

2.4. Georgia



<i>NPD launched</i>	2011
<i>Present NPD Chair(s) and strategic partners in government</i>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection
<i>Sources of funding for NPD</i>	European Union, Government of Finland, OSCE

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Institutional reforms for IWRM in the view of approximation of EU water legislation, including the preparation of a National Water Law.
- Ratification of the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health and adoption of national water and health targets.
- Strengthening transboundary water co-operation with Armenia and Azerbaijan.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NPD

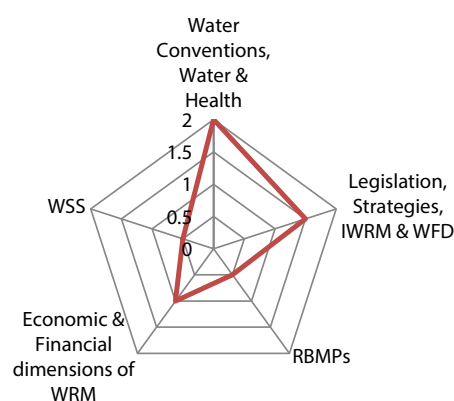
- A national water law was developed as part of the NPD process in Georgia. It introduces the river basin management approach (in line with the EU WFD) and clarifies the roles of state institutions. Several bylaws for practical implementation of new water law were also prepared. The new law and set of bylaws are expected to be approved by the end of 2016.
- A **review of economic instruments** for water management was conducted in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia. Further reforms of existing instruments are being considered for Georgia in 2016.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- Continued support will be provided to continue the process of legal approximation with EU water legislation in accordance with the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, signed in 2014.
- Support to water diplomacy with neighbouring Armenia and Azerbaijan will continue through an assessment of the potential benefits of enhanced transboundary co-operation, including the development of economic instruments.

The capability of national experts, evident during the work for the NPD, gives grounds for optimism surrounding the future of IWRM in the country.

PROGRESS IN MAIN WORK AREAS



Ms. Ekaterine Grigalava, Deputy Minister and Mr. Christian Friis Bach, UNECE Executive Secretary

Signing memorandum on the NPDs, November 2015.

