

PRESS RELEASE

GERMAN-UKRAINIAN DIALOGUE ON WASTE WATER TREATMENT

The **INTERIM WORKSHOP AND DEVELOPMENT MEETING** of the bilateral cooperation project *“Dialogue on waste water treatment processes of heavy metal contaminated water bodies of the city Mariupol and development of strategies/processes for the reduction of emissions from steel industry”*,

funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science, took place in Kassel from November 6th until 10th.

The project consortium members from Ukraine and Germany - scientists and representatives of Priazovsky State Technical University, Mariupol city administration and the Metinvest Group as well as from Kassel University, Westphalian University of Applied Science, Duisburg-Essen University and the German Society for Membrane Technology e.V., met at Kassel University to discuss the progress and further steps, as well as potential future cooperation approaches in other related topics. A representative from VDEh-Betriebsforschungsinstitut GmbH joined the meeting as an external expert and an important connection to the German steel industry.

The first two days of the workshop were dedicated to work on the different action lines of the project – Line A “Status Quo” and Line B “Network”.

Line A focuses on the process of wastewater treatment within the different steel plants of Mariupol, scientific description of the current state, joint development of recommendations for the process of innovation / waste water treatment and discussion of transferability.

Against this background the German partners developed a self-assessment questionnaire to collect relevant information in preparation of the meeting. During the workshop the current state of two case studies, the plants “Azovstal Iron and Steel Works” and “Ilyich Iron and Steel Works”, were discussed and in course of a brainstorming session recommendations for further analysing steps were developed. For example in both steel works suitable hotspots for adapted and modified in deep analysis were selected. Among other parameters the results from these analytics will be a key factor in the future planning of the steel works waste water management concept.

Project Line B afforded the project partners to bring up other topics or problems for potential cooperation. In this context the issue of a non-existent water management concept for the city and the region of Mariupol was identified as a possible starting point. Beyond the end of the current project the consortium partners encouraged to start a bilateral expert group involving all stakeholders necessary to formulate water management concept.

An excursion to the steel works “Salzgitter AG | Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH” added practical aspects to the meeting as well as further industry contacts on site.

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Fig. top left: Dr. Ivashechkin presenting the VDEh-Betriebsforschungsinstitut GmbH

Fig. top right: Mr. Bielous presenting the data of the case studies "Azovstal Iron and Steel Works" and "Ilyich Iron and Steel Works"

Fig. bottom left: Group picture in front of the visitor center at the steel works Salzgitter AG

Background information on Mariupol:

Mariupol is the tenth largest city in Ukraine and is of regional importance in the south-eastern part of the country. The city is located on the northern coast of the Azov Sea at the mouth of the Kalmius River in the Azov Sea. It was the centre of grain trade, metallurgy, heavy engineering, including the Ilyich Iron and Steel Works and Azovstal, and played a key role in the industrialization of Ukraine. Due to the military conflicts in the Donbass region, Mariupol became the provisional administrative centre of the Donetsk region in 2014.

Contact information:

Nicole Burghardt, Dipl.-Biol. & M.S.
 East-West-Science Centre
 UniKasselTransfer | Kassel University
www.waternet_mariupol.owwz.de

Mail: burghardt@uni-kassel.de
owwz@uni-kassel.de
 Fon: +49 561 804 3609 / 3793

Project partners:

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 **METINVEST**

Metinvest Group

[\(Azovstal Iron and Steel Works & Ilyich Iron
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