

**Presentation by
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Subject: “Environmental policy of Belarus”**

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1. Nature of Belarus



- Geographically Belarus is situated in the centre of Europe and borders on five states: Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania and Latvia.
- The typical Belarusian landscape is uplands, plains or lawlands interlaced with swamps and lakes.



- Belarus is called “blue-eyed”.
- There are over 10,800 lakes in Belarus and around 20,800 rivers and streams which flow into the Baltic and the Black seas.
- Forests are a predominant vegetation type in Belarus.



- Belarus fell victim to the Chernobyl catastrophe. Certainly, the ecology of the country has considerably suffered. 15% of agricultural land and 22% of forests have been contaminated.

2. Environmental policy of Belarus

2.1. Environmental legislation

2.2. Main goal of ecological policy of Belarus

2.3. International environmental cooperation

2.4. Priority environmental issues on the territory of Belarus



- Environmental protection and rational use of natural resources are among the key priorities of the state policy of Belarus.
- Normative legal base is a fundament of environmental activity.
- Belarus ratified 21 key environmental conventions. 35 multilateral and bilateral agreements in the domain of environmental protection and nuclear safety were signed and came into force.



- Environmental short and long term programs and plans were elaborated.
- The National Action Plan for the Rational Use of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection for the years 2006-2010 is a framework document of Belarus in the field of ecology.

- The most effective way to improve natural resources' management is introduction of economic measures.
- Regular monitoring of the state of the environment is an indispensable part and of the environmental policy of Belarus.

3. Climate change mitigation: the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



- Belarus is a state-party to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- The Belarusian amendment is set to address the problem by specifying Belarus' obligations to reduce greenhouse emissions.

4. State policy on use of local fuels, untraditional and renewable energy sources in Belarus



- Effective fuel-and-energy resources using is the top priority of the state policy of Belarus.
- The major goal of state energy security remains implication of local and renewable energy sources into State energy balance which is based mainly on economic reasonability.

5. Future ecological cooperation



- IRENA will be the global platform for renewable energies.
- The main work of IRENA will be to advise its members on creating the right frameworks, building capacity and improving financing and the transfer of technology and know-how for renewable energies.

- On 18 June 2009 Belarus had initiated holding a thematic debate on energy efficiency, energy conservation, new and renewable sources of energy within the frameworks of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.
- Belarus emphasized a possibility and importance of a **sustained intergovernmental dialogue on energy cooperation** and stood for starting a practical work **on the comprehensive United Nations energy agenda**.
- Belarus keeps advocating the establishment of a **global mechanism** which would ensure that each and every country around the world enjoys an access to technologies for new and renewable sources of energy.

International Cooperation

1. Construction of energy sources with boiler installations on biomass (firewood and timber wastes, straw, boon).
2. Harmonization of standards, information on design procedure methodologies of projecting, construction and operation, calculations of effectiveness and reduction of greenhouse emissions when implementing renewable energy objects.
3. Construction of wind-energy plants.
4. Construction of biogas plants.
5. Construction and reconstruction of hydro-electric plants.
6. Usage of solar energy mainly for the purpose of direct water heating in solar collectors.

Thank you !

