This project is co-funded by the European Union
EU Candidate Status for Albania in 2014

EU Progress Reports

- Recommendations on Environment / Water
- Lists critical issues, incl. over abstraction / over utilisation / wastewater pollution / hydropower / floods / erosion / monitoring and related areas;
- In response to these identified challenges – Albania with support of EU launched the Water Sector Reform Agenda

EU IPA II 2016

- Support to Integrated Water Management (IWM) & Water Services Sector Reform in Albania

Water Management at River Basin Level

- Albania has in total 6 river basins
- 2 trans-boundary (Drin & Vjosa)
European Union Support to the Water Sector Reform in Albania

European Union - Austrian Development Cooperation

• Co-financing initiative
• Delegation Agreement signed December 2017

Main Implementing Bodies

• Agency for Water Resource Management (AMBU) (under Prime Ministers Office)
• Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

→ EUSIWM Project Implementation 2018 - 2021

• Water Legislation Framework
• River Basin Management (RBM) Plans
• Institutional Capacity at river basin level
• Economic Analysis of water extraction and water use
One management frame for all water-related legislation

- Drinking Water Directive
- Industrial Emissions Directive IPPC
- Daughter Dir. Priority Subst.
- Daughter Dir. Groundwater
- Nitrates Directive
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
- Initiative Water Scarcity and Droughts
- Pesticides legislation
- Floods Directive

Water Framework Directive
EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT (2018 – 2021) TO INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT IN ALBANIA

EUSIWM Project objectives(s) and Expected Results

1) **LAW**: Water Legislation Framework is improved in an inclusive and evidence-based manner and implemented and enforced in line with the EU requirements.

2) **RBM**: River Basin Management (RBM) Plans
   - Outline of WFD RBM Plans: (i) Mati & Ishem/Erzeni & (ii) Vjosa
   - WFD RBM Implementation in 6 year cycles: 2021 / 2027 / 2033

3) **CAP**: Institutional Capacity at river basin level to implement Integrated Water Management is enhanced.

4) **ECO**: The budgetary framework and Economic Analysis of water extraction and water use at basin level is improved in line with WFD principles, incl. analysis of water (use & pollution) charges.
WFD Implementation in Albania
Integrated Water Management Approach

The EUSIWM follows up previous work in the water sector - to reinforce the established River Basin Management Planning Framework in order to make it more effective towards meeting EU accession requirements for the water sector

1. Major emphasis is put on the PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH, to ensure a true policy-based budgeting, proper monitoring of policy-objectives, solid justification of public investments and effective accountability of budget-holders.

2. In the absence of an EFFECTIVE RIVER BASIN BASED WATER MANAGEMENT APPROACH a true integrated management of water resources cannot be put into practice.

3. The consensus about the modalities on the objectives of the INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT (IWM) AGENDA among the key water sector stakeholders in the country is essential,

   • to achieve EU environmental acquis (Chapter 27) objectives
   • to implement the WFD / RBM planning requirements – and to
   • to create the framework conditions for the successful management and operation of sustainable water service providers (WSP) at river basin level
The River Basin Management Plan outlines the new approach that Albania will take to protect all waters over the 6 year RBM cycle to 2021 / 2027 / 2033 / 2039 / 2045 and beyond.

It builds on lessons learned from the first planning efforts in a number of areas:

- **Stronger and more effective delivery structures** will have been put in place to build the foundations and momentum for long-term improvements to water quality.

- A **new governance structure (AMBU)**, which brings the (i) policy, (ii) technical and (iii) implementation actors together with public and representative organizations. This will ensure the effective and coordinated delivery of measures.

- The newly-established **AMBU (central)** level will help people to get involved in improving water quality at **RBO (local)** level.

- **AMBU / RBOs (local level)**, is supported by a forum for stakeholders, community groups and sectoral representatives (**RBCs**).

**AMBU / RBOs together with RBCs will analyse and raise awareness of water issues.**
RIVER BASIN ORGANISATION

DRIN-BUNA ARBO

MATI-ISHËM-ERZEN ARBO

SHKUMBINI-SEMAN ARBO

VJOSA ARBO

DRIN-BUNA RBC

MATI RBC

ISHËM RBC

ERZENI RBC

SHKUMBINI RBC

SEMANI RBC

VJOSA RBC
### IN GENERAL TERMS THE WFD ASKS THREE CONCEPTUAL QUESTIONS

(AND TO BE ANSWERED FOR RIVER BASINS OVER A PERIOD OF TIME)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the present situation regarding LEGISLATION, STATUS on water quality, RESOURCES and PRESSURES from society?</th>
<th>Prepare <strong>BASE-LINE DESCRIPTION</strong> of river basins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WFD Art. 5 <em>(Characteristics)</em>, Annex II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where do we want to go and what shall be achieved in the future?</th>
<th>Prepare <strong>PLAN</strong> and <strong>OBJECTIVES</strong> to be achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WFD Art. 4 <em>(Environmental Objectives)</em>, Art. 8 <em>(Monitoring)</em>, Annex V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How to reach the planned OBJECTIVES and expected achievements?</th>
<th>Prepare <strong>PROGRAMME of MEASURES</strong>, budgets for implementation and <strong>ENFORCEMENT</strong> activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WFD Art. 11 <em>(PoM)</em>, Annex VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WFD Art. 13 <em>(RBMP)</em>, Annex VII</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The work programme for the Mati / Ishem / Erzen RBMD Plan will focus on the preparation of the 4 initial elements of the RBMP (WFD, Annex VII), including:

- Characterization
- Significant pressures,
- Protected areas and
- Monitoring

The preparation of the initial elements of the WFD / Annex VII RBMP in the Mati / Ishem / Erzen RBMD will then set the stage for the country wide WFD implementation;

EUSIWM RBM expert team will work together with AWRM and WBAOs on this process
EUSIWM Project Stakeholders

**Ministry of Tourism and Environment**
Monitoring, biodiversity, protected areas, forest policy, climate change, environmental protection policy, etc.
* National Environmental Agency – yearly monitoring programme

**Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy**
Water use for drinking water – water utilities
Wastewater treatment facilities and discharge

**Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**
Irrigation areas – water quantity
Use of fertilizers in agriculture land
Drainage infrastructure

**Ministry of Health and Social Protection**
Quality of drinking water
Quantity of water abstracted

**Other governmental institutions/agencies related to water resource monitoring and data processing (surface & groundwater, erosion, floods, etc.)**
RBMP POSSIBLE TIMETABLE (2019-2021-2027)

- **Research**
  - River Networks and Catchment Boundaries
    - Water Body Coding / Delineation
    - Initial Characterisation of surface waters
    - Reference conditions for surface waters
    - Initial Characterisation of groundwater bodies
    - Analysis of pressures and impacts
    - Economic analysis of water use
    - Register of protected areas

- **Co-ordination**
  - Location and boundaries of RBDs
  - Competent Authorities
  - Administrative provisions

- **RBD Data Collection**

- **2018**
  - Water Law enters into Force

- **2019 - 2021**
  - Monitoring programmes [Annex V] operational; drafting RBMP works programme
  - Inter-calibration and establish surface water classification systems

- **2022**
  - Further Characterisation Measures

- **2024**
  - Publish overview of significant water management issues

- **2026**
  - Publish draft RBMP

- **2027**
  - Publish 1st RBMP

- **Establishment / Implementation / Management of Water Information System (WIS)**
THANK YOU
## EUSIWM 1 – IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity 1</th>
<th>Improvement of the Legal Framework of Water Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Task No.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tasks/Outputs</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.1 | Assessment of the legal framework on national water management regarding the approximation of national legislation with the EU acquis  
  - Prepared recommendation report for gap analyses of the Water Law  
  - Prepared recommendation report for revision of the Water Law and all relevant national documents |
| 1.2 | Detailed analysis of the legal framework on water management on basin level  
  - Prepared Legal Gap Analysis Report |
| 1.3 | Preparation of an improved draft legal framework and an Implementation Plan for establishing a sound legal framework (IP-LF) for the water management on basin level  
  - Prepared draft text of the Amendments to the Water Law accompanied with Table of Concordance |
| 1.4 | Support in Implementing prioritized actions of the IP-LF - for achieving ERs 2 – 4  
  - Prepared drafts of the related implementing secondary legislation with Table of Concordance  
  - Support of the relevant ministries/institutions in the follow up of the IP-LF |
need of coordinating RBM planning in context of nature protection, as EU priority – and increasingly IMPORTANT IN THE PROCESS OF APPROXIMATION AND IN THE Chapter 27 NEGOTIATION
Framework for Preparation of River Basin Management Plan

EU Acquis
Chapter 27
Environment

EU Water Framework Directive

National Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management

Legislation Development

Capacity Building

Economic Analysis & Investments

Resources for Investment Measures

LAW No. 111/2012
Adopted on the date 15.11.2012 and as amended by the Law No. 6 of 08.02.2018 - ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

River Basin Management Plans
## EUSIWM 2 – RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

### Activity 2: PREPARATION OF WFD RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS (RBMPs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Tasks/Outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2.1      | **Mapping and assessment of past and on-going activities regarding the IWRM in general and WFD RBMPs in particular**  
  • Analysis and assessment of the completed and on-going activities  
  • Analysis of documentation in terms of **WFD compliance** of existing RBMPs |
| 2.2      | **Preparation of a phased Implementation Plan / WFD Roadmap for achieving full sets of RBMPs for all river basins**  
  • Definition of RBMP objectives and preparation of a **WFD Roadmap** for Albania  
  • **Administrative setup** for preparation / implementation of WFD RBMPs  
  • Identification of required **support & action** for WFD RBM implementation  
  • Definition of **responsibilities and tasks** as well as stakeholder involvement |
| 2.3      | **Preparation of outline RBMPs for selected RBs (Mati & Ishem/Erzeni and Vjosa) as first step of the WFD Roadmap**  
  • Assessment of **water resources situation** in the RB(s)  
  • **Drafting of the RBMPs** for the selected RBs, including review of unified data collection, water information system and reporting to EU  
  • Analysis of **essential RBMP implementation issues** (i.e. available capacities) |
| 2.4      | **Support of the relevant ministries/institutions in the follow up of the WFD Roadmap 2021 / 2027 (IP-RBMPs)**  
  • **Guide** the AWRM / AMBU and the respective RBCs and RBOs in following up the IP-RBMPs  
  • **Provide capacity development** through on-the-job training for the implementation of the IP-RBMPs |
Towards Effective River Basin Management

Common framework for WFD_RBM implementation in Albania

- **Ownership**: implementation shall fit in sector strategies and policies at country level
- **Enhanced cooperation** of ALL stakeholders

Effective RBMP requires combination of ALL the following

- Continuous **monitoring** and **data collection**
- Updated Registers (**databases**) of ALL abstraction and pollution points
- Informative GIS based **maps** and ‘**decision tools’**
- Good **knowledge of local activities** in the river basin
- Good technical evaluation of Measures and setting of **Permit criteria**
- Proper **Register of Permits** – (criteria must be measurable)
- **Inspection & Enforcement**
- Proper **enforcement of the LAW through Permits**
CORE OF A RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

IDENTIFY PRESSURES

Collect data
- Abstractions
- Discharges
- Constructions
- Mining/agriculture

MAINTAIN REGISTERS

- Water quality
- Abstractions
- Discharges
- Constructions
- Mining/agriculture

ASSESS STATUS

Are waterbodies of ‘GOOD STATUS’?

Yes

WFD “No deterioration”
Requires ACTIVE management through PERMITS

No

CONSIDER SOLUTIONS

Analyse causes
Set priorities and targets
Consult and implement
PROGRAMME OF MEASURES

ENFORCEMENT

RBMP 6 YEARS
Implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Albania

Framework for Cooperation

2015

PHASE I
Adapt legal framework to provisions of WFD
Define institutional frame i.e. competent authority/ies
Define mechanisms for coordination

2021

PHASE III
Legal Framework to provisions of WFD adapted
Institutional Framework defined
Mechanisms for Coordination defined

2027

PHASE IV
Update RBM plan
Update PoM
Implement PoM
Develop RBM Plan
Develop Programme of Measures (PoM)

RBM Plan and Programme of Measures

Define Environmental Objectives

Monitoring

Establish monitoring programmes
Establish intercalibration network

Cartography and Mapping

Develop maps and WIS / GIS
Define river basin district and sub-units

River Basin Characterisation

Define typology and reference conditions of surface waters
Identify artificial and heavily modified water bodies
Identify and describe groundwater bodies
Identify pressures and impacts on surface and groundwater
Carry out economic analysis of water uses
Establish register of protected areas

Publish timetable and work programme of RBM Plan
Publish most important water management issues
Consult public and revise RBM Plan
Publish drafts of RBM Plan
Publish RBM Plan

## EUSIWM 3 – CAPACITY BUILDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity 3</th>
<th>Enhancement of the Institutional Capacities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Task No.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tasks/Outputs</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.1 | **Analysis and assessment of the institutional IWRM capacities regarding practical implementation of WFD RBMPs**  
  • Analysis of the institutional IWRM framework and capacities at central level  
  • Analysis of the institutional capacities for water management at RB level |
| 3.2 | **Preparation** of a **Capacity Development Plan (CDP) for achieving appropriate capacities for each of the six RBs**  
  • Preparation of a (WFD) framework for enhanced RBM in Albania  
  • Preparation of a CDP for all RBs |
| 3.3 | **Implementation** of the **CDP for the 2 RBs (Mati & Ishem/Erzeni)**  
  • Support the relevant ministries/agencies/institutions in the follow up of the implementation of the CDP  
  • Development of a detailed training program for AWRM and the RBOs  
  • Training of RBC/RBO staff and counterpart staff according to the CDP |
| 3.4 | **Support the establishment of a permanent training platform**  
  • Identification and discussion of potential options  
  • Proposing and promoting structures for provision of regular training  
  • Supporting the institutional setup  
  • Development of a detailed training program with specified topics to be addressed |
## Activity 4

**Improvement of the budgetary framework (water extraction and water use at basin level)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Tasks/Outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4.1      | **Analysis and assessment on the budgetary framework of water resources management at basin level**  
  - Analysis of *existing documents* like IWRM Strategy, RBMPs, water cadastre  
  - Analysis of the *status on the budgetary framework of WRM at RB level* |
| 4.2      | **Preparation of an Implementation Plan for a budgetary framework (IP-BF) of WRM at River Basin level**  
  - Develop a *financing strategy* for sustainable WRM on RB level  
  - Discuss and agree with stakeholders on *adequate budgetary framework* for enhanced IWRM/RBM in Albania  
  - Prepare an *IP-BF synchronized* with the staged *enhancement of the RBM* according EU WFD requirement |
| 4.3      | **Support the relevant institutions in the follow up of IP-BF**  
  - follow up of IP-BF |
An enhanced evidence base will be developed to guide **National Policies and the Targeting of Local Measures**

- **Technical assessments** of water bodies will be carried out, examining their status (quality) and whether they are ‘at risk’ of not meeting status objectives in the future.

- Using this information, the RBM Plan will set out national (investment) policies and regional / local prioritized measures

Significant new investments must be subject to rigorous feasibility studies (FS) - incorporated into the overarching **water resource management policy framework**

- Fully fledged FS sponsored by development partners such as the EU, EIB, KfW or the World Bank.

- So far - the FS have been mainly focused on high cost wastewater collection and treatment investments, *formulated without clear water resource management policy*