

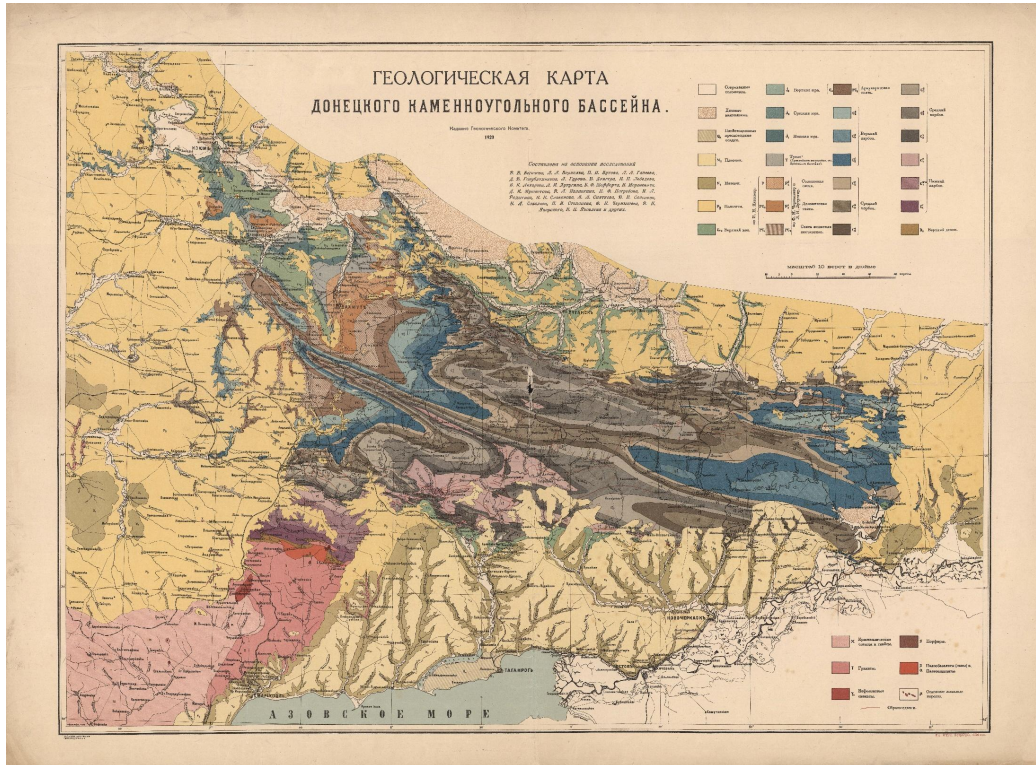


Looking to Europe: challenges for water management in Ukraine

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Mark Buttle: WASH Cluster Coordinator
mbuttle@unicef.org

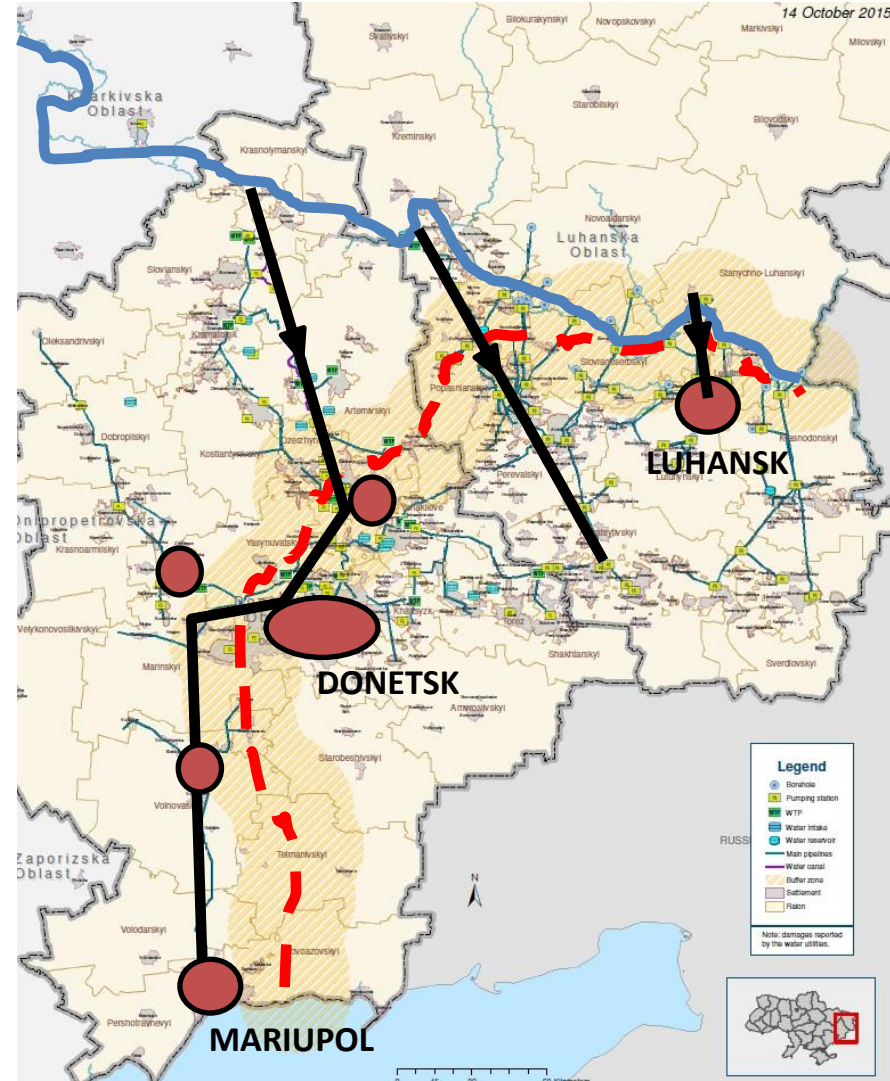
When discussing water, the developed nature of Ukraine is critical



Examples from Donbass region

- Almost all water comes from the Siverskyi Donetsk river, or nearby
- Government Controlled Areas (GCA) and Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA) are interdependent.
- Heating systems for all major town and cities need water and electricity.
- Cut water might cause millions of people to relocate and conflict escalation.
- Every 4 days shelling, shooting, or other conflict related incidents affect water infrastructure
- 70-years old infrastructure!

Note: map is schematic only and does not show actual locations



Positive factors for Ukraine

- National and State Water Programmes
- Institutions
 - Ministry of Communities and Regional Development
 - Ministry of Health
 - Ministry of Ecology
 - Departments of Water Resources and River Basins Management
 - Tariff Commission
 - Ministry of Reintegration (far east of Ukraine only)
- Legal and legislative frameworks

Challenge #1 – water quality

- “Implement EU water standards starting 1st January 2022”
 - National Council of Security and Defense (NCSD)
 - MoH
 - MinRegion
- Vodakanals to be fined (up to 20% of income?)

Should we drink the tap water?

“New” (last 50-70 years) problems include:

- Nitrates, phosphates from agriculture
- Natural pollutants: Hardness, Salts, Arsenic
- Industrial pollution:
 - Metals: Lead, Manganese, Aluminium
 - Carcinogens: Phenol
- Rising water temperatures
 - Algal blooms increasing
 - Water treatment byproducts (tri-chloro methane)
- Low levels of chlorine at household level...coliforms

How optimistic can we be?



Can EU water quality standards be implemented?

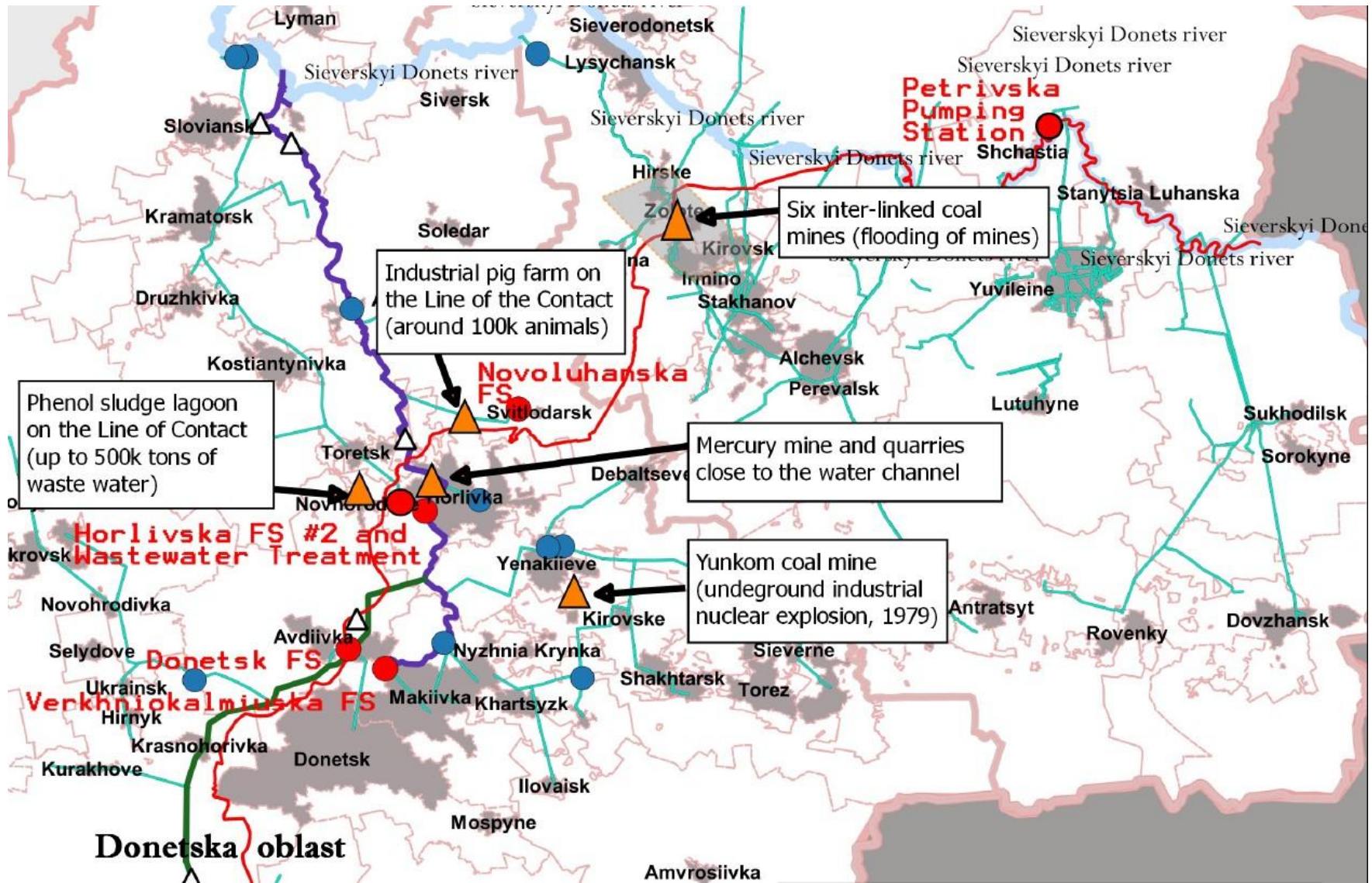
Some challenges:

- Age of infrastructure – 70 years+
- Old fashioned water treatment processes (good but not ideal)
- Water tariffs are low compared to the EU **and** compared to other utilities:
 - 0.6 EURO compared to 3 EUROS
- Timeline: the need for a transition period
- Investment:
 - Around 400 million EUROS needed just for Donetsk and Luhansk just for the next 10 years;
 - The rest of Ukraine? (I would guess 5 Bn EUROS over 10 years)
 - Not even including replacing and improving the infrastructure!

Challenge #2 – river basin management

- December/January 2021 Ammonium incident
 - Incident was predictable...stemming from a maintenance / cleanup activity.
 - No warning to downstream oblasts
 - Ammonium detected at all water treatment facilities
 - Vodakanals had to launch their own investigation
- Transboundary water: Siverskyi Donets, Dnipro, Desna rivers

Some environmental hazards related to water management



Challenge #3 – specific regions

Where are we talking about?

- Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts
- Crimea and Sevastopol Oblast (North Crimea Water channel)

Perhaps let's take care not to forget about them

- Current legislation is not always working...
for example how the Tariff Commission work affects Voda Donbasa

Finally lets ask again:

Can Ukraine adopt EU water quality standards?

The answer of course is “yes”, however perhaps Ukraine should:

- Consider whether there are too many ministries involved?
- Recognize that implement EU water quality standards will need:
 - A transition period
 - Investment: International finance must be met by Ukrainian finance and commitment
- Embrace and improve river basin management, paying attention to the effects of global warming, and monitoring and responding to environmental pollution; and
- Be inclusive of problematic regions