

Activities of the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine in the field of elimination of consequences of natural disasters

Mr. Denis Nikitin

chief of section on questions of nature protection activity

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Kyiv, Ukraine, 17-18 March 2009

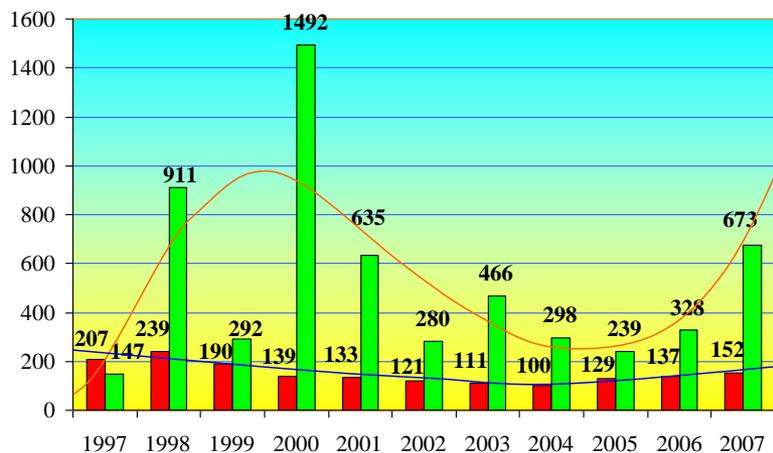
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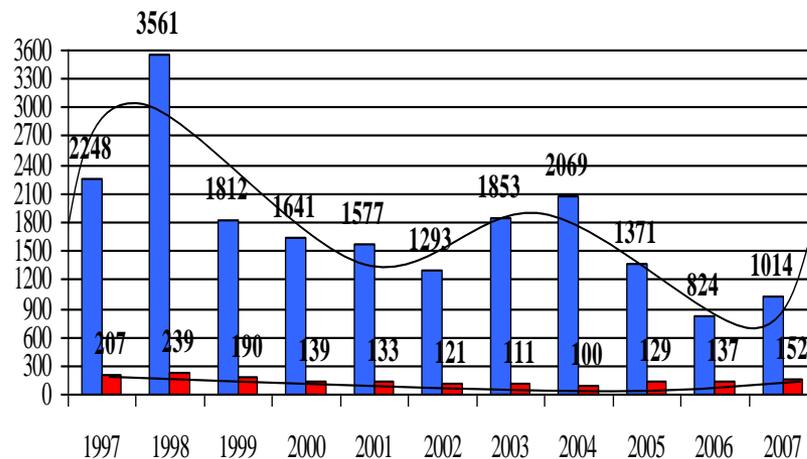
Natural disasters in the past took place in accordance with development of natural processes, but, since XIX age, human activity began to influence on their dynamics.

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Ratio of losses from natural disasters and quantity of natural disasters



Ratio of number of natural disasters and their victims



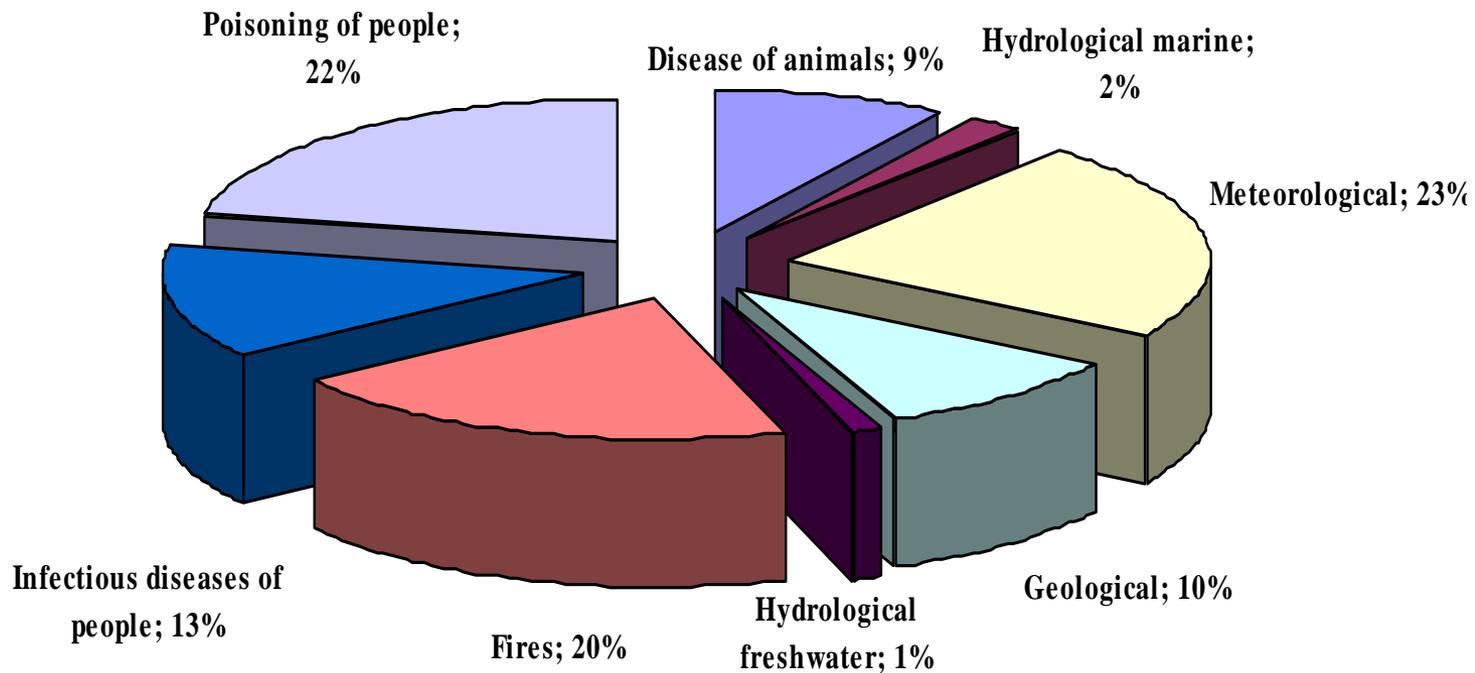
■ - number of natural disasters

■ - losses

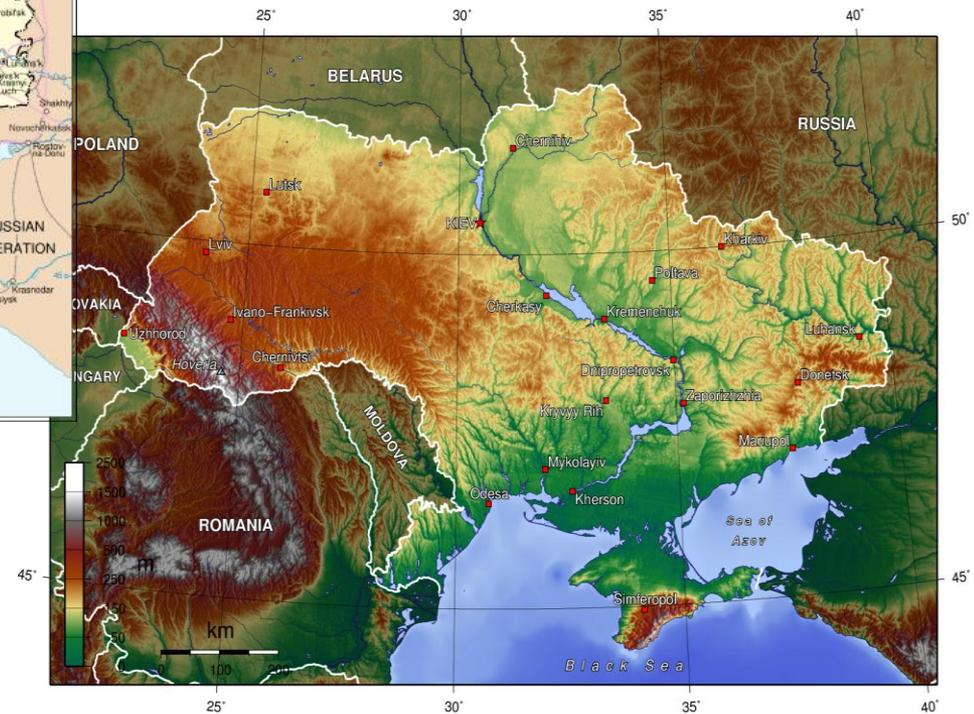
■ - victims

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Kinds of natural emergencies



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Audits of stream-bank erosion and measures to prevent floods:

- Ukrainian-Hungarian parallel audit of the flood control preparedness in the Upper Tisza Region (2005);
- Parallel audit of measures to prevent floods on the transboundary waters of Ukraine and Poland (2006);
- Parallel audit of the agreement between the governments of Ukraine and Slovak Republic on cross-border water management (2007);
- Parallel audit of protection of the waters in the Bug River basin from pollution (2006).
- audit of the Bucharest Convention on protection of the Black Sea from pollution (2008).

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Main expected results of the audits:

- Develop common understanding and identification of common problems that are to be solved by the state government;
- Assess efficiency of the existing organization frameworks and activities that are being carried out in this sphere;
- Assess ability of the countries to fulfill undertaken liabilities, if taken into account their resources available (financial, human, administrative etc.);
- Develop recommendations on how to improve situation.

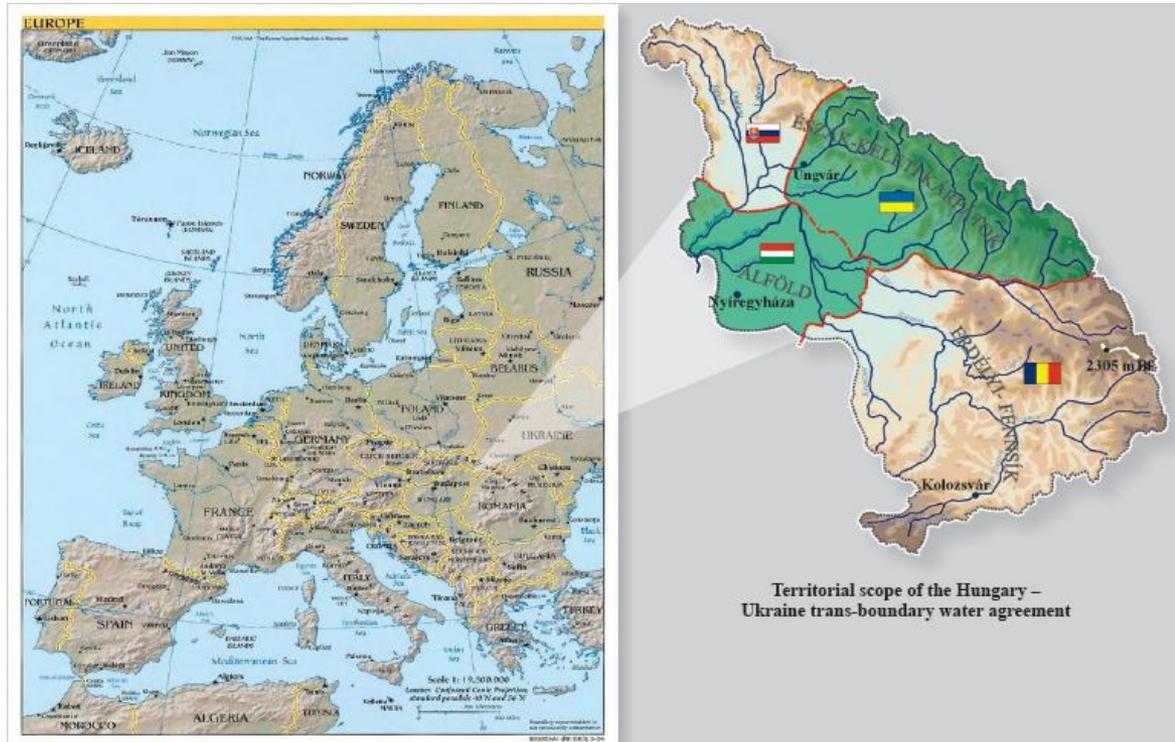
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Ukrainian-Hungarian parallel audit of the flood control preparedness in the Upper Tisza Region



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Ukrainian-Hungarian parallel audit of the flood control preparedness in the Upper Tisza Region

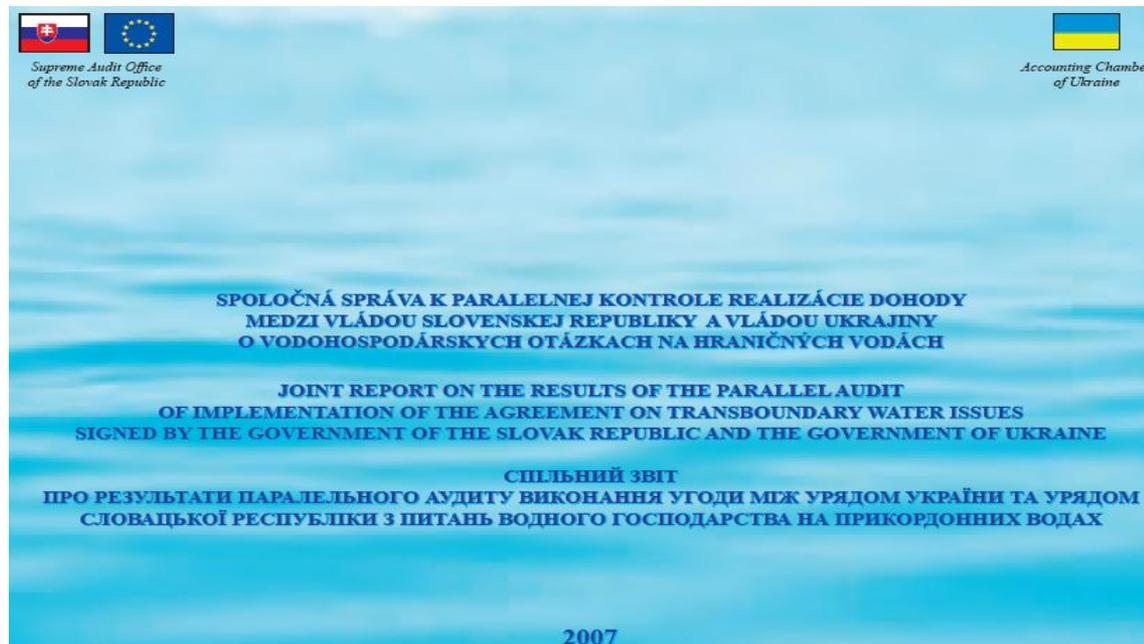


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- Based on the audit results and taking into account system drawbacks that revealed during the implementation of the Program of Flood Protection, the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine stressed on the necessity to adjust the provisions of the Program.
- New edition of the Program of Complex Flood Protection in the catchment area the Tisza River for 2006 - 2015 was developed and adopted by the Government of Ukraine in a year.

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Parallel audit of the agreement between the governments of Ukraine and Slovak Republic on cross-border water management



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After the Ukrainian-Hungarian audit of the flood control preparedness in the Upper Tisza region and the audit of the agreement between the governments of Ukraine and Slovak Republic on cross-border water management had been conducted the automated information measuring system “Tisza” to forecast floods and manage water resources in the catchment area of the Tisza River was considerably developed and received financial back-up from the international community



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Parallel audit of measures to prevent floods on the transboundary waters of Ukraine and Poland



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Based on the audit findings the SAIs participating in the audit came to the conclusion that financing and fulfillment of activities to construct flood protecting facilities, their maintenance as well as carrying out soil-saving and coast-protecting works on the transboundary waters are far from satisfactory.



However, the Government of Ukraine, having focused its attention on the flood protection measures in the Tisza River catchment area, did not taken effective measures to achieve complex solution of the problems in the Carpathian region that were timely reported by the SAIs of Ukraine and Poland. This lead to severe consequences afterwards.

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- July flood that occurred in Ukraine resulted in the increase of water level in the rivers of Dnestr and Prut and disastrous overflows in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Hungary, thus, covering all the Carpathian region. 42 people were killed, 34 of them – residents of Ukraine. About 40 thousand people were evacuated.



In Ukraine losses from this natural disaster were evaluated USD 870 million.

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- Audits in the field of elimination of natural disasters are attended by difficulties of technical nature. Such audits draw social and sometimes political response and require well-developed methodological background.
- However, the obtained results are of a big practical value in such matters as:
 - developing joint environment policy of the neighboring countries regarding river basins or cross-border issues;
 - Informing the international community on the problems of common concern and the possibilities to obtain financial help or consultations;
 - developing more complex approaches by the governments of the neighboring countries while elaborating national plans to improve the environment .

Thank you for your attention!

