



EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT TO

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT

IN ALBANIA

WILD RIVERS INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

TIRANA, ALBANIA

OCTOBER 18TH 2019



AUSTRIAN
DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

This project is co-funded by the European Union

EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT TO THE WATER SECTOR REFORM IN ALBANIA

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

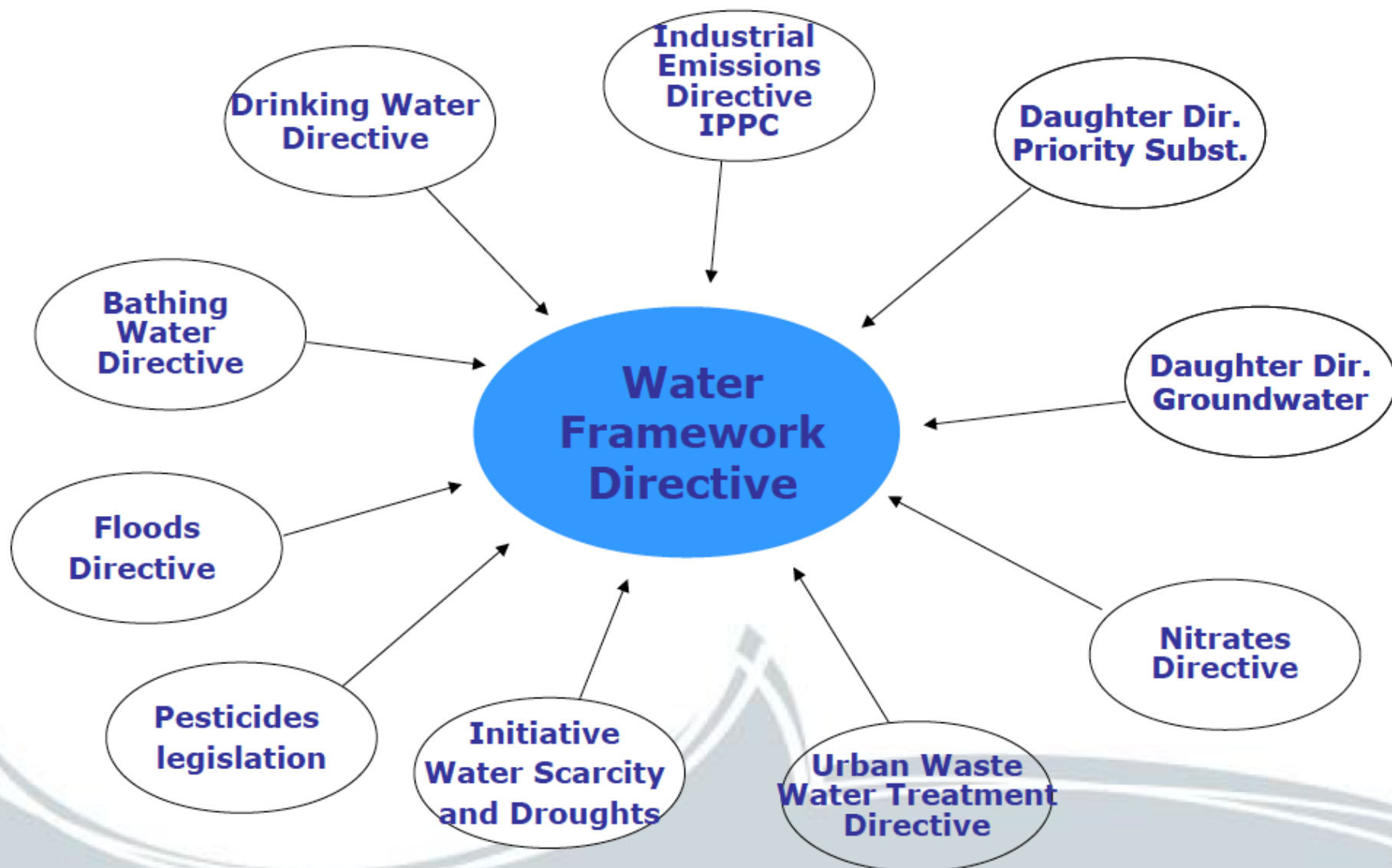
Main Implementing Bodies

- 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



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

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

... outline the new approach

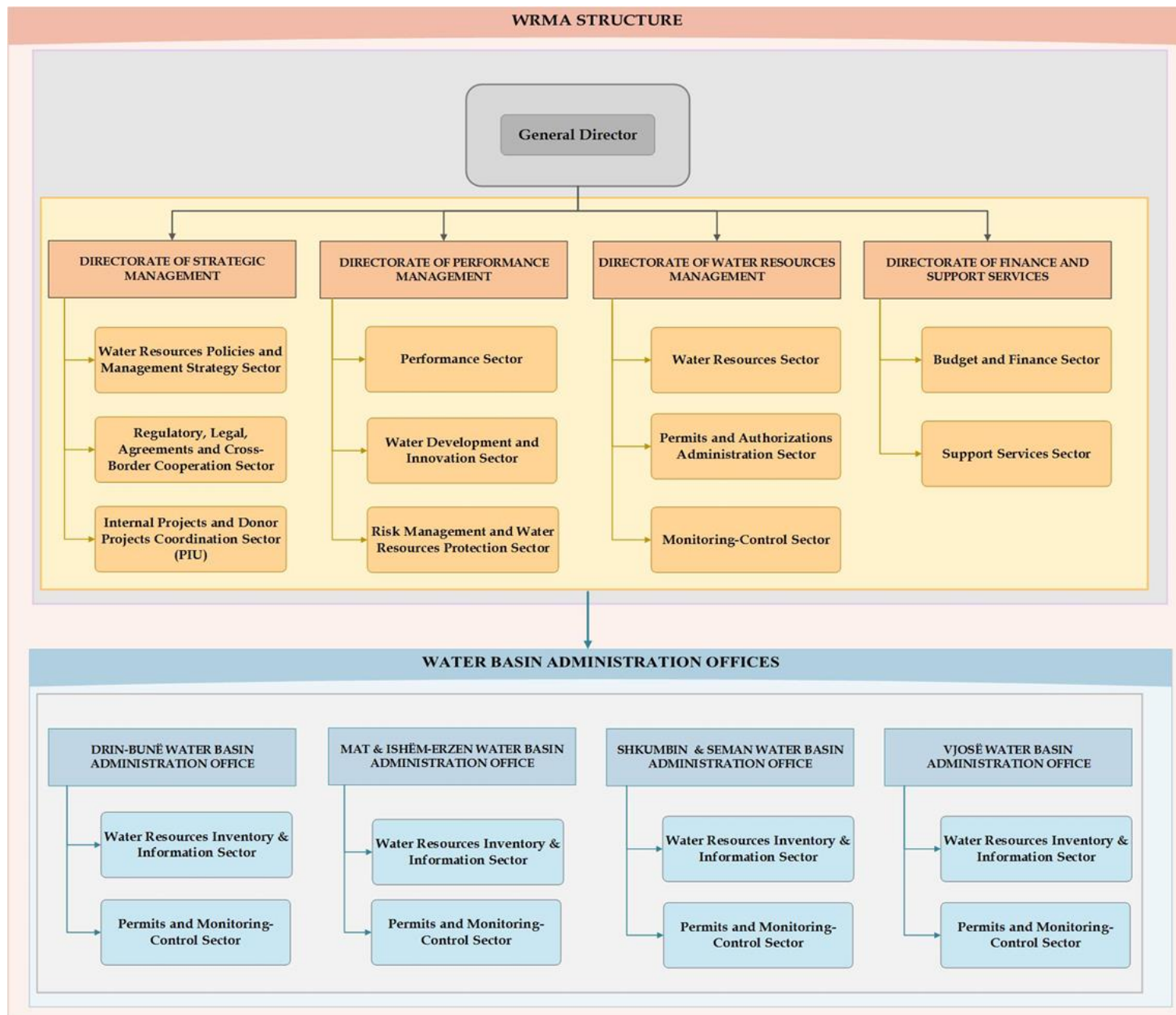
The River Basin Management Plan outlines the new approach that Albania will take to protect all waters over the 6 year RBM cycle to 2021 / **2027** / 2033 / 2039 / 2045 and beyond.

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.

AMBU / AWRM ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



RIVER BASIN ORGANISATION



DRIN-BUNA ARBO



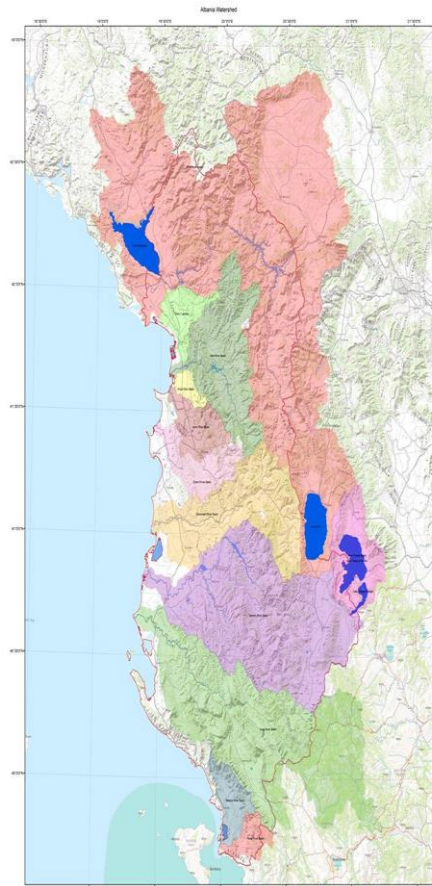
**MATI-ISHËM-
ERZEN** ARBO



**SHKUMBIN-
SEMAN** ARBO



VJOSA ARBO



DRIN-BUNA
RBC



MATI RBC



ISHËM RBC



ERZENI
RBC



SHKUMBINI
RBC



SEMANI
RBC



VJOSA RBC

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

... three conceptual questions

IN GENERAL TERMS THE WFD ASKS THREE CONCEPTUAL QUESTIONS (AND TO BE ANSWERED FOR RIVER BASINS OVER A PERIOD OF TIME)

What is **the present situation** regarding **LEGISLATION, STATUS** on water quality, **RESOURCES** and **PRESSURES** from society?

Prepare **BASE-LINE DESCRIPTION** of river basins

WFD Art.5 (*Characteristics*), Annex II

Where do we want to go and **what shall be achieved** in the future?

Prepare **PLAN and OBJECTIVES** to be achieved

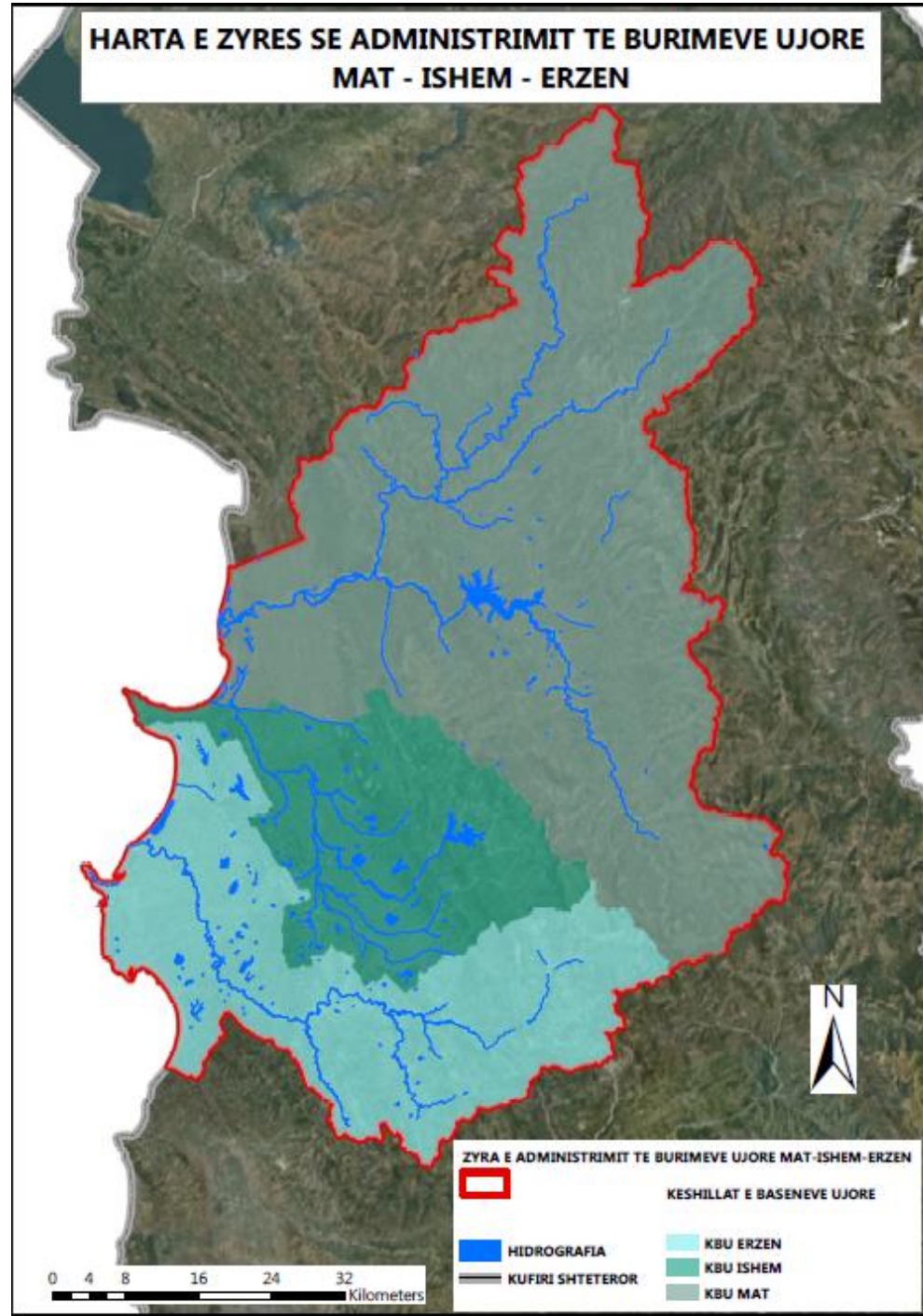
WFD Art.4 (*Environmental Objectives*),
Art. 8 (*Monitoring*), Annex V

How to reach the planned OBJECTIVES
and expected achievements?

Prepare **PROGRAMME of MEASURES**,
budgets for implementation and
ENFORCEMENT activities

WFD Art. 11 (*PoM*), Annex VI
WFD Art. 13 (*RBMP*), Annex VII

HARTA E ZYRES SE ADMINISTRIMIT TE BURIMEVE UJORE MAT - ISHEM - ERZEN



RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

... 4 initial elements ([WFD, Annex VII](#))

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

Minsitry of Infrastructure and Energy

Water use for drinking water – water utilites

Wastewater treatment facilities and discharge

Minsitry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Irrigation areas – water quantity

Use of fertilizers in agriculture land

Drainage infrastructure

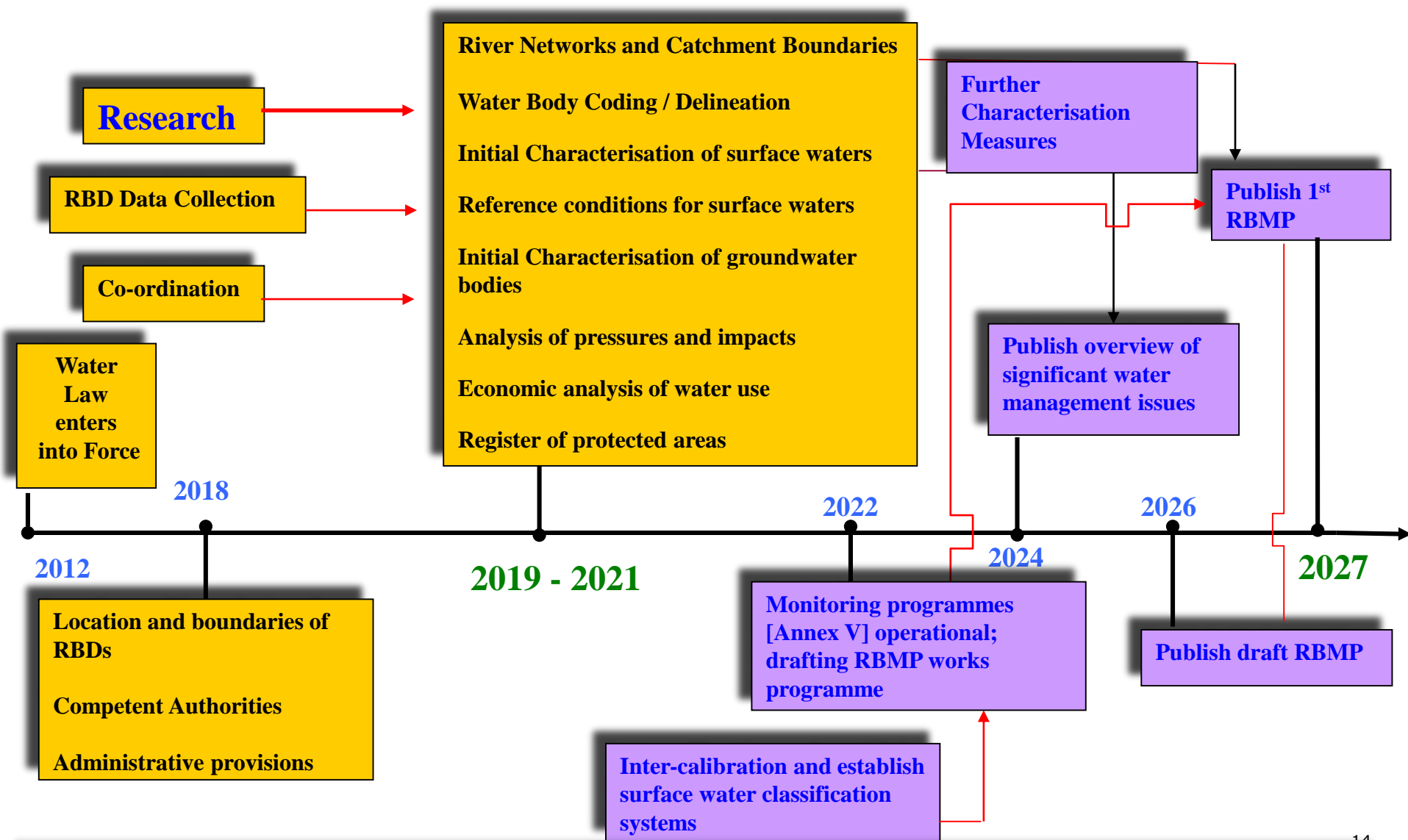
Ministry of Health and Social Protection

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)



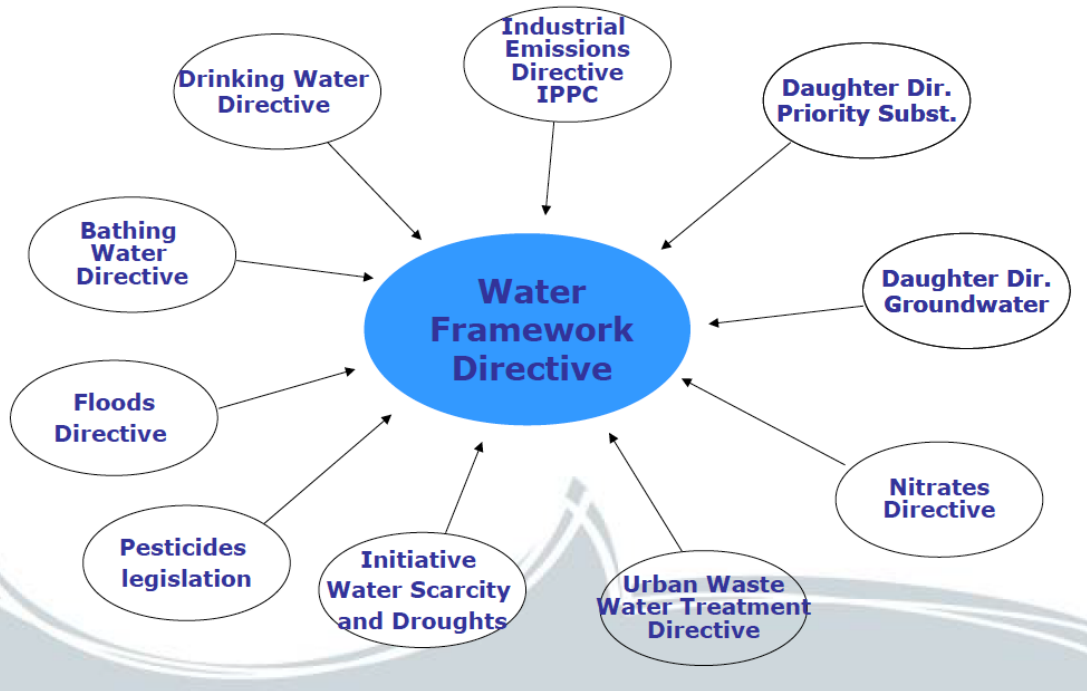


THANK YOU

EUSIWM 1 – IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION

Activity 1	IMPROVEMENT OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF WATER MANAGEMENT		
Task No.	Tasks/Outputs		
1.1	<p>Assessment of the legal framework on <u>national</u> water management regarding the approximation of national legislation with the EU acquis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>Detailed analysis of the legal framework on water management on basin level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared Legal Gap Analysis Report 		
1.3	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared draft text of the Amendments to the Water Law accompanied with Table of Concordance 		
1.4	<p>Support in Implementing prioritized actions of the IP-LF - for achieving ERs 2 – 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 		

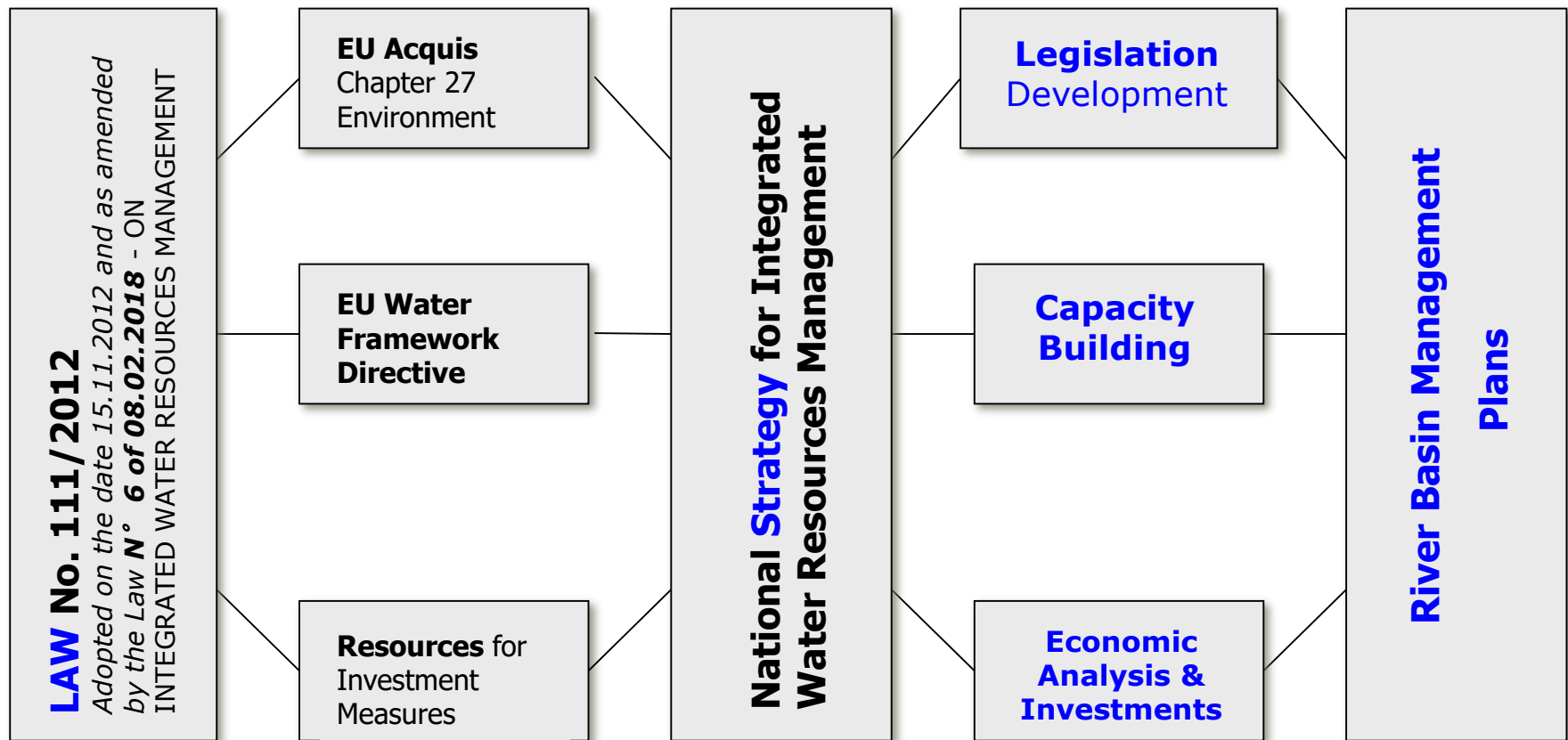
One management frame for all water-related legislation



... to add as well the *Birds*
and
Habitat Directive
considering that Vjosa
is an important RBM pilot
area

➔ 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



EUSIWM 2 – RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

Activity 2	PREPARATION OF WFD RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS (RBMPs)		
Task No.	Tasks/Outputs		
2.1	Mapping and assessment of past and on-going activities regarding the IWRM in general and WFD RBMPs in particular <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) <i>as first step of the WFD Roadmap</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

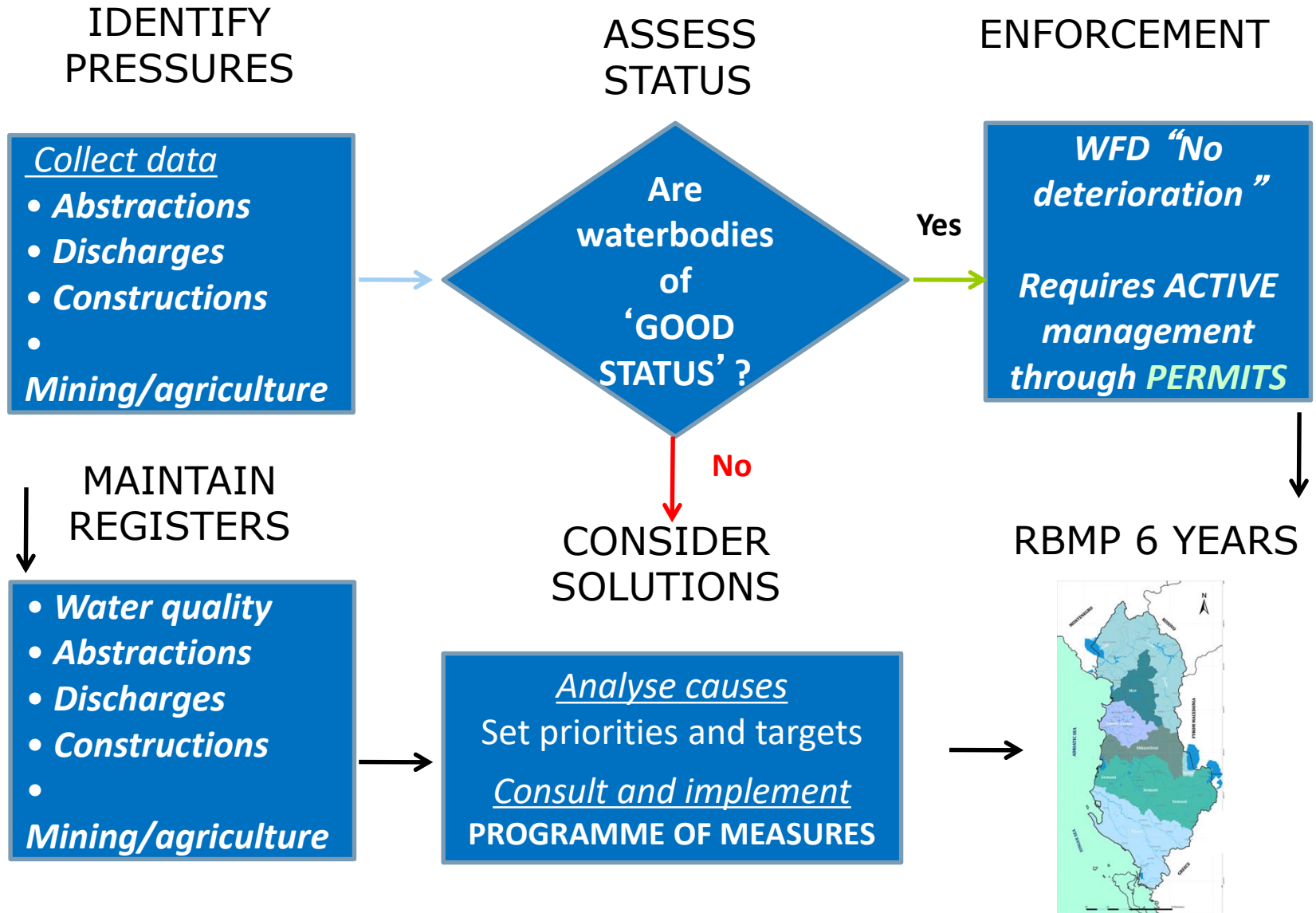
Common framework for WFD_RBM implementation in Albania

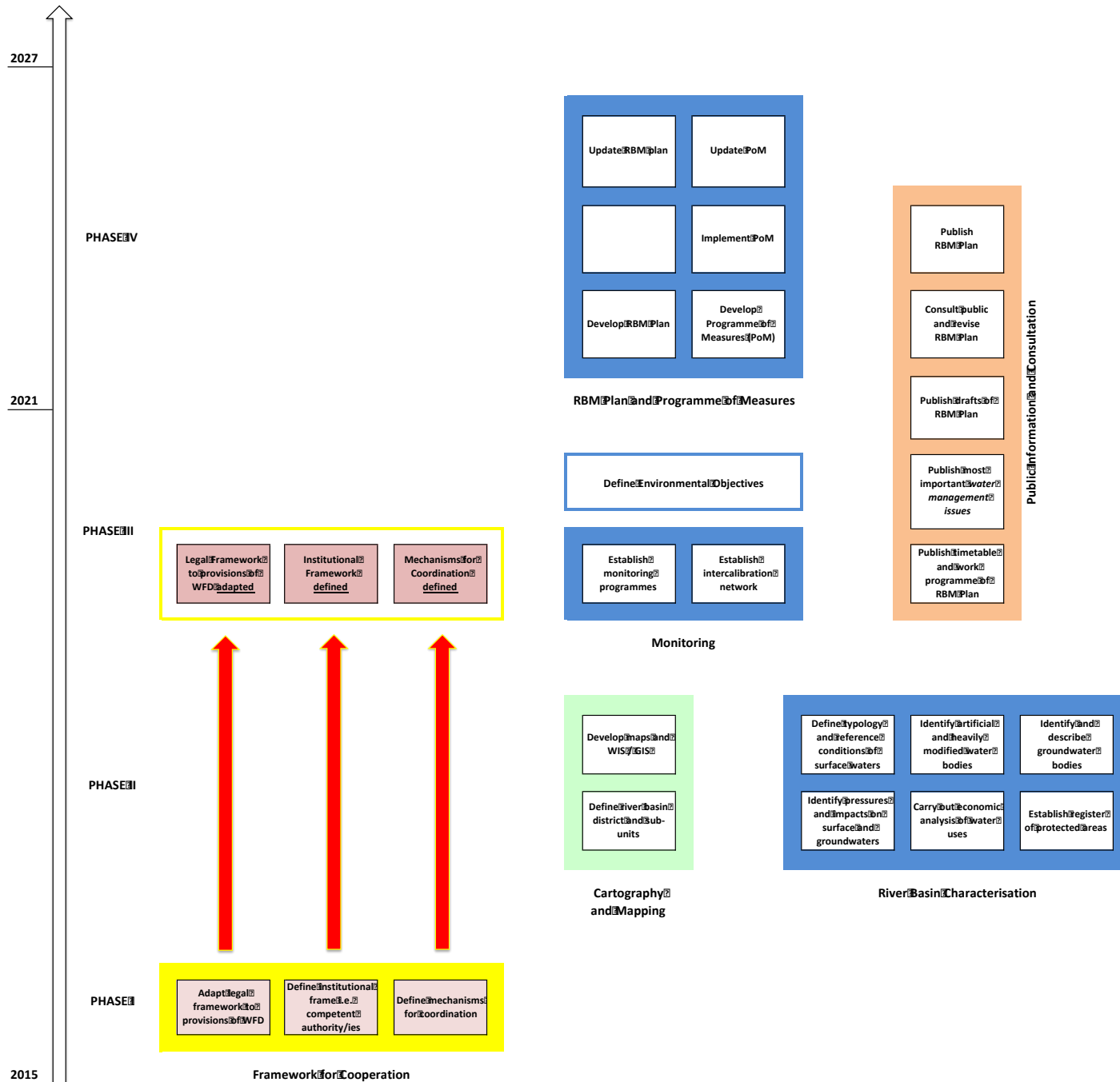
- **Ownership:** implementation shall fit in sector strategies and policies at country level
- **Enhanced cooperation** of ALL stakeholders

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**

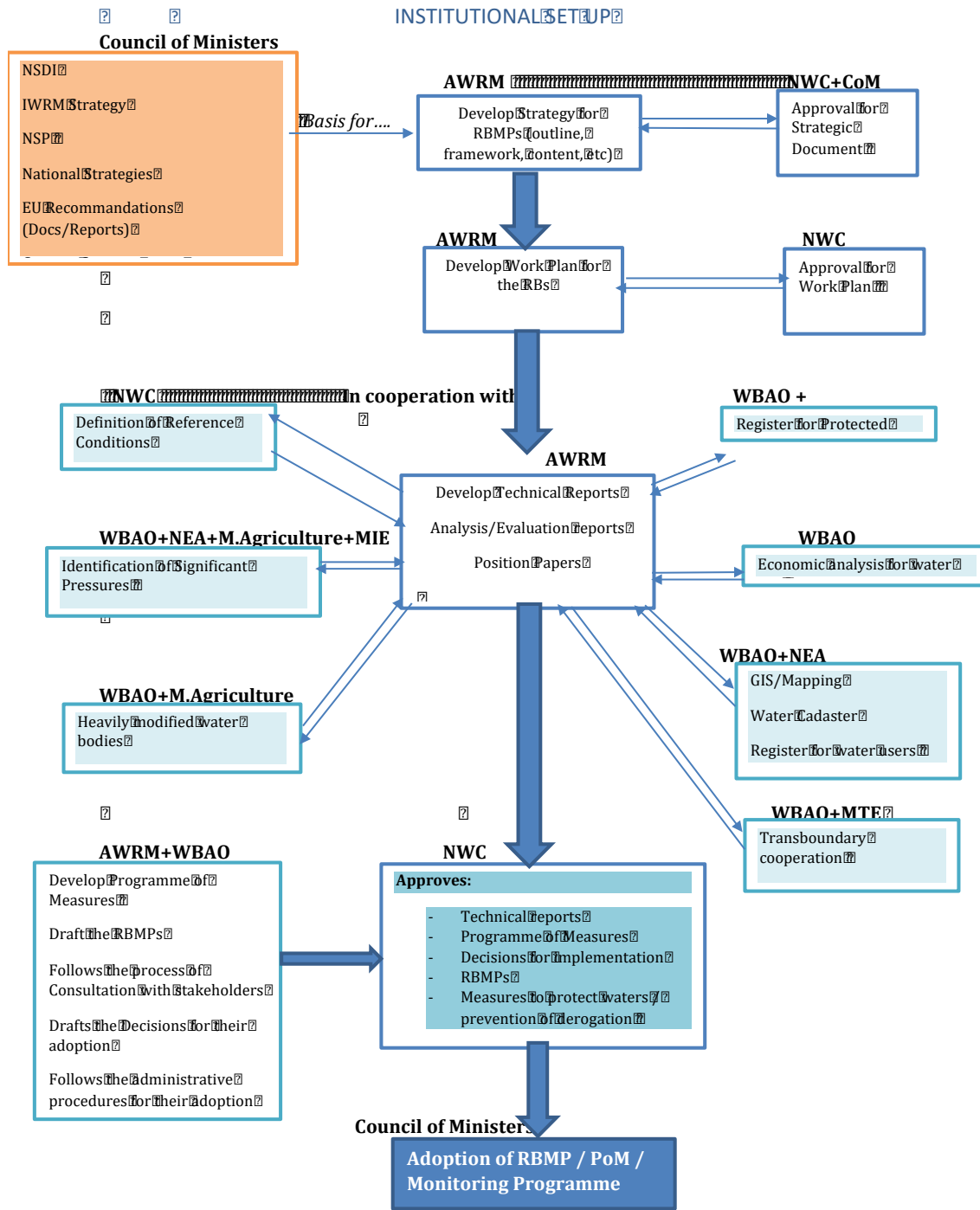
CORE OF A RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN





EUSIWM 3 – CAPACITY BUILDING

Activity 3	Enhancement of the Institutional Capacities		
Task No.	Tasks/Outputs		
3.1	Analysis and assessment of the institutional IWRM capacities regarding practical implementation of WFD RBMPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of the institutional IWRM framework and capacities at central level Analysis of the institutional capacities for water management at RB level 		
3.2	<u>Preparation</u> of a Capacity Development Plan (CDP) for achieving appropriate capacities for each of the six RBs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of a (WFD) framework for enhanced RBM in Albania Preparation of a CDP for all RBs 		
3.3	<u>Implementation</u> of the CDP for the 2 RBs (Mati & Ishem/Erzeni) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 		



EUSIWM 4 – ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Activity 4	Improvement of the budgetary framework (water extraction and water use at basin level)		
Task No.	Tasks/Outputs		
4.1	Analysis and assessment on the budgetary framework of water resources management at basin level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> follow up of IP-BF 		

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

... guide national policies and target local measures

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*