

SESSION 2

National impacts and deliverables of the ENI SEIS II East project

Georgia



1. Progress towards the expected results (1/3)

The main project results are:

- I. Improved implementation of regional/international commitments related to environmental reporting in line with EU/EEA best practices;
- II. Improved capacities in the national administrations to manage and use environmental statistics, data and information in support to decision-making in line with EU/EEA best practices;
- III. Preparation of regular State and Outlook on the Environment reports (SOER) and indicator-based assessments in line with EU/EEA best practices.



1. Progress towards the expected results (2/3)

Regional/International Commitments



Aarhus Convention



Convention on Biological Diversity



Convention on Air Pollution (CLRTAP)



Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC)



Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora



Convention on Transboundary Movements of Waste



Water Convention

United Nations
economic
Commission
for Europe



Protocol on Water and Health



Pan-European Assessments



Environmental statistics reporting to UNSD/UNEP



SDGs



1. Progress towards the expected results (3/3)

Environmental Reporting



1.1. SOER – Achievement (1/4)

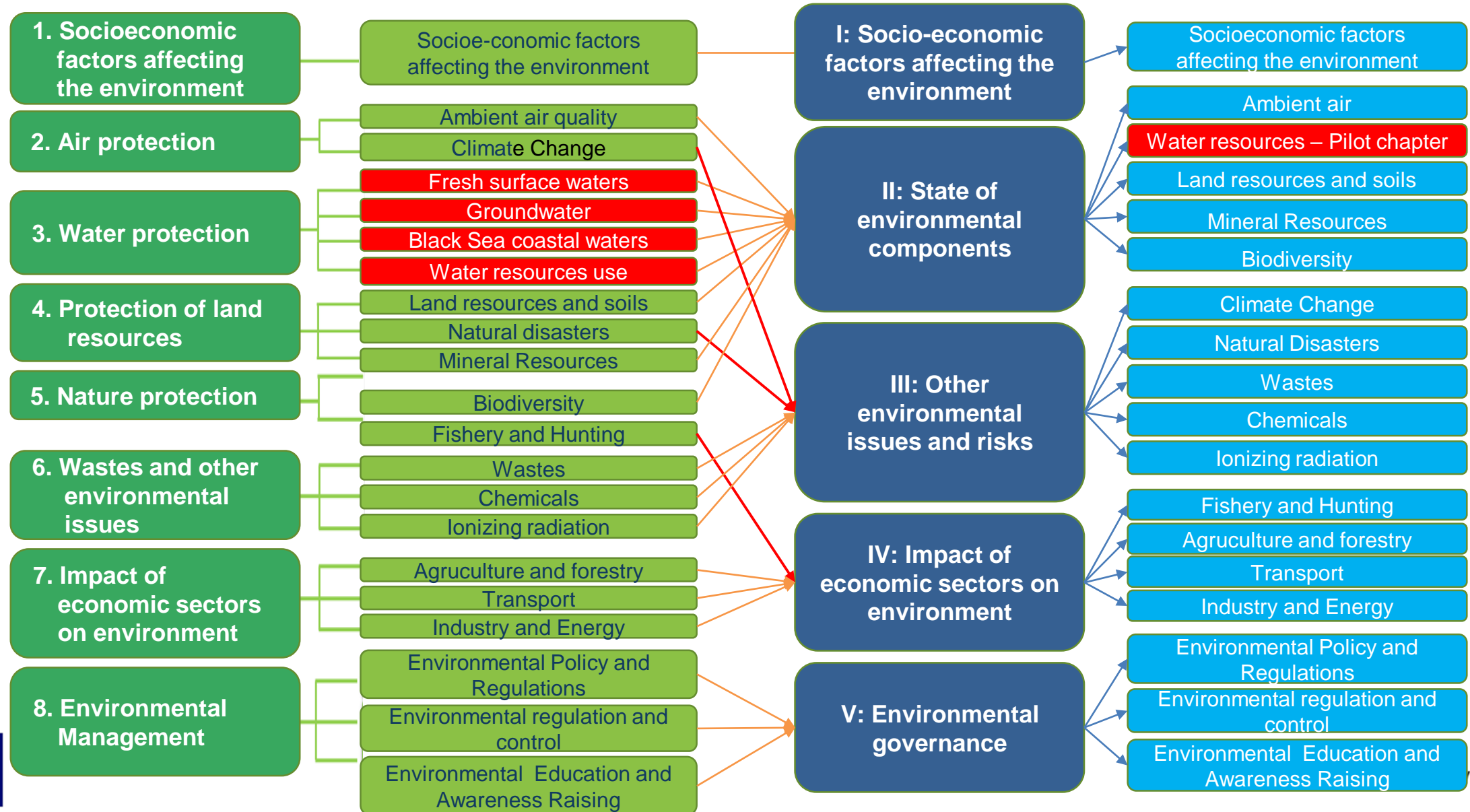
- **Country Briefing** was prepared based on last available SOER of Georgia that provides an overview of main findings on state of environmental information at the country level;
- Capacity of Georgian experts was developed through hands-on training during the Country Visits;
- **The amendments were made to the Government decree** on rules for the development of the SOER;
- **Draft SOER 2014-2017 was elaborated and is available on official website**, public discussion was organized on October 21 and was sent to all in-line governmental organizations;
- The **Structure of SOER** was improved based on the experience of Slovak Republic;
- A guiding document - **Methodological paper on the national state of environmental report** was developed by Slovak Environment Agency and European Environment Agency (EEA) to help EaP countries for the implementation of the process of environmental assessment and analysis

Proposed next step is:

- to develop a **Country Briefing for SOER 2014-2017 of Georgia**;
- to produce the leaflet based on the information in the **Air and Water chapters of SOER 2014-2017**

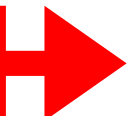


1.1. SOER – New Structure of SOER (2/4)





1.1. SOER-Chapters' setup/Key Questions & Findings (3/4)

Ambient Air chapter

- Abstract
- 1. Key Questions & Findings (messages)** 
- 2. State Regulation
- 3. Ambient Air Quality in Georgia
- 4. Causes of Ambient Air Pollution
- 5. Main Challenges

Reader Friendly Solution

- 1. Does the concentration of major harmful substances in ambient air exceed the limits set for the protection of human health?

A1
- 2. Has the emission of major harmful substances in the air been reduced?

A2

Selection Criteria for key questions & findings

- Relevance with **UNECE set of environmental indicators**
- Interesting for the public
- Importance of issue
- Politically admissible
- Relevant with the context and content of the chapter



1.1. SOER - Pilot Chapter: Water Resources (4/4)

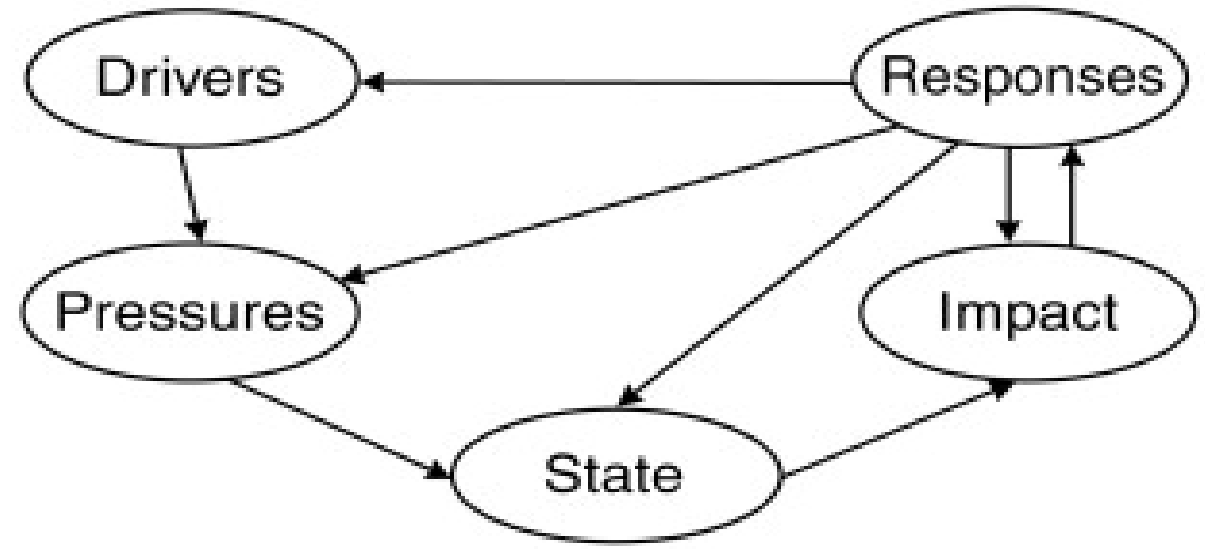
- Abstract
- 1. Key Questions & Findings (messages)
- 2. Water Resources of Georgia
- 3. Water Use
- 4. Water Quality
- 5. Driving Forces, Pressure and Impact
- 6. Responses

1. What is the quality of Georgia's water resources?

2. What is a trend of water use in Georgia?

3. What are the main challenges of water resources management in Georgia?

C10,11,13,14 C2,3,5,6 C7,15,16



2. SEIS to support a regular assessment process (1/2)

- **Commitments made at highest political level to implement the SEIS principles**
- **Currently country is in the process of improving quality of environmental information in line with SEIS principles (indicators, methodologies)**
- **Further development of national environmental information system (EIS) – part of the whole of WIS-Georgia (infrastructure, Indicators, data)**



2. SEIS to support a regular assessment process (2/2)

- Provided support through technical assistance and capacity building activities;
- Improved cooperation by organizing targeted events and/or invited national representatives/experts to gain experience and best practices from the EEA experts community, the understanding of its data reporting mechanisms and tools, and the work undertaken at the European level to assess the state and outlook of the environment

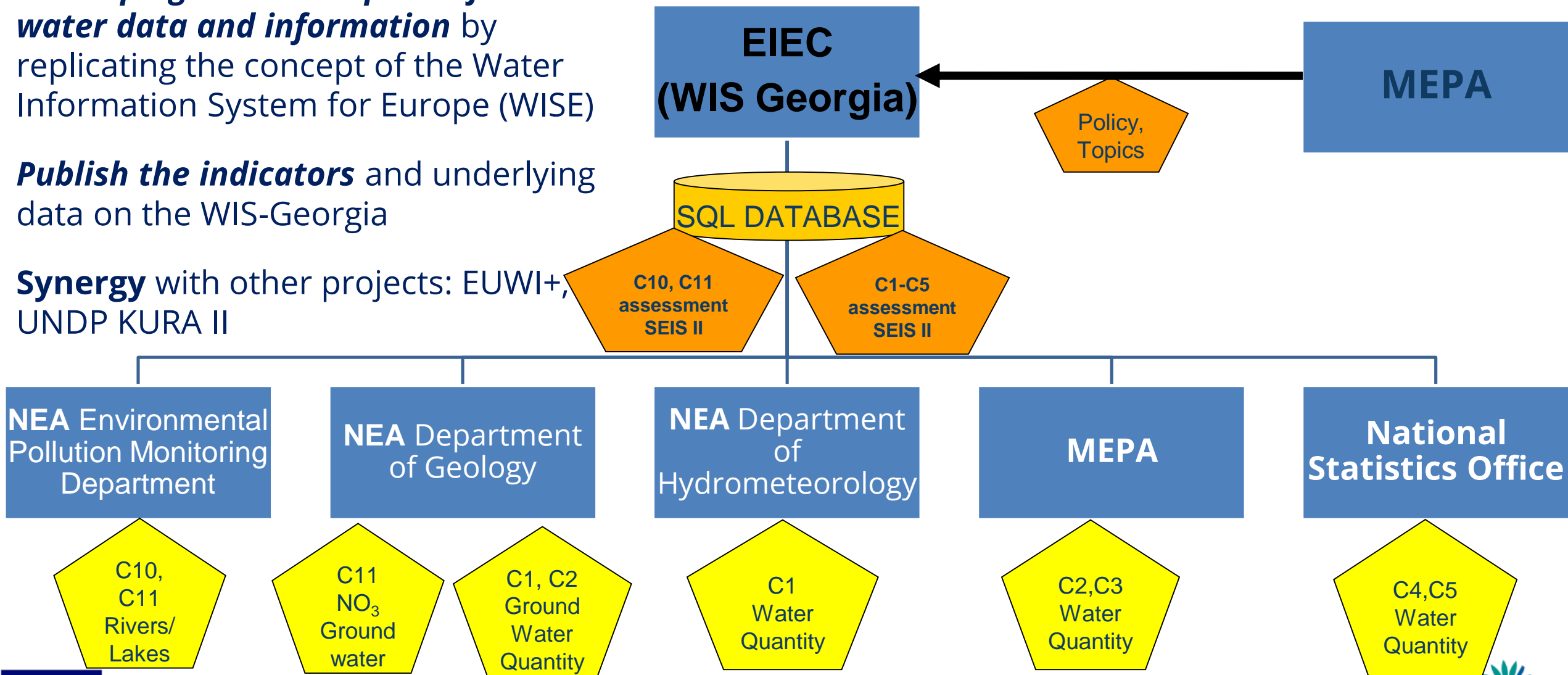


2.2. Water (1/2)

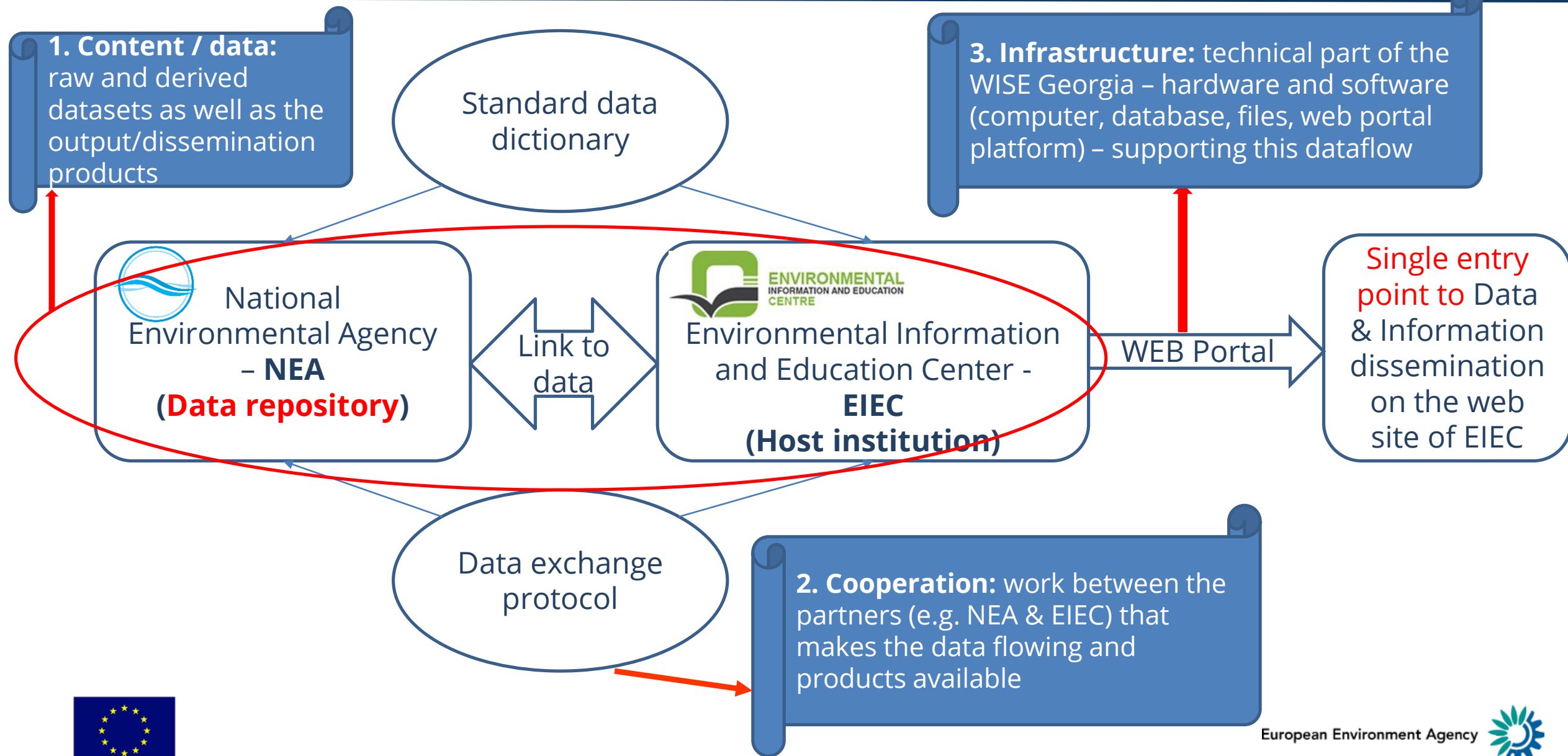
Developing a national portal for the water data and information by replicating the concept of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE)

Publish the indicators and underlying data on the WIS-Georgia

Synergy with other projects: EUWI+, UNDP KURA II



2.2. Pilot project – WIS-Georgia (2/2)



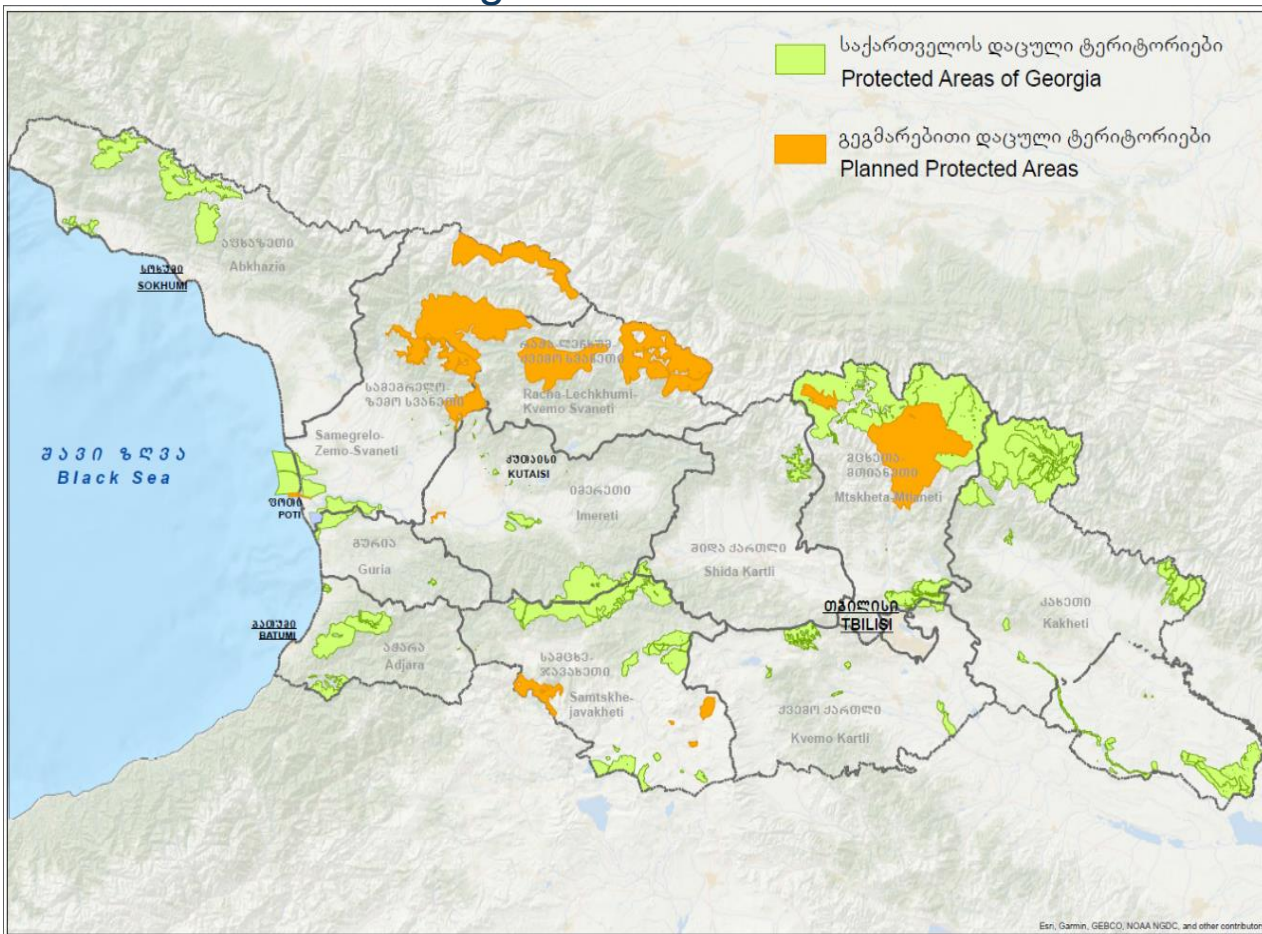
2.3. Biodiversity – Main achievements (1/4)

- Methodology is harmonised in line with EU/EEA;
- Inter-institutional working group established at national level:
 - MEPA, APA, NGO
- Elaborated the ***regionally comparable biodiversity indicator D1- Protected Areas in accordance with EEA and UNECE*** guidelines;
- Supported works in improving the ***coverage of Emerald Network sites*** as response to the Aichi Strategic Goal C Target 11 and SDG Goal 15;
- Participation into the capacity building workshops to improve the capacity in reporting the data on species and habitats to the Central Data Repository (CDR) of the EEA for promoting SEIS principles.

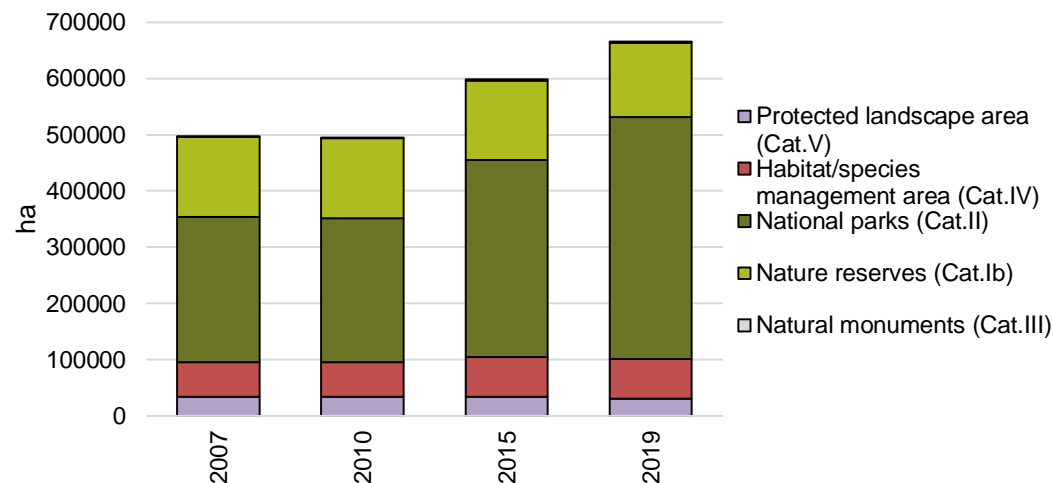


2.3. Biodiversity - Protected Areas of Georgia (2/4)

The total area of **nationally designated protected areas** currently covers about **9.5%** of terrestrial territory and inland waters of Georgia.



Progress in designation of protected areas by IUCN management category (2007-2018)



The national target of at least **12%** of the country's **terrestrial and inland water areas** and **2.5%** of **marine areas** are covered by protected areas by 2020.

Aichi target 11 by 2020, which **aims to 17%** of **terrestrial and inland water areas** under the **protected area system**.



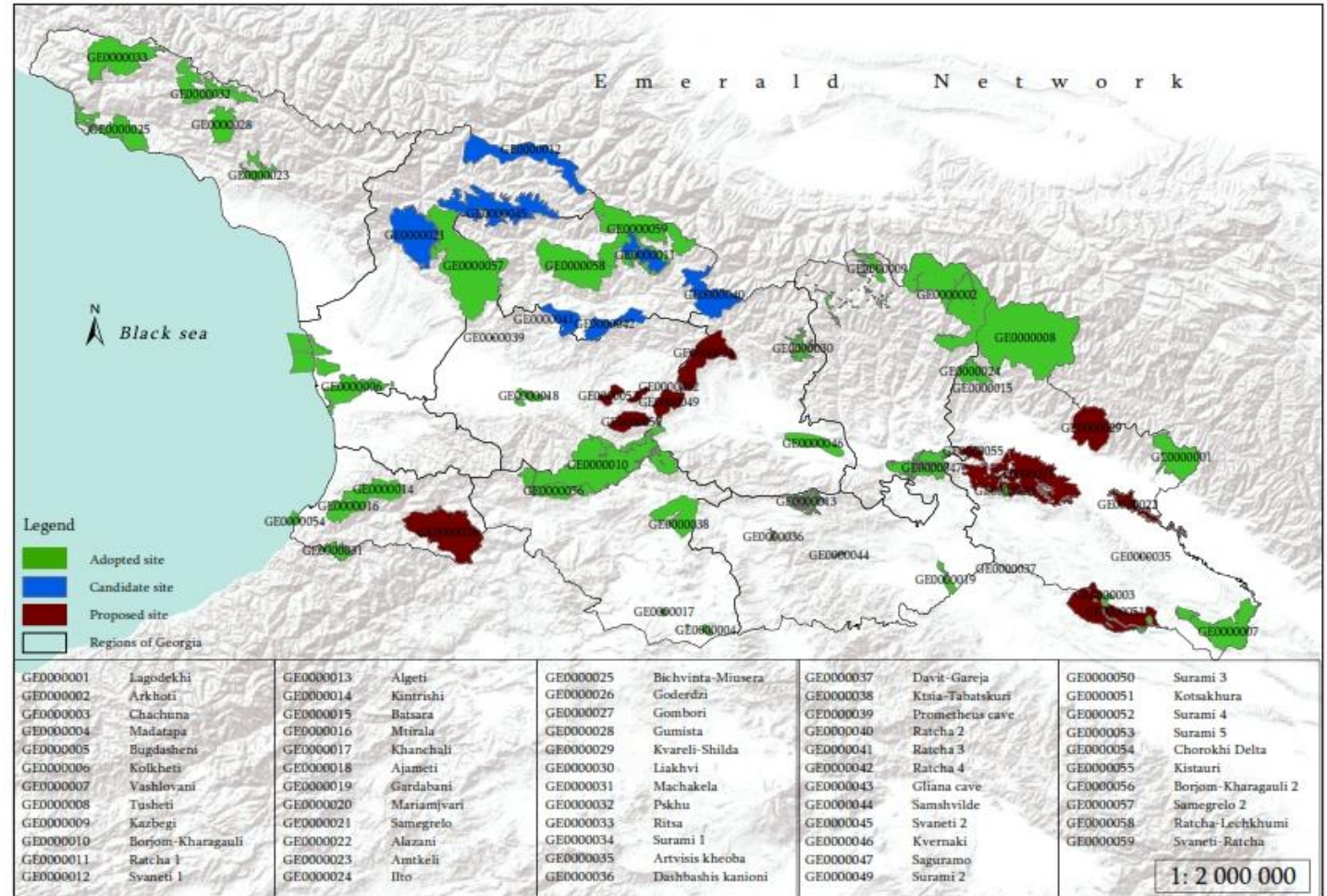
<https://atlas.mepa.gov.ge/maps/map?l=en>

2.3. Biodiversity – Emerald Network of Georgia (3/4)

The total area of the **Emerald Network in Georgia is 851 604.3 ha (39 sites)** in 2019, which covers 12.22 % of the country's territory, and the area coincides with 40.7 % of nationally protected areas.

Georgia has **7 candidate sites** and **12 proposed sites** with the total area of **188 587.4 ha** to be included into the Emerald network in 2019.

Designation status of Emerald Network sites in Georgia (2019)



2.3. Biodiversity – Forest Cover of Georgia (4/4)

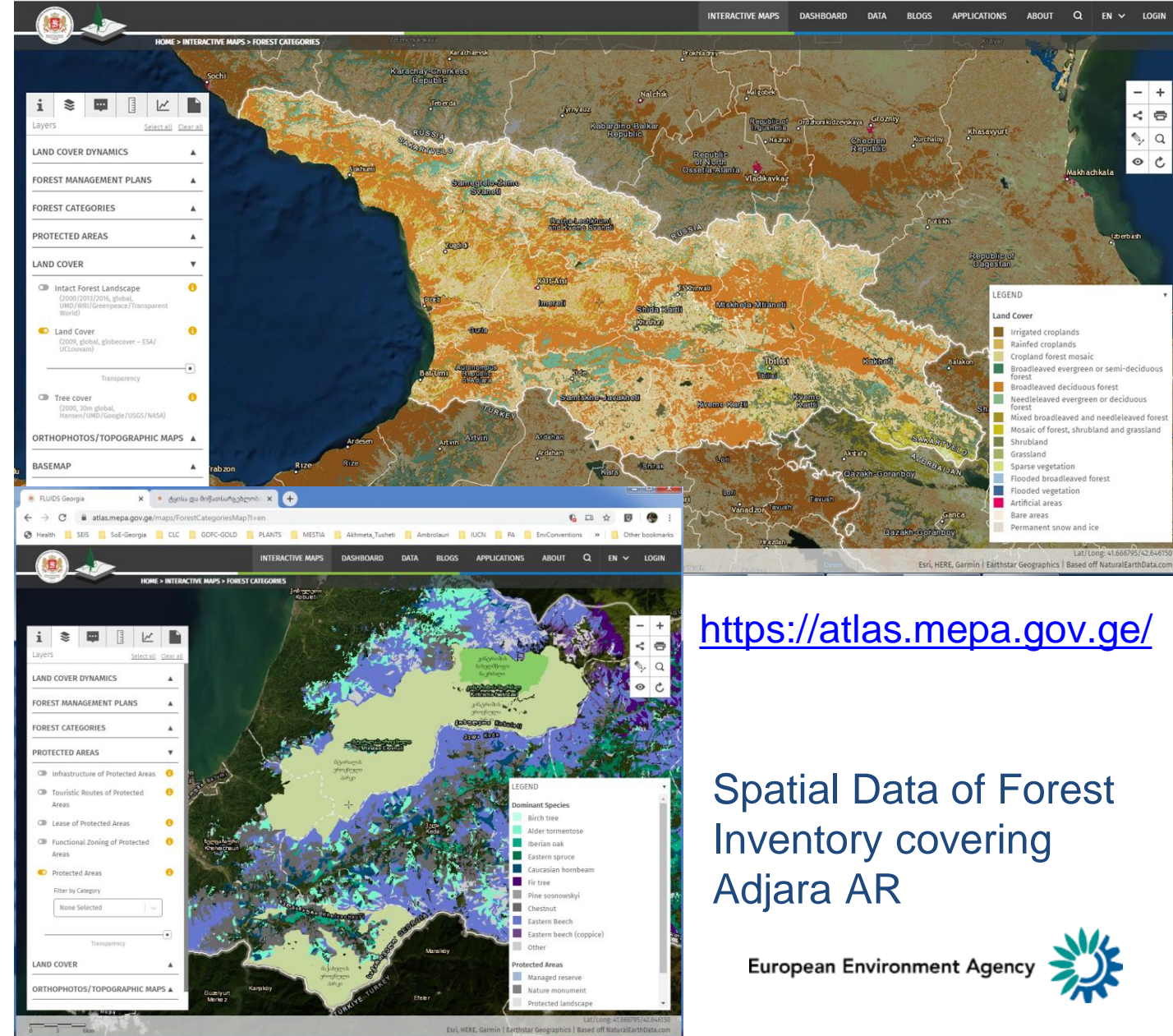
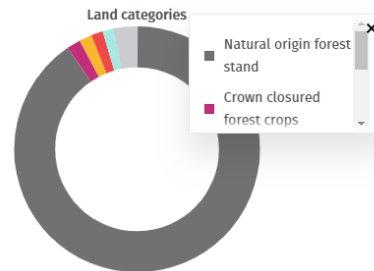
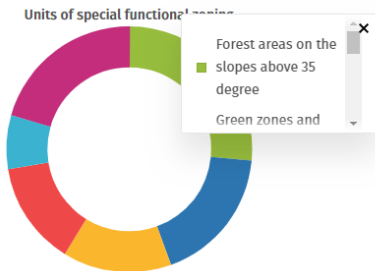
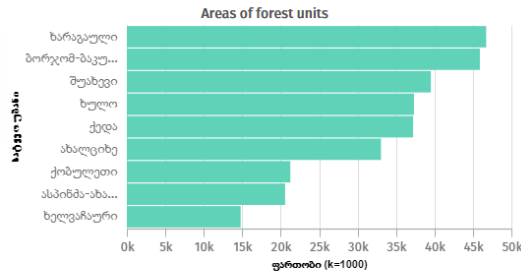
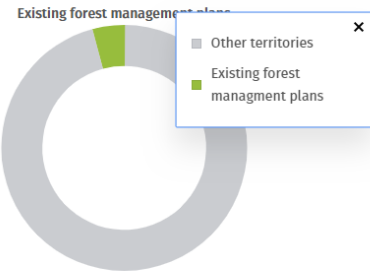
<https://atlas.mepa.gov.ge/dashboard?l=en>

Forest management

Dashboard Biodiversity/ protected areas Hazards **Forest management**

The data is calculated only for areas having forest management plans

Source: National Forestry Agency



<https://atlas.mepa.gov.ge/>

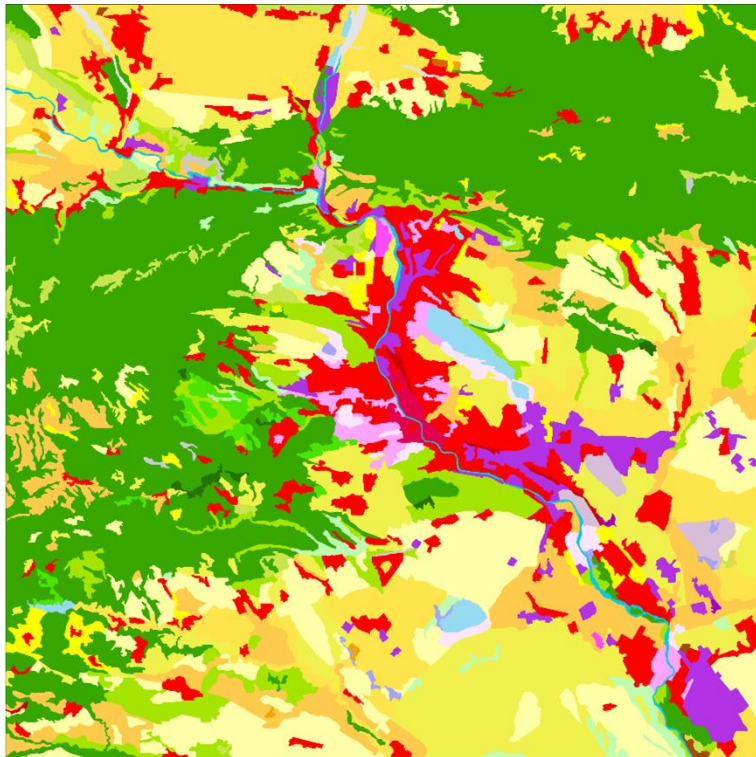
Spatial Data of Forest Inventory covering Adjara AR



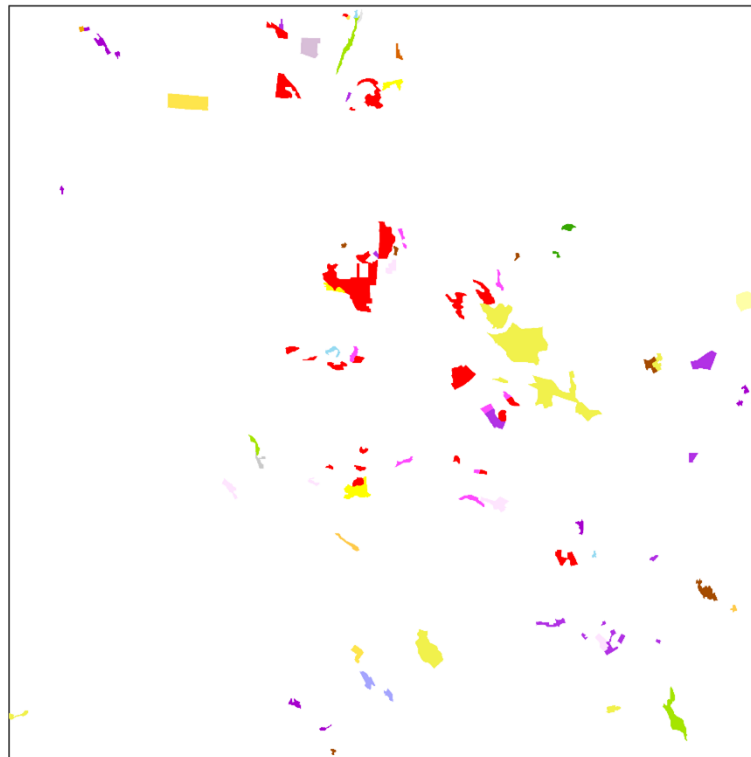
2.4. Land – CORINE Land Cover Pilot Project (1/2)

Main achievements:

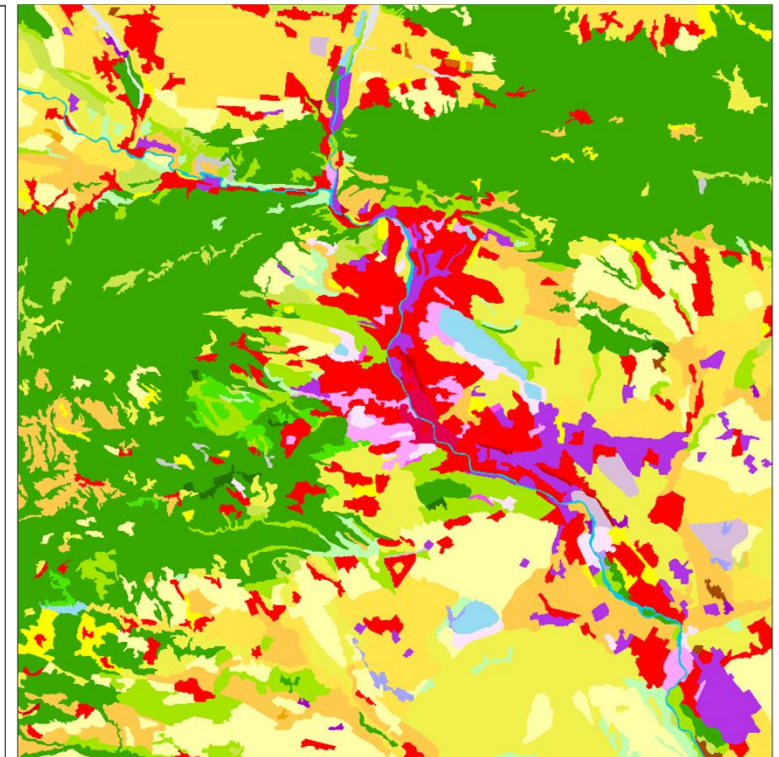
- Methodologies are harmonised in line with EU/EEA - CORINE Land Cover;
- Inter-institutional working group established at national level: MEPA, EIEC, GISLab;
- Pilot Project implemented - Tbilisi Urban Area and Surroundings (area 50kmx50km)



2001



Changes 2001-2018



2018



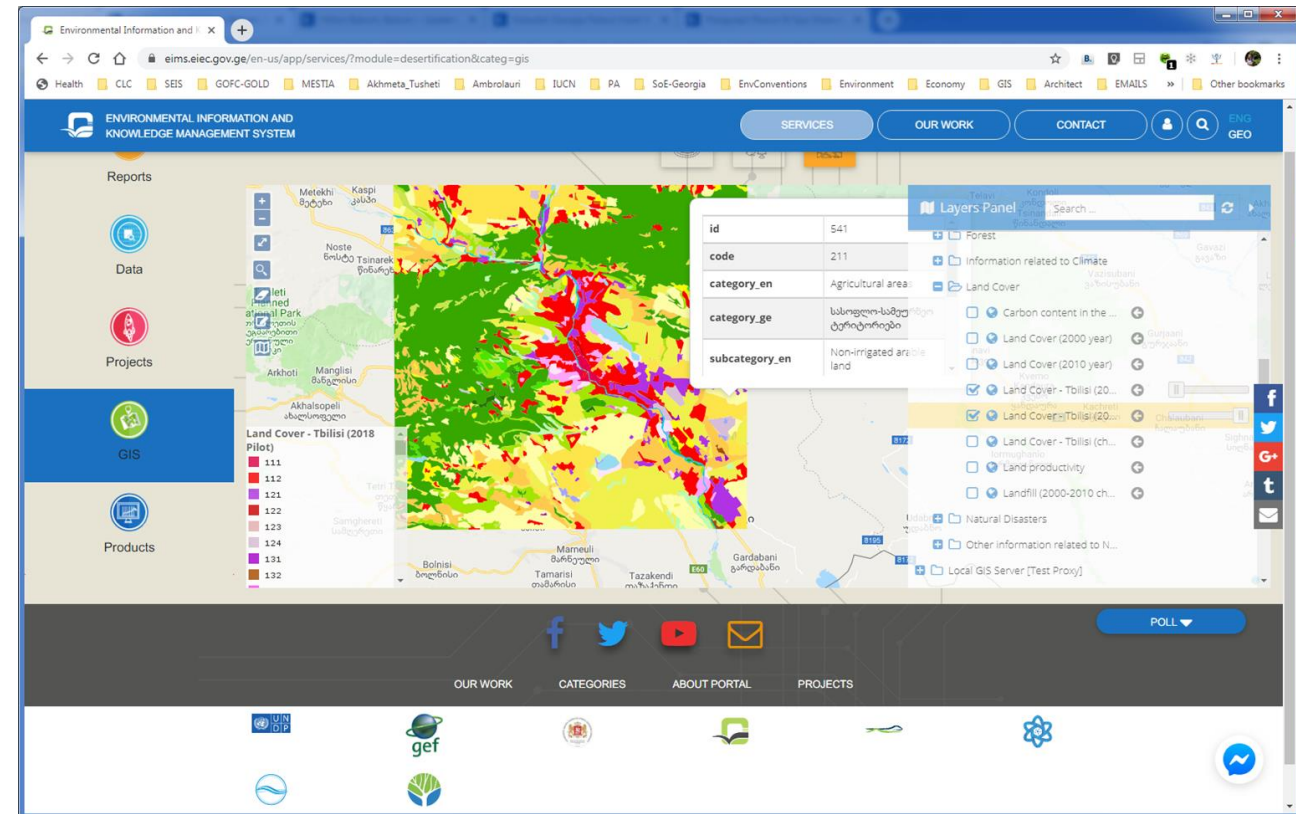
2.4. Land – Next steps (2/2)

Land cover change is an important indicator under UNCCD; Georgia is obliged reporting the Land Cover changes to the UNCCD Secretariat (for the last (2nd) reporting, the UNCCD Secretariat reported on behalf of Georgia using global data).

Important source of data for Urban Development Department of Tbilisi Municipality.

Proposed next step is:

- to develop a proper proposal for future land cover/land use mapping covering whole country.



3. Sustainability and connectivity



Continue dialogue and synergies with other relevant projects and international initiatives:

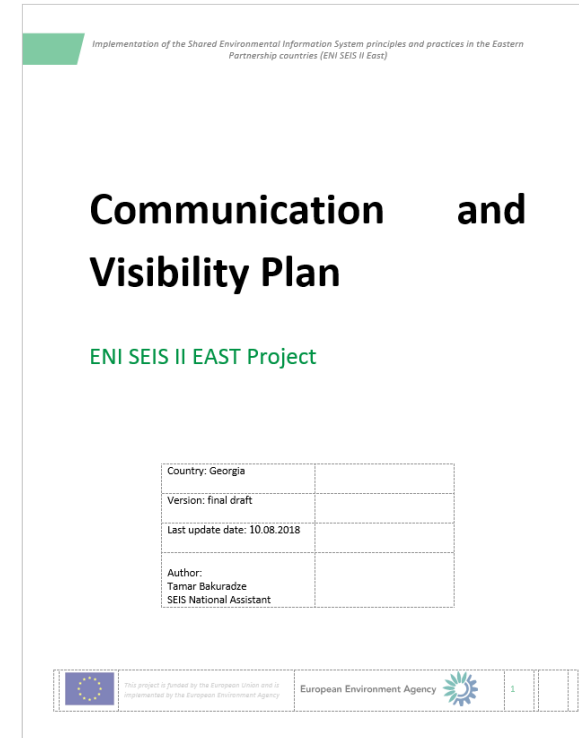


- Further developing of bilateral cooperation with EEA, which will provide to Georgia an opportunity to exchange, share and transfer knowledge, experience and best practice, and network;
- Synergy with EUWI+ Project which is developing data flow management to feed information production for the pilot RBMP development in Georgia;
- Synergy with UNDP KURA II Project;
- WIS-Georgia will be as a part of existing Environmental Information System (EIS) which is hosted by the Environmental Information and Education Center (EIEC) of the MEPA along with Air Portal



4. Visibility and communication - Activities (1/5)

- Communication and Visibility Plan are elaborated for Georgia in the framework of the project;
- Information about the project, ongoing activities, some achievements and the project outputs are disseminated through:
 - Conferences and Events;
 - National Implementation Team Meetings;
 - Communication and Thematic areas experts trainings and workshops;
 - Participation in third party events, e.g. EUWI+ projects events;
 - Project Steering Committee Meetings.



4. Visibility and communication - Channels, tools (2/5)

WEBSITE:

Website of SEIS project: Country-Georgia page – as a main information source of the project, the “meeting point” for all target groups.

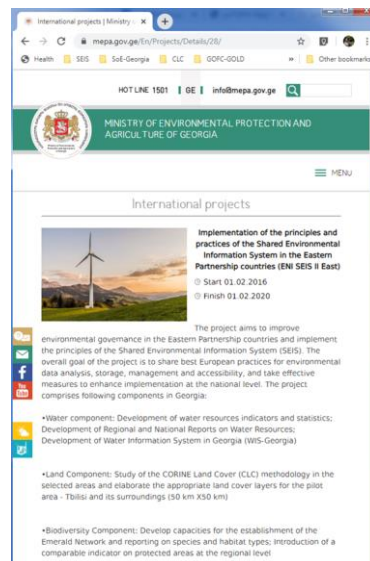
On the website of MEPA: summary description of the ENI SEIS II East project, information on ongoing activities and events held in the framework of project are launched under the heading Daily News;

On the website of GeoStat: Ongoing projects page – shows the summary description of the ENI SEIS II East project and Environmental Indicators under the Environment Statistics;

On the website of EIEC: launch information on the workshops and events held under the framework of project

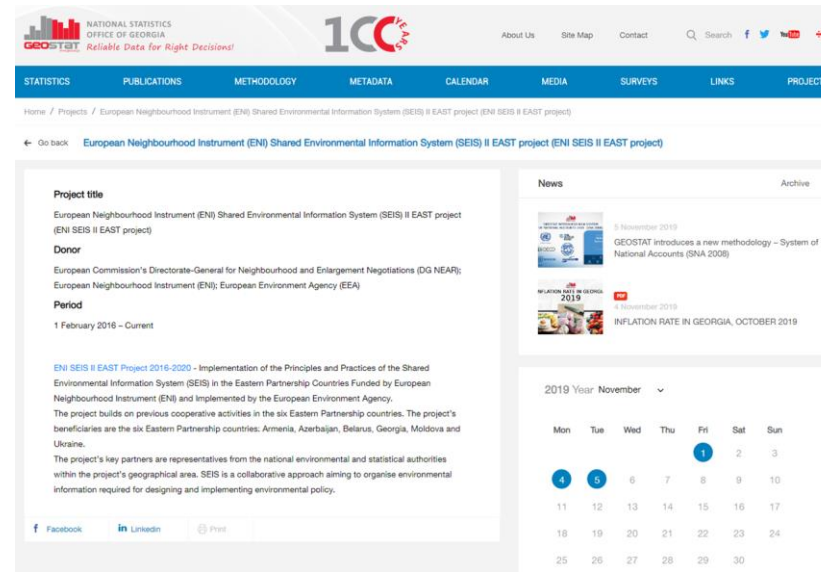
Social networks: Facebook account of MEPA

www.MEPA.gov.ge



The screenshot shows the MEPA website with the following details:

- URL: mepa.gov.ge/En/Projects/Details/25/
- Page Title: International projects
- Project Name: Implementation of the principles and practices of the Shared Environmental Information System in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East)
- Start Date: 01.02.2016
- Finish Date: 01.02.2020
- Project Description: The project aims to improve environmental governance in the Eastern Partnership countries and implement the principles of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS). The overall goal of the project is to share best European practices for environmental data analysis, storage, management and accessibility, and take effective measures to enhance implementation at the national level. The project comprises following components in Georgia:
 - Water component: Development of water resources indicators and statistics; Development of Regional and National Reports on Water Resources; Development of Water Information System in Georgia (WIS-Georgia)
 - Land Component: Study of the CORINE Land Cover (CLC) methodology in the selected areas and elaborate the appropriate land cover layers for the pilot area – Tbilisi and its surroundings (50 km x50 km)
 - Biodiversity Component: Develop capacities for the establishment of the Emerald Network and reporting on species and habitat types; introduction of a comparable indicator on protected areas at the regional level



The screenshot shows the National Statistics Office of Georgia website with the following details:

- Page Title: European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) II EAST project (ENI SEIS II EAST project)
- Project title: European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) II EAST project (ENI SEIS II EAST project)
- Donor: European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR); European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI); European Environment Agency (EEA)
- Period: 1 February 2016 – Current
- Project Description: ENI SEIS II EAST Project 2016-2020 - Implementation of the Principles and Practices of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the Eastern Partnership Countries Funded by European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and implemented by the European Environment Agency. The project builds on previous cooperative activities in the six Eastern Partnership countries. The project's beneficiaries are the six Eastern Partnership countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The project's key partners are representatives from the national environmental and statistical authorities within the project's geographical area. SEIS is a collaborative approach aiming to organise environmental information required for designing and implementing environmental policy.

www.GEOSTAT.ge

4. Online Availability (4/5)



UNECE ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS

National Focal Points:
Maia Javakhishvili, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Vasil Tsakadze, National Statistics Office of Georgia - GeoStat

National SEIS Assistant:
Tamar Bakuradze

Vasil Tsakadze (left), Maia Javakhishvili and Tamar Bakuradze

UNECE Environmental Indicator	Georgia
A. Air pollution and ozone depletion	
B. Climate change	
C. Water	
D. Biodiversity	
E. Land and soil	
F. Agriculture	
G. Energy	
H. Transport	
I. Waste	
J. Environmental financing	
Total	

Links:
ENI SEIS II East Project in Georgia: National Statistics Office of Georgia - GeoStat | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia | Environmental Information and Education Centre

Georgia and the EU | Delegation of the European Union to Georgia

A
Air pollution and ozone depletion

B
Climate change

C
Water

D
Biodiversity

E
Land and soil

F
Agriculture

G
Energy

H
Transport

I
Waste

J
Environmental financing

D. Biodiversity	Georgia
D1. Protected areas	2 <small>Read more »</small>
D2. Biosphere reserves and wetlands of international importance	No data <small>Read more »</small>

Water Indicators

C1 – Renewable freshwater resources in Georgia

Oct 31, 2019
Georgia is water-abundant country with around 51 000 million m³ of annual renewable freshwater resources available. This corresponds to 14 000 m³ of water available annually per capita for the use of economic sectors and households.

The dependency ratio between the inflow of surface and groundwater from neighbouring countries and the total renewable freshwater resources available within the country is also comparatively low (17 % based on the data for 1981-1991). However, because of a lack of data, the seasonal aspect of renewable water resources and the dependency on the inflow from neighbouring countries cannot be accurately addressed.

[Read more](#)

C2 – Freshwater abstraction in Georgia

Oct 31, 2019
Georgia is non-water-stressed country with a water exploitation index (WEI) of around 4 % in 2015.

More than 50 % of the annual total water abstraction is accounted for by agriculture, which is the main pressure on renewable water resources.

[Read more](#)

C3 – Total water use in Georgia

Oct 31, 2019
In Georgia, around 70 % of the total freshwater is used by agriculture, with households using 20 %. Water use substantially increased (87 %) between 2001 and 2016.

Almost one third of the total freshwater is lost during transport from the point of abstraction to the point of supply. This requires urgent action to be taken to improve the water conveyance system.

Between 1990 and 2016, Georgia's gross domestic product (GDP) increased by about 44 %. Although an increase in GDP has been achieved, there has not been a similar improvement in water use efficiency. Nevertheless, in 1990, around 145 m³ of water was used in the production of 1 000 international dollars by the economy, while 38 m³ of water was used in 2015 to produce the same unit of GDP.

C4 – Household water use per capita in Georgia

Oct 31, 2019
In 2018, Georgian citizens used on average 90.6 m³ of water supplied to households from renewable freshwater resources. This corresponds to approximately 248 l of water used per person on daily basis.

About 34.2 % of the total population of Georgia was not connected to the public water supply in 2018 and had to manage their water demand by self-supply.

[Read more](#)

C5 – Water supply industry and population connected to water supply industry in Georgia

Oct 31, 2019
Around 66 % of the total population of Georgia was connected to the public water supply in 2018, while 34 % of the population meet their water demand by self-supply.

During the period of 2015-2018, population connected to water supply industry has increased by 10.4%. Meanwhile, water losses during transport have decreased by 20.6 % due to renewal of water conveyance system. However, still more than 65 % of the total water supply is lost during transport in 2018.

[Read more](#)

Environmental Assessment Reports

UNECE ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS

Type of Report	Georgia	
National environmental reports	Yes / Last 2010-2013	Link to the report »
Specialized reports - climate (national communications to UNFCCC)	Yes	Link to the report »
Specialized reports - air	Yes	Link to the report »
Specialized reports - water	Yes	Link to the report »
Specialized reports - biodiversity	Yes	Link to the report »
Specialized reports - waste	No	Link to the report »
Indicator-based reports	No	Link to the report »
National Statistical Yearbook	Yes	Link to the report »
National Statistical Yearbook on environment	Yes	Link to the report »
Report on sustainable development	Yes	Link to the report »

COUNTRY NEWS

4 November 2019 | A first set of water indicators from six Eastern Partnership countries now available

29-30 October 2019 | Regional biogeographical Emerald network seminar

8-9 October 2019 | Second regional workshop on state of environment report

[MORE NEWS](#)

<https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/countries/georgia>

https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/indicators/indicators-search/#b_start=0&c8=Georgia



4. Visibility and communication (5/5)

Events and Workshops in 2019

8-9 October 2019 | Second Regional workshop on State of environment report

12-13 September 2019 | Second regional workshop on sharing environmental information effectively

17 September 2019 | Vocational training on environmental accounting of land

27-29 August 2019 | EEAcademy ENI Summer School on integrated environmental assessment towards integrated sustainability assessments

30 July 2019 | Launch the result layers of Pilot CORINE Land Cover Project in Georgia

14 June 2019 | Meeting with Corine Land Cover mapping team in Georgia

13 June 2019 | Round table on open data and e-governance for the environment in Georgia

10-11 June 2019 | Kick off meeting for the water information system of Georgia

23 May 2019 | Third training workshop on reporting on the conservation status of species and habitats

8 May 2019 | Regional Conference on Environmental Data in Geneva

6-7 May 2019 | Twenty-first session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

5 May 2019 | Launch of a new regional climate change initiative for the Eastern Partnership countries in Georgia

30 April 2019 | UNECE report summarises production, sharing and use of UNECE environmental indicators

24 April 2019 | Kick off meeting with CIRAD on “Environmental accounting and hands on data for indicator production on integrated approach”

21 March 2019 | The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia met with the representatives of the Swedish Delegation

7 March 2019 | Kick off meeting for the EEAcademy ENI Summer School Towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments

5-6 March 2019 | Regional Seminar for integrating environmental information in national E-Governance/Open Data frameworks and platforms

29-31 January 2019 | 24th session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP)

26 January 2019 | Georgia launches of the Ambient Air Quality Portal

Thank you for your attention!
Open for comments and questions



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Copenhagen | Tuesday 12 November 2019

