

BELARUS



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General

Belarus - officially the Republic of Belarus - is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe bordered by Russia in the Northeast, Ukraine in the South, Poland in the West, and Lithuania and Latvia in the Northwest. The country has an area of 20.8 Mha (million hectares) with in 2020 a population of 9.4 million, or 0.45 persons per ha (Wikipedia and United Nations, 2019).

Climate and geography

The climate features mild to cold winters, with average January minimum temperatures ranging from -4 °C in the Southwest to -8 °C in the Northeast, and cool and moist summers with an average temperature of 18 °C. Belarus has an average annual rainfall of 550 to 700 mm. The country is in the transitional zone between continental climates and maritime climates.

Many streams and 11,000 lakes are found in Belarus. Three major rivers run through the country: the Neman, the Pripyat, and the Dnieper. The Neman flows westward towards the Baltic sea and the Pripyat flows eastward to the Dnieper; the Dnieper flows southward towards the Black Sea. The lowest point is on the Neman River at 90 m+MSL (mean sea level).

Existing polders

The Group Polder Development (1982) states that the polder area in Belarus is 1,121,100 ha. General information on the polders in Belarus is shown in Table I.

Proposed polders

No proposed polders have been identified.

References

Group Polder Development, 1982. *Polders of the World. Compendium of polder projects*. Delft, the Netherlands.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. 2019. *World Population Prospects, medium prognosis. The 2019 revision*. New York, USA.

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Table I. General characteristics of existing polders in Belarus

Name	Reclamation	Area in ha	Type *)	Latitudes	Longitudes	Elevation in m+MSL	Land use
Total		112,100					

*) RLL = reclaimed low-lying land; LGS = land gained on the sea; DL = drained lake