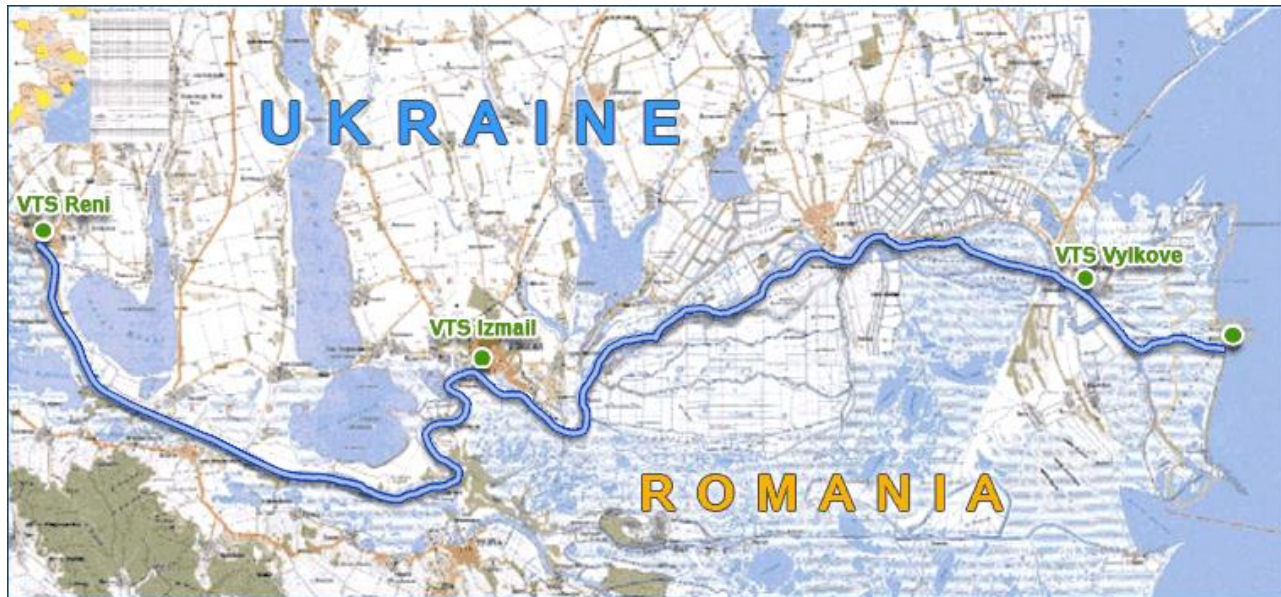




## **Execution of the Recommendation No. 111 (2004) of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention on the proposal navigable waterway through the Bystroe Estuary (Danube Delta, Ukraine)**



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Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine.  
December 2015, Strasbourg.



- Ukraine has implemented all the requirements of the Bern Convention Recommendation No. 111 (2004)
- Ukraine has established comprehensive environmental monitoring system which shows no negative impacts for the Bern Convention species and habitats



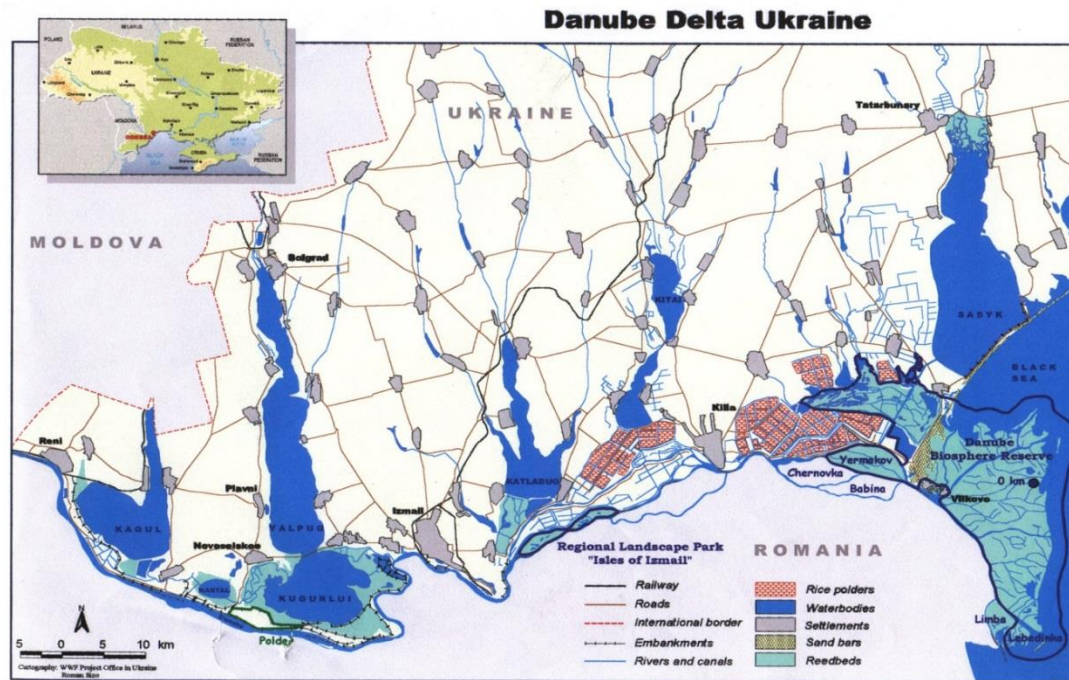




## Main achievements:

- The Danube Biosphere Reserve was organized in 1998. In 2004 its territory was enlarged on 3850 hectares and now amounts up to 50 Thousand hectares.
- Ukraine suspends works, except the completion of phase 1, and do not proceed with phase 2 of the project.
- Ukraine has launched national system of comprehensive monitoring of the Danube Delta environment, including research and engineering monitoring programs.
- Ukraine develops constructive dialogue between the national and local authorities, local communities, non-governmental organizations, scientists, and communicates openly about the progress of decision making.

# Biodiversity conservation



- There are 955 species of vascular plants including 16 species from the Red Data Book of Ukraine.
- Reserve's fauna includes 263 species of birds, 42 – of mammals, 101 – of fish. Among them are 88 species from the National Red Data Book.
- Emerald candidate-site "Dunaiskyi Biosphere Reserve" ensures conservation 25 habitat types from Resolution No. 4 (1996) and 238 species from Resolution No. 6 (1998).



## Suspension of works

Ukraine suspends works, except the completion of phase 1, and do not proceed with phase 2 of the project until:

- the EIA for phase 2 is undertaken to international standards and submitted to the relevant international experts and organizations;
- the public consultation on the EIA for phase 2 takes place and the proposals made during the discussions are duly considered;
- the data collected during the additional monitoring program with involvement of international experts were analyzed and adequate recommendations were elaborated;



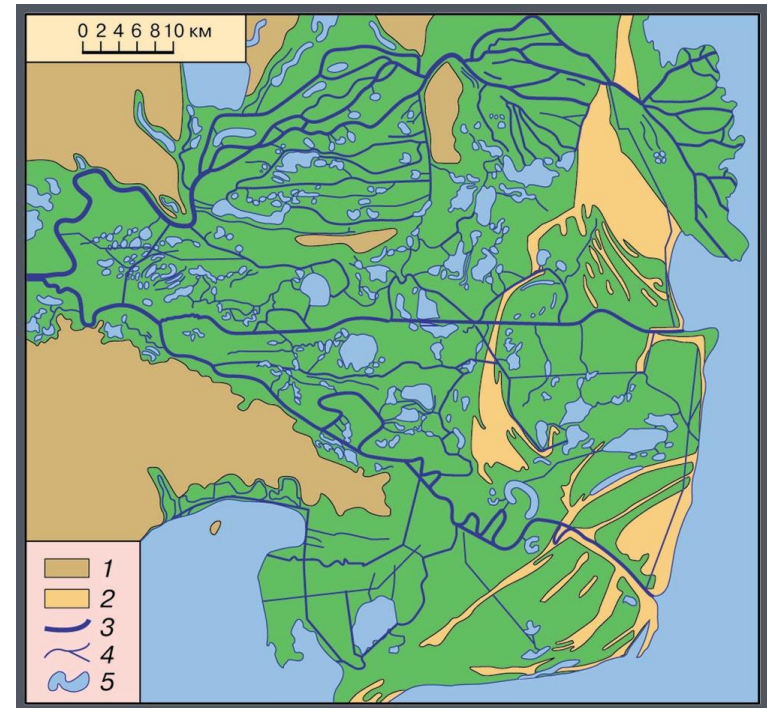


## Joint cooperation

- Ukraine, Moldova and Romania enhanced cooperation in the framework of the Agreement between Environmental Ministries of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine on cooperation in the zone of Danube Delta and Lower River Prut nature protected areas.
- Meetings of the Joint (Moldova, Romania and Ukraine) Commission were held in 2011, 2013 and 2015.
- During last meeting, Ukraine presented draft Final Report on implementation of Recommendation No. 111 and proposed this document to be sent to the Bern Convention Bureau for consideration at its next meeting for preparation of draft resolution of Standing Committee concerning the closure of the file.

# Integrated monitoring

- Ukraine has launched a system of integrated monitoring of the Danube Delta environment that contains programs of environmental and engineering monitoring, combines various types of research.
- To implement these programs dozens of leading scientific and engineering institutions were attracted.



# Involvement of local communities



- Ukraine develops constructive dialogue between the national and local authorities, local communities, non-governmental organizations, scientists, and communicates openly about the progress of decision making.
- Local communities of Vylkove and Izmail have been involved to the prevention and minimization of the impacts of the deep-water navigable waterway operation upon the environment, including in the cross-border context.





## Suggestions for a future:

- to close the File opened 2004/1 – Ukraine: Proposed navigable waterway in the Bystroe Estuary (Danube Delta);
- to welcome initiative to launch a scientific monitoring program to assess the environmental state of the Danube Delta;
- to assign responsibility on a Joint Commission of the trilateral Agreement on environmental cooperation in the zone of Danube Delta and Lower River Prut for evaluation of environmental impact and planning further action on the proposal navigable waterway through the Bystroe Estuary;
- to initiate measures within the trilateral Agreement to improve conservation of species from Annexes of the Bern Convention;
- to provide information on the Joint Commission activities on the Bern Convention implementation to the Standing Committee.



