



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

A dynamic splash of water in shades of blue and white, with droplets and bubbles, forms a large, flowing shape that frames the central text box.

European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

Alisher Mamadzhanov, UNECE
Matthew Griffiths, OECD
Eric Tardieu, EU MS Consortium



1. Background

- 2006 - EU Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues (NPDs) started in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- NPDs ongoing in 10 countries with funding from European Commission, Finland, Norway
- EUWI EECCA Working Group chaired by Romania
- EUWI+ project for the 6 Eastern Partnership countries; 24.5 mln EUR (23.5 mln EUR funding from DG NEAR/European Commission);
- Sep 2016 - Aug 2020; Implementing Partners: UNECE, OECD, EU Member States Consortium (Austria and France)
- To support partner countries in bringing their national policies and strategies in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and other MEAs



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2. Key achievements/milestones in Central Asia

Supported by FinWaterWei II



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland

and Green Economy project



This project is funded by the EU

- **Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan:** Revision of targets in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health and implementation of selected measures
- **Kyrgyzstan/Kazakhstan:** Report on climate change impacts in the Chu-Talas basin and implementation of selected adaptation measures
- **Kazakhstan:** Cooperation with Russia on the transboundary Ural, Kigach, Uzen rivers
- **Kazakhstan:** Study on the Shardara Multi-Purpose Water Infrastructure, launch of work on water security indicators
- **Tajikistan:** Support to the irrigation sector reform and promotion of the use of economic instruments (tariff reform) for irrigation
- **Kyrgyzstan:** Water security indicators, economic instruments for WRM – including development of training materials, New norms and guidelines for sustainable business models for rural WSS



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2. Key achievements/milestones in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

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- **Armenia:** Support to implementation of the national water-food security policy; Analysis of harmful subsidies in the irrigation sector
- **Azerbaijan:** Support to finalization, adoption and start of implementation of the National Water Strategy
- **Belarus:** Development of National Water Strategy and support on nationalizing SDG 6.3 and 6.5
- **Georgia:** Development of National Water Strategy and reform of economic instruments
- **Republic of Moldova:** Support to development of a new action plan for WSS strategy implementation and improving the economic regulatory system
- **Ukraine:** Development of National Water Strategy



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2. Key achievements/milestones in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

- **Armenia:** Roadmap for harmonization with EU water Directives under CEPA, revision of targets under the Protocol on Water and Health
- **Azerbaijan:** Formal adoption of targets under the Protocol on Water and Health and beginning of implementation
- **Belarus:** End of 2nd phase of transboundary cooperation on the Neman, start of work on revision of Protocol targets
- **Georgia:** Support to finalization of draft Water Law and revision of by-laws
- **Republic of Moldova:** Support to revision of the Water Law, Protocol on Water and Health work
- **Ukraine:** Revision of targets under the Protocol on Water and Health



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3. Lessons learned and future plans

- Since 2016 gap in core funding for Central Asia, uncertainty about future
 - EU WECOOP project only for NPD logistics
- Continuous interest for NPDs from countries of Central Asia
- Request to maintain EUWI EECCA format and keep exchange between Eastern Europe/Caucasus and Central Asia
- Need to maintain strong ownership of NPDs by countries
- EUWI+ Regional Steering Committee meeting (Tbilisi, 15 November, 2018)
- Continuation of EUWI+ beyond 2020



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2. Key achievements/milestones in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Laboratory development - towards ISO 17025 certification

- ✓ Assessments are completed
- ✓ Priorities for Lab development, including investments, are agreed
- ✓ Participation in international proficiency tests (except BY)
- ✓ Contracting for investment being processed

Development of Surface water (SW) and Ground water (GW) monitoring

- ✓ Assessments completed (assessment reports)
- ✓ Priority equipment needs (investments) and training needs agreed
- ✓ reg. WSs, SWB and GWB delineation with local tenders



2. Key achievements/milestones in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Planning & implementing for IWRM:

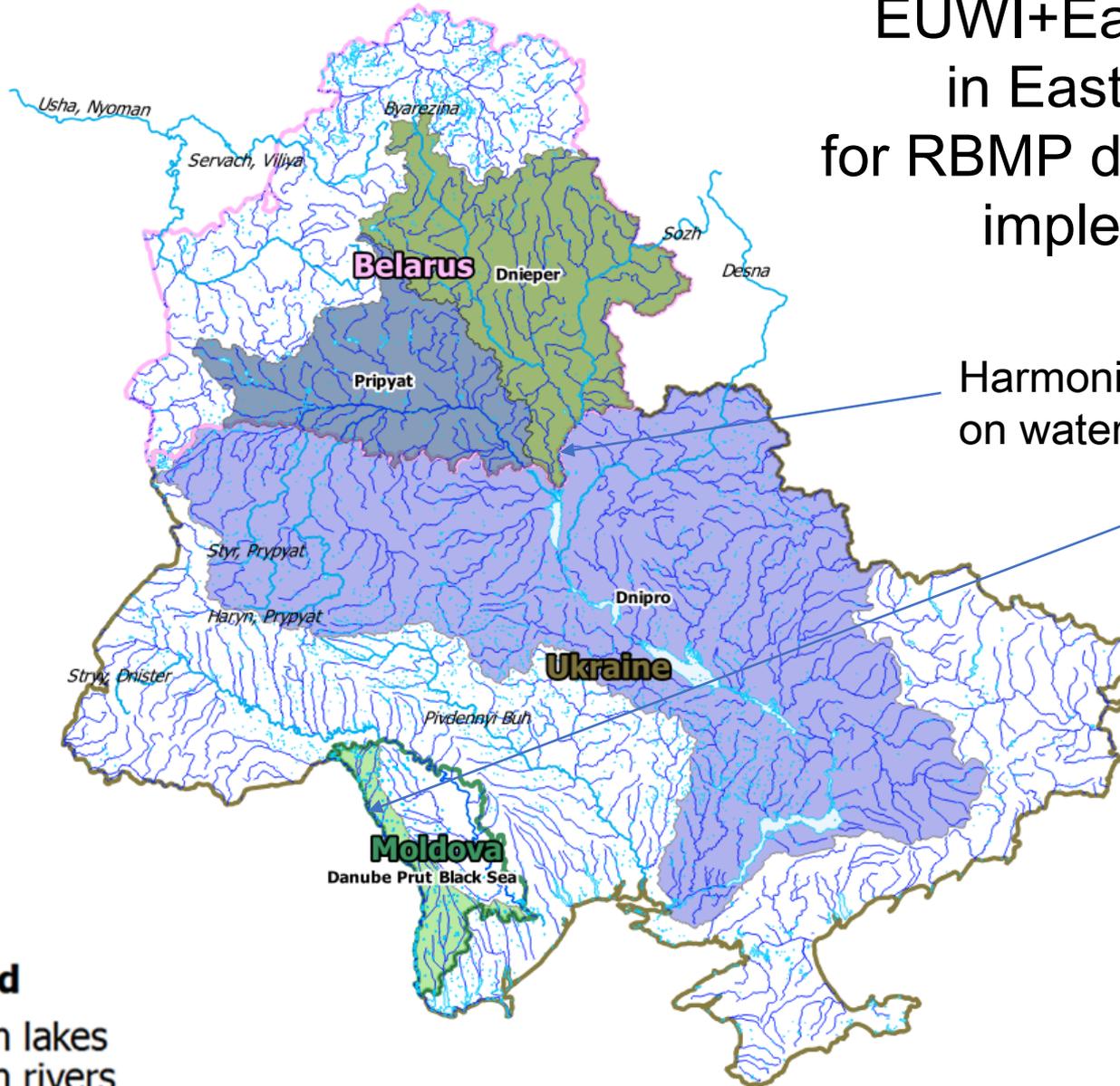
- **Support River Basin Management Planning process based on WFD**
 - Assessment of the current status for WFD implementation
 - Support and coaching for the development of RBMPs
 - Support for harmonisation of RBMP in transboundary river basins
 - Direct application of good practices in data administration for RBMP development
- **RBM Plan Implementation**
 - Support for monitoring the implementation of existing RBMPs
 - Identification of demonstrative actions to be implemented with project support



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EUWI+East pilot basins in Eastern Europe for RBMP development and implementation

Harmonisation for common view
on water bodies at the border



Legend

- Main lakes
- Main rivers

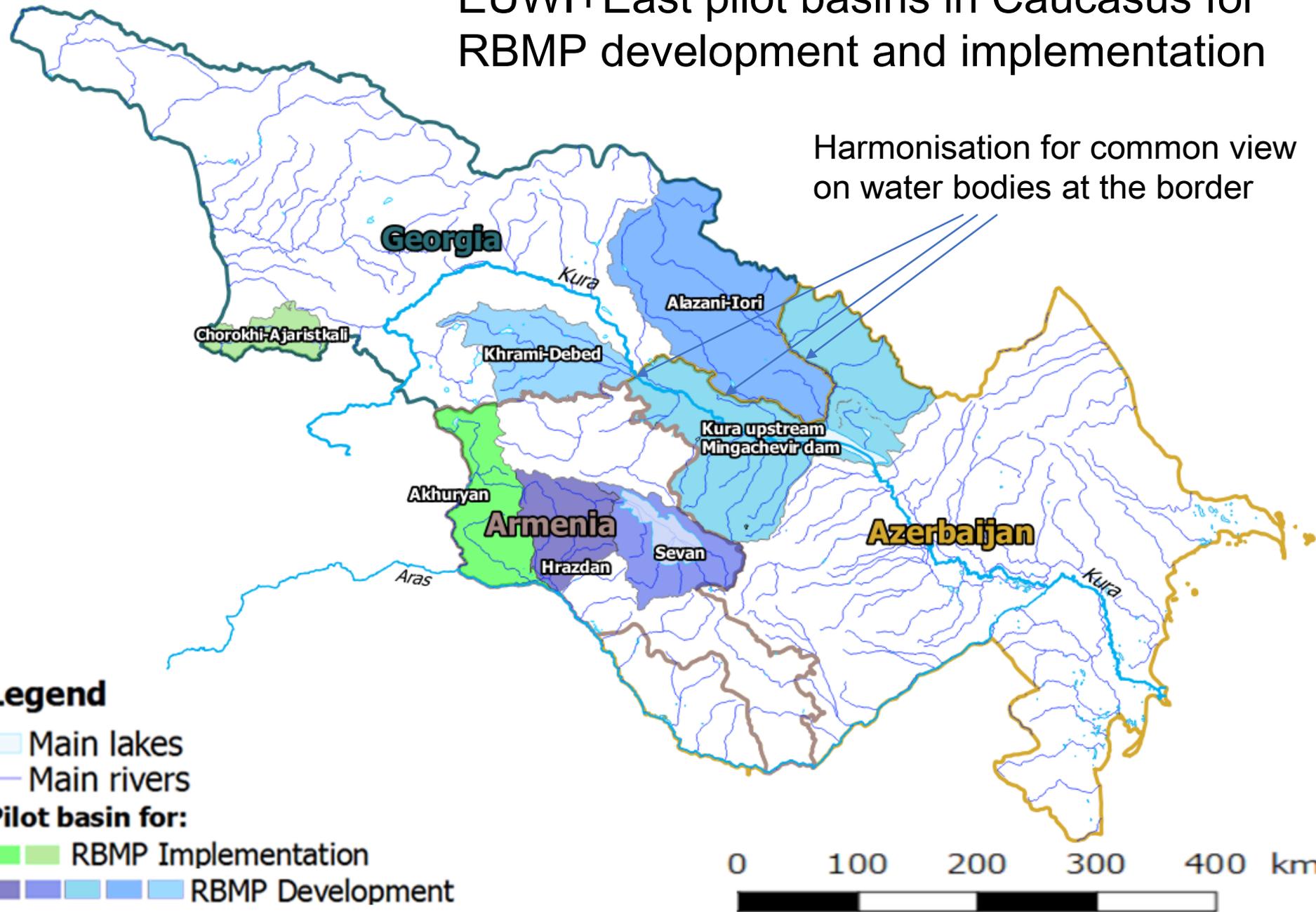
Pilot basin for:

- RBMP Implementation
- RBMP Development

0 250 500 750 1000 km



EUWI+East pilot basins in Caucasus for RBMP development and implementation



2. Key achievements/milestones in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Development of stakeholder participation mechanisms and awareness raising as key for policy implementation

- BY, MD and UA: from project based to sustainable River Basin Committee
- Successful awareness raising campaigns: on phosphate pollution prevention UA, MD, on water saving AZ, on solid waste and plastic pollution prevention UA, MD, AZ, GE
- Public awareness rising event development: BY & UA joint “Dnieper day” on 7 July 2018, UA & MD “Clean Beach Day”
- Communication strategy for Participative RBM Planning dev.& implementation at basin, national & regional scales
- Newsletter in national language, leaflet, flyers
- Development of video clips for wide public awareness raising on the main issues/measures to be implemented on new RBMP
- **www.euwipluseast.eu project web site to be visited!**



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3. Lessons learned and future plans

- Change is a constant including important institutional reform that required great attention and adaptability in capacity building
- EUWI+ is a pilot project in new technical cooperation
 - Increased responsibility & ownership in the EaP countries
 - Tight partnering between EU member state and national experts
- Investment possibilities are important
 - Investments of in total 6 mln EUR; supply, works & services
- Sustainability of development is key
 - Countries have shown willingness for far-reaching decisions including co-financing laboratory development
 - Importance given to traceability of data used and shared data bases development

