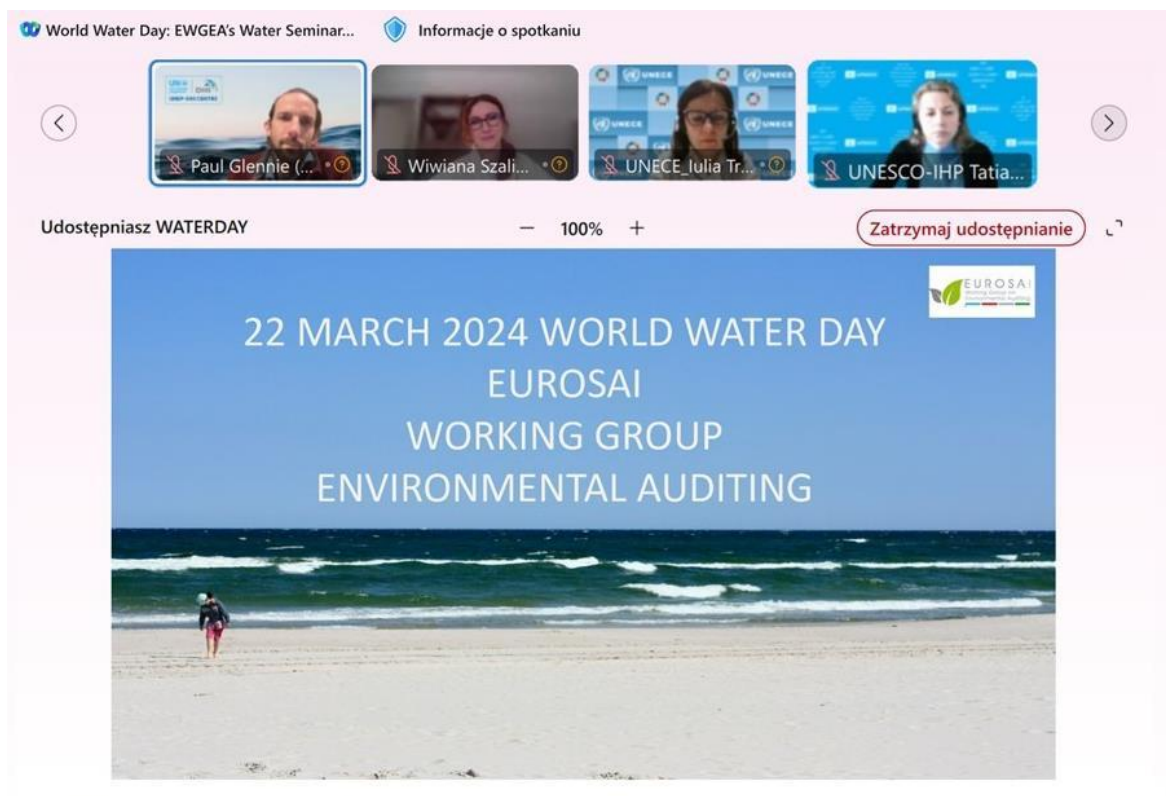


The EUROSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing (EUROSAI WGEA) organizes an e-Seminar on World Water Day

World Water Day is a United Nations global observance celebrated annually on 22 March to raise awareness of the value of water. On behalf of Mr. Marian Banaś, President of the Supreme Audit Office of Poland, the EUROSAI WGEA Secretariat invited representatives of SAIs from various countries to participate in the EWGEA Water Seminar, held online via Cisco WebEx on 22 March 2024.



During the seminar, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and its Target 6.5 were presented: “By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate.” This target involves promoting the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems. The presentation was delivered by experts from the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management – National Research Institute (Poland), PhD Wiviana Szalińska and PhD Tomasz Walczykiewicz.

During the second session, discussions focused on Indicator 6.5.1 – Water Management, which is measured on a scale from 0 to 100%, reflecting the different stages of development and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). This indicator is based on an existing monitoring instrument developed by UNEP-DHI, which monitors various aspects of the policy framework for integrated water resources management. This session was presented by Paul Glennie, Senior Technical Advisor at the UNEP-DHI Centre on Water and Environment.

This was followed by a presentation on Indicator 6.5.2 – Measuring Progress towards Transboundary Water Cooperation, which tracks the proportion of a country’s transboundary basin area covered by an

operational arrangement for water cooperation. Such an arrangement may take the form of a treaty, convention, or bilateral or multilateral agreement between riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation.

This part of the seminar was presented by Iulia Trombitcaia, Environmental Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Tatiana Dmitrieva, Project Officer in the Groundwater Sustainability and Water Cooperation Section of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Program (UNESCO-IHP).

In the final part of the seminar, discussions focused on the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) entitled "Auditing Water Issues." The course aimed to present the complexity of water-related issues, ranging from the water cycle and challenges in water governance and management to opportunities for auditing environmental impacts and water sustainability using performance audit methods. The course focused primarily on surface and coastal waters, as well as groundwater, excluding specific issues related to the marine environment and biodiversity. The final session was presented by Tuuli Rasso, auditor at the National Audit Office of Estonia.

The ALSAI was represented at the seminar by auditors Megi Peza, Jupitern Malaj and Enea Sali.