

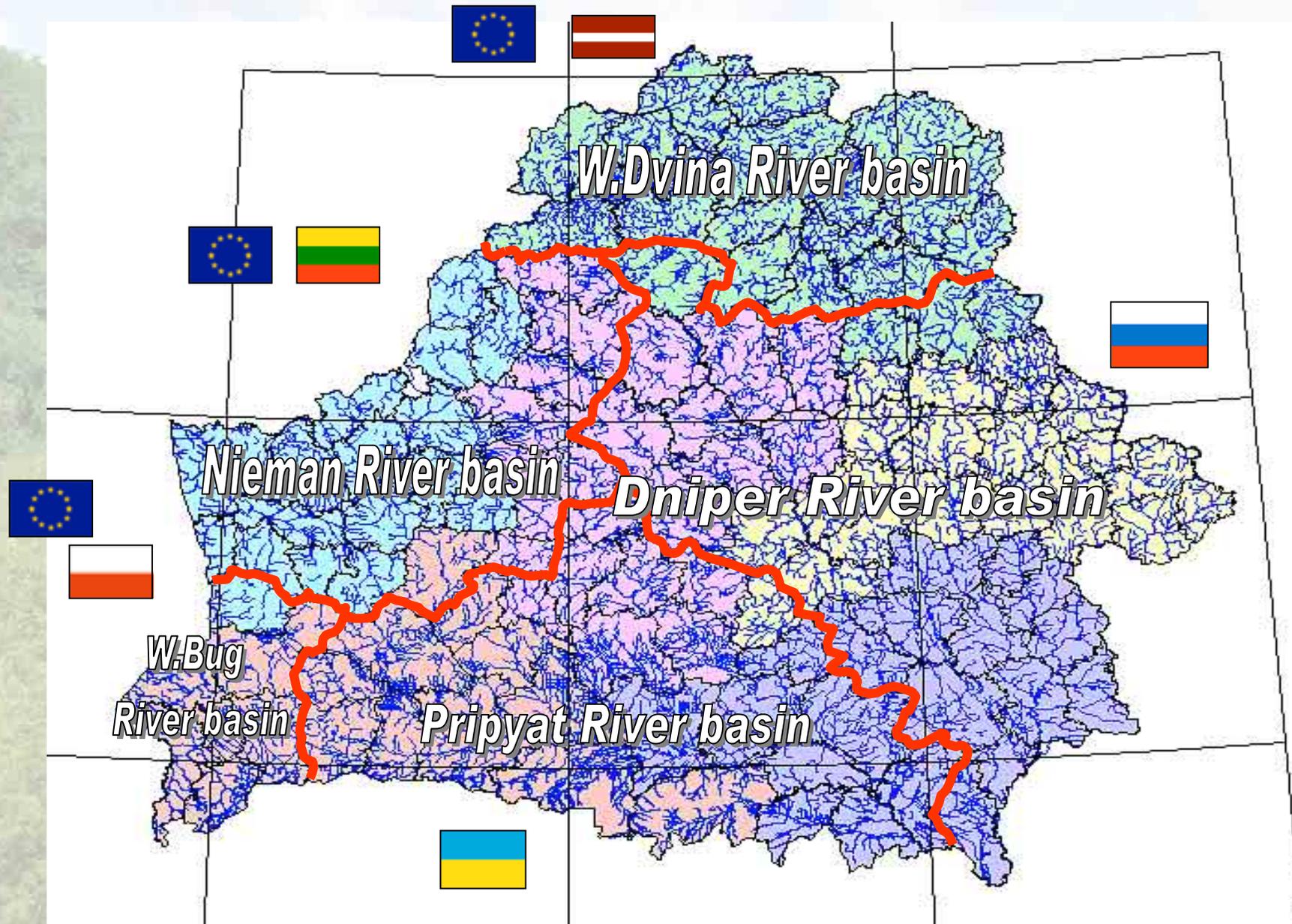
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Transboundary international river basins in the Belarus

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RIVER BASINS OF THE BELARUS REPUBLIC AS PART OF INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS



Main facts

- ❖ All basins are transboundary
- ❖ 45% watershed territory of the Belarus - Baltic Sea Basin (Neman, Daugava and Bug) from 1 May 2004 – transboundary rivers basins between EU and Belarus (annual water flow 25 km³ per year)
- ❖ Legislative basis for water management is the Water Code (1998) and the National Strategy on Sustainable Development
- ❖ Belarus signed conventions which are basic for WFD (Helsinki Convention, Biodiversity, Ramsar, Oorhus and others).
- ❖ Key point for cooperation with EU: water resources in context of sustainable development

International cooperation on transboundary level

<i>Basin</i>	<i>Countries</i>	<i>Bilateral agreement in water sphere</i>	<i>Transboundary projects implemented in the basin</i>
Nemanus	Russia	Existing	Development of a tri-lateral agreement on management of the Nemunas River Basin between Russia, Belarus and Lithuania (Swedish EPA)
	Lithuania	In preparation	
	Poland	In preparation	
Daugava/Western Dvina	Russia	Existing	Development of a tri-lateral agreement on management of the Daugava/Western Dvina River Basin between Russia, Belarus and Latvia (Swedish EPA)
	Latvia	In preparation	
Bug	Poland	In preparation	Tacis Crossborder Programme Development of transboundary cooperation on monitoring and assessment water quality on the Bug river basin between Belarus and Poland
	Ukraine	Existing	
Dnipro basin (incl. Prypiat)	Russia	Existing	UNDP-GEF Dnipro Basin Environmental Programme
	Ukraine	Existing	Tacis Joint River Management Programme. Development River Basin Management Plan for Prypiat River.

Main points for future cooperation

- **Common approaches for assessment transboundary waters with EU countries**
- **Harmonizing national legislation according to EU WFD in part of classification water objects on “ecological status”**
- **Establishing International Basin Water Commissions for Bug, Daugava and Neman Basin**
- **Development a tourism sector on transboundary rivers in Belarus (e.g. Augustov channel)**