Draft Minutes



Minutes (draft) from	Thematic workshop on the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II East project in Georgia (ENI
	SEIS II East)

VENUE	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia 6 G. Gulua Street, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia
DATE	6-7 November 2017
PARTICIPANTS:	Present: see Annex 2a and 2b
CHAIRS:	Anita Künitzer, Lidija Globevnik, Mariam Makarova, Maia Javakhishvili
RAPPORTEUR:	ETC-ICM
ANNEXES:	Annex 1: Agenda Annex 2a: List of participants Annex 2b: Scan with signatures
Presentations and meeting documents on ENI SEIS II website:	https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/areas-of-work/communication/events/project-related-events/thematic-workshop-on-the-implementation-of-the-water-component-of-the-eni-seis-ii-east-project-in-georgia/meeting-documents https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/areas-of-work/communication/events/project-related-events/thematic-workshop-on-the-implementation-of-the-water-component-of-the-eni-seis-ii-east-project-in-georgia

1st day, 6 November 2017 (9:30 - 18:00)

1. Opening Session

Introductory speeches were given by:

- Ekaterine Grigalava, the deputy minister of environment and natural resources protection of Georgia (the institutions of Georgia will be available to produce comparative analysis and bring positive changes)
- Meri Daushvili, executive director of National Statistics Office of Georgia (coordination is important; technologies need to be approved and enable fact-based assessment, dissemination of information needs to be improved; Georgia cooperates with Statistical Office of Sweden already)
- Nihat Zal, Project Manager of the EEA (project is for good environmental governance; improving capacities for knowledge-based decision-making).

The representatives of Georgia signed a letter of intent of cooperation in establishing indicator framework and water information system, to serve as a platform for informed decisions on the topic.

2. Introduction to the workshop, format of the workshop and main outcomes expected; Chair: Anita Künitzer, Lidija Globevnik

Anita Künitzer invites participants to introduce themselves and introduces workshop purpose and expectations.

3. Setting the scene and expected main outputs; Chair: Anita Künitzer

Mariam Makarova and Marine Arabidze presented state of water resources in Georgia, with the following key messages:

- Shares of river basins: Black Sea 70 %, Caspian Sea 30 %; 99.5 % of rivers less than 25 km long; 860 lakes; 43 reservoirs for hydro-power (55 in Caspian Sea catchment, 8 in Black Sea); freshwater resources 18 km3/year; Georgia is planning to start water accounting;
- problems with water scarcity, erosion, floods; high losses of water in supply systems;
- water quality is generally good due to geomorphological setting, but pollution needs to be addressed; state monitoring being renewed since 2013, with some gaps in time series through 1990s and 2000s;
- water quality monitoring started in 1960; 128 monitoring sited in 2012, 158 sites in 2017; the
 report published annually on two websites (all information open to public), only data without
 assessments; groundwater monitoring also published and publicly available;
- Ministry gives licenses for water use, conducts state inventory of water use (ca. 800 users);
 it produces report annually, supplies data to statistical office; through national environmental agency, it monitors freshwater quality and quantity;
- Ministry of labour, health and social affairs regulates standards of drinking water;
- Ministry of agriculture runs certified laboratories for drinking water (information to be checked);
- Data collection on water use is more stable since 2016; there is a lack of water meters; reports are produced for sub-national level, published for national level.

The concepts of indicator, water information system and presentation of results from on-line survey were presented by the EEA/ETC (Lidija Globevnik and Gašper Šubelj), including demonstration of established and running WIS examples in Slovenia. Reportnet modules were also shown via active web links on EIONET.

4. Supporting the development of the national portal of water information system as a national pilot; Chair: Mariam Makarova and Lidija Globevnik

Nana Zautashvili presented the national portal for water. Many elements of WIS for hydrology (Quantity) are already established, data in static maps and PDF format; interpretation of data for different stakeholders is the main missing element.

Input data for Quantity indicators were presented step-by-step by Lidija Globevnik, followed by the discussion on availability of these data for Georgia. Data sources are spread between institutions of Georgia. An agreement was reached on who can provide the needed data.

Needed data sets for Quality indicators were presented. After that state institutions responsible for collection of specific datasets are specified (see table). All datasets for Quality indicators are available. They are spread between three institutions (MENRP, NEA, GEOSTAT).

Topic	Collecting data, management of databases
C1 - Renewable water resources	NEA
C2 - Freshwater abstraction	MENRP Water Division
C3 - Total water use	MENRP, GEOSTAT
C4 - Household water use per capita	GEOSTAT
C5 - Water supply industry and population connected to water supply industry	GEOSTAT

Maia Javakhishvili will collect information from partner organisations and inform EEA about who is nominated for training; the list will be prepared and send by the end of the week.

2nd day, 7 November 2017 (9:30 – 17:00)

Cont of item 4; Chair: Mariam Makarova and Lidija Globevnik

Input data for Quality indicators were presented step-by-step by Lidija Globevnik, followed by the discussion on availability of these data for Georgia. Needed data sets are available at national environment agency (NEA).

Topic	Collecting data, management of databases	
C10 - Quality (BOD, Ammonium)	NEA	
C11 – Quality (Nutrients)	NEA	

Maia Javakhishvili will collect information from partner organisations and inform EEA about who is nominated for training; the list will be prepared and send by the end of the week.

Observations:

- 150 sites for BOD and Ammonium, but with data gaps; probably not more than 20 stations with full time series; database in Access format; monthly reports issues, published annual report:
- the experts in Quality are most concerned regarding decision of time periods (trend analysis), time aggregation, visualisation of concentrations (classes, visual communication, comparison to WFD standards);
- pointed out that Georgia has to establish its own quality classification and visual communication, depending on the national setting and policy messages that are meant to be presented to different users.

5. Development of the roadmap for the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II project; Chair: Maia Javakhishvili and Lidija Globevnik

Anita Künitzer has presented the draft roadmap as proposed by the EEA/ETC in the thematic work plan. During the discussion, the following two points were added to the roadmap:

- preparation of Data Dictionaries for C1-C5 and C10-C11 including example templates (ETC/ICM)
- preparation of data and information for selected freshwater indicators (Georgia with helpdesk support, data on annual basis)

Partners from Georgia pointed out availability of data on the one hand and lack of GIS hardware as well as trained staff on the other.

An option of online payment if data will not be available free of charge (billing model) was discussed.

The need for visibility of the product was pointed out; it would encourage partners to contribute (financially, with know-how etc.).

6. Conclusions of the workshop; Chair: Anita Künitzer

1. Experts for cooperation

In cooperation with EEA, the partners from Georgia will produce indicators and water information system (WIS). 4-5 national experts are to be nominated soon and the list to be sent to the EEA in the next week. 3 EEA/ETC experts (Quality, Quantity, IT) and coordinator will support the work.

2. Thematic work plan and hands-on trainings

- EEA/ETC will support preparation of Data Dictionary (draft proposal) for all indicators; it will produce sample/test data for all indicators (pre-filled in line with the new DD, adapted to Georgia's needs) directly after the workshop and deliver it to the partners from Georgia.
- Hands-on training is planned to last for one week. Tentative time plan is 4 full days, 15-18
 January 2018 (Mon-Thu). The exact plan in terms of location and time will be defined after
 expert nomination.

 The training is to be done in respective institutions, in offices and computers of partner experts. National experts are to prepare national data before the training; it can be a subset of the national dataset.

3. Helpdesk

Communication between the partners from Georgia and the EEA/ETC will go through established Helpdesk address: eniwater.helpdesk@eionet.europa.eu.

4. Water information system

The complete dataflow is to be prepared for Quality indicators; Quantity indicators will be produced as one-time static indicators.

5. Data exchange protocol

EEA/ETC is to provide example of the protocol which can be adapted to and used in Georgia's setting.

Annex 1: Agenda

Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East)

ENI SEIS II East project

Thematic workshop on the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II East project in Georgia

6-7 November 2017

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia 6 G. Gulua Street, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia

Agenda

Meeting documents:

Documents are available at the following link:

• https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/areas-of-work/communication/events/project-related-events/thematic-workshop-on-the-implementation-of-the-water-component-of-the-eni-seis-ii-east-project-in-georgia on ENI SEIS II portal





Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East)

^{*} Funding of the expertise for this seminar is provided by the ENI-SEIS II East project based on the service contract between the European Environment Agency (EEA) and its topic center on Inland, Coastal and Marine waters (ETC/ICM).

1 st day, Monday 6 November 2017 (09:30-18:00)				
and exp	pected main outputs from the ENI SEIS II East Project	ct – Water component		
e Item Agenda item no.		Presenters		
1	 Ekaterine Grigalava - Deputy Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia Meri Daushvili - Executive Director of National Statistics Office of Georgia Nihat Zal - Project Manager of Pan European forest-water issues of 	EU Delegation to Georgia (tbc)		
2	Introduction to the workshop, format of the workshop and main outcomes expected	Anita Künitzer/Lidija Globevnik (ETC/ICM)		
3	 Introduction to the thematic work plan - Nihat Zal/or an ETC expert tbd Water resources management in Georgia - (Mariam Makarova, Head of water Division, MENRP and Marine Arabidze Head of Department of Environmental Pollution Monitoring of National Environmental Agency Indicator implementation and mapping the selected indicators with the international reporting streams, policies and assessments (Reporting to the conventions, SDGs, Green growth, Resource efficiency) - Lidija Globevnik, ETC/ICM 	Moderator: Anita Künitzer (ETC/ICM)		
	Item no.	Copening Session		

		1. 1. 6	1
		online survey and analyses of current	
		data and infrastructure for water	
		resources management in Georgia -	
		Gašper Šubelj, ETC/ICM	
		(Continued after the coffee break)	
11.20 - 11.35	Coffee	Break	
		Setting the scene and expected main outputs	
		Output: Agreed key outputs from the ENI SEIS II	Moderator:
11.35 – 12.45	3	East – Water: common consensus for Georgia:	Anita Künitzer
		1) Production of indicators; 2) national portal of	(ETC/ICM)
		<u>WIS</u>	
12.45 -14.00	Lunch	break	•
		Supporting the development of the national	
		portal of water information system as a	
		national pilot	
		Conceptual approaches for development	
		of national portal of water information	
		system (e.g. EIONET experiences), data	
14.00 -15.450	4	management and sharing (principles and	Moderator: Lidija
14.00 15.450	-	protocols, data dictionaries)- Gašper	Globevnik (ETC/ICM)
		Šubelj, ETC/ICM	
		Country representatives represent a statement of	
		Country perspective: present systems of	
		information on water (data collection,	
45.45.46.00	0 "	processing, presenting)	
15.45 – 16.00	Coffee Break		
		Defining the data sets and data providers	
		for the water quantity and water quality	
		related indicators	
		Institutional roles and responsibilities in	
		developing/further improving of data	
		sharing and development of water	
		information system/the portal	Moderator: Mariam
16.00 – 18.00	4	(item to be detailed based on on-line survey	Makarova (MENRP)
		analysis and further suggestions from the	Wakarova (WEWA)
		country; we can present some EU country	
		examples, e.g. Germany)	
		Output: Proposal how to draft technical	
		protocol for water data management and	
		sharing among those national institutions	
		involved in the implementation of the ENI	
		SEIS II – water component	
18.00		End of day 1	

		2 nd day, Tuesday 7 November 2017 (09:00-18:00)		
A roadmap	for the in	nplementation of the water component of the ENI	SEIS II East project	
Time	Item no.	Agenda item	Presenters	
9.00 – 11.00	5	Development of the roadmap for the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II project • Why a roadmap? How roadmap will serve to the implementation of the project • Identifying the gaps and needs in developing/implementing water quality and quantity indicators (supporting material on assessment procedures and methodology available by ETC/ICM ppt to support the discussion)	Moderators: (Georgia, ETC/ICM)	
11.00 – 11.20	Coffee	Coffee Break		
11.20 – 12.30	5	 Framing and identifying the gaps and needs in developing the national portal of water information system 	Moderators: (Georgia, ETC/ICM)	
12.30 -15.00	Lunch	break		
15.30 – 17.30	6	 Drafting the operational roadmap for the implementation the national portal of water information system and water indicators Identifying national water institutions/experts on water quality, water quantity and IT Communication and Helpdesk supports (how this service can be used) Output: Operational plan (Roadmap) for the implementation of the national portal of water information system and water indicators 		
17.30- 18.00	7	Conclusions of the workshop		
18.00	-	Closure of the Workshop	1	







European Environment Agency







Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East)

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION OF GEORGIA AND NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE OF GEORGIA "GEOSTAT"

National Workshop

"Thematic workshop on the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II East project in Georgia"

> November 6-7 2017 Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia, 6 G. Gulua Street, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia

List	List of Participants:				
	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia				
1	Ms. Ekaterine Grigalava	Tel: +995 32 272 7215			
	Deputy Minister	e-mail: e.grigalava@moe.gov.ge			
2	Mr. Gizo Chelidze	Tel: +995 32 272 7238			
	Head	Mobile: +995 599 069 912			
	Department of Integrated Management	e-mail: g.chelidze@moe.gov.ge			
3	Ms. Tamar Aladashvili	Tel: +995 32 272 7293			
	Deputy Head	Mobile: +995 593 122428			
	Department of Environmental Policy and	e-mail: <u>t.aladashvili@moe.gov.ge</u>			
	International Relations				
4	Ms. Maia Javakhishvili	Tel: +995 32 272 7243			
	Acting Head	Mobile: +995 95 119 751			
	Division of Sustainable Development and EU	e-mail:			
	Integration Policy, Department of Environmental	m.javakhishvili@moe.gov.ge,			
	Policy and International Relations, ENI-SEIS II	mjavakhishvili@gmail.com			
	National Focal Point				
5	Ms. Mariam Makarova	Tel: +995 32 272 7226			
	Head	Mobile: +995 595 119 704			
	Water Division, Integrated Management	e-mail: m.makarova@moe.gov.ge			
	Department				
6	Ms. Eka Elgendarashvili	Tel: +995 32 272 7260			
	Senior Specialist	Mobile: +995 593 949 490			
	Department of Environmental Impact Permits	e-mail:			
	·	e.elgendarashvili@moe.gov.ge			

7	Ms. Keti Chokuri	Tel.: +995 32 272 7243
	Senior Specialist	Mob: +995 599 15 95 14
	Division of Sustainable Development and EU	e-mail: k.chokuri@moe.gov.ge
	Integration Policy, Department of Environmental	
	Policy and International Relations.	

	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia					
	National Environmental Agency (NEA)					
8	Ms. Marine Arabidze	Tel: +995 32 243 9517				
	Head	Mobile: +995 599 699 603				
	Department of Environmental Pollution	e-mail: marabidze@environment.ge				
	Monitoring					
9	Ms. Nana Zautashvili	Mobile: +995 599 065 423				
	Senior Specialist	e-mail: nana zau@yahoo.com				
10	Department of Geology Ms. Nino Impadze	Mobile: +995 591 404 180				
10						
	Senior Specialist Division of Hydrometeorology, Department of	e-mail: imnadzenino.03@gmail.com				
	Database Administration					
11	Ms. Mariam Zulieva	Tel: +995 32 243 9519				
	Senior specialist	Mobile: +995 591 404 182				
	Division of Hydrometeorology, Department of	e-mail: zulieva.m@gmail.com				
	Database Administration					
	Ministry of Environment and Natural Reso	urces Protection of Georgia				
	Environmental Information and	Education Centre				
12	Ms. Elene Didebulidze	Tel: +995 32 112 023				
	Advisor	Mobile: +995 577343 353				
		e-mail: <u>edidebulidze@gmail.com</u>				
	National Statistics Office of Geo					
13	Ms. Meri Daushvili	Tel: +995 32 236 7210 (011)				
	Executive Director	e-mail: mdaushvili@geostat.ge				
14	Ms. Maia Guntsadze	Tel: +995 32 236 7210 (002)				
	Deputy Executive Director	e-mail: mguntsadze@geostat.ge				
15	Mr. Vasil Tsakadze	Tel: +995 32 236 7210				
	Head	Mobile: +995 599 482 899				
	Division of Agricultural and Environment	e-mail: vtsakadze@geostat.ge				
	Statistics; ENI-SEIS II National Focal Point					
16	Ms. Nino Kverghelidze	Tel: +995 32 2367210				
	Chief Specialist	Mobile: +995 598 335900				
	Division of Agricultural and Environment	e-mail: nkverghelidze@geostat.ge				
	Statistics					
17	Ms. Tamar Tarashvili	Tel: +995 32 236 7210 (505)				
	Senior Specialist	Mob.: +995 557 500 756				
	Division of Agricultural and Environment	e-mail: ttarashvili@geostat.ge				
	Division of Abricaltaral and Environment					

	Statistics					
	National Food Agency					
18	Ms. Mariam Gordadze	Tel: +995 332 2 91 91 68				
	Head of Non-animal Origin Food and Drinks	Mob.: +995 577 080 788				
	Division	e-mail:				
		mariam.gordadze@nfa.gov.ge				
19	Ms. Rusudan Tsiklauri	Tel.: +995 332 2 91 91 68				
	Chief Specialist	Mob: +995 551 27 77 35				
	Division of Non-animal Origin Food and Drinks	e-mail: rusudan.tsiklauri@nfa.gov.ge				
	REC Caucasus					
20		Tel: +995 32 225 3649				
	Ms. Sophiko Akhobadze (replaced by Tamuna	Mobile: +995 577 797 759				
	Tsirtsiradiza)	e-mail: sophiko.akhobadze@rec-				
	Executive Director	caucasus.org				
	The Regional Environmental Center for the Caucasus					
	International Proje	orts				
21	Mr. Zurab Jincharadze	Tel: +995 32 296 7308				
21	EUWI+	Mobile: +995 599 728 768				
	Senior Water and Coordination Expert	e-mail:				
	cemer water and coordination Expert	zurab.jincharadze@gmail.com				
22	Tamar Gugushvili	Mobile: +995 577 415740				
	UNDP/GEF Kura II	e-mail:				
	National Coordinator	gugushvili.tamuna@gmail.com				
	International Organiz	ations				
23	Nihat Zal	Tel: + 45 3336 7275				
	Project Manager – Pan European forest-water	Fax: + 45 3336 7293				
	issues	E-mail: Nihat.Zal@eea.europa.eu				
	European Environment Agency					
24	Victoria Goncharova	Tel.: +45 33435939				
	Project Officer – Communication and Visibility	E-mail:				
	European Environment Agency	<u>Victoria.Goncharova@eea.europa.eu</u>				
25	Anita Künitzer	Tel.: +49 391 810 9672				
	Leader of European Topic Centre on inland,	Mobile: +49 175 5519593				
	coastal and marine waters (ETC/ICM)	E-mail: <u>anita.kuenitzer@ufz.de</u>				
	European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and					
26	Marine waters	Tal : 1296 41 729 622				
26	Lidija Globevnik ETC expert and the ETC coordinator for the ENI	Tel.: +386 41 738 623 Fax:				
	SEIS II East	E-mail: <u>lidija.globevnik@tcvode.si</u>				
	European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and	L man. <u>mana.grobevink@tcvode.si</u>				
	Marine waters					
27	Gašper Šubelj	Tel.: +386 51 606 843				
_ ′	ETC Expert on data management	Fax:				
	European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and	E-mail: gasper.subelj@tcvode.si				
	Marine waters					

Annex 2b: Scan with signatures

Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East)

ENI SEIS II East project

Thematic workshop on the implementation of the water component of the ENI SEIS II East project in Georgia

6-7 November 2017

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia 6 G. Gulua Street, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia

N	Participants	Telephone/Email	Organization	Signature
1	Gizo Chelidze	4555 555 06 55 12 3 Chelidze Omoegovge	MENRP	3.304/
2	Mariam Madarosa	+995 595/19704 m.makarslegmerger.	MEVRP	2.Af
3	Elene Didebulidze	+995 577 343,353 elene didebuliolze D eire gov. ge	ELEC	J. Proffly
4	Iulieva Hariam	+ 995 591 404 182 zulieva. m w g mail com	N=A	2000
5	Marine Arosbidze	+995 99 69 96 03 Qrab dzemanine à Q gmail.com	NEA	2.0g/Sh







6	Nono Kverghelidze	598 335 900 nkverghelidze@geostat.ge Geostat	6-539hrd
7	Maia Java Khishvili	+995595119751 MENRP SEIS-East II National Focal Point.	2.57N 2/2
8	Tamar Tarashvili	ttarashvili@geostatge Geostat	a. for
9	Tsakadze Vasil	v to a kadze Decostat go Geostat	3.6049
	Maia Guntsadre	mguntsadie@geoslot. Goostot	2.10
11	Eka amigalara	eg rigglavo @ motigor, MOENRP	137.
12	What Ten	Nohert-Zalleeonempaen Euspeen Suspeen	July
13	Mont Ten Victoria Goncharova	Victoria. goncharova & ela. europa. eu European Environment Age.	y V. h.
14	Lideja Globermk	lidija globernike terrode. STAETC/ICH	Loya yearely
15	Muita Gluiter	anita. Kvenitzer@ofz.de ETC/ICH	Thit



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				1
16	Gasper Šubelj	gaspensubelj @tcvcde.si	ETC/ICH, ERA	Subelf
17				
	Mino Imnadze	Imnadzenino:03 Samil	NEN	m//
18	Nana Zautashvili	nana_zau@yahoo.eom	NEA	5 August
19	Tamar Linguishvili	tamar, gugushvilig	UNDP-GEF KURA IS	e. nn3r
20	Eurab incharadze Mariam Gordadze	Zuvab. Jincha roidze	EUWI +	8.5 h
21	Mariam Gordadze	mariam.gordadze @ nfa.gov.ge	NFA	9- 3m/
22	a.	V		
23		P		
24				
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European Environment Agency