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MINUTES

OF STEERING AND MANAGEMENT GROUPS MEETING (3-d PERIOD)

Project title	Joint management of Latvian – Lithuanian trans-boundary river and lake water bodies
Project acronym, number	TRANSWAT, LLI-533
Meeting place	ZOOM meeting
Meeting date and time	04.02.2021, 10:00 – 12:00

Tatjana Kolcova (TRANSWAT Project manager) welcomes all participants, and starts the meeting with information about changes in the Agenda. Instead of Jurate Krauciuniene the presentation of PP2 will be done by Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene.

Then the project manager was giving the presentation about the project works during 2-st period, problems and achievements. This presentation showed as successful field works and the Mid-term Workshop held in September 2021 as delay with delivery D.T1.4.3. MesoHABSIM web-based platform Training Report. Activity T1.4. MesoHABSIM web-based platform Training Course will be done in April 2022 due to late contracting of experts from Torino Polytechnic University by LIFE GOODWATER project.

After that the presentations of all partners manager have been shown.

Tatjana Kolcova presented LP works in the 2–nd period:

- participating of 7 experts in the project Workshop with 4 presentations;
- field works within WP T1 (Habitat Surveys on both Ciecere and Losis rivers in presence of 2 different flow conditions, 25 water discharge measurements);
- field works within WPT2 (lake water sampling and lab analysis);
- development of conceptual surface water - groundwater interaction model is started;
- new press release for the newspaper “Latvijas avize”, interviews to local newspaper “Saldus zeme” and Liepaja TV.

Project deviation was related to river cross-sections measurements. It will be done in 3-d period.



LAZĪBAS VIENĀDĪBAS, ĒSĒTĀJĀRĀS UN METEOROLOĢIJAĒS ĒDĒRIS



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Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene (LEI Hydrology Expert) presented PP2 works in the 2-st period:

- organizing the project Mid-term Workshop in Kaunas (7-8 September);
- different field works including river cross-sections measurements, habitat surveys and water discharge measurements;
- 3 expeditions on water discharge measurements within WPT2.

Ilga Kokorite (LU project manager) informed about PP3 works in the 2-nd period:

- participating in the project Workshop;
- testing of the Methodology of lake ecosystem health assessment in the Garais/Ilge Lake (identification of possible spring outflows and other water sources available for physio-chemical parameter screening);
- different field sampling in the pilot lakes (physico-chemical parameters, zooplankton, macrophytes, sediment and benthic invertebrates). All planned field works were finished;
- new macrophyte species in Latvia was found (*Caldesia parnassifolia*), presentation at the conference in Latvian University and publication about *Caldesia* for journal "Latvian Vegetation" have been done.

Ruta Medne (BIOR project manager) informed about PP4 works:

- participating in the project Workshop;
- fish surveys in the rivers Ciecere and Losis and fish data analyses within WP T.1 were done;
- fish surveys in all pilot lakes within WP T.2;
- lakes bathymetric surveys and bathymetry maps development within WP T.2, maps will be published in BIOR webpage.

Ruta Medne informed partners about changes of lake' name in Latvian Policy Acts from Garais Lake to Ilzu (Garais) Lake.

Tomas Virbickas (NRS project coordinator) presented PP5 works in the 2-nd period:

- fish surveys within WP T1, data analysis with calculation of the fish index and assessment of the water bodies' ecological status;
- testing of conditional habitat suitability criteria;
- fish surveys in the pilot lakes within WP T2, data analysis and fish index calculating;
- assessment of lake ecological status based on the fish metrics (from high in Skirna Lake to bad in Garais/Ilge Lake);
- screening of potential sources of pollution;



- comparison of LT-LV fish indices based methods for the assessment of the ecological status of lake water bodies.

Regarding the HPP cascade' pressures to the ecological status of rivers T. Virbickas mentioned the most stronger impact of combination HPP operation and river continuity interruption to the impact of individual pressures.

Intars Cakars (TRANSWAT Project financial manager) informed about the project finances after 2-nd period. In accordance with the planned two first periods budget the percentage of spent money is about 86% (from 77.5% for PP3 to 95% for PP5). All partners has extra money from the BL "Travel and accommodation" and 3 partners (LP, PP2, PP5) from the BL "External expertise and services" due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Ruta Rimša (MEPRD, LV) mentioned the good practical works for the comparison of different national methods used in the lake ecological status assessment.

Gintautas Sabas (LEA, LT) and **Anta Jantone** (LEGMC, LV) highly assessed the active common works in the project.

Then **Tatjana Kolcova** showed the time schedule for the 3-d period. In February 2022 the river water level and measured water discharge data series as well as the river cross-section profiles were planned to deliver. All these measurements were not finished before ice conditions. Hence the delivery will be postpone to March 2022. Also for March 2022 the Conceptual model of surface - groundwater interaction, Report of the Source apportionment of nutrient loads and Report about Lake residual time as well as lake water level and Garais/Ilgē Lake measured water discharge data series should be prepared.

Partners discussed the possible changes in the project plan and budget.

Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene taking into account PP2 saved money during 2 first periods (about 6200 EUR), offered to organize in Lithuania 2-days expert meeting for discussing the plan and drafts of the main outcomes. D. Meilutyte-Lukauskiene said about the urgent needs of PP2 in additional computer for the HEC-RAS model.

Tatjana Kolcova offered to organize also additional expert meeting in Latvia for 2-days in order to discuss the Agenda and communication of the project Stakeholders meetings.

Ruta Medne informed about PP4 additional activity – participating of 2 BIOR experts in the international congress.

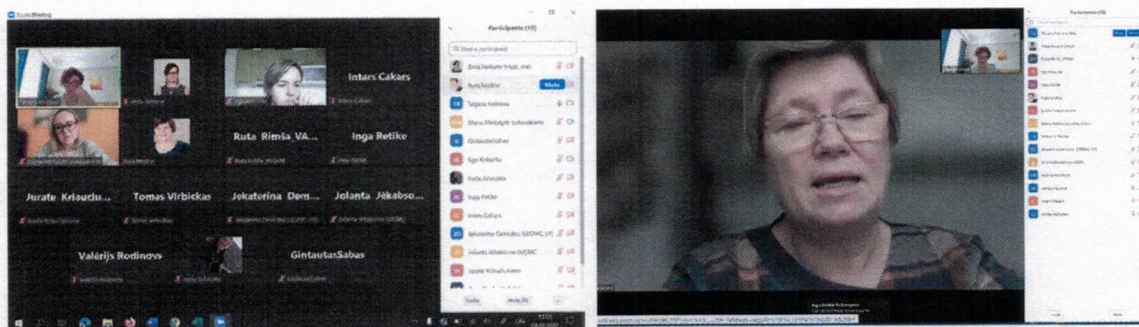
Ilga Kokorite asked about the possibility to organize once more field survey on lakes in the beginning of 4-th period.

Inga Retike offered to combine several events together including TRANSWAT project Final Conference for ensuring the expert participating. The Conference should be postponed to the beginning of September.

In the end of meeting Tatjana Kolcova asked partners to prepare précised information about necessary work plan and budget changes, thanked all Project Steering and Management groups' members for taking part in this meeting and wished successful project implementation.

Zoom meeting participants:

Gintautas Sabas – LEA, SG member, LT
 Ruta Rimša – MEPRD, SG member, LV
 Anta Jantone – LEGMC, SG member, LV
 Ilga Kokorite – LU, LV
 Inga Retike – LU, LV
 Valerijis Rodionovs – LU, LV
 Jurate Krauciuniene – LEI, LT
 Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene – LEI, LT
 Tomas Virbickas – NRC, LT
 Ruta Medne – BIOR, LV
 Intars Cakars – LEGMC, LV
 Jolanta Jekabsone – LEGMC, LV
 Jekaterina Demidko – LEGMC, LV
 Ineta Arsauska – LEGMC, LV
 Tatjana Kolcova – LEGMC, LV





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