



EU4Environment in Eastern Partner Countries:  
Water Resources and Environmental Data (ENI/2021/425-550)

## "Development of Rion River Basin Management Plan in Georgia"

### Consultation Meeting

**Date:**  
13 November, 2023

**Place:**  
Hotel Tskaltubo Plaza  
15 A Rustaveli str.,  
Tskaltubo, 5400, Georgia

**Time:** 11:00-18:30

#### Aim of the meeting:

- Presentation of the preliminary results for development of the Rion River Basin Management Plan - RBMP
- Discussing the main challenges in the river basin with the stakeholders
- Agree on the main issues
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## AGENDA

**Monday, 13 November 2023**

Local Time	Topic	Speaker
11:00-11:30	Registration and Welcome Coffee	
<b>Morning Session</b>	<b>River Basin Management Plans - Introduction</b>	
11:30-11:40	Opening and welcome remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mariam Makarova, Head of Water Division, MEPA Department of Environment and Climate Change</li> <li>- Yannick Pochon, International Office of Water - OiEau EU4Env Program Representative</li> <li>- Sophiko Akhobadze, Executive Director, REC Caucasus</li> </ul>
11:40-11:50	Introduction of participants ( <i>tour de table</i> )	- All participants

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11:50-12:00	<b>EU4Environment Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief overview of the program “Water Resources and Environmental Data”</li> </ul>	- Zurab Jincharadze EU4Env Programme Representative in Georgia
12:00-12:20	<b>River Basin Management Plans in Georgia</b>	Mariam Makarova, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Head of Water Division, MEPA
12:20-13:20	<b>Pressure/impact assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pressure/impact assessment of river basin management plans</li> </ul>	- Maia Zumbulidze, REC Caucasus
13:20-13:30	<b>Q/A</b>	
13:30-15:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
15:00-15:45	<b>Delineation of surface and underground water bodies of the Rion basin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification, coding and typological classification of water bodies</li> <li>- Determination of hydro-morphological changes</li> </ul>	- Giorgi Mikeladze, GIS-Lab / REC Caucasus - Gia Melikadze, Groundwater Expert
15:45-16:00	<b>Q/A</b>	
<b>Afternoon session</b>		
16:00-16:20	<b>Main Issues/ Challenges</b>	- Nino Rostomashvili, REC Caucasus
16:20-16:30	<b>Q/A</b>	
16:30-16:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
16:45-18:00	<b>Interactive session and WG discussions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data, information sources, and processes</li> <li>- The main challenges in the river basins</li> </ul>	- Consultants and EU4Env Experts, All Participants
18:00-18:20	<b>Presentations of the findings</b>	- WG representatives, EU4Env Experts
18:20-18:30	<b>Closing the meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final remarks and next steps, closing the meeting</li> </ul>	- Mariam Makarova, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Head of Water Division, MEPA

## Background and Objectives

The main objective of this assignment is to produce the elements and prepare the draft of the RBMPs and its implementation dashboards for the Rioni and Enguri river basins in Georgia (covering respectively 15,820 km<sup>2</sup> and 6,610 km<sup>2</sup>), in line with the Water Framework Directive (WFD) principles. The River Basin Management Plans are the key tools for implementing the Water Resources management and are drawn up after extensive public consultation and are valid for a six-year period.

Other key documents and links to the reported River basin management plans - along with other important information from the process of implementing the Water Framework Directive This information production will be based on available data, existing reports and literature, meetings with stakeholders, data formatting and exploitation, brainstorming, experts' judgement, etc. No new field survey neither additional census is asked at these first steps of the planning process.

Some consultation events at sub-basin level are foreseen including 2 plenary meetings to share the initial characterisation, the draft Programme of Measures (PoM) and the draft RBMP.

## About EU4Environment – Water Resources and Environmental Data

This programme aims at improving people's wellbeing in EU's Eastern Partner Countries and enabling their green transformation in line with the European Green Deal and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme's activities are clustered around two specific objectives: 1) support a more sustainable use of water resources and 2) improve the use of sound environmental data and their availability for policy-makers and citizens. It ensures continuity of the Shared Environmental Information System Phase II and the EU Water Initiative Plus for Eastern Partnership programmes.

The programme is implemented by five Partner organisations: Environment Agency Austria (UBA), Austrian Development Agency (ADA), International Office for Water (OiEau) (France), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The action is principally funded by the European Union, and co-funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation and the French Artois-Picardie Water Agency based on a budget of EUR 12,75 million (EUR 12 million EU contribution). The implementation period is 2021-2024.