

Emerald Network in Ukraine: From Designation to Effective Management

Agenda

Date: October 3, 2025, 10:00-13:30 (EEST)

Format: online

Language: Ukrainian, English

Please, register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/Z1gSE4I2RDGJr8KxYUWa3g>

Emerald Network in Ukraine: From Designation to Effective Management

October 3, 2025 | 10:00-13:30 (EEST), online

Background

A capacity-building workshop to raise awareness of Ukraine's commitments under the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), focusing on the designation and management of Emerald sites for flora and fauna species and natural habitat conservation. The workshop will include:

- An overview of existing Emerald sites in Ukraine and comparable examples from other countries,
- Guidance on approaches to the preservation and restoration of species and habitats through effective Emerald site management in Ukraine and internationally.

This workshop is one of the nine capacity-building events organized as part of the World Bank-led activities under EU4Environment Program sub-component 4.1: Support to protect biodiversity and natural ecosystems (Emerald network). Activities under this sub-component aim to advance the establishment of the Emerald Network and management of the Emerald Sites in the Eastern Partner countries, including Ukraine.

Objectives

To raise decision-makers' and the public awareness of the requirements of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats and the key resolutions guiding the designation and management of Emerald Network sites.

Organizers

The workshop is organised by the World Bank jointly with the international consulting company Particip GmbH and Rewilding Ukraine, implementing activities under sub-component 4.1.

Participants

Representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture, the State Forestry Agency, the State Water Agency, the State Fisheries Agency, the State Environmental Inspectorate, stakeholders of the three model Emerald sites, representatives of the Protected Areas' administration, the World Bank, EU Delegation to Ukraine, research and academic institutions, universities and higher schools, media, and civil society organisations.

Practical Information

The seminar is held online. ZOOM link will be sent with the invitation.

The working languages of the seminar are Ukrainian and English.

About EU4Environment

Since 2018, the "European Union for Environment" (EU4Environment) Action has helped the Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. The programme was funded by the European Union and principally implemented over the 2019-2024 period by OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank. Over 2025-2026 period, the World Bank will finalise the implementation of programme's Result 4 area.

AGENDA

Time	Item
	Moderator: Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
10:00-10:15	Opening Remarks - Igor Zubovich, Deputy Minister of Economy, Environment and Agriculture of Ukraine. - Jocelin Cornet, Head of Operation Section "Reconstruction, energy, infrastructure and environment", EU Delegation to Ukraine. - Oksana Kovalenko, EU4Environment Programme Coordinator, World Bank.
10:15-10:30	Overview of Ukraine's Commitments under the Bern Convention Key resolutions and recommendations guiding conservation of species and habitats through the designation and management of the Emerald Network. Olesya Petrovych, Team Leader, Particip GmbH.
10:30-10:45	Status of the Emerald Network in Ukraine and Other Countries Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
10:45-11:00	Military Impacts on the Emerald Sites Approaches and results of assessing the impacts of the Russian Federation's full-scale military aggression against Ukraine on the territory of the Emerald Network. Iryna Babanina, Project Expert; Researcher, Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOBS).
11:00-11:15	Emerald Network in Ukraine: legal aspects and the legislative process Legal issues affecting conservation of species and habitats, and the management of Emerald sites. - Olena Kravchenko, Executive Director, International Charitable Organization Environment-People-Law. - Solomia Baran, Lawyer, International Charitable Organization Environment-People-Law.
11:15-11:30	Q&A session
11:30-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-12:00	Conservation of Natural Heritage for Life in Ukraine Project Progress and next steps. - Oleksiy Vasilyuk, Chair of the Board, Ukrainian Nature Conservation Group; Junior Researcher, Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve, NAAS of Ukraine. - Anastasia Drapaliuk, Nature Conservation Areas Expert, Ukrainian Nature Conservation Group; Executive Director, Nature Fund of Ukraine.

12:00-12:15	<i>Management Plans for Emerald Sites: Key Tasks</i> Main steps towards the preparation and implementation of management plans. • Viktor Demchenko, Project Management Expert; Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Marine Biology, NAS of Ukraine.
12:15-12:30	<i>Case Study: Management Plan for the Emerald site UA0000077 Pyriatynskyi National Nature Park</i> Practical experience in and the lessons learnt from the development and implementation of the management plan. • Anatoliy Podobailo, Associate Professor, Department of Ecology and Zoology, Institute of Biology and Medicine, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.
12:30-12:45	<i>International Experience: Management Plans in Moldova</i> Methodological approaches to and experience in developing and implementing management plans for Emerald sites in Moldova. • Aurel Lozan, EU4Environment Activity Coordinator in Moldova, World Bank.
12:45-13:00	<i>Rewilding of Emerald Sites</i> Rewilding as a tool for Restoring Biodiversity, Ensuring Sustainable Management and Achieving Conservation Goals. • Oleg Diakov, Project Technical Advisor; Executive Director, Rewilding Officer, Rewilding Ukraine.
13:00-13:15	<i>Q&A session</i>
13:15-13:30	<i>Workshop Summary</i> • Igor Zubovich, Deputy Minister of Economy, Environment and Agriculture of Ukraine.