

# ICZM / IWRM Albania

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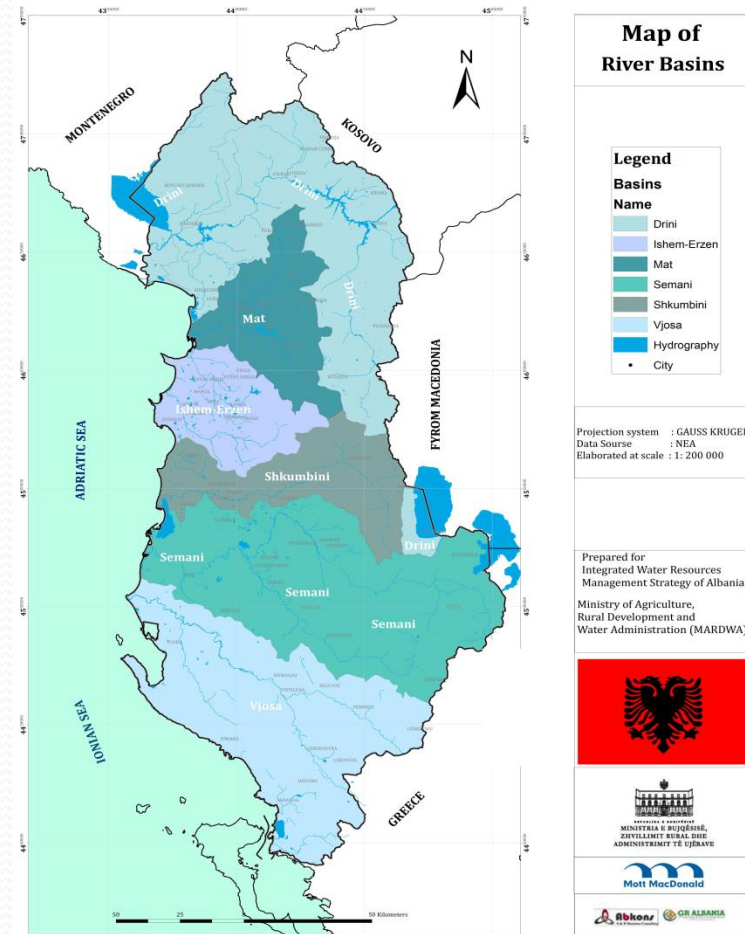
CAPACITY BUILDING/MEDITERRANEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

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# General Information

- Territorial Surface: 28 748 km<sup>2</sup>
- Coastline 427 km
- 7 main rivers
- 3 large lakes + 247 small lakes
- 626 reservoirs for irrigation
- 150 small streams
- Groundwater flow 12.8 billion m<sup>3</sup>/yr
- Total renewable resources 41.7 km<sup>3</sup>
- 6 River Basins (2 transboundary)



# Legal Framework – IWRM

- Law “on integrated water resources management”, amended in February 2018 introduced IWRM principles for the first time
- Law on “protection of transboundary lakes”
- Law on “protection of marine waters from pollution and deterioration”
  
- National Strategy on integrated water resources management adopted in 2018
- 3 river basin management plans prepared.
- National water cadaster established (*to start a new project on making it fully operational*)

# Legal Framework – IWRM

- Albania is Party to several international conventions:
- Convention on “protection and use of transboundary waters and international lakes” – Helsinki, 1992
- Barcelona Convention on “Protection of Mediterranean Sea from pollution”, and its Protocols
- Ramsar Convention, on biodiversity and wetlands
- ESPOO Convention on “environmental impact assessment

# Transboundary cooperation with Montenegro

- Bilateral Agreements with Montenegro on shared water resources management
- Bilateral Agreements on lake management
- Multilateral Agreement for transboundary Drin river management
- Memorandum of Understanding for environmental issues and flood protection management

# Institutional Framework

- National Water Council, chaired by Prime Minister
- Water Resources Management Agency (recently established)
- Ministry of Tourism and Environment
- Ministry of Transport and Energy
- Ministry of Health and Social Protection
- Institutes, Water Regulator, Administration Offices for River Basins (6), River Basins Councils (6), National Environmental Agency, Inspectorate for environment, forest and water, ect.

# Buna river

- Buna river is declared “Protected territorial / aquatic landscape area”, DCM nr. 682 dated 2.11.2005
- Source is from the Skadar Lake and its delta is at the sea
- The river length is 44 km
- South to its delta is created the lagoon of Vilun, with a surface of 1,6 km<sup>2</sup>
- Multiyearly average flow at the discharge to Skadar lake is 320 m<sup>3</sup>/sek, at the junction with Drin river is 680 m<sup>3</sup>/sek, being the third lake in the east Mediterranean.



# Buna river

- Weak transport of sediments
- Weak erosive capacity
- Complex system of wetlands (Lake Shkoder, Velipoja Reserve, Domni marshes, and Veluni Lagoon) has been identified as one of the 24 transboundary wetland sites of international importance known as “Ecological Bricks Sites”

# Projects

- DrinCorda
- Project on Dinarik natural arc,
- Diktas Project (expected to start phase II)
- CSBL Project (on three lakes), started Phase II
- GiZ Regional Project on Biodiversity
- IPA II Project transboundary on tourism development
- GiZ Project on climate change adaptation transboundary
- Ecosystem based approach Project
- IPA Floods Project
- IPA II Project transboundary on Hydrological modeling of lake Skadar and Buna river
- IPA II Project on integrated planning at Skadar lake
- **an integrated ICZM and IWRM plan at transboundary level will be the outcome of the cooperation between PAP/RAC, GWP-Med and UNESCO for the implementation of a pilot activity in the framework of the GEF supported MedPartnership Project.**



Thank you!