CONFERENCE OF THE WATER DIRECTORS OF THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN AND SOUTHEASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

WATER ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM IN ALBANIA **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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Hellenic Government Ministry for the Environment Ministry of Foreign Affairs



EU Commission DG Environment DG AidCo



Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative **European Commission**



Euro-Mediterranean **Partnership**



Euro-Mediterranean Information System on Know-How in the Water Sector



Regional Monitoring and **Support Unit** MEDA-Water Programme

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Country profile

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	Area
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- Population
- Hydrographic network
- Coastal area
- Average altitude
- Mountains area
- Coastline length
- Coastal population

28.748 km²

about 3.7 million in 2005

43.305 km²

7.000 km², 25% of the

national territory

786 meters

60 % of the territory

476 km 70% sandy, 30% rocky

about 2 million (54 %)

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B1 Drin-Buna basin, Shkodra:

- 285 km long,
- surf. 19.582 km2,
- annual water volume (in million m³) 21.190

B2 Mati basin, Lezhë:

- 144 km length
- Surf. 2441 km2
- annual water volume (in million m³) 3.250

> B3 Ishem-Erzen basin, Tirana:

- 108 km length
- Surf. 1439 km2
- annual water volume (in million m³) 660

B4 Shkumbini basin, Elbasani:

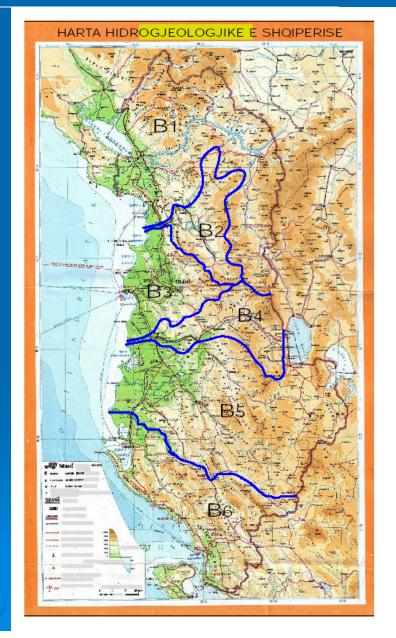
- 181 km length
- Surf. 2445 km2
- annual water volume (in million m³) 1.900

B5 Seman basin, Fieri:

- 638 km length
- Surf. 11252 km2
- annual water volume (in million m³) 2.700

B6 Vjosa basin, Vlora:

- 262 km length
- Surf. 6706 km2
- annual water volume (in million m³) 5.550



Legal and institutional aspects of the water administration system

- Law No. 8093, dated 21.3.1996 "ON WATER SOURCES"
 - The National Council of Water (NCW) is the central decision organ for the management of water resources. The Prime Minister chairs the National Council of Water;
 - Technical secretariat is an executive organ of the National Council of Water, which is established by decision of the Council of Ministers;
 - Councils of Water Basins (CWB) are local authorities responsible for management of water reserves in the respective basins;
 - Inter-ministerial Commission for the transboundary water established by the decision of the Council of Ministers.

Government institutions for each water basin

- For each basin an Agency of Water Basin have been established with decision of National Water Council, and in place from 2002 with three people in charge.
- Other Ministries in charge of water management
 - Sewage water and pipelines Ministry of Public Work, Transportation and Telecommunication (MPWTT)
 - Drinking water MPWTT and Ministry of Health;
 - Agriculture water including reservoirs Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection
 - Water for energy (mostly artificial lakes) Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy

The actual challenges regarding water issues

- Improvement of the legal aspects;
- 2. Efficiency of the National Water Council;
- Strengthening of the role of the Water Secretariat and CWB from their establishment, including their membership;
- 4. Reduction and control the river basin extraction of gravels;
- 5. Prevention of illegal and without control of underground water;
- Collaboration with other interested institutions (scientific, services, Ministry, etc);
- Re-establishment of the transboundary commissions and signature of joint agreement in cooperation with the neighboring countries.

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Financial resources in water

- Limited budget from the government (for the moment only the salaries and running cost of the Agencies);
- Some income from the gravel extraction in the river basin and water use (bottling, technological use, etc);
- Government contribution for the existing water monitoring, about 50.000 USD
- Project on the wetlands and transboundary lakes:
 - The conservation of costal and lagoon ecosystems in the Mediterranean Region MedWet Coast, 2 million USD
 - Integrated water and ecosystem management, 22 million USD
 - Lake Prespa, about 4 million USD 1.03 Albania
 - Lake Shkodra, expected to be 4 million USD
- World Bank project on water management (agriculture) with about 40 million USD, where 1,3 million will be managed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration for the institutional strengthening and water monitoring system in the country.

Future plans

- Start the implementation process of the European Water Directive.
 - The work coordination between different institutions involved in water management;
 - The establishment of the monitoring network in the hydrological system of the country;
 - The inventory of the water sources in the country.
 - The sewage water system;
 - The normal function of the permition and tariffs for water use in the country;
 - The limitation of river basin gravel extraction and orient the business into the mountain quires.

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