated equipment were organized, contracts concluded, and all the equipment was duly delivered.</p> <p><i>Note: originally, pursuant to the ProDoc, only procurement of waterproof coveralls warm, waterproof coveralls light, working clothes, level working station, GPSs, water level gauges, swamp buggy was foreseen. All the other equipment procured in 2012-2014 was purchased due to the savings of the funds and based on the due agreement of the Project Steering Committee and because necessity of procurement of ecotourism equipment was identified.</i></p>
	6.3. Ensuring equipment	No difficulties	Due to the	Activity is completed in 2014.



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	installation for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implementation		procurement of additional equipment needed for ecotourism development, the last procured equipment was delivered and installed in the middle of 2014	All the procured equipment, for which specifications were developed (stated in 6.2 above), was duly transferred to Yelnya administration. Furniture, audio and video equipment was installed in Yelnya visit centre. 3 info terminals were procured and installed in the schools of Miory and Sharkaushchyna. Other accessories (washing means, waste bins, biocompostainer, clocks, fire extinguishers, locks, etc.) and stationary were procured for Yelnya visit centre on permanent basis in order to ensure duly functioning of the visit centre. Water level gauges were installed at Yelnya raised bog. Information on the points of installments of the gauges is given in appropriate report of the expert on hydrology
	6.4. Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: monitoring of surface and groundwater level	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2014. (i) Monitoring report on water level fluctuations was prepared after 6 months of observations and duly submitted and approved by the MNREP and agreed with Yelnya Reserve administration in the middle of 2013. (ii) Final monitoring report on water level data (including data on 6 months of observations in 2014) was prepared and approved by the MNREP in 2014. (iii) Recommendations for further improvement of hydrological regime of Yelnya raised bog and amendments to "Yelnya Reserve Management Plan are prepared and agreed by the MNREP in 2014.
	6.5. Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: ecotourism routes	Certain difficulties related to the construction of ecotrail occurred because of the following reasons:	While all the research were done in full volume and contain valuable scientific	Activity is completed in 2014. (i) Possible locations of ecotourism route were studied by the project, local and international experts in collaboration with Yelnya Reserve administration. Location of ecoroute "Ozeravki" to be constructed by the project was defined in 2012.



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of experienced sub-contractors that can work at the bog and build ecotrails. The first subcontractor, that was selected on the basis of tender, failed and terminated the contract. And only through the second attempt, again through the bidding process, new sub-contractor was found and finalized construction; - Bad access to the bog, especially in the Spring and Autumn when 	<p>information and can be further used for planning of conservation measures in the future, construction of ecotrail was considerably delayed. Ecotrail started to be visited by the tourists from idle 2013 even not being completed</p>	<p>(ii) Reports containing: (i) recommendations on allocation and equipping of ecological routes at Yelnya raised bog, interpretation plan of the nature of the Reserve, proposals on organization and development of ecotourism including experience of European countries, and (ii) interpretation plan for trails at Yelnya nature Reserve were prepared by international expert, discussed with local authorities, administration of Yelnya Reserve and approved by the MNREP in 2012.</p> <p>The following reports were prepared by the local expert, discussed with the stakeholders and Yelnya Reserve administration and approved by the MNREP in 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - report containing: (i) description of different locations of ecoroutes with indication of positive and negative aspects; (ii) data on migrating wetland bird species, including protected species; (iii) biotopes status; (iv) data on species and status of protected flora; (v) description of new sites to monitor over the birds; (vi) concept of interpretation of nature including ecoroutes and visit centre; - report containing: (i) information materials to be used while equipping the ecoroute, and (i) inventory of protected plants at Yelnya bog; - report containing: (i) accounting of birds stopping at Yelnya bog in autumn during migration period; (ii) interactive excursions to the Reserve for adults and children in the spring, summer and autumn. <p>All the above mentioned reports contain maps, are supported by photos, schemes where appropriate. Recommendations of the above mentioned reports were taken into account while defining location of ecoroute and</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
		<p>due to the rains construction works were impossible. The seasons suitable for the construction where Summer and Winter</p>		<p>further considered in the process of preparation and production of information materials and stands for the ecoroute, equipping of ecoroute and visit centre, for organization of excursions to the bog, for functioning of ecoroute and visit centre. Also recommendations of the above stated reports are of great value for planning future protective activities at the territory of the Reserve and further development of ecotourism activities.</p> <p>(iii) Engineering design documentation for the construction of ecological route at Yelnya was prepared and underwent ecological expertise in 2012.</p> <p>(iv) Research of flora and fauna of Yelnya Reserve and study of tourists potential of Yelnya were completed in 2013. Reports containing the following information were prepared by the project experts and duly agreed with the MNREP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- report containing assessment of population and conditions of the protected and indicative species of birds and plants and protective obligations and passports for protected species of flora and fauna (115 protective passports and obligations in total, including 72 for protected plants and 43 for protected animals);- analysis of migration of cranes and geese in autumn and spring;- report containing recommendations on development of ecotourism in Belarus including in and around raised bogs (prepared by the international expert);- report of specially recruited entomologist with recommendations on observation over insects and description of possible excursions aimed at observation of insects in different seasons. Recommendations



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>included into the above mentioned report are duly used while organizing excursions over the bog for various target groups.</p> <p>(v) Five touristic products for Yelnya reserve were developed (e.g. beaver watching; black grouse watching; special tour for the pupils; tour on winter watching of the elks; and bicycle and pedestrian tour "Unforgettable Yelnya"). Miory district is described as touristic destination. The appropriate report was prepared by local expert in 2014 and duly agreed with the MNREP and given for Yelnya Reserve administration for use.</p> <p>(vi) Full data on breeding pairs of cranes was prepared, proposals for Spring excursions for observation of lekking Black and Willow Grouses were proposed by local expert in 2014. Appropriate report was prepared and agreed with the MNREP. All the information is given to Yelnya Reserve administration for follow up actions.</p> <p>(vii) Ecological route in Yelnya Reserve including 1500-meters long wooden path, 7 displays and wooden infrastructure (pavilions, waste bin, toilet, repaired tower for observations over the birds) for tourists on the edge of the bog were constructed. Ecological route was officially launched on July 24-25, 2014. The ecological route is visited by the tourists on permanent basis starting from middle of 2013. Monitoring over functioning of the constructed ecotrail was ensured.</p> <p><i>Note: Construction of the ecoroute was delayed. Originally it was planned to complete construction of ecoroute in the middle of 2013. But first contract for construction of ecoroute (that was concluded in January 2013) failed and was terminated because of the fault of</i></p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p><i>the sub-contractor. Second contract for construction of ecoroute was concluded in August 2013. Finally, the construction was completed in July 2014.</i></p> <p>(viii) In 2014 recommendations for improvements of ecotrail functioning were developed and included into the guidelines developed under activity 6.9. of the project.</p>
	<p>6.6. Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: a visit centre</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>In order to ensure sustainable functioning of visit centre and to attract tourists the visit centre was established and opened with a little delay, in September 2013. However, this delay did not result in functioning of the centre</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) In 2014 effective functioning of the established visit centre, that was launched in 2013. Recommendations for improvements of ecocenter functioning and ecotourism development were prepared and included into the guidelines developed under activity 6.9. of the project. Information support of ecocenter and ecotourism was ensured through issue and dissemination of posters (in amount of 1000 copies).</p> <p>(ii) Ecotourism and marketing strategies for Yelnya Reserve was developed by a project expert in 2014. Appropriate reports were agreed with the MNREP and submitted also to Yelnya Reserve administration for follow up actions.</p> <p>(iii) Web page of Yelnya Reserve was developed and functioning and updated on the permanent basis in 2013 and 2014 (all the time from its launching): (www.zakazniki.priroda-vitebsk.by). The web-page is situated at the web page of Vitebsk regional committee of natural resources.</p> <p>(iv) 2 video films and a commercial about the beauty of Yelnya and its uniqueness were produced and broadcasted locally in 2013-2014: film on attractiveness of Yelnya bog for the cranes was produced, and</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>commercial and film on uniqueness and beauty of Yelnya bog. Video films were demonstrated in the cinemas of Miory and Sharkaushchyna districts and in the schools of the mentioned districts. The video materials were handed over to the MNREP for further rotating at the TV.</p> <p>(v) Additional decorations to those made in 2013, a model of Yelnya bog and tourism map of the region, were produced and installed in visit centre in Miory in 2014. New woolen birds and woolen magnets were produced to exhibit local bird species.</p> <p>(vi) In 2013 ecological visit centre in Miory (4 rooms) was renovated (inside and outside) and equipped with video and audio equipment, picturesque stands. Furniture was produced and installed in the visit centre. Besides, some decorations (on ecological topics) of the floor, on the windows were made, special woolen birds (as alternative to stuffed birds) were produced and installed in the centre. Visit centre was officially opened on September 28, 2013 with participation of broad range of the project stakeholders and mass media. Library for the visit centre was procured and duly delivered.</p> <p>(vii) In 2012 a number of meetings with the local authorities of Miory on establishment of visit/ ecological center in Miory were organized. As a result local authorities decided to allocate premises (4 rooms in the same building where Yelnya Reserve administration is located) for establishment of the visit centre.</p> <p>(viii) Proposals on design of visit centre and adjacent territory as well as functions and goals of the visit centre were prepared by international and local experts and included into the reports mentioned under activity 6.5</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	6.7. Capacity building of staff: trainings	No difficulties	The first training was organized with a little delay caused by the necessity to better cover peculiarities of ecotourism practices on peatbogs taking into account seasonal differences of visiting peatbogs	<p>above.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2013.</p> <p>(i) In total 32 specialists and practitioners were trained during organization of 2 specialized trainings to Finland (June, 2013, 16 specialists trained) and to Sweden (August 2013, 16 specialists trained). Training to Finland covered such issues as wetlands management and biodiversity conservation experience. The second training to Sweden was more focused on experience of ecotourism development and application of the best European practices. State officials, representatives from the MNREP, its regional departments, managers and staff of nature reserves from all over Belarus, specialists from NGOs took part in the trainings.</p> <p>(ii) In 2012 two trainings were organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specialized training to learn experience on ecotourism organization at the specially protected nature territories and on the wetlands was organized in July, 2012 to Scotland. 11 specialists were trained on the best ecotourism development practices, including staff of the nature reserves, representatives from the MNREP, NGO. Apart from practical visits to reserves, the specialists were trained on how to conduct analysis of demand for eco-tourists and local societies, creation of eco-tourism product and its marketing, key role of nature interpretation in work with eco-tourists; - Second training was also organized in July 2012 to Romania to learn experience on conservation and management of wetlands. 16 people took part in



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				the second tour including heads of nature reserves, MNREP, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.
	6.8. Capacity building of staff: guidelines on the best eco-tourism practices	No difficulties	Guidelines were published with 3 months delay due to the necessity to analyze experience on ecotourism development on Yelnya that was in its turn delayed because of the longer process of construction of the ecotrail that initially envisaged	Activity is completed in 2014. (i) The guidelines on the best eco-tourism practices in EU and Belarus were prepared and approved by MNREP. The guidelines were developed with local expert with EU experience in the field of ecotourism. (ii) Guidelines were printed and distributed, including among the staff of protected areas of Belarus.
	6.9. Capacity building of staff: Yelnya report	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2014. Report demonstrating eco-tourism practices based on the experience of Yelnya pilot project with recommendations on further needed actions with due regard to the best local and European practice was prepared, discussed with the stakeholders and approved by the MNREP. The report was published and distributed among interested stakeholders.
	6.10. Capacity building of staff: workshops	No difficulties	3 additional workshops to enhance local capacity in Miory region were	Activity is completed in 2014. (i) 3 additional training workshops were organized for local people, with involvement of people with disabilities, in 2014. The workshops stimulated building of local capacity on ecotourism development:



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>organized on trekking of wild animals, production of woolen birds and magnets and guiding excursions over the opened visit centre in 2014</p>	<p>- 17 local people were trained for trekking wild animals with tourists in winter by a project expert through organization of specialized workshop. The workshop was held on March 15, 2014;</p> <p>- 25 local people (mostly women), including people with disabilities, were trained by project expert on production of woolen birds and woolen magnets for sale in the reserve to tourists. The specialized workshop on this, including presentation of other ecotourism development practice, was organized on March 25- 26, 2014. The woolen birds is an alternative to usage of stuffed animals and birds;</p> <p>- more than 15 local people were trained on guiding excursions in the visit center of Yelnya Reserve. Experienced local expert on development of marketing strategy was involved into the training.</p> <p>(ii) In 2013, 68 specialists enhanced their knowledge on management of hydrological regime on the basis of Yelnya bog during the first workshop (30 specialists trained) and were presented practice of ecotourism development in Yelnya reserve in the course of the second workshop (38 specialists trained). First workshop was organized in June 2013 and the second workshop was held in September 2013. Specialists from National academy of sciences, nature reserves from all over Belarus (Braslau reserve, Berezinsky reserve, etc.), NGOs, MNREP, local Yelnya staff, authorities and representatives of Miory inspection of nature resources were invited to the stated workshop. Results achieved within the project in study of hydrological regime of Yelnya and activities on ecotourism development were</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				demonstrated. International expert from the UK was involved in presenting of ecotourism practice in Europe in the course of the second workshop.
Component closing workshop				Activity is completed in 2014. Component closing workshop was organized on May 23, 2014 with involvement of stakeholders. In total about 50 practitioners and specialists took part, including project partners, managers of the specially protected nature territories, representatives of the municipal and housing services organizations from all the regions of the Republic, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy, Academy of Sciences, etc. The main results achieved in the process of implementation of pilot projects on MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin, and on ecotourism development at Yelnya raised bog are presented and discussed. Recommendations on follow up actions are developed and submitted to the MNREP.



5.3 Activities carried out during the reporting period under component 3

Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
Component 3. Education, awareness-raising and dissemination activities				
Output 7. Establishing a local Aarhus centre completed	7.1. Conducting a feasibility study for establishment of Aarhus centres at oblast level	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2012. Competition among three targeted oblasts (regions) of Belarus (Vitebsk, Grodno, and Brest) for establishment of oblast Aarhus centre was organized. Based on the applications received, feasibility study including recommendations for location and scope of work of the oblast Aarhus centre was done. Based on the results of the feasibility study, a decision was made to establish oblast Aarhus centre on the basis of Grodno oblast committee of natural resources and environmental protection. Report on feasibility study was agreed by Grodno oblast committee and approved by the MNREP. Positive conclusion of international expert on Aarhus center's establishment was received.
	7.2. Establishing a local (pilot) Aarhus Centre	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2014. (i) Regional Aarhus center in Grodno was established in 2012. The office space for regional Aarhus center was allocated by Grodno regional committee of natural resources. Repair of the oblast Aarhus center was done in 2012. The premises where the centre is situated were fully equipped for duly function of the Center's staff. Apart from Coordinator of Aarhus Centre, legal advisor was recruited by the project to work in the Aarhus Centre. (ii) Official opening of regional Aarhus center in Grodno was organized in November 2012. Representatives of the MNREP, UNDP, EU delegation to Belarus,



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>representatives of local authorities, Grodno regional committee of natural resources, NGOs, mass media, international experts took part in the event.</p> <p>(iii) Separate web-page of Aarhus center at the web-site of Grodno regional committee of natural resources was developed and functioned in Russian and English. The web-page was upgraded till end of February 2014, including creation of new blocks and putting more information, establishment of data base of consultations and environmental court cases.</p> <p>(iv) Library of the Centre was procured and actively used and includes 200 sources of national and international literature. 190 books were put into electronic format . On the web-page of the Center electronic catalogue of the library was posted. 10 sets of books in electronic format were recorded on DVDs in order to be further given to all the regional committees of natural resources and environment protection.</p> <p>(v) Appropriate information stands for the Center and for all the inspections of natural resources of Grodno region (in total 28 stands) were produced and installed in 2012-2013.</p> <p>(vi) Sustainable function of the Centre was ensured in 2012- 2014 through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 16 trainings on implementation of ecological rights and implementation of Aarhus Convention in its 3 main fields were provided for the students of high schools and universities of Grodno, representatives of state authorities, teachers of schools and gymnasiums, staff of the libraries. In total about 190 persons were trained;- 49 specialists were trained on form of access to



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>ecological information, inventory of production waste and compensation of damage to nature through organization of 3 lectures. List of trained specialists includes officials from the committee of natural resources, regional executive committee, factories of Grodno, managers of enterprises working in agricultural filed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 11 meetings with the officials and 7 meetings with the public and NGOs to discuss cooperation between the Centre and the stakeholders on insurance of ecological rights of the public and resolution of ecological problems of the regions were organized;- 4 information meetings were organized at the factories of Grodno region for their staff; as a result 176 people improved their knowledge on implementation of Aarhus Convention and activities of the Centre;- Assistance in organization and participation in 10 public hearings within environmental impact assessment was ensured. Web-page of the centre was used as an information platform for putting reports on environmental impact assessment;- 220 requests and inquiries from people were received, considered and answered. The majority of the requests were related to the ecological problems in Grodno and Grodno region and asking for ecological information.- 8 information hours were organized for pupils of the schools and students of the high schools and institutes of Grodno. 240 young people were trained in total;- 2 ecological actions were organized with a broad range of stakeholders: on June 5, 2013, action on cleaning of banks of Kotra was organized and on September 22, 2013 event "World cleaning 2013. Let's



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>do it" was organized in collaboration with Grodno regional committee of natural resources. 116 persons took part in both events, including students and NGOs. The events were good covered in mass media. Staff of the Aarhus Centre participated in other PR events organized within the project (e.g. cleaning of territory in Mosty, Grodno region, in April 2013).</p> <p>(vii) The following large workshops were organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- in 2014, 3 workshops covering the following topics, with 59 people trained in total, were organized: "Modification on GMO to Aarhus Convention", "Protocol on pollutant release and transfer register as effective instrument for implementation of Aarhus Convention", "Functioning of Grodno Aarhus Centre on consideration of requests from individuals and legal entities";- in 2013, 3 large workshops were organized. First workshop "Participation of public in environmental decision-making (based on example of organization of territory of Grodno city)", where about 30 specialists were trained. 45 specialists were trained at the second workshop "Implementation of Convention on access to information, participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters (Arhus Convention): study of practical experience" that was organized on October 29, 2013. International expert from Ukraine presented experience of functioning of similar centers in European and CIS countries. And about 25 practitioners and specialists enhanced their knowledge on implementation of environmental rights at the third seminar "Access to justice in environmental matters". <p>(viii) Information about functioning of Arhus centre was</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>disseminated on permanent basis through Grodno and Republican mass media, project site and web-page of Grodno Aarhus centre (located at the web-site of Grodno regional committee of nature resources and environment protection). Information about activities of Aarhus centre was widely disseminated through project web-site, Grodno Aarhus centre web-page, mass-media at local and international level. Video reel on Aarhus Convention and the work of regional Aarhus centre in Belarus was produced, posted on the project web-site, on the web-page of Aarhus centre and broadcasted at Grodno TV.</p> <p>(ix) International expert from Ukraine assessed functioning of the Centre, also through organization meetings with different involved stakeholders, and submitted report with recommendation on improvement of efficiently of functioning of the centre. The recommendations were submitted to the MNREP in 2013.</p> <p>(x) Aarhus centre is included into Grodno department of Hidromet from August 12, 2014 (next date after project completion) and special position for coordinator of the centre is granted. Training of the staff of Grodno department of Hidromet on Aarhus Convention and functioning of Aarhus centre was ensured. 3 lectures on the following topics were organized in March- April, 2014: "Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Aarhus Convention)", "Access to Environmental Information", and "Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making". Per 15 participants - workers of Hidromet were trained in each of the lectures. Documentation for functioning of Aarhus center after the</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	7.3. Training the local Centre's staff	No difficulties	Implementation of the activity started earlier than planned. Large scale training programs were developed for the coordinator of the regional Aarhus centre in 2012 and 2013. The coordinator was trained on the basis of the programs by high qualified lawyer and the end passed tests	<p>project completion was duly prepared and agreed with Grodno department of Hidromet, including regulations on the works of the centre, terms of reference for coordinator of the centre, working plan.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2014. Training of the staff of Aarhus Centre was ensured via:</p> <p>(i) Education program on training of coordinator of Grodno regional Aarhus centre was developed by highly qualified lawyer from Grodno State University in 2013. The program covered lectures on special aspects of environmental legislation, dissemination of environmental information and access to the environmental decision-making by the public. Also coordinator of Grodno Aarhus centre visited a number of lectures in Grodno university and successfully passed verification tests.</p> <p>(ii) Training programme for the staff of Aarhus centers (Minsk center and regional Aarhus center in Grodno), representatives of the local authorities, Infocentres for sustainable development (that have been established within the EU funded project that was completed end of 2010), staff of Grodno regional committee of natural resources, students of Grodno university was developed by high qualified project experts in 2012. 3 training sessions foreseen in the programme were organized in 2012. The training programme also included individual training programme for the coordinator of the regional Grodno Aarhus center as well. The programme contained list of lectures, context of lectures and tests in the field of ecological rights. The Coordinator of regional Aarhus center passed the individual training and tests. Report of high qualified expert responsible for</p>



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				<p>organization of training of Coordinator of the Centre was duly submitted and contains recommendations on continuation of training related to specific aspects of implementation of Aarhus Convention and environmental legislation of Belarus.</p> <p>(iii) Coordinator of Aarhus Centre participated in relevant seminars at local and international level, specialized trainings, was consulted by the lawyers of Grodno university and by the legal advisor in Grodno Aarhus centre and by coordinator of the Republican Aarhus centre.</p> <p>(iv) Special methodical guidelines on Aarhus Convention training for different target groups were developed by experienced lawyer and disseminated among all regional committees of natural resources and environment protection and via special NGOs network. The guidelines include: interactive lecture on the provisions of Aarhus Convention; module trainings for the public on 3 key elements of Aarhus Convention (dissemination of environmental information, participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters); module trainings for the state authorities.</p> <p>(v) Consultations and training on juridical issues were provided to the Coordinator of regional Aarhus centre on daily basis by specially recruited legal advisor of the centre from end 2012 and till the project end.</p>
	7.4. Study tour for staffs of the Aarhus Centres of Belarus	No difficulties	The second additional study tour was organized to	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) 8 participants from MNREP and its regional structures, staff of Aarhus centers of Belarus, NGO were trained during the study tour. Study tour to learn experience of</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>Denmark for 8 specialists with the purpose to learn experience of practical implementation of the provisions of Aarhus Convention also through inclusion of appropriate provisions to the legislation. This also enhanced sustainability perspectives of the regional Aarhus center after the project end</p>	<p>practical implementation of Aarhus Convention and functioning of specialized centers for dissemination of environmental information was organized to Denmark on March 10-15, 2014.</p> <p>(ii) Study tour for the staff of the Aarhus Centers of Belarus (Minsk center and newly established regional Aarhus center in Grodno) was organized in May 2012 to Kazakhstan, e.g. much earlier than initially planned. 5 persons were trained at the study tour: apart from 2 staff of the Aarhus centers, representative of the MNREP and lawyer working on implementation of Aarhus Convention in Belarus were included. The project, with the help of international experts, studied work of Aarhus centers abroad, and it was found out that Aarhus centers function best of all in the CIS countries. Thus, the study tour to Kazakhstan was organized. Experience of functioning of Aarhus centers, involvement of different stakeholders, work with the public, dissemination of ecological information, involvement of state authorities were studied. This experience was taken into account in the process of establishment and organization of work of regional Aarhus center in Grodno.</p>
<p>Output 8. Awareness-raising and project results dissemination campaign implemented protected area</p>	<p>8.1. Expanding the network of Green Schools</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>1. In order to ensure sustainability of the "Green Schools: program and its expansion all over Belarus, the program was</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) Green Schools network was expanded. 47 schools from the pilot project regions and Sharkaushchyna region and from other regions of Belarus are awarded diplomas and recognized as "green" schools (34 schools in 2013, and 13 schools in 2014). The other 60 schools are officially registered as potential participants of "Green Schools" program and started their work.</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>officially recognized in the country and is implanted all over the country through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - official approval of Regulations on implementation of Green Schools program by the Minister of Environment and Minister of Education. Regulations contain provisions on establishment and functioning of the Steering committee of the program; - establishment and functioning of the of the Steering Committee; - official adoption of the optional 	<p>(ii) More than 100 professionals and teachers were demonstrated results on the development and running of "Green Schools" program in the project pilot regions and the best achieved practice at the special PR event organized by the project within the frames of the Republican workshop on running of "green schools" program for the schools from all over the republic that was organized by the Academy of Postdiploma Education (organization that is responsible for running of the programme after the project end). The event was organized on June 17, 2014.</p> <p>(iii) Participation of the project staff in the meetings of the Steering committee established to coordinate work under the Green Schools programme was ensured (2 meetings of the Steering committee were held from the time of its establishment in November 2013). At the meetings of the Steering committee experience on implementation of the program achieved within the project was presented, decisions on the awarding of diplomas to the schools were made, future actions and steps on running of the "green schools" program were defined with due regard to the studied international experience, possibility for Belarusian network of "green" schools to join international network of ecoschools were considered.</p> <p>(iv) 16 teachers, representatives of the MNREP and Ministry of Education, Academy of Postdiploma Education and other key stakeholders were trained on approaches and methods used in Portugal for development and promotion of "Green Schools" program at the study tour. In the course of the tour possibility for Belarus network of "Green Schools" to join international ecoschools network ,</p>



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			<p>educational course “Green Schools” for 1-9 classes by the specialized institution of the Ministry of Education. That approval gave official status for “Green Schools” program as training course and opened possibility for official participating of the schools from the entire Republic. This is also a guarantee of functioning of the program after the project end. As of the project end, 47 schools from all over Belarus, not only from the pilot regions, were recognized as</p>	<p>that is run by Federation of Ecological Education, was studied and discussed. The study tour was organized with involvement of international expert on May 24-31, 2014.</p> <p>(v) Regulations on implementation of Green Schools program were prepared and approved by the MNREP and Ministry of Education in 2013. Regulations contain provisions on establishment and functioning of the Steering committee of the program. Steering Committee was established.</p> <p>(vi) Optional educational course “Green Schools” for 1-9 classes was officially approved by the specialized institution of the Ministry of Education. (The course was developed by the project experts in collaboration with the Ministry of Education). Special information letters to all the regional educational departments on possibility of introduction of the optional course were sent by the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>(vii) Exchange of experience between participants of the Green Schools program from the project pilot regions, including Sharkaushchyna, was ensured through organization of the following workshops and training of teachers and other involved professionals in 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 teachers and other professionals took part in the first training on exchange of Green Schools experience between the pilot regions organized in Mosty in July 2013. Participants of the training and 35 pupils were demonstrated improvements of MSW management system, based on the modern European approaches, during excursion to the sorting station organized within the training;



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>“green schools” and awarded diplomas.</p> <p>2. To facilitate implementation of mainly biodiversity direction of the Green Schools program (1 photo camera and 2 binoculars) were procured, delivered and transferred to the most active 35 schools from the pilot project regions, including Sharkaushchyna region.</p> <p>3. To improve knowledge and to study further possibilities of development of “Green Schools” program, 16 teachers, representatives of the MNREP and</p>	<p>- 30 teachers and other practitioners took part in the second training to exchange experience on implementation of Green Schools program held in Miory in August 2013. Participants of the training and 45 pupils enhanced their knowledge on conservation of Yelnya raised bog and ecotourism development (incl. visit centre establishment and construction of ecotrail), that is done by the project, during field trip organized within the training;</p> <p>- 29 teachers and other professionals took part in the third training on exchange of experience of Green Schools program implementation that was organized in October 2013 in Kobrin. Participants of the training and 24 pupils were demonstrated the results of improvement.</p> <p>(ix) Equipment to facilitate implementation of mainly biodiversity direction of the Green Schools program (1 photo camera and 2 binoculars) was procured, delivered and transferred to the most active schools from the pilot project regions, including Sharkaushchyna region.</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>Ministry of Education, Academy of Postdiploma Education and other key stakeholders were trained in Portugal at the organized study tour in May 2014</p>	
	<p>8.2. Developing additional demonstration materials for Green Schools</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>Development of guidelines on implementation of Green Schools program was started earlier</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. (i) Guidelines on implementation of the Green Schools programme for 1-9 classes were developed within the project based on the experience of running the program in the project pilot areas in 2013. (ii) Testing of guidelines was ensured through publication of the first 50 copies of the guidelines in 2013. The guidelines were disseminated among first 34 "green" schools that were awarded diplomas in 2013. (iii) Based on the results of the testing of the guidelines. they were revised in 2014, and published in amount of 200 copies. The guidelines were disseminated among the schools all over the Republic.</p>
	<p>8.3. Green Schools training workshops</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>In total 26 workshops were organized that is much more than planned, including 3 days, 2 days and one</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. (i) 11 regional workshops in the 3 pilot areas (Mosty, Kobrin and Miory) were organized for 3 days each (in December 2011 in Mosty- 22 attendees; in February 2012 in Kobrin - 35 participants; in April 2012 in Miory- 30 participants; in May 2012 in Mosty- 28 participants; in October 2012 in Kobrin - 40 participants; in December</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>day workshops depending on the needs and topics. Some of the seminars were organized earlier than scheduled because of the seasonal peculiarities (e.g. Spring is a good time to work practically under “biodiversity” direction of the program; most of the teachers have vacations in summer time and it is advisable to shift organization of summer seminars to the spring and autumn, etc.)</p>	<p>2012 in Miory and Sharkaushchyna - 45 attendees; in February 2013 in Mosty -35 attendees; in Mach 2013 in Kobrin - 35 participants; in April 2014 in Kobrin- 68 specialists; in April 2014 in Mosty - 70 attendees; in May 2014 in Miory - 75). In total 483 teachers and other practitioners were trained; (ii) 9 smaller training workshops, 2 days each, were organized in the targeted cities with more than 270 attendees trained (26- in the first workshop, 25 - in the second; 22 - in the third; 20 - in the fourth; 25- in the fifth workshop; 30 - in the sixth workshop; 15 - in the seventh; 48 - in the eights, and 60 - in the ninth); (iii) 6 one-day training workshops were organized in the pilot towns, involving more than 120 participants in total (17 participants - in the first workshop, 20- in the second, 17- in the third, 25- in the fourth, 25- in the fifth workshop, 22- in the sixth workshop). The attendees were trained on all the 5 areas of the Green Schools programme: biodiversity protection, water efficiency, energy efficiency, waste management, work with community. In the course of the trainings, promotion of Green Schools program to the new regions was organized. Teachers were trained on usage of the Internet oriented biodiversity mapping database developed by the project.</p>
	8.4. Green Schools network monitoring	No difficulties	More monitoring visits were organized than initially planned. In 2013-2014 the	Activity is completed in 2014. 40 monitoring visits were organized from the project start to the pilot regions (Mosty, Kobrin, Miory and Sharkaushchyna) and to the regional departments of education (in Grodno, Brest and Vitebsk).



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
			<p>visits were also made to regional institutes of education to discuss possibilities to make first "green" schools as pilot sites for all the schools of the regions</p>	<p>During the monitoring visits, the work was done in all the schools of pilot regions that wish to participate in the "Green Schools" programme under all 5 directions of the programme: biodiversity conservation; energy efficiency; water monitoring; waste management; work with community.</p> <p>As a result reports of 47 schools from the pilot regions (including Sharkaushchyna) and other regions of the Republic covering implementation of all 5 directions of the program were approved by the Steering Committee of the "Green Schools" program as they fully meet requirements of Regulations on implementation of "Green Schools" program. These schools were awarded diplomas evidencing that they are "green". Discussions on making the schools participating in the program as pilot sites for the other schools of the regions were held with the departments of education in Grodno, Brest and Vitebsk. During the monitoring mission, guidance to the teachers on use of the Internet oriented biodiversity database that was developed within the project (activity 8.6 of the project) was provided.</p>
	<p>8.5. Draft legal act "On endorsing Regulation about an access to information, general public participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental issues"</p>	<p>The project faced a problem with recruitment of a qualified expert to develop legislative documents due to the limited number of experienced</p>	<p>1. Based on the consultation with the high qualified layers and experts, it was decided to make amendments to a number of legislative documents in</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>(i) Concept on amendments to the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on implementation of the Aarhus Convention was prepared by the local expert and approved by MNREP in 2012. The concept contains proposals on amendment of concrete legislative documents. In the process of development of the concept it was found out that it is not possible to draft a single legal act regulating implementation of Aarhus convention. Amendments to a number of the existing legislative</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
		<p>experts specializing on the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in Belarus. Recruitment process required longer time than planned</p>	<p>Belarus in order to ensure duly implementation of the Aarhus Convention. 2. Development of amendments to the legislation of Belarus on implementation of Aarhus Convention took longer time than planned because of the necessity to agree several times draft amendments with broad range of stakeholders, including governmental bodies and NGOs</p>	<p>documents are needed. (ii) Drafts of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On amendments to some laws of the Republic of Belarus on environmental protection issues and public participation in environmental decision-making" and Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on approval of Regulations on organization of public hearings of important environmental decisions and their proclamation were developed in 2013 and discussed with the stakeholders. (iii) On the basis of the comments from the stakeholders, drafts of the stated two normative documents were revised, re-worked, agreed with the stakeholders, including NGOs, finalized and submitted to the MNREP for follow up actions in due order in 2014. (iv) Before finalization, draft legal documents were presented and discussed at the roundtable that was organized on March 21, 2014. Recommendations of the round table were considered while finalizing the documents. More than 25 people took part at the round table, including representative of the MNREP, regional committees of nature resources, other Ministries of Belarus, NGOs.</p>
	<p>8.6. Biodiversity database</p>	<p>No difficulties</p>	<p>No changes</p>	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. (i) The database was transferred to APB (Birdlife Belarus) at the end of the project in 2014. Trainings of the specialists who are responsible for operation of the database after the project completion (specialists of APB (Birdlife Belarus) was conducted by the project staff. (ii) In 2013-2014 maintenance of the Internet-oriented biodiversity database (florafaua.by) was ensured.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>(iii) Assistance in identifying of photographed plants and animals was provided on the permanent basis by specially recruited local experts (botanist and zoologist) within 2012-2014. Their tasks also included collection of historical information on biodiversity and put it into the database. Thus, historical data on biodiversity was prepared, digitized and uploaded into to the database.</p> <p>(iv) Promotion of the database was ensured through organization of special presentation events on March 3, 2014 and on May 20, 2014 and also during the special PR event on promotion of "green" schools organized on June 17, 2014. The database was also presented to the broad range of stakeholders at the round tables related to establishment of legal framework for biodiversity conservation that took place in March 2013 and November 2013. Representatives of mass media, National Academy of Sciences, MNREP, other UNDP projects, and teachers from all over the Republic were invited to take part in the presentations.</p> <p>(v) Biodiversity database (florafauna.by) was officially launched in March 2013.</p> <p>(vi) 7 ecological learning games and tests were prepared and uploaded at the project web-site and the database in 2013. The games and tests were given to Yelnya Reserve for further use for the visitors.</p> <p>(vii) Identification guide of vertebrates, including birds of Belarus, amphibian and reptiles in electronic form was developed in 2013. The guide is located at the biodiversity data base (Guide.florafauna.by).</p> <p>(viii) Concept on development of Belarusian Internet oriented biodiversity database was developed and</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	8.7. Study of social and economic benefits from the potential biofuel production in the Chernobyl-affected areas, as well as dissemination of essential information	No difficulties	Delay in completion of the activity was caused by the fact that the work was done in several stages, and results after each stage needed to be duly presented and agreed by wide range of stakeholders	<p>approved by the MNREP in 2012. The database was developed by specially recruited IT company in 2012-beginning 2013.</p> <p>Activity is completed in 2012. Activity was performed by the UNEP. At the first stage draft report on the results of the study of social and economic benefits from the potential biofuel production in the Chernobyl- affected areas was prepared. Conclusions of the report were discussed with the key Ministries involved into the biofuel production and working on the Chernobyl- affected areas in Belarus during one week mission of the UNEP experts to Belarus. Also one day seminar for the key stakeholders was organized. Recommendations of this seminar were taken into account in the process of preparation of the final draft of the report. Final draft of the study was prepared and disseminated among the key stakeholders in Belarus for the comments. The comments received were sent to the UNEP and considered in the process of finalization of the work. Final report including results of the study was submitted to the MNREP. Report contains recommendations to use contaminated lands as well as other marginal land for production of biofuel.</p>
Output 9. EU visibility and project's information coverage insured by a web-site	9.1. Implementing project results dissemination campaign: publications	No difficulties	No changes	<p>Activity is completed in 2014. Information on project activities and results was widely disseminated through different means stated below:</p> <p>(i) Information campaigns on the MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin were conducted. Information campaigns included usage of different instruments such as: meetings with the local people of different age</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>(including those living in the private houses and villages), lessons and other events with involvement of pupils, dissemination of computer games on separate waste collection, working with local cinemas on rotation of video films on separate waste collection before the films, including of waste management topic into the “Green Schools” seminars, etc.</p> <p>6 big events within the frames of the information campaigns were organized in Mosty and Kobrin: on May 3, 2012 (in Mosty) and on May 21, 2012 (in Kobrin), on April 22, 2013 (in Mosty) and in Kobrin (in May 2013), on March 20, 2014 (in Mosty) and on April 22, 2014 (in Kobrin). The events were organized involving pupils, teachers, representatives of local authorities, local environmental institutions, etc.</p> <p>In Mosty (May 3, 2012) interactive lessons on separate waste collection were organized in 7 schools.</p> <p>In Kobrin (May 21, 2012) a competition on collection of plastic bottles among pupils from 9 schools of the city was organized. The pupils of the school (that won the competition) were awarded special prizes.</p> <p>Event on cleaning the city of Mosty was organized on April 22, 2013 in Mosty with the support of local citizens, mass media and NGOs.</p> <p>In May 2013 the pupils were lectured on waste management during specially organized field trip.</p> <p>In March 2014 event with pupils on production of special paper boxes for collection of batteries was organized.</p> <p>In April 2014 an action on painting of containers was organized with pupils.</p> <p>(ii) The following materials were published and widely</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>disseminated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- leaflets on waste management in amount of 1700 copies (incl. 1000 leaflets in 2012, 600 in 2013 and 100 in 2014);- posters on waste management in amount of 200 copies (incl. 100 copies in 2012 and 100 copies in 2013);- leaflets on biodiversity protection in amount of 300 copies in 2012;- leaflets on conservation of Yelnya bog in amount of 550 copies in 2013;- posters on Yelnya Reserve in amount of 1100 copies (incl. 100 in 2013, and 1000 in 2014);- leaflets on water management in amount of 200 copies in 2012;- leaflets on ecological certification in amount of 1300 copies (incl. 400 copies 2012, and 900 in 2014);- leaflets on Aarhus Convention and establishment of regional Aarhus center in amount of 2600 copies (incl. 300 copies in 2011, 800 copies in 2012, 500 copies in 2013 and 1000 copies in 2014);- leaflets on "Crane and Cranberries" festival in amount of 500 copies and posters on the festival in amount of 50 copies in 2012;- final project report in Russian and English in amount of 200 copies in 2014;- English version of the book "Rare Habitats of Belarus" in amount of 100 copies in 2014; <p>The information about the project activities and results was also disseminated through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- issue and distribution of 60 press-releases (incl. 2 press releases in 2011, 25 press-releases in 2012, 29 press-



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>releases in 2013, and 4 press-releases in 2014);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 299 articles in Internet resources (incl. 23 articles in 2011, 120 articles in 2012, 103 articles in 2013 and 53 articles in 2014);- 165 articles in mass media (incl. 6 articles in 2011, 78 articles in 2012, 67 articles in 2013, and 14 articles in 2014);- 61 radio interviews (incl. 2 in 2011, 34 interviews in 2012, 21 interviews in 2013, and 4 interviews in 2014);- 42 TV interviews (incl.1 in 2011, 14 TV interviews in 2012, 24 interviews in 2013 and 3 in 2014);- special edition of Eco Journal «Mir Zhyvotnyh "(2000 supplementary copies of a magazine) was issued in cooperation with the other environmental projects in 2011;- issue of Grodno newspaper "Hrodzenskaya Prauda" in amount of 16000 copies with one page dedicated to the work of Grodno Aarhus centre in April 2013. <p>(iii) 2 large ecological PR actions were organized with involvement of Aarhus centre with broad range of stakeholders: on June 5, 2013, action on cleaning of banks of Kotra was organized and on September 22, 2013 event "World cleaning 2013. Let's do it" was organized in collaboration with Grodno regional committee of natural resources. 116 persons took part in both events, including students and NGOs.</p> <p>(iv) 4 field events were organized in Miory: on February 2, 2012 devoted to the International Wetlands day, and on April 2, 2012 devoted to the International Birds Day, on February 1, 2013 and February 6, 2014 dedicated to International wetlands days.</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>The events were organized in collaboration with Yelnya Reserve administration, local committee of natural resources, local administration, local department of education and local pupils.</p> <p>On February 2, 2012, open lesson on the importance of biodiversity conservation and protection of peatbogs was organized. 146 participants took part in the event, including 120 pupils.</p> <p>On April 2, 2012, bird-boxes and houses for bats were assembled by the participants and hanged on the trees. More than 50 participants took part in the action including 35 pupils.</p> <p>On February 1, 2013 open lessons dedicated to conservation of Yelnya bog were organized in 6 schools of Miory and Sharkaushchyna regions for more than 120 pupils.</p> <p>On February 6, 2014, ecological event with theater performance, questions and answers, ecological games was organized in Miory for local pupils and pupils from Sharkaushchyna. More than 50 pupils took part in the event.</p> <p>(v) 3 small video films were prepared about the project activities: on events organized in Miory on February 2, 2012 and on April 2, 2012; on competition on collection of plastics bottles in Kobrin in May, 2012. 2 video films about uniqueness of Yelnya bog and attractiveness of the bog for the cranes were produced in Russian, Belarusian and English</p> <p>(vi) Special documentary on improved municipal solid waste management system in Mosty in the result of the project activities was produced by Belarusian TV</p>



Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>company within the program "Terra Incognita, Belarus Unknown". The film was shown on the central canal Belarus 1 on July 11, 2014. Based on the concluded license agreement, all the rights to the documentary belong to the UNDP. The documentary was given to the key project stakeholders for future continuous use of this film.</p> <p>(vii) In collaboration with Miory local authorities, MNREP and NGO "Birdlife- Belarus" two "Crane and Cranberries" Festivals were organized in Miory in September 2012 and September 2013. Key project partners, representatives of Embassies, NGOs, Ministry of Sports and Tourism, tourist companies, local pupils and teachers took part in the event. Representatives from 30-35 mass media provided information support to the event. Due to the project support and promotion, Miory became known as touristic destination. Also, in July 2014 Decision of Miory executive committee of making crane and cranberry as official symbols of Miory was made.</p> <p>(viii) 4 events on official transfer of procured equipment on MSW management to Kobrin municipal and housing service organization and Mosty municipal and housing services organizations were organized in November 2012 (transfer of the first batch of equipment to Kobrin MHSO), in December 2012 (transfer of the first batch of MSW equipment to Mosty MHSO), in November 2013 (transfer of equipment to work at the sorting station to Mosty MHSO), and in December 2013 (transfer of equipment to work at the sorting station to Kobrin MHSO). A lot of stakeholders and mass media took part in the events.</p>
	9.2 Implementing project	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2014.



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
	<p>results dissemination campaign: project website</p>			<p>Design of the project web site was prepared and agreed with the key project partners (the UNDP, MNREP, and EU). Project web-site was finalized, officially registered and launched (www.greenlogic.by) in Russian and English in early 2012. The project web site contained forum on “Green Schools” programme that was used by the “Green Schools” teachers and participants as a tool for experience exchange. There were hyperlinks to the MNREP’s, the UNDP’s and the EU Delegation’s to Minsk web sites.</p>
	<p>9.3 Populating and maintaining the project Internet site</p>			<p>Activity is completed in 2014. Effective maintenance of the project web-site was ensured. The web-site was actively used as a tool for dissemination of project results and to the information among stakeholders. The project web site included pages on the project components. The project news, analysis, draft reports for comments from the stakeholders under all the project directions, final reports, concepts developed, results of the seminars and round tables, presentations about the project, etc. were placed at the web site and could be downloaded. Photo- and video materials related to all the project activities were placed at the web-site and could be also downloaded.</p>



5.4 ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUR DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD UNDER COMPONENT 4

Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
Component 4. Project management				
Output 10. Effective project management and monitoring ensured	10.1. Project registration and inception	The project was registered with considerable delay	In order to implement project to full extent, and with due regard to the delay with project registration, issue on official extension of project implementation period was raised, and the project implementation period was officially extended for one year	Activity is completed in 2011. The project was duly registered in Belarus in 2011. Kick-off meeting was organized on October 27, 2011. International and local experts were invited to make presentations under the key project directions. Presentations on the project goals, tasks and results to be achieved were done by the project personnel. Around 80 people took part in the kick-off meeting, including the most important project partners (the EU, the UNDP and MNREP), representatives of the leading Ministries, institutes of the National Academy of Sciences, local administrations of the pilot regions, MHSOs, foreign Embassies to Belarus, international organizations, NGOs, etc.
	10.2. Project monitoring and finalizing	No difficulties	No changes	Activity is completed in 2014. Project Steering Committee (PSC) was formed in the first month of the project implementation. The PSC consists of the 18 members; the Chairman of the PSC is National Coordinator of the project from the MNREP. The secretary of the PSC is Project Manager. Regulations on the PSC functioning were developed and agreed by the MNREP and the UNDP. 7 meetings of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) were organized: on September 16, 2011; on February 6, 2012; on July 23, 2012; on February 5, 2013; on



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>August 27, 2013; on January 30, 2014 and on July 31, 2014. Minutes of the meetings were duly prepared and signed.</p> <p>Members of the PSC were addressed when necessary and involved at the monitoring over activities especially on the districts. Members of the PSC were addressed when necessary and involved at the monitoring over activities especially on the districts.</p> <p>Monitoring over implementation of all the project activities is done on the permanent basis by the PIU staff also through permanent field visits.</p> <p>48 meetings of experts were organized on the following issues: water management; improvement of MSW management legislation; biodiversity conservation legislation; development of Internet oriented biodiversity database; ecological certification development; amendments to Belarusian legislation to meet requirements of Aarhus Convention; implementation of pilot MSW management projects in Kobrin and Mosty; implementation of Yelnya pilot project. Recommendations of these meetings were taken into account in the process of further project implementation.</p> <p>In case of necessity special ad-hoc working groups were organized to find better solutions of the issues raised. Recommendations of these meetings are taken into account in the process of further project implementation.</p> <p>Project was completed in accordance with the UNDP rules and procedures.</p> <p>Final workshop was organized where results of the</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>project achieved under all the directions were presented. The workshop was held on July 30, 2014. About 80 specialists, professionals, local and international experts took part in the final project workshop.</p> <p>Mid-term project evaluation was carried out end of 2012 – beginning of 2013 by two independent international experts. Evaluation report was duly prepared, discussed with the key stakeholders and presented. All the recommendations of the mid-term project evaluation were addressed and implemented in the rest period of the project implementation.</p> <p>Final project evaluation was done in February – June 2014 by two European experts. Respective report was drafted, discussed with the project stakeholders, and finalized. The report is more strategic and contain recommendations to be followed by the project end-users to ensure sustainability of the project results and to be taken for the future projects and programs.</p>
	10.3. Project management and project office functioning	No difficulties	No changes	<p>Activity is completed in 2014.</p> <p>All the PIU staff was recruited. The project permanent staff included 16 persons, including 4 in the regions. For the total period of project implementation 124 experts were involved and contracted, including 92 locals and 32 international experts.</p> <p>Premises (3 rooms) for the central office in Minsk were allocated free of charge by the MNREP (National Implementation Agency) in Gidrometeorological Centre. The project made renovation of the allocated premises.</p> <p>2 regional offices were established in Mosty and in</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>Kobrin. Rooms for the regional offices were allocated free of charge by MHSOs in premises belonging to them. Appropriate agreements on free allocation of office spaces were signed between the UNDP and local MHSOs in Mosty and Kobrin.</p> <p>Equipping of Aarhus centre was completed. Agreement on office allocation was signed between the UNDP and Grodno regional committee of natural resources.</p> <p>Office equipment and furniture was procured for the central office in Minsk, regional offices in Mosty and Kobrin. Vehicle for the project office was also purchased.</p> <p>Project offices were duly functioning in accordance with the Description of the Action, approved annual working plans, decisions of the PSC meetings.</p> <p>Project activities were implemented without substantial delays. Revisions to the budget were made if and when necessary with due agreement with the UNDP and the donor (EU). All equipment procured within the project was duly transferred to the beneficiaries in accordance with rules and procedure of the UNDP and requirements of Belarusian legislation. Office equipment and furniture at the end of the project was transferred to the MNREP.</p> <p>All project offices were supplied with the stationary and consumables. At the end of June 2014 project offices in Mosty and Kobrin were duly closed. Project office in Minsk was closed on August 11, 2014.</p> <p>Visibility assistance of awareness-raising campaigns and events conducted under the project was ensured:</p>



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Outputs	Activities	Difficulties	Changes in implementation	Achievements/results
				<p>(i) Visibility materials were produced for key project seminars and events. Additional visibility items were produced for Yelnya Reserve and Grodno Aarhus centre for dissemination among stakeholders, visitors in their day-to-day work.</p> <p>(ii) Visibility items included: tablets, pens, bags, paper folders, bookmarks, key rings, flickers, calendars, magnets, T-shirts, caps, jackets, puzzles, photo frames, USBs, scarfs, umbrellas, datebooks, stickers, flashlights, pencil boxes, knapsacks, etc.</p> <p>(iii) All the visibility items correspond to the visibility requirements of the EU and UNDP, and have logos of the EU, UNDP and MNREP.</p>



6. KEY NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCED THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND PROJECT RESULTS

6.1. KEY NEGATIVE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCED PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND PROJECT RESULTS:

- complex nature of the project. This required input of a lot of local and international experts. Due to the divers directions of the project it was difficult to create conditions and ensure sustainability of all the project results under all the directions. When the project is more streamlined and encompasses only a few directions, more results can be achieved and better conditions for positive impact of the project in the medium-term and long-term perspectives could be created;
- lack of qualified local experts in some specific fields like, for example, implementation of Aarhus Convention, development of the tourism development strategy and marketing strategy for nature reserves. This increased the time of recruitment of the appropriate experts and actual implementation of the activities;
- lack of potential on performing of construction works at the regional and district level. Thus, construction of the ecotrail on Yelnya bog lasted for 1,5 years because the first contract for the construction was terminated on the fault of the sub-contractor as it refused to continue the works. And only the second sub-contractor, that was also selected on the basis of the bidding process, completed construction.
- Sustainability of some project results is not clear. This is related to further development of ecotouristic activities at Yelnya bog (incl. attraction of tourists to the bog, promotion of Yelnya bog, implementation and development of touristic products, training of guides, etc.). This requires further permanent and increasing efforts from Yelnya Reserve administration with strong support from Miory authorities, MNREP, and involvement of locals and touristic companies.

6.2 KEY POSITIVE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCED PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS:

- Involvement of broad range of stakeholders from the very first day of the project implementation, including high level stakeholders (EU, UNDP, MNREP, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Sports and Tourism), regional and local stakeholders (incl. Grodno, Brest, and Vitebsk regional committees of natural resources and environment protection, local authorities of the project pilot regions, regional institutes of education, Disna forest enterprise, etc.), scientific and educational segment (incl. Institute of Botany of the National Academy of Sciences, Centre of Bioresources of the National Academy of Sciences, Grodno University, etc.), project partners (Kobrin and Mosty municipal and housing services, Yelnya Reserve administration), NGOs, etc.;
- Engagement of high qualified project staff, local and international experts;
- Extension of the project for 8 months (the period of delay of official project registration) that made possible to implement the project in full scope and also some additional activities that raised in the process of the project implementation;
- Opening and functioning of regional offices in Mosty and Kobrin and recruitment of local staff for the whole period of the project implementation definitely facilitated implementation of all the activities at local level, including acceptance



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- and control over delivered equipment on MSW management, custom clearances, control over usage of the equipment, liaison with all the local project stakeholders, implementation of information campaigns on MSW management;
- Running of special information campaigns on MSW management and biodiversity conservation and promotion of ecologically friendly tourism, on functioning of regional Aarhus centre was good support to the implemented practical activities. The campaigns were rather successful because they were aimed at different target groups, including pupils of different age, and various instrument were used (apart from articles and leaflets, special videos, computer games on MSW management were used, interactive actions and events with direct involvement of people and pupils were organized each time under different scenarios, meetings with local citizens, etc.).



LIST OF DOCUMENTS DEVELOPED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

Below is given a list of documents (reports, studies, draft normative documents and standards, etc.) that have been developed during the period of the project implementation. The table lists Russian as well as English versions of the documents. The below mentioned documents are duly disseminated among stakeholders; recommendations and results of the studies are taken into consideration in the process of project implementation. Draft normative documents and standards were dealt in accordance with the legislation of Belarus, and final drafts were duly submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Protection or other responsible Ministry (like Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy) for further approval.

Information on videos produced by the project is also given below.

Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
1.1. Comparative analysis of present national water legislation in Belarus with relevant EU regulations	Concept on approximation of Belarusian and European legislation in the field of water management	RU	Final version
	Comparative analysis of present Belarusian water legislation with relevant EU regulations	RU	Final version
1.2. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for water management in Belarus	Report containing proposals for improvement of legislation in the field of water management in line with the EU directives and list of technical normative acts to be developed	RU	Final version
	Report on harmonization of Belarusian legislation with EU acts in the field of water management	RU	Final version
1.4. Drafting primary and secondary legal acts lacking for proper water	Final drafts of 13 new regulatory acts or amendments to the existing ones were prepared and submitted to the MNREP: (i) Technical code of common practice (TCP)	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
management in Belarus	<p>"Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules of definition of the ecological (hydrobiological) status of limnetic ecosystems";</p> <p>(ii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of the ecological (hydrobiological) status of river ecosystems";</p> <p>(iii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of chemical (hydrochemical) status of lake ecosystems";</p> <p>(iv) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules for definition of chemical (hydrochemical) status of river ecosystems";</p> <p>(v) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Analytical control and monitoring. Guidance standard on determining the degree of modification of river hydromorphology";</p> <p>(vi) Amendment No. 1 to the TCP 17.06-08-2012 (02120) "Environmental protection and nature use. Hydrosphere. Order of definition of norms of allowable discharge of chemicals and other substances in sewage waters";</p> <p>(vii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. The rules of observations of the surface waters at accidental pollution";</p> <p>(viii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature management. Analytical control and monitoring. Requirements for laboratories performing analytical control and monitoring of surface and sewage water";</p> <p>(ix) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Analytical control and monitoring. Water quality. Determination of mercury. Method using atomic fluorescence spectrometry";</p>		



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	<p>(x) TCP "Environmental Protection and Nature Use. Hydrosphere. Standards of maximum permissible concentration of chemical and other substances in water of superficial water objects ";</p> <p>(xi) Resolution of the Council of Ministers "On approval of regulations on composition and function of river basin councils";</p> <p>(xii) TCP "Environmental protection and nature use. Hydrosphere. Rules of development of river basin management plan".</p> <p>(xiii) Technical code of common practice establishing the order of attribution of surface water bodies to ecological status classes.</p> <p><i>Note: most of the new TCPs and standard are already approved by the Ministry of Environment.</i></p>		
	12 manuals on applications of the new developed regulatory acts and amendments to the existing ones	RU	Final version
	Replication strategy for further improvement of the legislation in the field of water management and approximation with the EU legislation	RU	Final version
2.1. Critical analysis and evaluation of the actual data on MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types	Report containing critical analysis and evaluation of the actual data on MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
2.2. Elaborating guidelines for assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types	Guidelines for the assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types	RU	Final version
2.3. Formulating the MSW management strategy for MSW production in pilot districts and MSW treatment	MSW management strategies for the MSW production and treatment for the pilot regions(Mosty, Kobrin)	RU	Final version
	Report on the MSW management policy targets at different levels of implementation	RU	Final version
	Framework concept on MSW management at national level	RU	Final version
2.4. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for MSW management in Belarus	Report containing feasibility study on the application of regulatory and economic instruments in the field of MSW management policy, including tariffs, institutional aspects, information flow	RU	Final version
	Concept for improvement of Belarusian legislation in the field of MSW management, including justification and proposals on amendment of national legislation with concrete list of lacking normative documents and normative documents to be amended	RU	Final version
2.6. Drafting legal acts in the field of MSW management in Belarus	9 final draft legal acts in the field of the MSW management, that were submitted to the MNREP or MHME, for further approval in due order: - Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus “on approval of a list of municipal waste”; - Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy “On amendments and additions to the Resolution	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	<p>of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus dated April 17, 2009 No. 19 and on cancellation of Resolution of the Ministry of Municipal and Housing economy of the Republic of Belarus dated July 30, 2033 No. 26”;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - draft Resolution of the Ministry of Natural resources and Environment Protection of the Republic of Belarus and Ministry of Municipal and Housing Economy of the Republic of Belarus “On approval of Rules on municipal solid waste management”; - draft law of the Republic of Belarus “On amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On waste management”; - draft law of the Republic of Belarus “On amendments and additions to the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On protection of rights of consumers of municipal and housing services”; - draft Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus “On amendments and additions to the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated January 27, 2009 No. 99”; - draft Decree of the President “On amendments and additions to some Decrees of the President of the Republic of Belarus”; - Instructions on the organization of collection, separation by types, incineration and/ or utilization of waste of goods and package”. (<i>Note: these instructions were already approved by the resolution of the MNREP</i>); - Technical code of common practice containing general rules of MSW management, including organizational, technical and technological requirements. 		
2.7. Preparing training materials on MSW	The following training materials on MSW management were published and widely disseminated among the stakeholders	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
management strategy and curriculum for technical training workshops	all over the Republic: (i) 300 hard copies of guidelines for the assessment and projection of MSW production and MSW treatment for the whole waste stream and main waste types; (ii) 100 hard copies of MSW management strategies for the MSW production and treatment for the pilot regions; (iii) 100 hard copies of materials on best EU practices in the field of MSW management. (iv) about 200 DVDs containing the above information and additional materials, presentations and learning books were widely disseminated.		
3.1. Formulating proposals for improvement of legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation in Belarus	Comparative analysis of legislation of Belarus and the EU in the field of biodiversity conservation	RU	Final version
3.3. Preparing proposals on the improvement of the legal system in the field of biodiversity conservation in Belarus	Draft Decree President on joining of Belarus to Bern Convention. <i>Note: the Decree was officially adopted in February 2013 and Belarus joined Bern Convention.</i>	RU	Final version
	First report of the country on implementation of Bern Convention	RU	Final version.
	2 technical codes of common practice were prepared and submitted to the MNREP for further adoption in due order: - technical code of common practice containing requirements to identification and protection of typical and rare habitat and landscapes; - technical code of common practice "Environment protection and nature use. Territories. Rules for development and establishment of green routes and their parts- ecological trails, including on the specially protected	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	nature territories".		
	Special manual on how to use developed new technical code of common practice on establishment of green routes and ecological trails	RU	Final version
4.1. Preparing proposals on the progressive approximation of Belarus legislation with the EU legislation in the area of ecological certification	Concept on integration of EU procedures and practices on ecological certification of products into the Belarusian legislation	RU	Final version
	Report on the results of comparative analysis of legislation and practices of Belarus and the EU in the field of eco-labeling of products and packages	RU	Final version
	Report on approximation of requirements in the field of eco-labeling of products and packages in EU and Belarus	RU	Final version
	Report containing proposals on improvement of existing legislative acts of Belarus and development of new ones in the field of eco-labeling, including list of new technical normative documents regulating procedure of eco-labeling and standards containing requirements to new groups of products	RU	Final version
	Report containing description of the main tasks, goals and activities of the "Global ecolabelling network"	RU	Final version
	Report containing recommendations and conclusions of the study on possibilities of joining of Belarus to the organization "Global ecolabelling network"	RU	Final version
4.3. Drafting technical regulations lacking (or introducing changes and	The following final drafts of 7 technical normative documents were developed and submitted to the MNREP for official adoption:	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
amendments in the current technical regulations) in the field of ecological certification in Belarus	(i) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for furniture and floor coverings from wood and wooden materials"; (ii) Amendment to the standard STB 1733-2007 "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for synthetic detergents" establishing ecological criteria for detergents; (iii) State standard "Environmental protection and nature use. Ecological criteria for cosmetic hygienic cleaning products, hair care products"; (iv) Technical code of common practice "National confirmation of conformity system of the Republic of Belarus. Environmental certification of products"; (v) Amendment No.1 to the technical code of common practice 5.1.08-2012 "National system of confirmation of the Republic of Belarus. Labels. Description and order of application"; (vi) State standard "Environmental Protection and Nature Use. Environmental criteria to accommodation and placement services"; (vii) Technical code of common practice "National confirmation of conformity system of the Republic of Belarus. Environmental certification of accommodation and placement services".		
	Five manuals on application of the stated above newly developed documents and amendments to the existing ones	RU	Final version
	Training program for experts-auditors on ecological certification of accommodation services	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	Training program of experts-auditors on ecological certification of goods	RU	Final version
	Local documentation for potential body on ecological certification of goods and services in accordance with the requirements of National certification system, including regulations on certification body, regulations on board of the certification body, guidelines on quality of the certification body on ecological certification of goods and ecological body on ecological certification of services, etc.	RU	Final version
	Report containing promotional strategy on ecological certification of goods and accommodation services for different target groups was developed and submitted to the MNREP for the further actions	RU	Final version
	Replication Strategy on further development of ecological certification of products	RU	Final version
5.2. Organizing a competition of local initiatives to develop technical solutions and preliminary project proposals for the MSW landfills in Mosty and Kobrin	Overview on results of the competition of local initiatives	RU	Final version
5.3. Designing the MSW landfill in Mosty and Kobrin	Report containing proposals on conceptual landfill design along with proposals of intensified landfill sites development for Mosty and Kobrin	RU	Final version
	Engineering design documentation for constructing of new landfill for Kobrin and reconstruction of the existing landfill in Mosty	RU	Final version
5.7. Ensuring the	12 quarterly reports based on the results of the monitoring in	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
monitoring of the pilot projects' MSW management systems	4 quarters of 2013 and 2 quarters of 2014 containing analysis of the activities done on improvement of the MSW management systems in the pilot regions, efficiency of equipment operation and recommendations for future actions prepared by international and local experts, incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 quarterly reports prepared in 2013 by local expert; - 2 quarterly reports prepared in 2014 by local expert; - 4 quarterly reports prepared in 2013 by international expert; - 2 quarterly reports prepared in 2014 by international expert. 		
5.8. Conducting comparative study on MSW management before and after implementation of pilot projects	Report containing comparative research before implementation of pilot projects with special indicators to be used for assessment of the efficiency of the pilot projects after implementation.	RU	Final version
	Report containing study on efficiency of the pilot projects in Mosty and Kobrin (related to the first improved elements of the MSW management system: separate waste collection and transportation) in 2013, based on the indicators of effectiveness of MSW management systems that were specially developed within the project to compare the situation before and after implementation of the pilot projects	RU	Final version
	Report containing study on efficiency of MSW management in Mosty and Kobrin, after implementation of pilot projects on the basis of the developed indicators of effectiveness of MSW management system (indicators of effectiveness were prepared by the project in 2012)	RU	Final version
	Report on the results of the study of the locals' opinion on improvement of the elements of MSW management system in Mosty and Kobrin after implementation of pilot activities	RU	Final version
	Report on technologies and practices of biogas extraction at the landfills in Belarus	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	Report containing results of assessment of Mosty and Kobrin landfills biogas potential	RU	Final version
5.9. Demonstrating the results of operation of the pilot projects' MSW management systems	Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 2 elements of MSW management system in Kobrin pilot site in 2013: - separate collection of waste and transportation; - landfilling.	RU	Final version
	Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 6 elements of MSW management system in Mosty pilot site in 2013: - separate waste collection and transportation; - separate collection of biowaste and transportation; - composting of biowaste; - separate collection of hazardous waste; - bulk waste collection and management; - landfill management.	RU	Final version
	Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 4 elements of MSW management system in Kobrin pilot site: - separate collection and transportation of waste; - bulk waste separate collection and management; - sorting; - landfill management.	RU	Final version
	Report demonstrating the results of improvement of the following 8 elements of MSW management system in Mosty pilot site: - separate collection and transportation of waste; - sorting; - separate collection and transportation of biowaste; - composting of biowaste; - prevention of biowaste; - separate collection of hazardous waste;	RU	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	- bulk waste collection and management; - landfill management.		
6.1. Developing a new set of activities for the Yelnya Reserve Management Plan	Analysis of implementation of the current Yelnya Reserve Management plan	RU	Final version
	Report on hydro- geological and hydrological peculiarities and current status of water regulating devices at Yelnya raised bog	RU	Final version
	Report on analysis of implementation of biodiversity and ecotourism sections of Yelnya Management Plan	RU	Final version
	Business plan on use of berries resources at Yelnya raised bog	RU	Final version
	Report containing distribution of plant associations in the zone of impact of drainage canals at the bog and recommendations on revision of Yelnya Reserve Management Plan	RU	Final version
	Revised Yelnya Management Plan	RU	Final version
6.3. Ensuring equipment installation for Yelnya Reserve Management Plan implementation	Report on development of scheme of landscape of Yelnya bog, buffer zone of the Reserve and installation of water level gauges		Final version
6.4. Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: monitoring of surface and groundwater level	Intermediary monitoring report on water level fluctuations after 6 months of observations	RU	Final version
	Final monitoring report on water level data in 2012-2014	RU	Final version
6.5. Implementing the pilot project activities according	Report containing recommendations on allocation and equipping of ecological routes at Yelnya raised bog,	ENG	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: ecotourism routes	interpretation plan of the nature of the reserve, proposals on organization and development of ecotourism including experience of European countries. (Prepared by international expert)		
	Report containing interpretation plan for trails at Yelnya nature reserve (prepared by international expert)	ENG	Final version
	Report containing: (i) description of different locations of ecoroutes with indication of positive and negative aspects; (ii) data on migrating wetland bird species, including protected species; (iii) biotopes status; (iv) data on species and status of protected flora; (v) description of new sites to monitor over the birds; (vi) concept of interpretation of nature including ecoroutes and visit centre. (Prepared by local expert)	RU	Final version
	Report containing: (i) information materials to be used while equipping the ecoroute, and (i) inventory of protected plants at Yelnya bog (prepared by local expert)	RU	Final version
	Report containing: (i) accounting of birds stopping at Yelnya bog in autumn during migration period; (ii) interactive excursions to the Reserve for adults and children in the spring, summer and autumn (prepared by local expert)	RU	Final version
	Report containing assessment of population and conditions of the protected and indicative species of birds and plants and protective obligations and passports for protected species of flora and fauna (115 protective passports and obligations in total, including 72 for protected plants and 43 for protected animals);	RU	Final version
	Analysis of migration of cranes and geese in Autumn and Spring	RU	Final version
	Report containing recommendations on development of ecotourism in Belarus including in and around raised bogs (prepared by the international expert)	ENG	Final version



Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	Report of specially recruited entomologist with recommendations on observation over insects and description of possible excursions aimed at observation of insects in different seasons	RU	Final version
	Report containing five touristic products for Yelnya reserve were developed (e.g. beaver watching; black grouse watching; special tour for the pupils; tour on winter watching of the elks; and bicycle and pedestrian tour "Unforgettable Yelnya") and description of Miory district as touristic destination	RU	Final version
	Report with recommendations on means, dates and timing of observation over the lekking Black and Willow Grouses, including rules of tourists behavior, and with proposals on Spring excursions for observation of lekking Black and Willow Grouses	RU	Final version
	Report with full data on breeding pairs of cranes in the Spring 2014 and proposals for organization of observations over the cranes	RU	Final version
	Engineering design documentation for the construction of ecological route at Yelnya	RU	Final version
6.6. Implementing the pilot project activities according to the new Yelnya Reserve Management Plan: a visit centre	Proposals on design of visit centre and adjacent territory as well as functions and goals of the visit centre		
	Ecotourism development strategy for Yelnya Reserve	RU	Final version
	Marketing strategy for Yelnya Reserve	RU	Final version
	Guidelines on touristic products	RU	Final version
	Video film on uniqueness of Yelnya bog for stopping of migrating birds	RU, ENG, BEL	Final version
	Video film on uniqueness and beauty of Yelnya bog	RU, ENG, BEL	Final version
6.8. Capacity building of	Guidelines on the best European ecotourism practice and	RU	Final version



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Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
staff: guidelines on the best eco-tourism practices	development of this practice in Belarus.		
6.9. Capacity building of staff: Yelnya report	Report on ecotourism development practice based on Yelnya pilot project experience	RU	Final version
7.1. Conducting a feasibility study for establishment of Aarhus centers at oblast level	Feasibility study including recommendations for location and scope of work of the oblast Aarhus centre	RU	Final result
7.2. Establishing a local (pilot) Aarhus Centre	Report containing recommendations on establishment and functioning of regional Aarhus Centre	RU	Final version
	Report with recommendations on functioning of regional Aarhus Centre based on the experience of functioning of republican Aarhus Centre, organization of document flow and establishment of library of regional centre	RU	Final version
	Report with recommendations on cooperation with Aarhus Centers functioning in other countries and usage of logo of Aarhus Centre in Grodno	RU	Final version
	Report with analysis of functioning of the regional Grodno Aarhus Centre (after one year or working) and recommendations on improvement of efficiency of functioning (prepared by international expert).	RU	Final version
	Video reel on Aarhus Convention and the work of regional Aarhus centre in Belarus	RU with English subtitles	Final version
7.3. Training the local Centre's staff	Training program for the Aarhus centre' staff in 2012	RU	Final version
	Report on training of Coordinator of Aarhus Centre in Grodno in 2012	RU	Final version
	Training program on training of coordinator of Grodno regional Aarhus Centre in 2013	RU	Final version
	Report on the training of Coordinator of Grodno regional	RU	Final version



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Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
	Aarhus Centre in 2013		
	Curriculum/ basic training materials on implementation of Aarhus Convention	RU	Final version
8.1. Expanding the network of Green Schools	Regulations on implementation of Green Schools program were prepared, including provisions on establishment and functioning of the Steering committee of the program	RU	Final version
	Optional educational course "Green Schools" for 1-9 classes	RU	Final version
8.2. Developing additional demonstration materials for Green Schools	Guidelines on implementation of the Green Schools programme for 1-9 classes	RU	Final version
8.5. Draft legal act "On endorsing Regulation about an access to information, general public participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental issues"	Concept on amendments to the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on implementation of the Aarhus Convention with list of concrete legislative documents to be amended	RU	Final version
	Report containing draft amendments and additions to the legislation of the Republic of Belarus related to participation of public in environmental decision making and access to information	RU	Final version
	Final draft Law of the Republic of Belarus "On amendments to some laws of the Republic of Belarus on environmental protection issues and public participation in environmental decision-making"	RU	Final version
	Final draft Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on approval of Regulations on organization of public hearings of important environmental decisions and their proclamation	RU	Final version



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Activities	Title of the document	Language	Status
8.6. Biodiversity database	Concept on development of Belarusian Internet oriented biodiversity database	RU	Final version
	7 ecological learning games and tests in electronic format	RU	Final version
	Identification guide of vertebrates, including birds of Belarus, amphibian and reptiles in electronic form (Guide.florafaua.by)	RU	Final version
8.7. Study of social and economic benefits from the potential biofuel production in the Chernobyl-affected areas, as well as dissemination of essential information	Report on the results of the study of social and economic benefits from the potential biofuel production in the Chernobyl- affected areas	RU, ENG	Final version
10.2. Project monitoring and finalizing	Regulations on the PSC functioning	RU	Final version
	Mid-term project evaluation report	RU, ENG	Final version
	Final project evaluation report	RU, ENG	Final version

