



The EU-funded programme European Union Water Initiative Plus (EUWI+) has supported Georgia in its water policy reform journey since 2016. Georgia has good water resources fed by mountain rivers and is regarded as a water-abundant country (12 000 m³/capita). However, demand on water resources from the irrigation and energy sector is growing, and unsustainable water management practises increase this problem, in particular high water losses in the water supply network system. Pollution is also increasing due to intensified agriculture and industrialisation and a growing urbanisation, a trend which is not yet counter balanced by sufficient wastewater treatment. Georgia signed an Association Agreement with the EU in 2014 and is committed to the approximation of EU standards and good practice to build a strong water sector that supports the population, all sectors of the economy and the environment. EUWI+ has worked in partnership with key stakeholders on thematic areas including legislation, policy development and institutional capacity building; integrative river basin management, water quality monitoring systems; data management and public awareness.

NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE

Supported policy coherence through [4 meetings](#) with over 180 participants with representation including environment, water, energy, agriculture, economy and sustainable development, health and social affairs, regional development and infrastructure, with an average 55% female participation.

TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION

Support to transboundary water cooperation with Azerbaijan on the Kura River and and with Armenia on the Ktsia/Khrami-Debeda River, including [guidance document on joint monitoring](#) and [joint monitoring surveys](#)

Support to reporting to the UN ([SDG 6.5.2](#))

IMPROVED DATA MANAGEMENT

Automatic tools for better collection of data and indicators (2 main data producers)

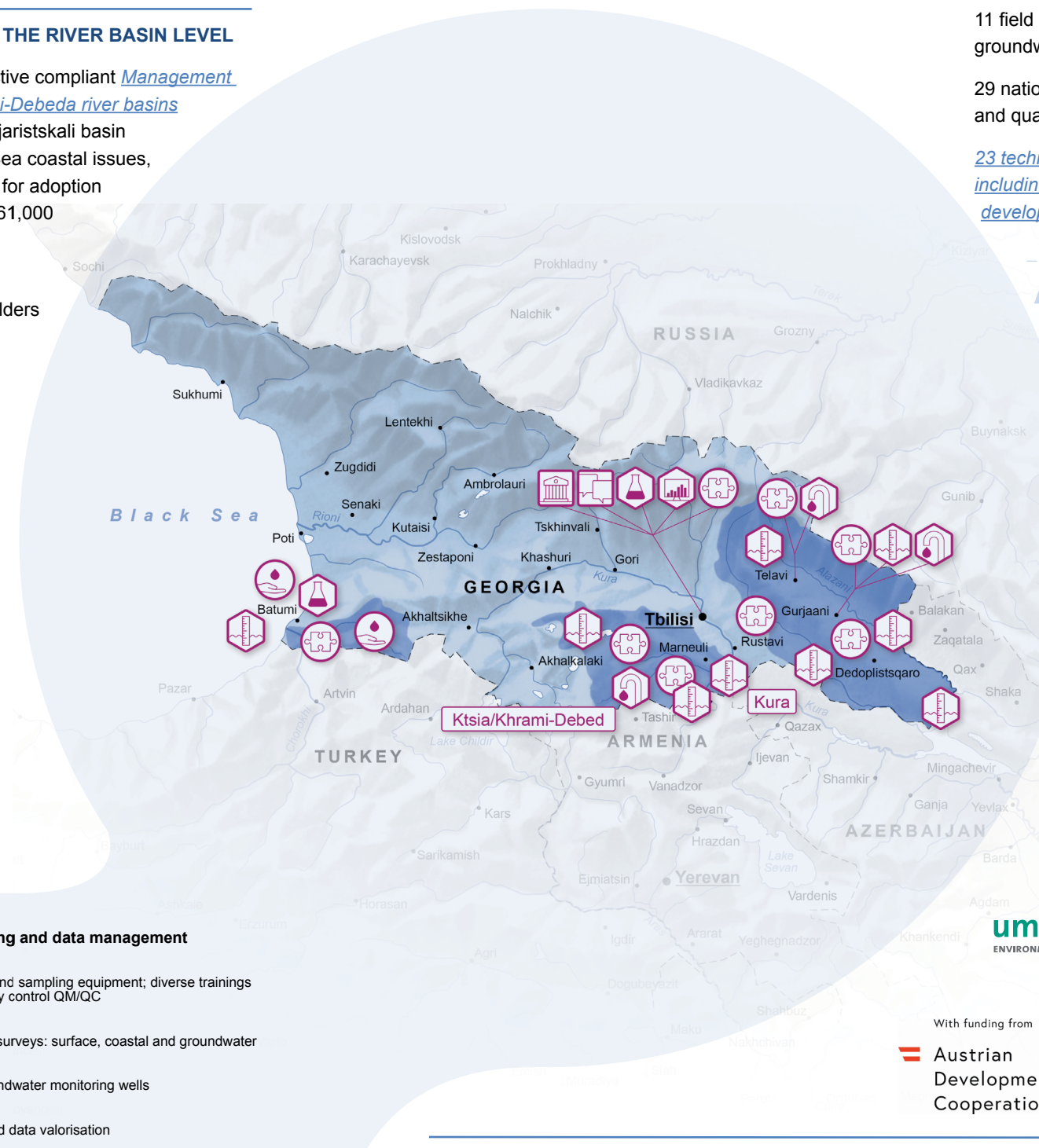
Integration of the data into a new management platform for both operational and analytical uses

[Visualisation tools](#) (dashboard, maps) to meet the information needs of different end users

WATER MANAGEMENT AT THE RIVER BASIN LEVEL

First EU Water Framework Directive compliant [Management Plans for Alazani-lori and Khrami-Debeda river basins](#) and extension of the Chorokhi-Ajaristskali basin management plan to the Black Sea coastal issues, including Batumi, all three ready for adoption (covering together 24,000km², 961,000 inhabitants)

16 Georgian experts involved in RBMP development, 12 stakeholders consultation meetings with 319 participants, and 40 comments included in the plans.



WATER GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Finalisation of the draft new law on “Water Resources Management “ and process of adoption commenced.

Assistance in facilitation of the reform of water abstraction charges

Successful [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) for Alazani - lori river basin management plan

Support to development of a strategic framework for water management

EXTENDED WATER MONITORING NETWORK

Renovated laboratory in Tbilissi accredited to international standards

Introduction of EU Water framework Directive compliant coastal and transitional waters monitoring on the Black Sea coast

Purchase of new high-end analytical equipment for sampling, sample preparation, field measurement, and analysis of EU Water framework Directive priority substances, physico-chemical and biological parameters

Upgraded hydrological monitoring network: Surface Water – 12 surface water and 7 groundwater monitoring sites refurbished.

11 field surveys for coastal/transitional, surface and groundwater covering more than 230 sites

29 national and regional staff trainings on monitoring, sampling and quality management

[23 technical reports on water monitoring + 3 translations, including surface water and groundwater monitoring development plans](#)

PUBLIC AWARENESS

High level [Laboratory Opening ceremony](#) to mark new laboratory capacities

Awareness-raising events for World Water Day and campaigns on Green Days

Series of videos-interviews with water experts and managers and factsheets to raise awareness on main water issues

52 news and press releases, 3 newsletters and 16 videos

LEGEND

Water policy reforms and international cooperation

Draft Law on Water Resources with bylaws SEA methodology for RBMPs Reform proposal for water abstraction charges Water Strategy concept

Series of National Water Policy Dialogues

Basin Kura basin: consultations with Georgia on the Kura Agreement Ktsia/Khrami-Debeda basin: transboundary cooperation with Armenia

River basin management

RBMP Khrami Debeda, RBMP Alazani lori, RBMP Chorokhi Ajaristskali

RBMP consultations in the districts

Chorokhi-Ajaristskali coastal aspects and water bodies delineation

Water monitoring and data management

New lab and sampling equipment; diverse trainings and quality control QM/QC

Series of surveys: surface, coastal and groundwater

New groundwater monitoring wells

Server and data valorisation

0 50 km



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Zoi Environment Network



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