



### Project details

Duration: 48 Months

Start date: Sept-2016

End Date: Aug-2020

#### Composition

- 4 projects partners
- 6 ministries from beneficiary countries

#### Budget

Total cost: €24.8 M

EU contribution: €23.5 M

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# European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership

**Support of Water Policy Reforms  
towards Integrated Water Resources**

External Actions of the European Union for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine

## EUWI+

### EUROPEAN UNION WATER INITIATIVE PLUS

#### WHAT

The EUWI+ project is a sound combination of Technical Assistance and Institutional Twinning. It aims at supporting Eastern partnership countries in strengthening their water policy and accelerating the reforms in the field of water management, with a main focus on the management of trans-boundary river basins. More specifically, the project aims to support partner countries in bringing their national policies and strategies into line with the EU Water Framework Directive and other multilateral environmental agreements.

#### WHO & WHERE

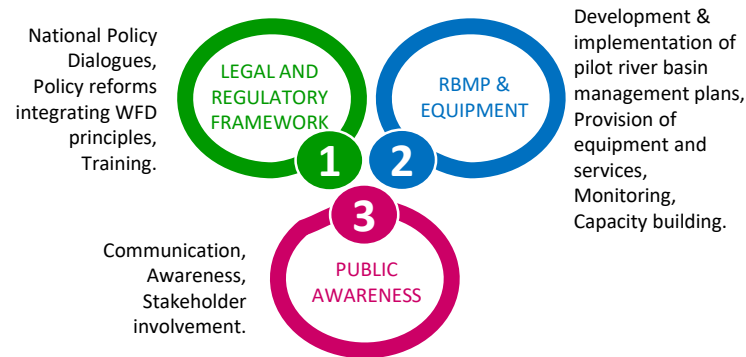
On this project, UNECE and OECD, together with a consortium of EU Member States (Austria, France) bring their experience of the implementation of the European Directives in the water sector to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine and ensure close participation of local stakeholders.

#### WHY

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a joint initiative launched at the Prague Summit in May 2009. Its aim is to deepen and strengthen the economic and strategic relations between the European Union and its six Eastern neighbours. In this frame the project aims to improve the management of water resources, in particular trans-boundary rivers, developing tools to improve the quality of water in the long term, and its availability for all.

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

EUWI+ HELPS POLICY MAKERS IN 3 WAYS



## IMPLEMENTED IN 11 PILOT AREAS



## EUWI+ AMBITIONS

- Support for amending legislation and national strategies, and continuation of National Policy Dialogue (NPD) processes
- Support for development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs), including stakeholder participation mechanisms at basin, national and international levels, and shared data management
- Strengthening of surface and groundwater monitoring, laboratory accreditation, quality management and infrastructure upgrading
- Institutional strengthening and capacity building for sustainable progress in beneficiary countries.

## THEMATIC AREAS

### 1 LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

National and regional policy dialogue will be sustained and further strengthened. The goal is to cover all six countries of the EaP region, allowing for different national focuses and goals. The objective of National Policy Dialogues (NPDs) is to facilitate water policy reform in all 6 countries.

The core of these activities will centre on reforming water policies further, establishing an adequate governance framework, and developing institutional capacities in support of policy implementation.

### 2 RBMP AND EQUIPMENT

Monitoring water status plays a key role in the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD). The objective is to establish an overview of River Basin Districts to assess all waters bodies. The project contributes to strengthening state laboratories technical capacities in terms of equipment, maintenance, consumables, accreditation and related training.

The River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) under the WFD is the core tool for implementing environmental protection and sustainable management of water resources at river basin level. The project contributes to supporting knowhow transfer in order to design River Basin Management Plans in a participative way with the main interested parties and establish dashboards for regular monitoring of their implementation.

The project contributes to reinforcing water data management by supporting the production of maps and indicators necessary for the establishment of an RBMP.

### 3 AWARENESS - STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

The activities of the project focus on the communication of key outcomes and public participation in order to raise awareness of efficient water management. The aim is to share experiences among stakeholders and possibly scale-up pilot activities. Communication activities for targeted stakeholders will be implemented including communication campaigns, TV reports, school information sessions, and NGO involvement.