ReforMeter

Water Resource Management Reform Assessment Report

January 2024

The USAID Economic Governance Program Grant Activity: Support to the Reform Progress Tracking System – ReforMeter

Contents

ABOUT THE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REFORM

The Law of Georgia on Water Resource Management (the Law), passed by the Parliament in its third reading on June 30, 2023, outlines the principles of basin management according to which the country will be divided into seven river basins[1], and corresponding basin management plans will be created.

As part of the water resource management reform, the expansion of the water resources monitoring network and the implementation of comprehensive measures to safeguard water resources from pollution are considered. The reform focuses on enhancing water quality and preventing water body pollution. It aims to promote the rational utilization of water resources and ensure fair distribution among various users. To promote sustainable water use, the law introduces licensing and fees for the use of surface water. Furthermore, the reform seeks to increase access to clean drinking water and improved sanitary conditions for the population.

The implementation of these initiatives will be carried out in phases, with the entire reform expected to be completed by 2030.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA) takes a leading role in implementing the reform. Other key institutions involved include the Parliament of Georgia, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Labour, Health, and Social Protection of Georgia, Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia, Minister of Justice of Georgia, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission of Georgia, municipalities, and the authorities of the autonomous republics of Georgia.

REFORMETER METHODOLOGY

Under the ReforMeter project, reform assessment is conducted through three distinct tools:

1. The government survey evaluates, through a qualitative survey, the activities of the government agencies introducing the reform in the process of reform implementation along four primary domains: legislative framework; infrastructure and budget; institutional setup, and capacity development. The survey measures government's distance from the stated reform objectives on a scale from 0% to 100%.

2. As part of the stakeholder survey, the stakeholders of the reform are evaluating the four main dimensions: reform content and adequacy; current performance; reform progress; and expected outcomes. Each component is evaluated on a 10-score scale (see Annex 1 for the stakeholder questionnaire).

3. Reform-specific indicators, used as a proxy for reform effectiveness, are designed to track the reform progress.

The assessment of the water resource management reform contains the aforementioned three

[1] Alazani-Iori, Chorokhi-Adjaristskali, Khrami-Debeda, Mtkvari, Rioni, Enguri, and Bzifi-Kodori.

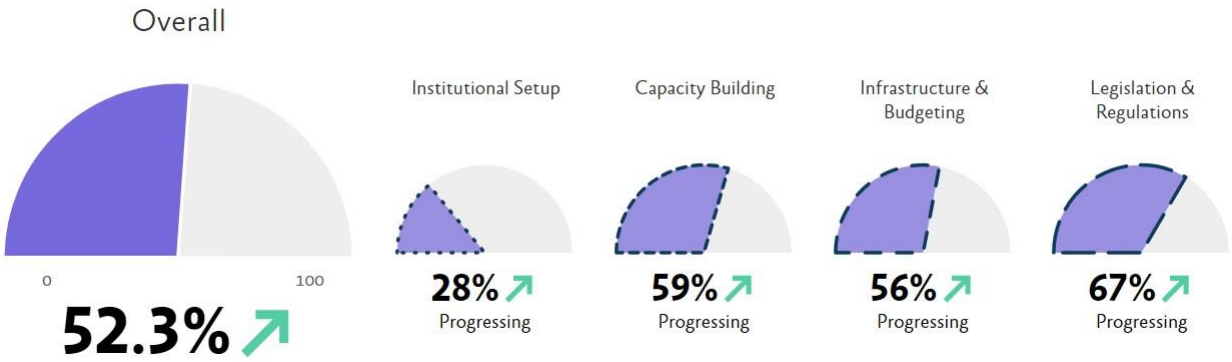
dimensions. The second public-private dialogue to assess the progress of the water resource management reform, was conducted on January 31, 2024.

GOVERNMENT SURVEY RESULTS

The diagram below illustrates the results of the government survey as of January 31, 2024, according to which 52.3% of the planned activities under the reform have been completed (Figure 1).

The highest level of performance was observed in activities planned under the legislative and regulatory framework (67%), followed by capacity building activities (at 59%) and infrastructure and budget dimension (56%). Reform activities related to institutional arrangements are 28% complete. It is worth highlighting that progress has been made in all components of the evaluation compared to the previous government survey results as of June 28, 2023.

Figure 1. Government survey results[2]



The following tables present the activities planned under the water resource management reform and their performance status according to each evaluation dimension.

In terms of the legal framework, a significant development is the adoption of the Law "On Water Resource Management" by the Georgian Parliament on June 30, 2023, during the third reading. It is important to note that the first assessment of the reform was conducted before the adoption of the new law on June 28, 2023, when the draft law had only passed the second hearing in the Parliament.

According to table 1, out of the 15 normative acts that need to be developed, two have already been adopted. Furthermore, six normative acts have been drafted and are pending approval. In addition, there are two normative acts that require updating, while work on five normative acts is undergoing. Among these, recommendations on the technical regulation of "Conditions for the discharge of urban and industrial wastewater into surface water bodies" have already been outlined. Additionally, preliminary negotiations have been initiated between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia and the EU4Envrironment program regarding the normative act "On the approval of the rules and conditions for issuing special water use permits for surface water bodies". Based on information from the Ministry representative, work is scheduled to commence in 2024 under the EU program "Better water quality for citizens, health, and environment" on the rule of

[2] The four dimensions of reform progress assessment were assigned appropriate weights, considering the number and complexity of activities considered under each dimension. Weights were distributed as follows: legal framework - 40%; Institutional setup- 30%; infrastructure and budget - 20%; Capacity Development - 10%.

"Establishing the sanitary protection zone of drinking water supply facilities and carrying out activities within it". The National Environmental Agency is currently engaged in developing the legal act "On the assessment of areas at risk of potential floods".

As per the law, the government is mandated to ensure the adoption of the mentioned normative acts by September 1, 2026. Notably, starting from September 1, 2027, the fee for a surface water abstraction will be established.

Table 1: Legal framework: 15 normative acts and their adoption status.

Adopted	A draft has been developed	Needs to be updated	Planned
• Rule for the state accounting of water use; • Technical regulation on the conditions of discharge of wastewater into the sewerage system.	• Rules for identifying water bodies and establishing their borders; • Normative act on approving the borders of river basins/basin areas. • Procedure for development, review and approval of River Basin Management Plans; • Normative act on establishment of the River Basin Management Consultancy Councils; • Rules for planning and implementation of the monitoring of water resources; • Rules for registration of wells intended for obtaining underground fresh drinking water.	• Technical regulation about the water protection zone; • Resolution on approval of surface water quality standards.	• Act on approval of the procedure and conditions for issuing a permit for for water use from surface water bodies; • Technical regulation of the conditions of discharge of urban and industrial wastewater into surface water bodies; • Rules for establishing the sanitary protection zone of water bodies as source of drinking water; • Technical regulation on the quality of water intended for human consumption; • Act on assessment of areas at risk of potential floods.

The reform considers institutional arrangements for river basin management under the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture. The goal is to establish specialized units at the river basin level and form River Basin Management Consultancy Councils by September 1, 2026 (refer to Table 2 below). The development of river basin management plans is currently in progress. Among the seven basin areas (Alazani-Iori, Chorokhi-Adjaristskal, Khrami-Debeda, Mtkvari, Rioni, Enguri, and Bziphi-Kodori), three basin management plans have been prepared (Alazani-Iori, Chorokhi-Adjaristskali, and Khrami-Debeda), albeit requiring updates. Moreover, initial versions of two basin management plans (Rion and Enguri) have been drafted, with discussions already conducted among stakeholders in Tskaltubo and Zugdidi. Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus is actively engaged in refining these plans based on feedback received. The project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2024, at which point the river basin management plans will be shared for public comments. Regarding the Mtkvari river basin management plan, the Ministry has reached a preliminary agreement with the French Development Agency for project financing, scheduled to commence in 2024.

Compared to the previous assessment of the reform, regarding institutional arrangements, one notable advancement is the identification of zones polluted by nitrates or at risk of pollution in

underground and surface waters, along with the determination of zones vulnerable to nitrates. Recommendations have been provided regarding the placement of additional monitoring stations in this context.

Furthermore, methodologies for calculating the environmental cost and classifying the ecological status and ecological potential of water bodies have been developed, awaiting approval. The former methodology document has recently been revised and, before approval, it may be circulated to other ministries for consultation.

As for the planned activities, the creation of advisory-coordinating councils for basin management and specialized units at the river basin level within the Ministry is scheduled for 2026 according to the new law. The Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia aims to arrange the institutional setup by 2025 already, however, donor assistance is needed. The Ministry is preparing a proposal for a twinning project to secure appropriate technical assistance for establishing the system.

Regarding the identification of sensitive areas and agglomerations at risk of being affected by urban wastewater, the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture has already commenced work on this matter in collaboration with the USAID Economic Governance Program, with completion anticipated by 2024**.**

Table 2: Institutional setup: planned activities under the reform and their implementation status.

Implemented	Developed methodologies that require approval	Ongoing	Planned
• Identification of the groundwater and surface water contaminated with nitrates or at risk of contamination and determination of the nitrate-vulnerable zones.	• Methodology for calculating the environmental cost; • Methodology for classification of ecological status and ecological potential of water bodies.	• Development and adoption of the River Basin Management Plans.	• Establishment of advisory-coordinating councils for basin management; • Establishment of specialized units at the river basin level within the Ministry; • development of good agricultural practice rules; • Identifying sensitive areas and agglomerations at risk of being affected by urban wastewater.

Table 3 presented below offers a concise overview of the ongoing initiatives within the reform, which are directed towards enhancing infrastructure development and bolstering competences of relevant stakeholders.

With respects to infrastructure development, the new law stipulates that the Ministry of Regional

Development and Infrastructure of Georgia is tasked with implementing comprehensive measures to enhance the condition of water and sewage systems in urban and rural areas by September 1, 2027. Noteworthy progress has already been achieved through the construction of wastewater treatment facilities in nine locations in the regions[3]. Work is currently underway in Poti and Gudauri, and similar efforts are planned for Kutaisi.

The reform activities also entail expanding the water quality monitoring network and developing a state water use accounting system. In this regard, significant progress has been made as the state accounting system of water use has already been implemented, and the Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture received electronic reports in 2023. However, further refinement of the system is underway at this stage with the support of the EU4Environment program.

As for the expansion of the water quality monitoring network, as of 2022, there are 231 surface water chemical monitoring points operating in the country, a number considered optimal by stakeholders. However, there has been an emphasis on the need for additional biological monitoring.

In the context of strengthening competences, a collaborative effort with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia is underway, focusing on enhancing the expertise and knowledge of diverse stakeholders, including municipalities.

Under the ongoing project " Strengthen awareness and implementation of WRM law requirements in municipalities", as part of the USAID economic governance program, training sessions have been conducted in 62 municipalities to increase awareness about the novelties and regulations introduced by the new law. It's important to note that the implementation of competencies defined by law for municipalities is planned in stages and will be fully executed by January 1, 2030.

Furthermore, with the support of the USAID Economic Governance Program, the Environment and Development is hosting forums in different regions for the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to conduct an information campaign. Forums have already taken place in Batumi and Zugdidi within two basins, and four additional forums are planned.

Table 3: Infrastructure and capacity development: activities under reform.

Current activities	
Infrastructure	**Capacity development**
• Implementation of complex measures to improve the condition of sewerage systems of cities and villages to protect water resources from pollution. • Enhancement of surface and underground water quality through the expansion of the monitoring network. • Improvement of the groundwater quality and quantity monitoring system, both by expending the monitoring network and by installing new equipment on selected wells; • Development of the state accounting system of water use.	• Strengthening the capacity of municipalities. • Strengthening the capacity of regional CSOs. • Strengthening the capacity of the employees of the the National Environment Agency, the National Food Agency, and Department of Environmental Supervision of MEPA.

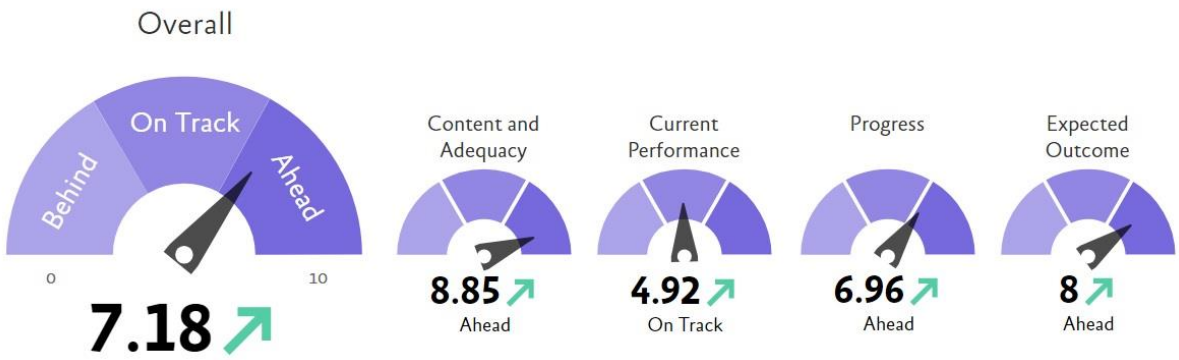
[3] Anaklia, Zugdidi, Ureki, Tskaltubo, Telavi, Adjara, Chakvi, Kobuleti, and Batumi.

STAKEHOLDER ASSESSMENT

On the basis of an anonymous stakeholder survey (excluding the reform implementing state institutions) conducted at the Public-Private Dialogue on water resource management reform, the reform was rated 7.18 out of 10 points, indicating a positive assessment of the reform's progress by participants (Figure 2).

As illustrated below, three assessment dimensions of the reform, Content and Adequacy, Progress, and Expected Outcome were evaluated with strong performance, while the Current Performance was assessed as moderate (4.92). It is noteworthy that all components scored higher compared to the assessment from the previous period, as evaluated by stakeholders.

Figure 2. Results of stakeholder survey on water resource management reform evaluation.



PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE

A public-private dialogue event was held to assess the progress of water resource management reform. The event was attended by various stakeholders, including the Committee of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of the Parliament of Georgia, Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, National Environmental Agency, Georgian National Water Partnership, Georgian Renewable Energy Development Association, Global Environmental Outlook, The EU4Environment Programme, French Development Agency, Global Compact Network Georgia, Operational Researcher Institute, Georgian Farmers' Association, Business Association of Georgia, Georgian Parliamentary Research Center, Policy and Management Consulting Group, Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, and the USAID Economic Governance Program.

After the opening part of the event, the representative of the USAID Economic Governance Program, overviewed the importance of the new law on “Water Resource Management” and discussed the efforts taken by the Program to support the reform development. Subsequently, the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture of Georgia presented key components of the new law, focusing on shifting to the basin management system, introducing licenses and fees for the use of surface water, enhancing water quality monitoring infrastructure, and other initiatives planned under the reform, highlighting Georgia’s commitment to the implementation of EU Directives for the water sector. The representative of the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament

of Georgia, further discussed the approval process of the new law, highlighting the significant interest from public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international donor organizations working on water and other natural resources management issues and their role in the development of the final version of the law. Additionally, the ReforMeter team presented the government survey results and updated dynamics of the reform progress assessment indicators. This section of the report summarizes the opinions expressed at the public-private dialogue event:

- Participants discussed the current state of water quality monitoring. It was mentioned that the current number of monitoring points for surface water is already approaching optimal levels, whereas the number of monitoring points for underground water remains relatively low due to significant cost barriers. Additionally, participants highlighted that tests predominantly focus on chemical pollutants; however, recent efforts have been made to incorporate biological monitoring. Consequently, there is a need to expand both the number of biological tests conducted and the parameters monitored to enhance overall water quality monitoring.
- Attendees also discussed the implementation of licenses and fees for surface water usage, as well as potential strategies for managing the generated revenue. The representative from MEPA clarified that the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is currently working on defining the fee structure. Additionally, decisions regarding the utilization of the collected funds for basin management will need to be coordinated with other governmental bodies, including the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.
- Another key topic of discussion was Georgia's initiatives with the neighbouring counties for transboundary water resources management. These initiatives include joint water quality monitoring tests with Armenia and Azerbaijan; a Protocol of Intent signed with Azerbaijan in 2023; a planned technical agreement with Armenia covering data exchange, joint water quality monitoring, among other aspects; and a recent USAID-funded project on transboundary water resource management.
- Attendees expressed keen interest and willingness to disseminate information more widely about the capacity-building activities conducted in municipalities regarding the water resources management issues under various government- or donor-funded projects. This broader dissemination aims to enhance awareness among stakeholders involved in capacity-building activities about the knowledge of municipality staff potentially responsible for water resources management and the training they have undergone. The goal is to avoid duplication of efforts in capacity building.
- One of the primary concerns raised by event participants centered on water quality, particularly in regions where segments of the population rely on well water or local village/municipal water infrastructure. Due to limited monitoring efforts, some families must bear the cost of laboratory tests themselves, while others may not even realize the necessity of testing. The agriculture sector encounters similar obstacles in water quality assessment and compliance with standards, as farmers must cover expenses for testing and respective treatment of the water. This underscores the importance of government or donor-funded programs aimed at addressing these challenges.
- One of the topics discussed was water loss and its calculation methodology. Discussion warrants further need for examining different methodologies used to measure water losses. For instance, while Geostat's measurement of water losses in the residential sector captures losses during transportation based on the Survey of Water Supply Enterprises, the concept of NRW, widely used in field, encompasses both technical losses—such as loss during transportation - and commercial losses, which result from overconsumption due to faulty household infrastructure and unintentional consumption. As a result, when considering NRW, the overall water loss may turn out to be higher in Georgia.
- The discussion also addressed the structure and responsibilities of river basin management authorities. The representative from MEPA highlighted the diverse approaches adopted by

countries in this regard, emphasizing that the formation of river basin management consultancy councils in Georgia will be customized to local requirements, with guidance and recommendations provided by international partners.

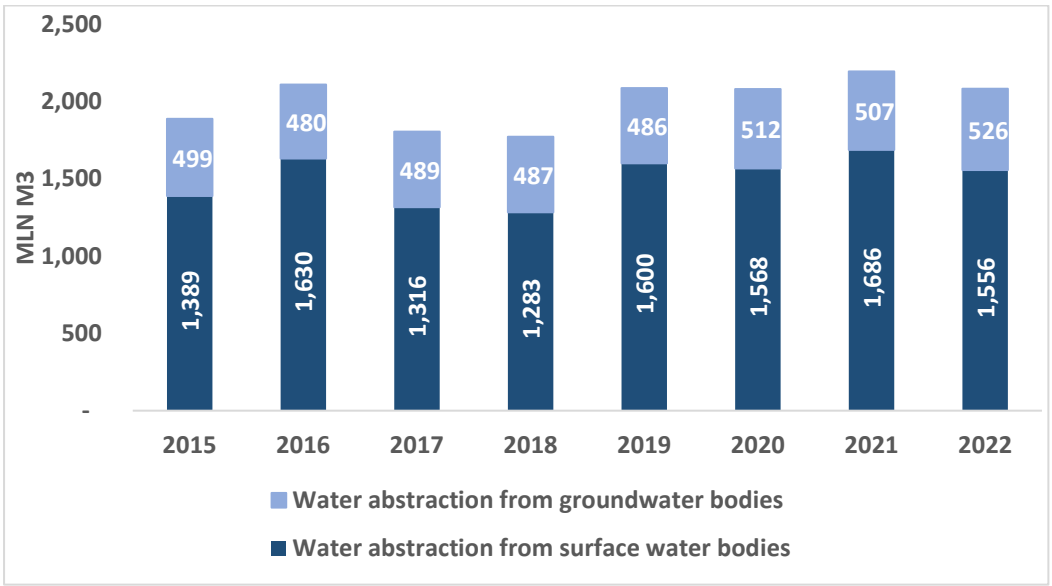
REFORM TRACKING INDICATORS

The ReforMeter research team selected certain indicators to measure progress of the water resource management reform. The section below presents the dynamics of selected indicators over the period of 2015-2022 which directly or indirectly reflect the results of the reform and the current situation in the field.

1.1 WATER ABSTACTION FROM NATURAL WATER BODIES

Water abstraction from natural water bodies indicates the volume of water taken from surface water bodies (rivers, lakes, and seas) and groundwater bodies. This indicator does not include volume of transit water supplied to big channels and volume of water taken by population from wells, natural reservoirs, etc3. As figure 1 shows, the volume of water abstracted from groundwater bodies remain relatively stable over the period of 2015-2022, ranging from 480 million cubic meter to 526 mln m3, while the volume of water abstracted from the surface water bodies fluctuates over time, amounting to 1.6 mln m3 in 2022.

Figure 1. Water abstraction* from natural water bodies (mln m3)



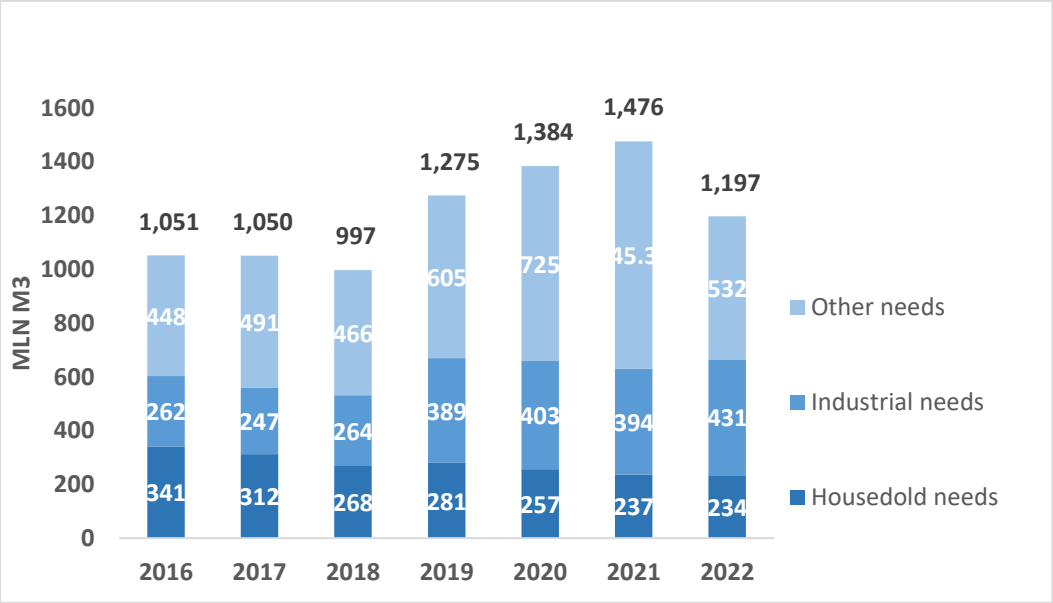
** Water use for hydroelectricity generation purposes is excluded. Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022, 2017)*

1.2 WATER USE

This indicator shows the use of water resources abstracted from different sources (surface, main, ground, sea, etc.) for various needs: drinking and household needs; industrial needs; and for other

needs. Volume of used water presented in figure 2 does not include cycling water supply, wastewater of secondary use as well as wastewater controlling draining waters as figure 2 depicts, the use of water for the industrial needs increased by 64.5% in 2022 as compared to 2016 and amounted to 431mln m3, while the use of water resources for the household needs has been decreasing over time, reaching 234 mln m3 in 2022.

Figure 2. Water Use (mln m3)

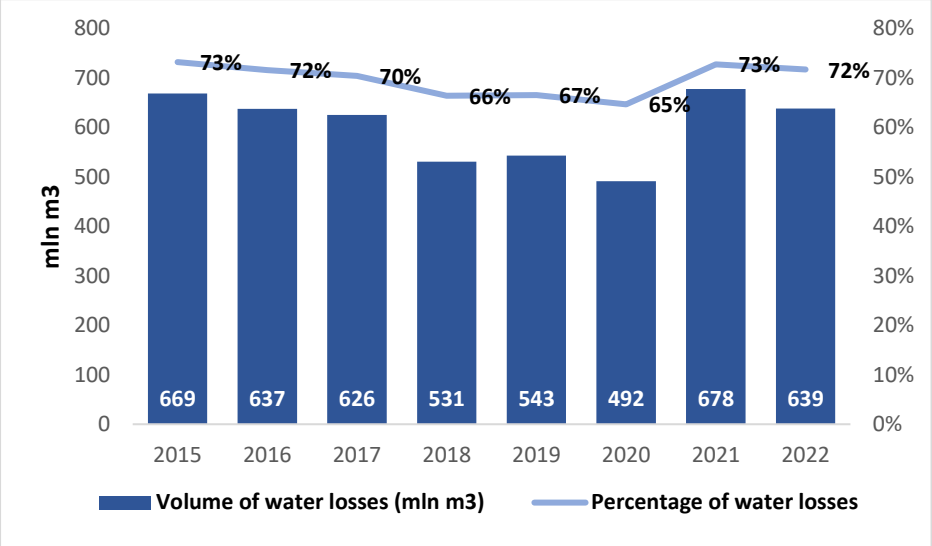


** Water use for hydroelectricity generation purposes is excluded. Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022)*

1.3 WATER LOSSES

Losses of water during transport indicates the volume of water lost from the point of abstraction to the point of its use or transmission due to leakage, evaporation, accidents, water meter inaccuracies, and other factors. As figure 3 shows, the volume of water losses in million cubic meters as well as its percentage share in the gross volume of water supplied by water supply industry have been slightly decreasing until 2020. However, from 2021 to 2022, there was a noticeable increase in losses. As much as 72% (638.6 mln m3) of the water supplied by water supply industry to the customers was lost in 2022.

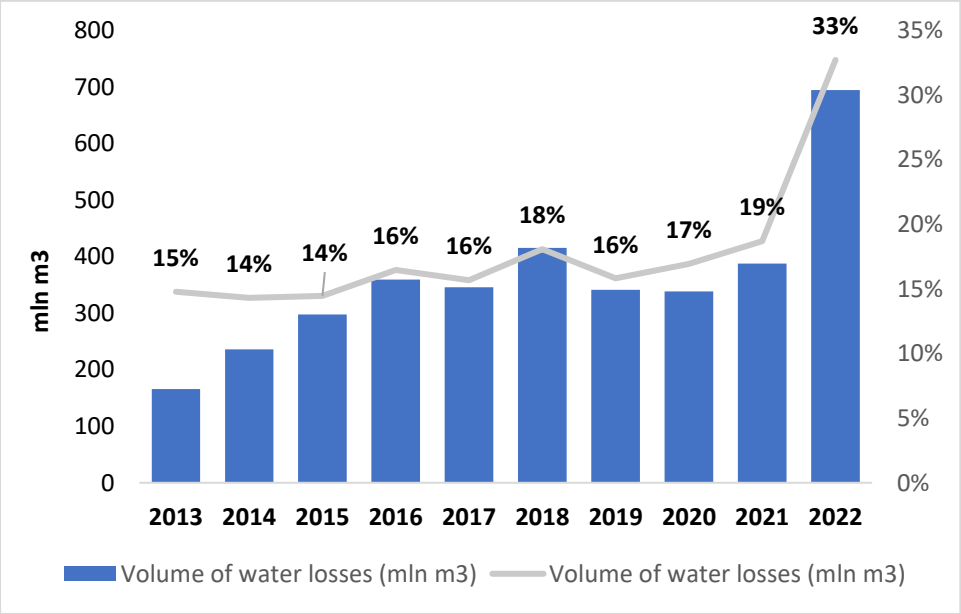
Figure 3. Losses of water during transport



Source: National Statistics Office of Georgia

Figure 4 shows water losses from irrigation systems. Based on the data provided by Georgian Amelioration, as of 2022, the share of losses in the volume of water taken from irrigation systems was 33% (694 million m3).

Figure 4. Water Losses in the Irrigation Systems



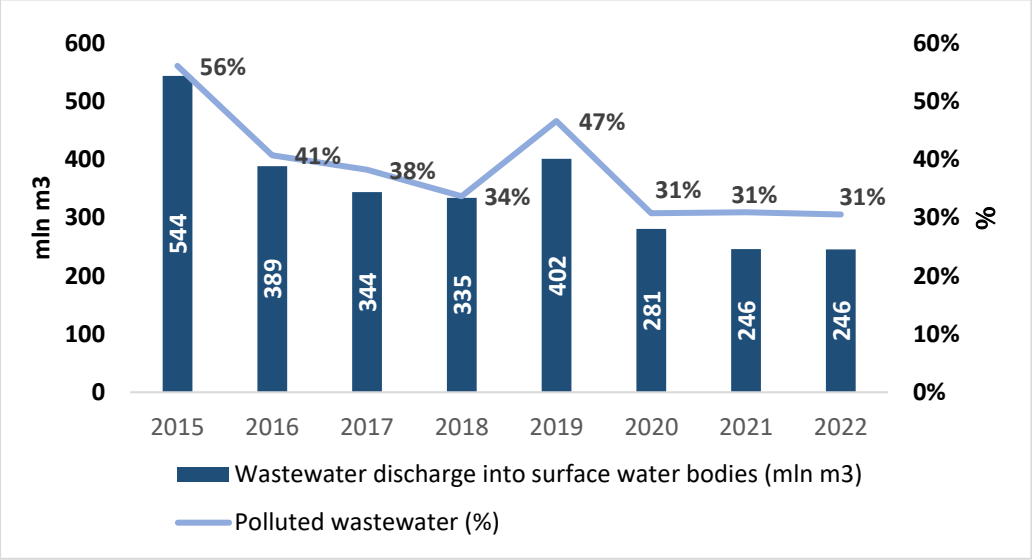
Source: Georgian Amelioration

1.4. WASTEWATER DISCHARGE

Figure 5 displays discharge of wastewater and polluted wastewater (industrial and household wastewater, including mine, fossil and draining waters which contains much more polluting substances

than admissible amount) into surface water bodies. As we can observe, both indicators depict decreasing trend over time (except for 2019). In 2020-2022, polluted wastewater constituted 31% of wastewater discharged into the surface bodies.

Figure 5. Wastewater discharge into surface water bodies

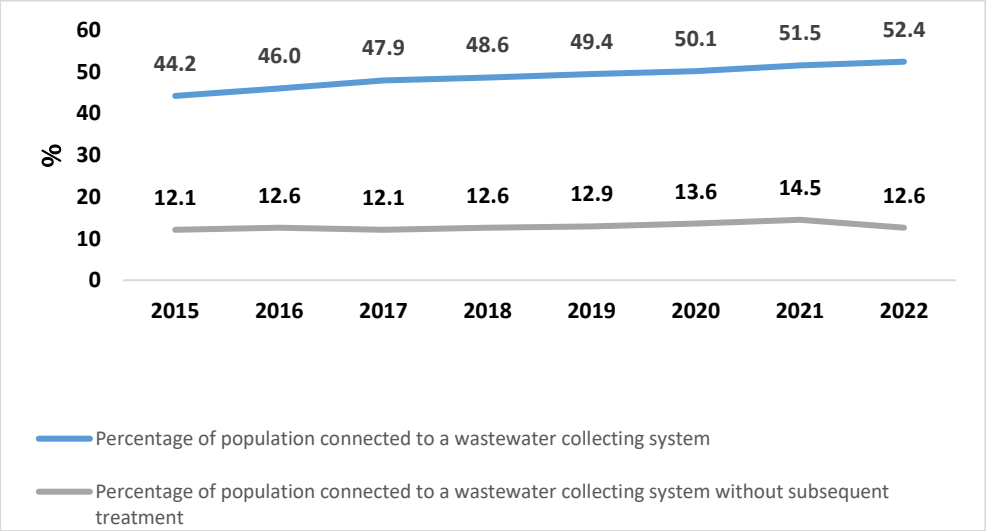


Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022)

1.5. WASTEWATER COLLECTION

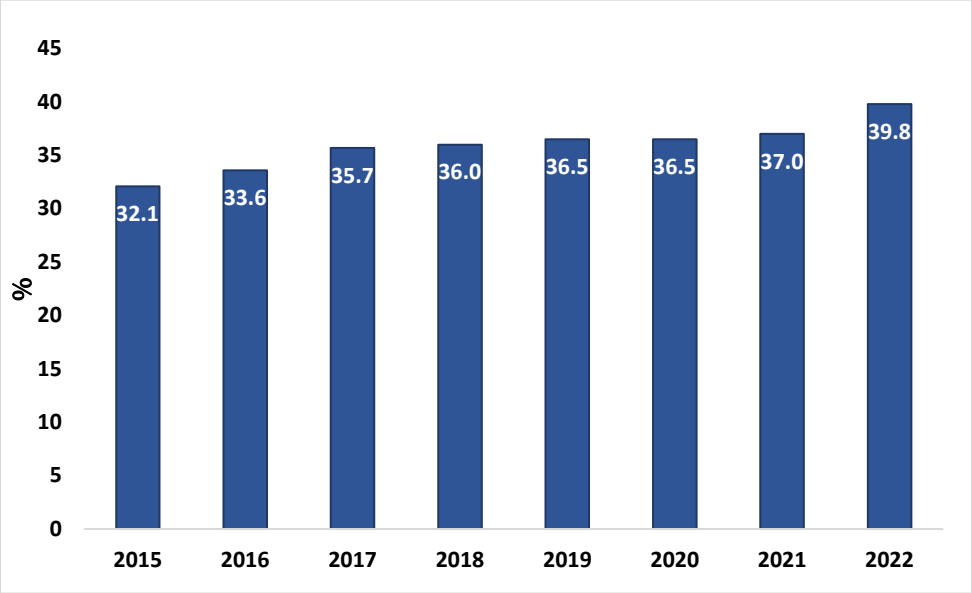
Figure 6 and Figure 7 below show the percentage of population connected to a wastewater collecting system and the percentage of population connected to wastewater treatment facilities, respectively. As Figure 6 depicts, as of 2022, 52.4% of total population was connected to a wastewater collecting system, out of which 12.6% was without subsequent treatment. Figure 7 highlights an increase in the percentage of the population connected to wastewater treatment facilities in 2022 compared to 2021, reaching 39.8% in 2022.

Figure 6. Percentage of population connected to a wastewater collecting system.



Source: National Statistics Office of Georgia.

Figure 7. Percentage of population connected to wastewater treatment facilities.

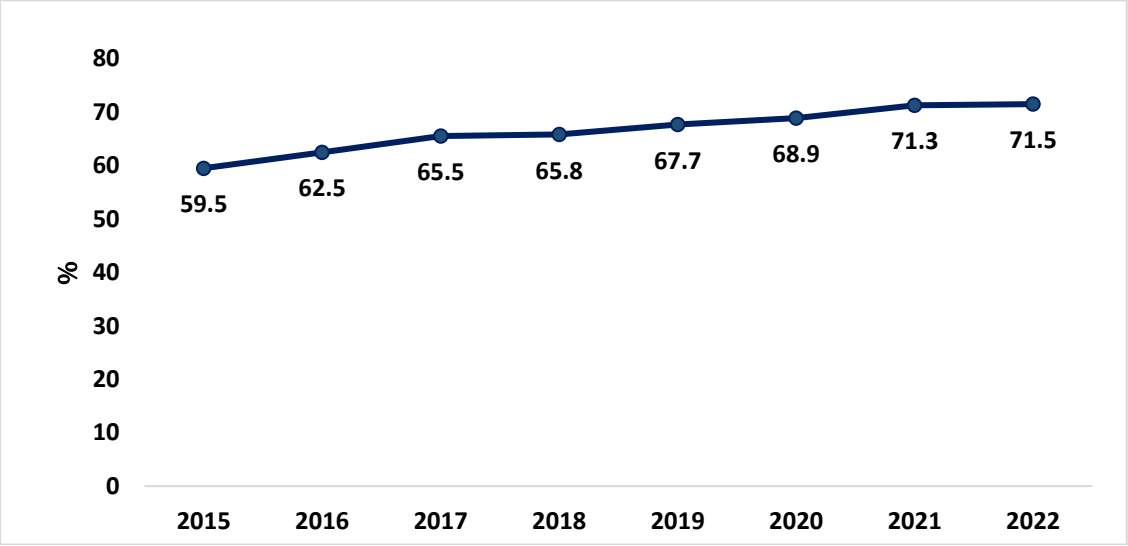


Source: National Statistics Office of Georgia.

1.6. POPULLATION CONNECTED TO WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRY

Figure 8 shows the percentage of population connected to water supply industry over the period of 2015-2022. As it can be observed, the share of population with access to water supply industry gradually increased from 59.5% in 2015 to 71.5% in 2022.

Figure 8. Percentage of population connected to water supply industry.



Source: National Statistics Office of Georgia.

Annex 1. Stakeholder Survey Questionnaire

Content and Adequacy

1. How well do the objectives of water resource management reform align with the sector's challenges?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2. Is the policy-making and legal-drafting process conducted in an inclusive manner that enables the active participation of stakeholders?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Progress

3. How would you assess the current measures implemented within the framework of the water resource management reform?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

4. To what extent do the implemented and planned measures within the framework of the reform contribute to overcoming the limiting factors of water resource management development?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Current Performance

5. How would you evaluate the present state of the water resource management?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Expected Outcomes

6. Will the reform reach its targets?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

7. Does the reform propose efficient measures to reach its targets?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Annex N2. Water Resource Management Reform PPD Event Presentation

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International school of economics at TSU

ReforMeter

Tracking progress – one reform at a time

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Agenda

1. **ReforMeter goal and methodology**

2. **Water resources management reform progress evaluation based on the government survey**

3. **Overview of the reform assessment indicators**

About ReforMeter

- Reformeter aims to track the progress of selected economic reforms, facilitate dialogue among reform stakeholders, and support the implementing agencies in increasing awareness and efficiency of these reforms.
- The first phase of the project: 2015-2019
- The new phase of the project: 2021-2024
- Selected Reforms:
  - Water resources management reform
  - Capital market development reform
  - Insolvency reform
  - E-commerce reform
  - Tourism reform
  - Regulatory impact assessment (RIA) Institutionalization reform
  - Small and medium enterprises development reform

ReforMeter Methodology

1. **Governmental survey:** The responsible governmental institutions evaluate the reform implementation process.

2. **Stakeholder survey:** Reform stakeholders assess the progress of the reform.

3. **Economic indicators:** The ReforMeter project team identifies economic indicators to track the progress and results of the reform.

Objectives of the water resources management reform

- Safeguard and Promote the Sustainable Use of Water Resources
- Improving the Condition of Water Bodies
- Increasing Access to Clean Drinking Water and Improving Sanitary Conditions for the Population
- Ensuring Fair Distribution of Water Resources Among Various Users

საქართველოს პარლამენტი

საქართველოს ეკონომიკისა და მდგრადი განვითარების სამინისტრო
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF GEORGIA

სემეკი

USAID
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Reform Implementation Timeline

Adoption of normative acts related to the new Law and approval of appropriate methodologies regulating the field of water resources management.

Until September 1, 2026

Establishment of the River Basin Management Consultancy Councils; Establishment of specialized units at the level of river basins in the system of the Ministry; Development of a state accounting system of water use.

2026

Introducing fees and licenses for the utilization of surface waters

2027

Implementation of complex measures to improve the condition of sewerage systems in cities and villages.

Until September 1,2027

Implementation of competences defined by law for municipalities

From January 1,2030

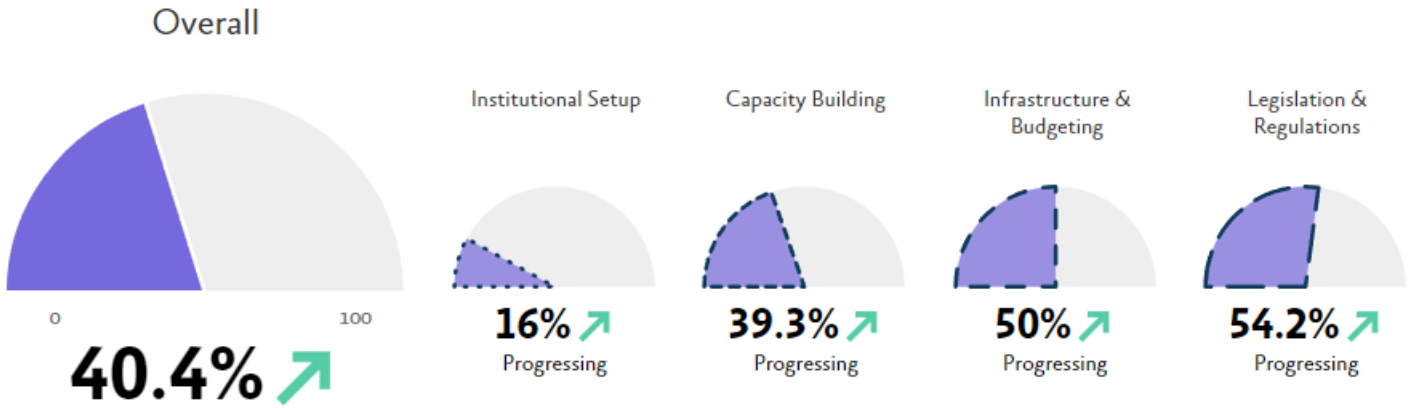
Government Survey

Government Survey
Domains for assessment the progress of the reform

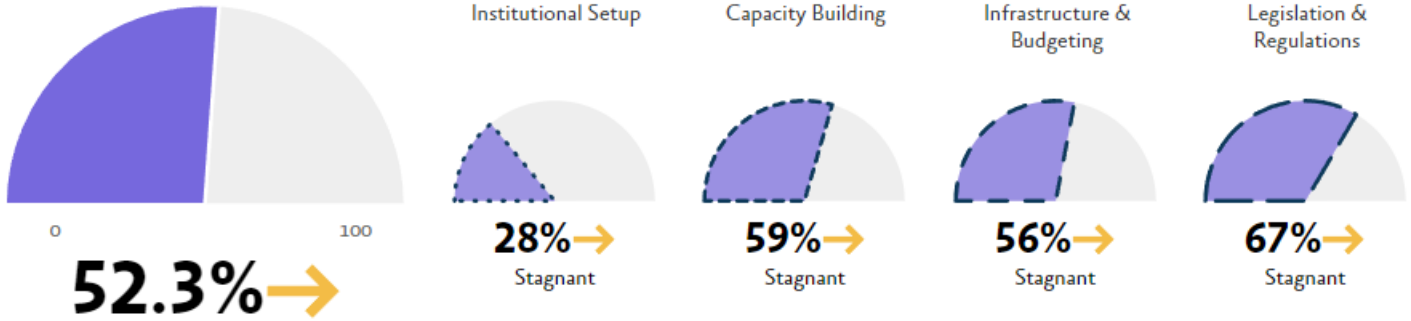
Domains	Weight
Legal framework	40%
Institutional setup	30%
Infrastructure and budget	20%
Capacity development	10%

Reform progress assessment - government survey results

The first round of assessment
28.06.2023



The second round of assessment
31.01.2024



Legal framework

The law on "Water Resources Management" was adopted on July 30, 2023.

15 normative acts and their adoption status:

Implemented

- Rule for the state accounting of water use
- Technical regulation on the conditions of discharge of wastewater into the sewerage system.

A draft has been developed

- Rules for identifying water bodies and establishing their borders
- Normative act on approving the borders of river basins/basin areas
- Procedure for development, review and approval of River Basin Management Plans
- Normative act on establishment of the River Basin Management Consultancy Councils
- Rules for planning and implementation of the monitoring of water resources
- Rules for registration of wells intended for obtaining underground fresh drinking water

Need to be updated

- Technical regulation about the water protection zone
- Resolution on approval of surface water quality standards

Planned

- Act on approval of the procedure and conditions for issuing a permit for water use from surface water bodies
- Technical regulation of the conditions of discharge of urban and industrial wastewater into surface water bodies
- Rules for establishing the sanitary protection zone of water bodies as source of drinking water
- Technical regulation on the quality of water intended for human consumption
- Act on assessment of areas at risk of potential floods

Planned Activities under the Reform

Identification the groundwater contaminated with nitrates or at risk of contamination and determining the nitrate-vulnerable zones.

Methodology for calculating the environmental cost;

Methodology for classification of ecological status and ecological potential of water bodies.

Development and adoption of the River Basin Management Plans.

Establishment of the River Basin Management Consultancy Councils

Establishment of specialized units at the river basin level within the Ministry's framework

Development of good agricultural practice rules

Identifying sensitive areas and agglomerations at risk of being affected by urban wastewater.

Implemented

Developed methodologies that require approval

Ongoing

Planned

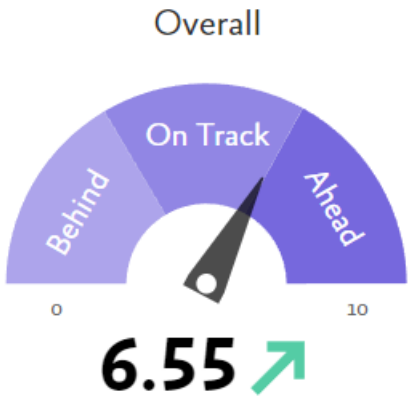
Planned Activities under the Reform

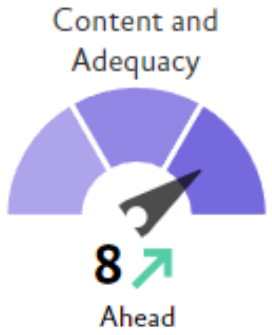
Ongoing activities	Progress/Implementation status
Implementation of complex measures to improve the condition of sewerage systems of cities and villages to protect water resources from pollution.	Wastewater treatment plants have been constructed at 9 locations in different regions. Work is underway in Poti and Gudauri, with plans in place for construction in Kutaisi.
Enhancement of surface and underground water quality through the expansion of the monitoring network	At this stage, there are 230 chemical monitoring points.
Improvement of the groundwater quality and quantity monitoring system, both by expending the monitoring network and by installing new equipment on selected wells	Work is in progress
Development of the state accounting system of water use.	The system is in use, but needs further refinement

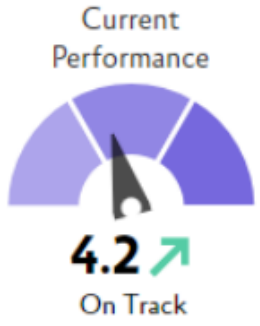
Planned Activities under the Reform

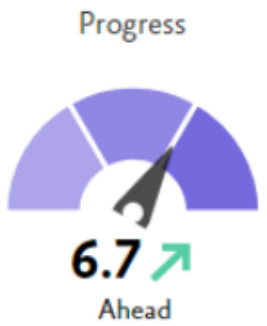
Ongoing activities	Progress/Implementation status
Strengthening the capacity of municipalities	Training sessions on the novelties of the new law were conducted in 62 municipalities. Additionally, MEPA organized training sessions for municipalities on basin management plans. Similar training sessions are scheduled for other basin management plans in the future
Strengthening the capacity of regional CSOs	Information campaigns were conducted through forums within two river basins, namely Batumi and Zugdidi. Plans are in place to hold four more forums in the near future
Strengthening the capacity of the employees of the the National Environment Agency, the National Food Agency, and Department of Environmental Supervision of MEPA.	The activity is 70% complete

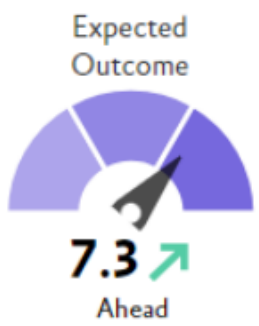
The first round of assessment - Stakeholders' assessment results 28.06.2023





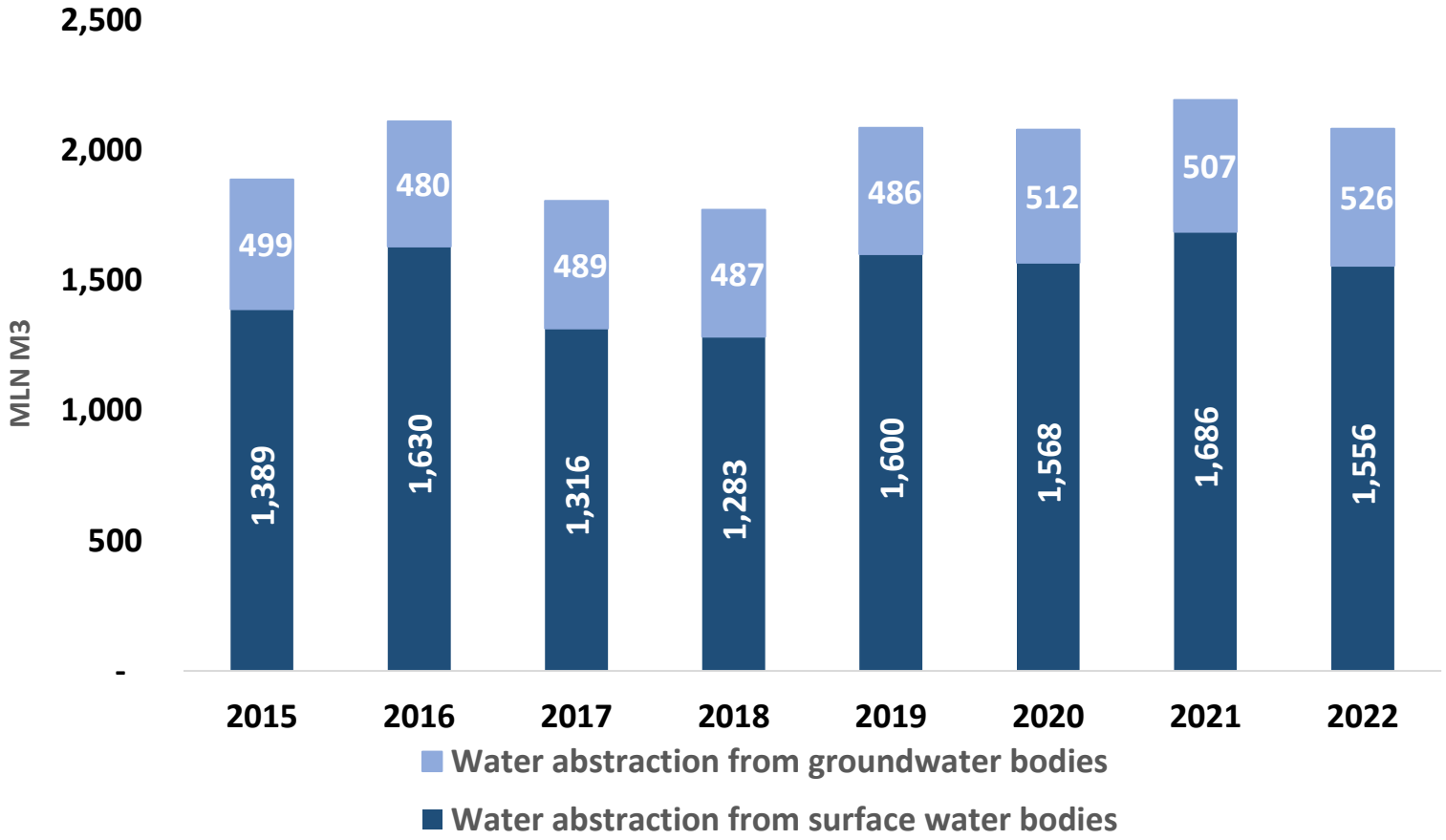






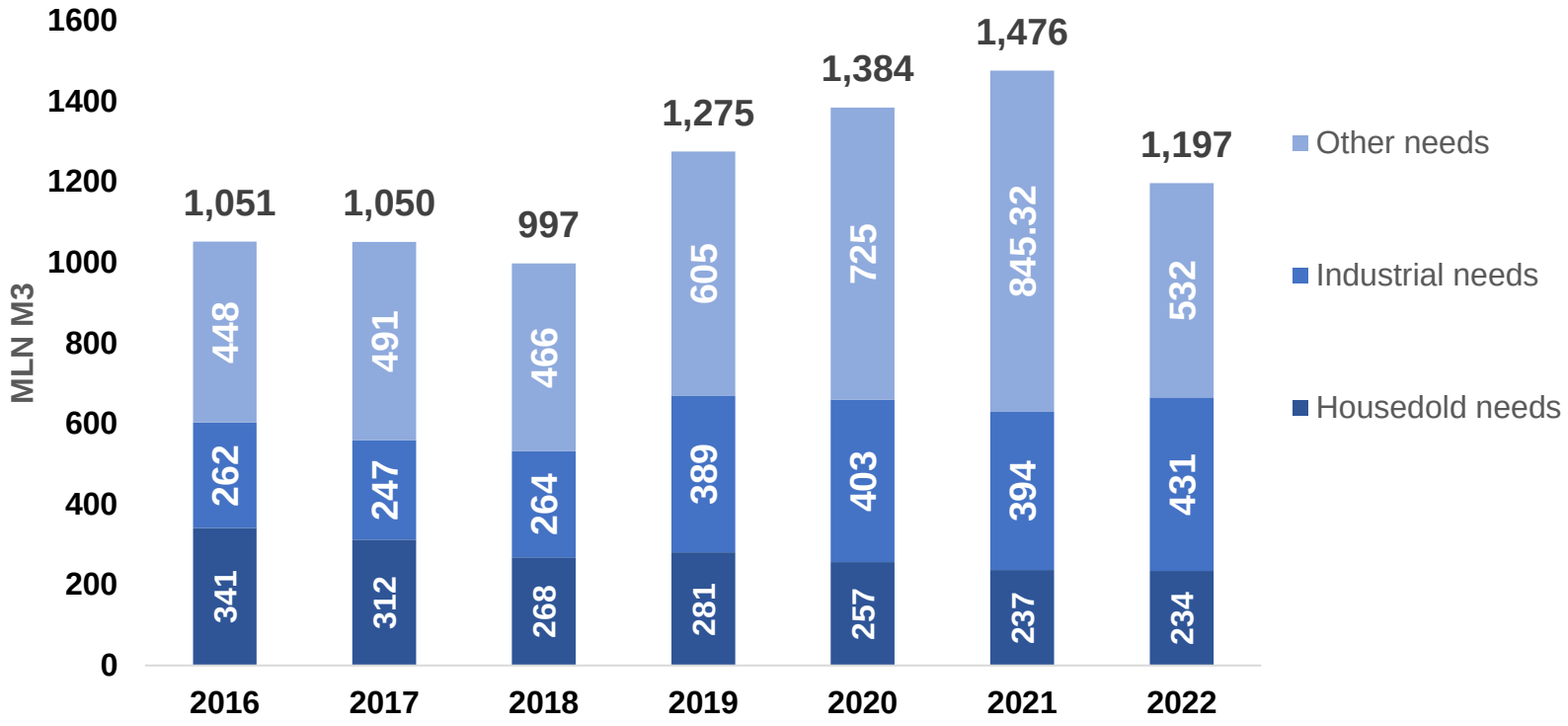
Reform Assessment Indicators

Water Abstraction from Natural Water Bodies



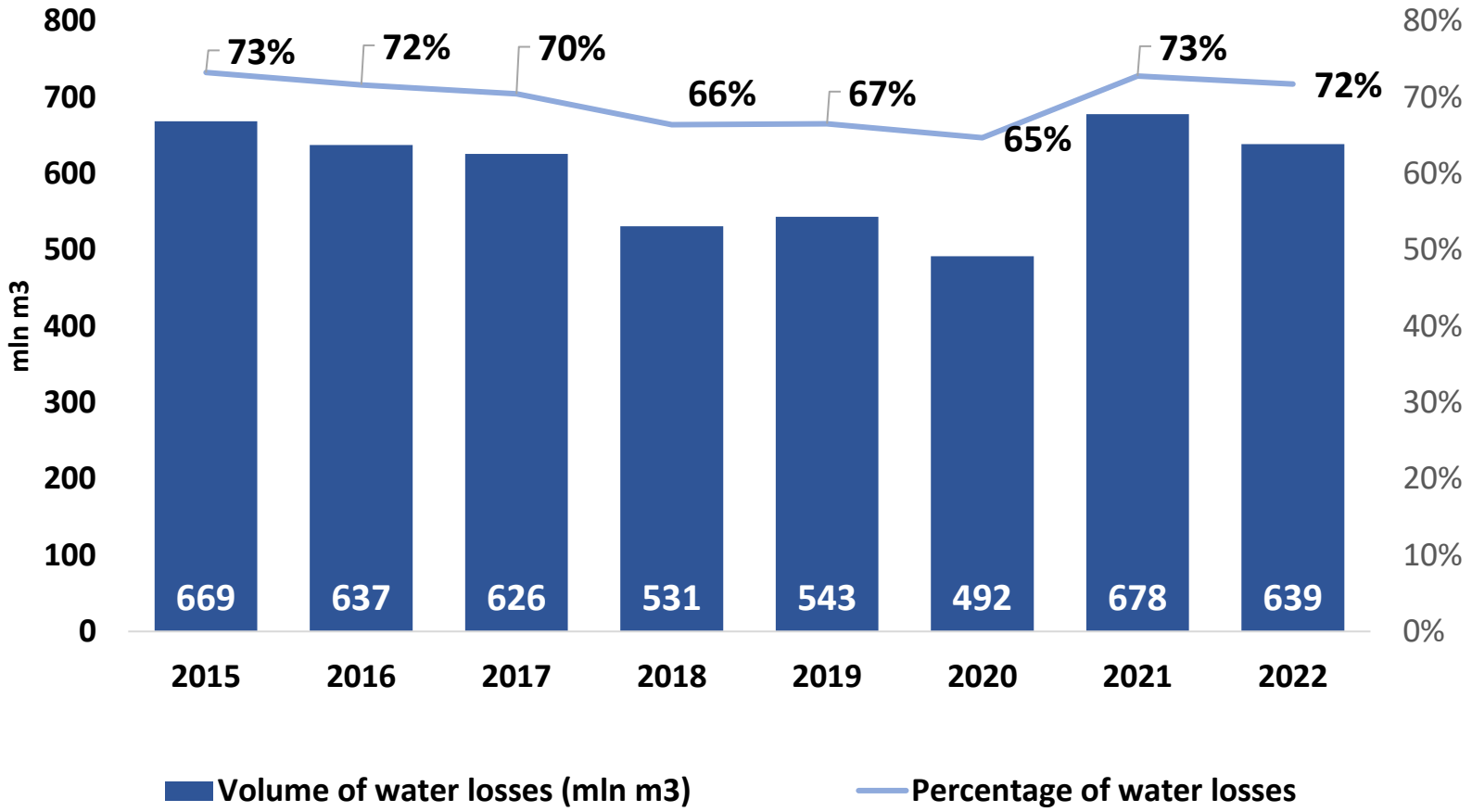
Source: Water use for hydroelectricity generation purposes is excluded. Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022, 2017).

Water Use *



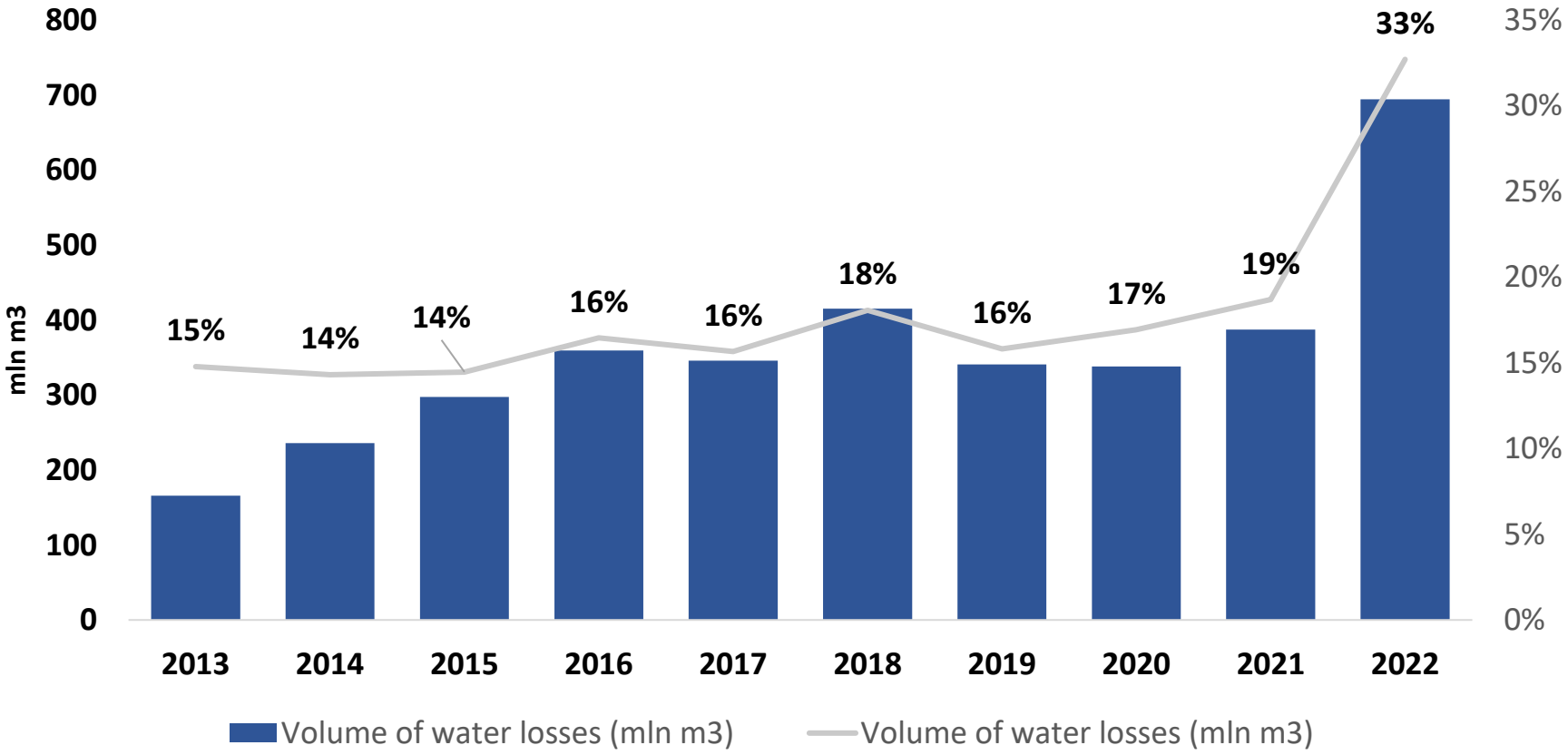
Water use for hydroelectricity generation purposes is excluded.
Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022)

Losses of water during transport



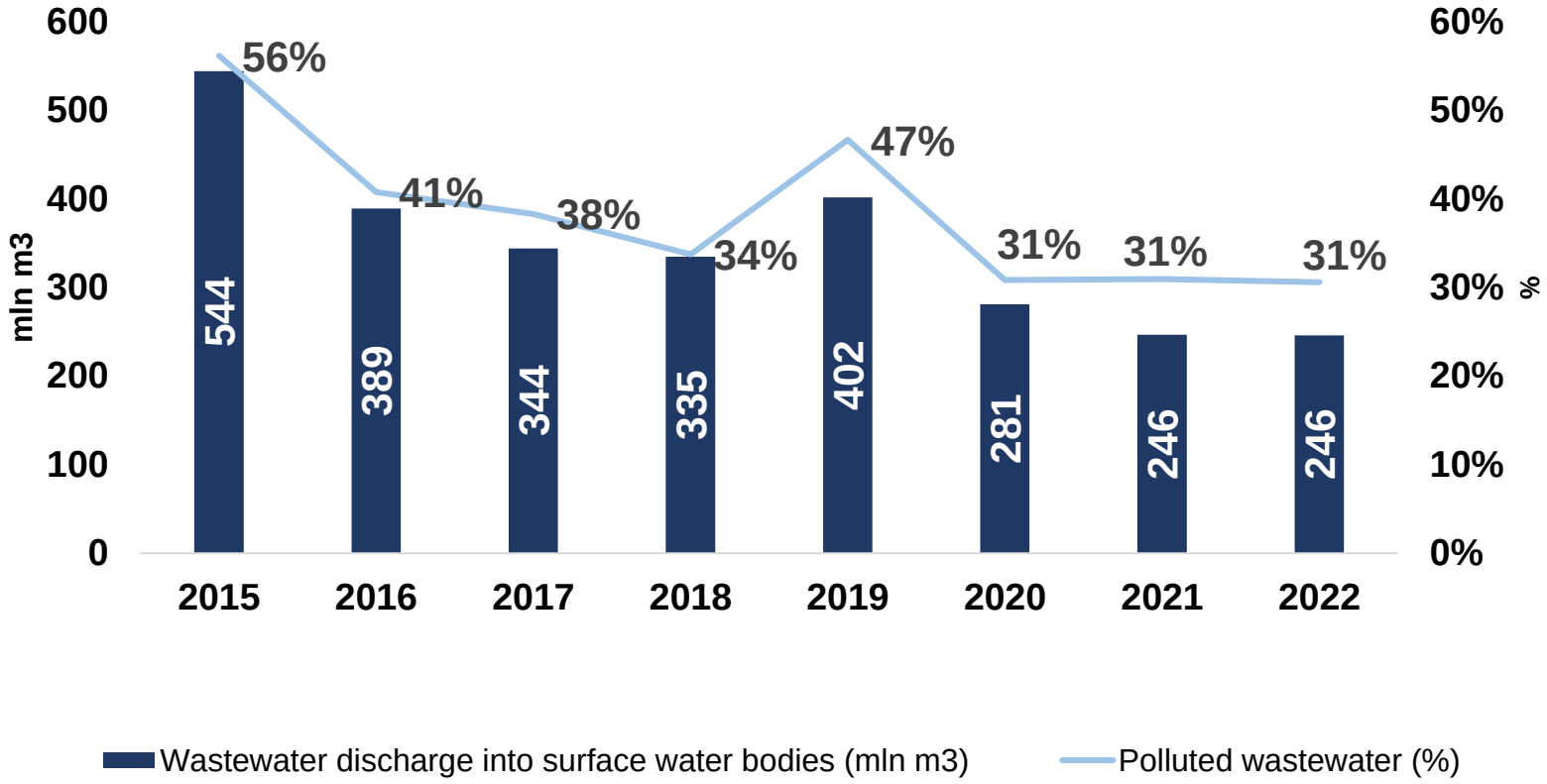
Source: Geostat

Water Losses in the Irrigation Systems



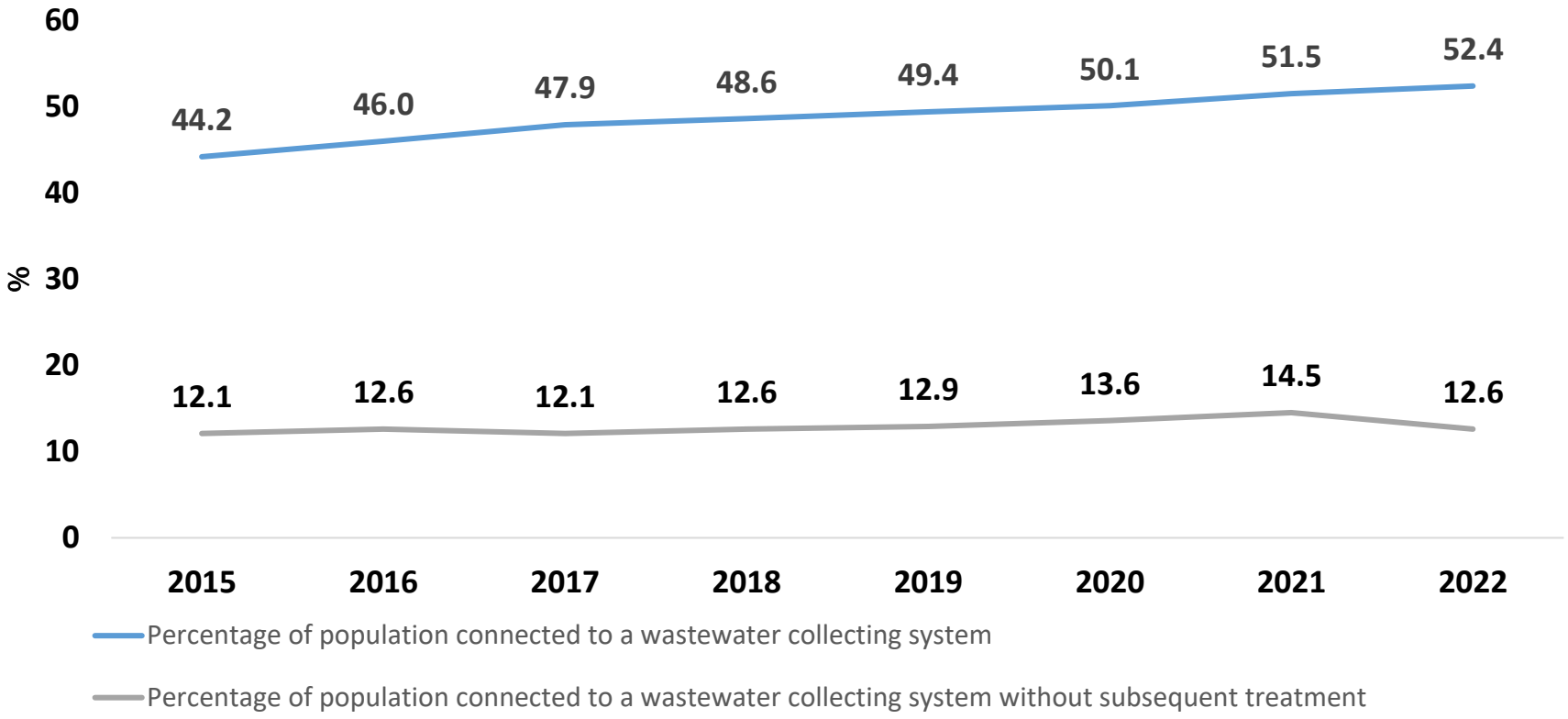
Source: Georgian Amelioration

Wastewater discharge into surface water bodies



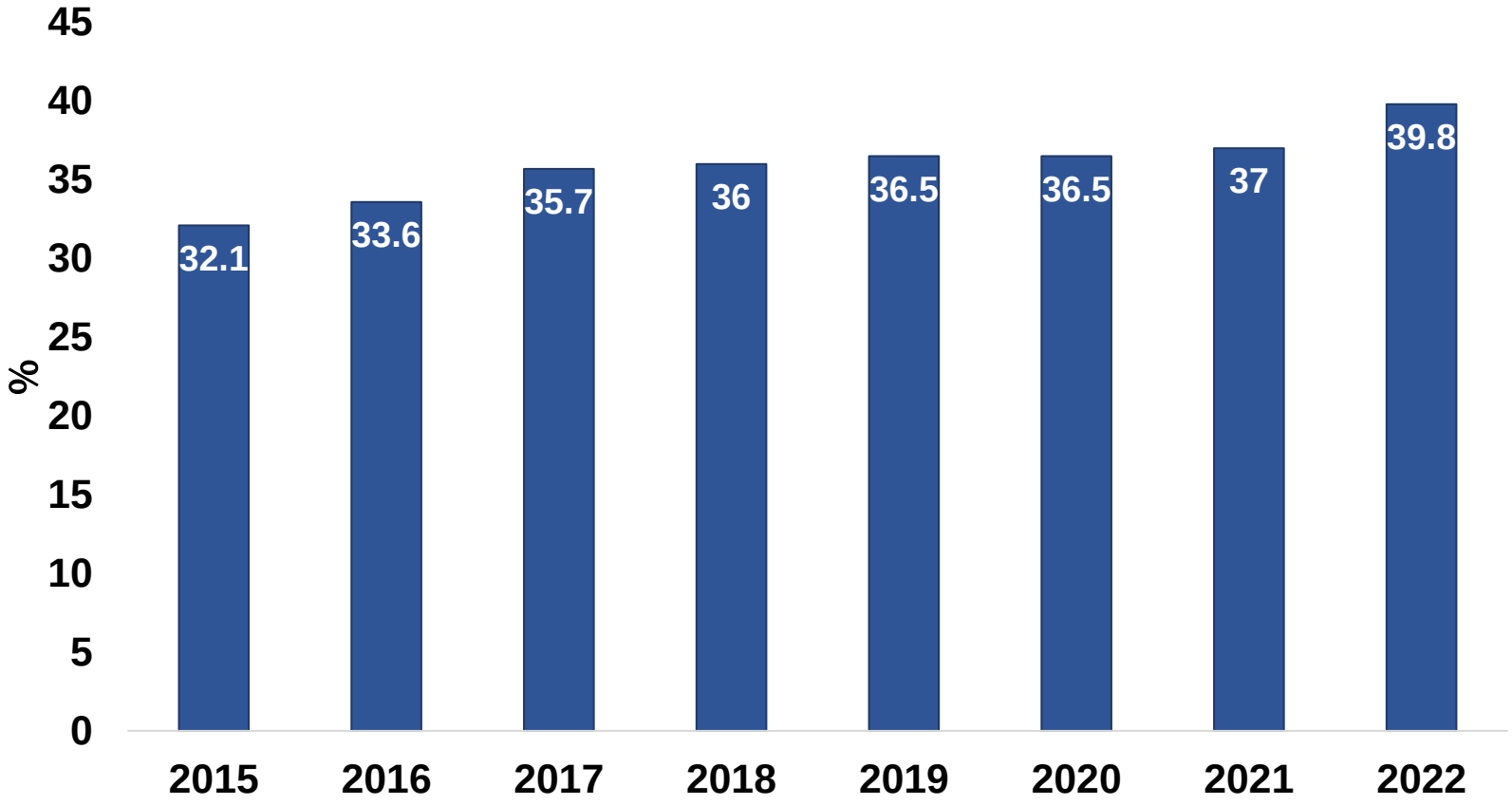
Source: Natural Resource of Georgia and Environmental Protection. Geostat's Statistical Publication (2022)

Percentage of population connected to a wastewater collecting system



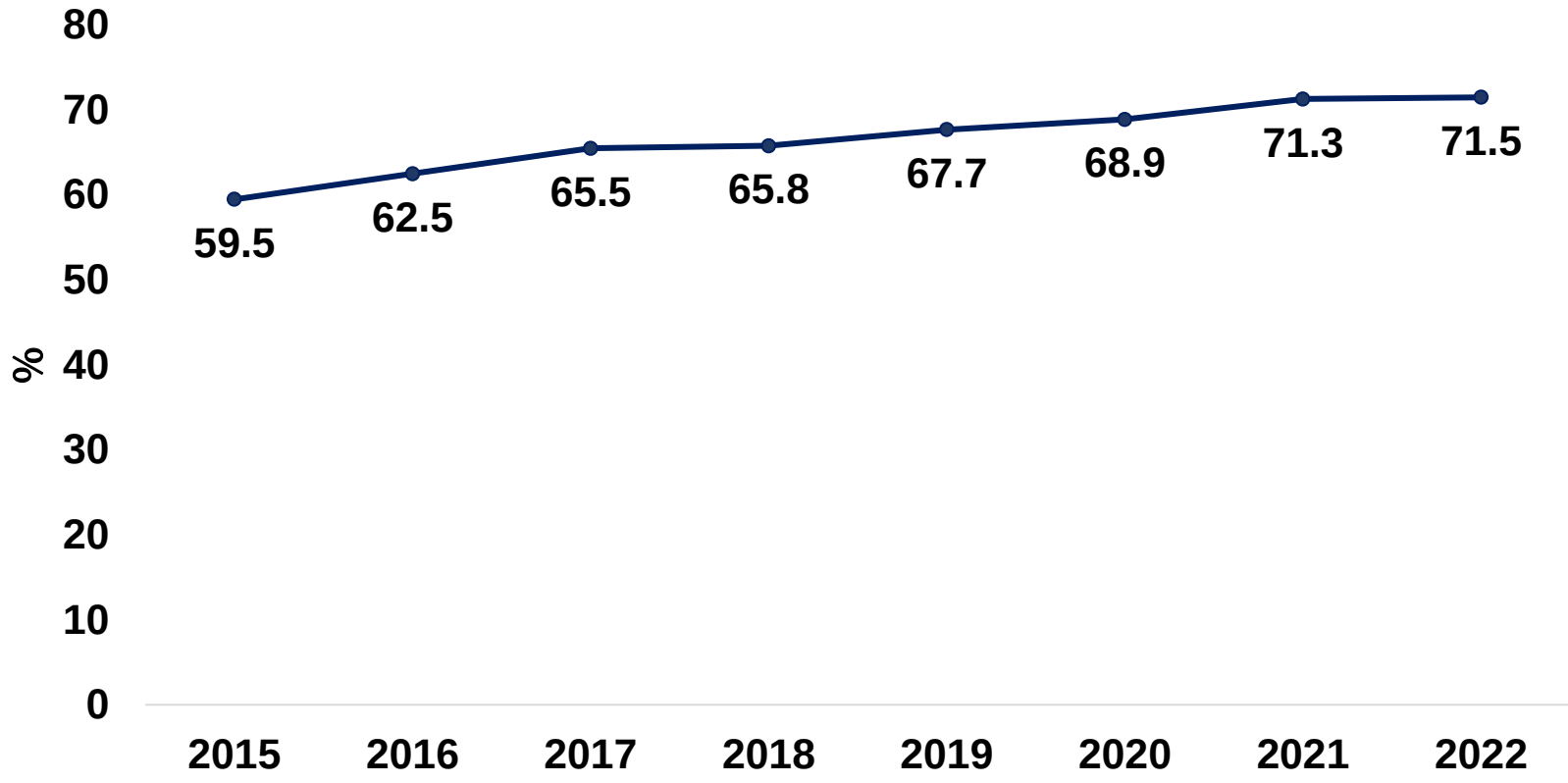
Source: Geostat

Percentage of population connected to wastewater treatment facilities

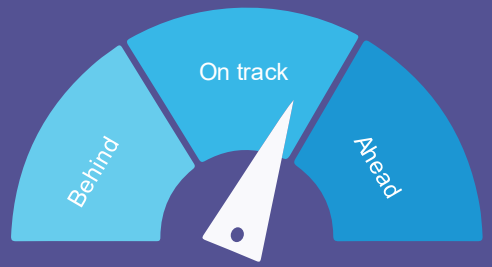


Source: Geostat

Percentage of population connected to water supply industry.



Source: Geostat



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Tracking progress – one reform at a time

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„წყლის რესურსების მართვის შესახებ“ საქართველოს კანონის შესრულების პროგრესი

საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

მარიამ მაკაროვა
გარემოსა და კლიმატის ცვლილების დეპარტამენტი, წყლის სამმართველო
თბილისი 31/01/2024

წყლის რესურსების დაგეგმვისა და მართვის მექანიზმი მდინარეთა აუზების/საარუზო უბნების დონეზე

აუზების/საარუზო უბნების საზღვრების დადგენა (მთავრობის დადგენილება)

მართვის ერთეული: მდინარის აუზი/საარუზო უბანი (მართვის ორგანო - სამინისტროს სამსახური)

მართვის საფუძველი: მდინარის აუზის/საარუზო უბნის საარუზო მართვის გეგმა (კოორდინაცია - სამინისტრო, დამტკიცება - მთავრობა)

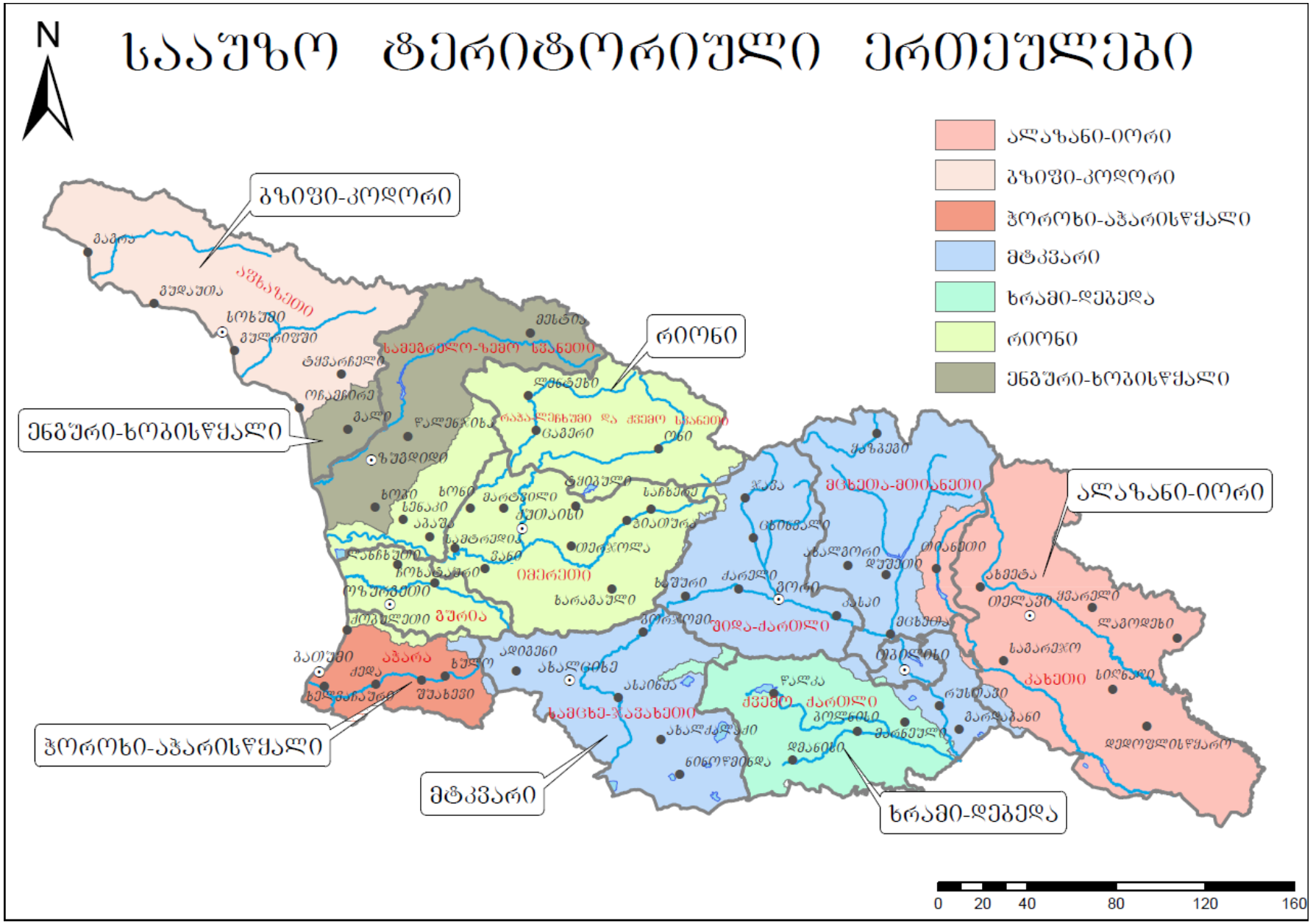
საარუზო მართვის გეგმების მომზადების ვადა - 2026

საარუზო მართვის საკონსულტაციო – საკოორდინაციო საბჭოები (კონსულტაციები, რეკომენდაციები, გეგმის წინასწარი განხილვა)

გეგმების მოქმედების პერიოდი - 6 წელი

საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

საქართველოს ტერიტორიული ერთეულები



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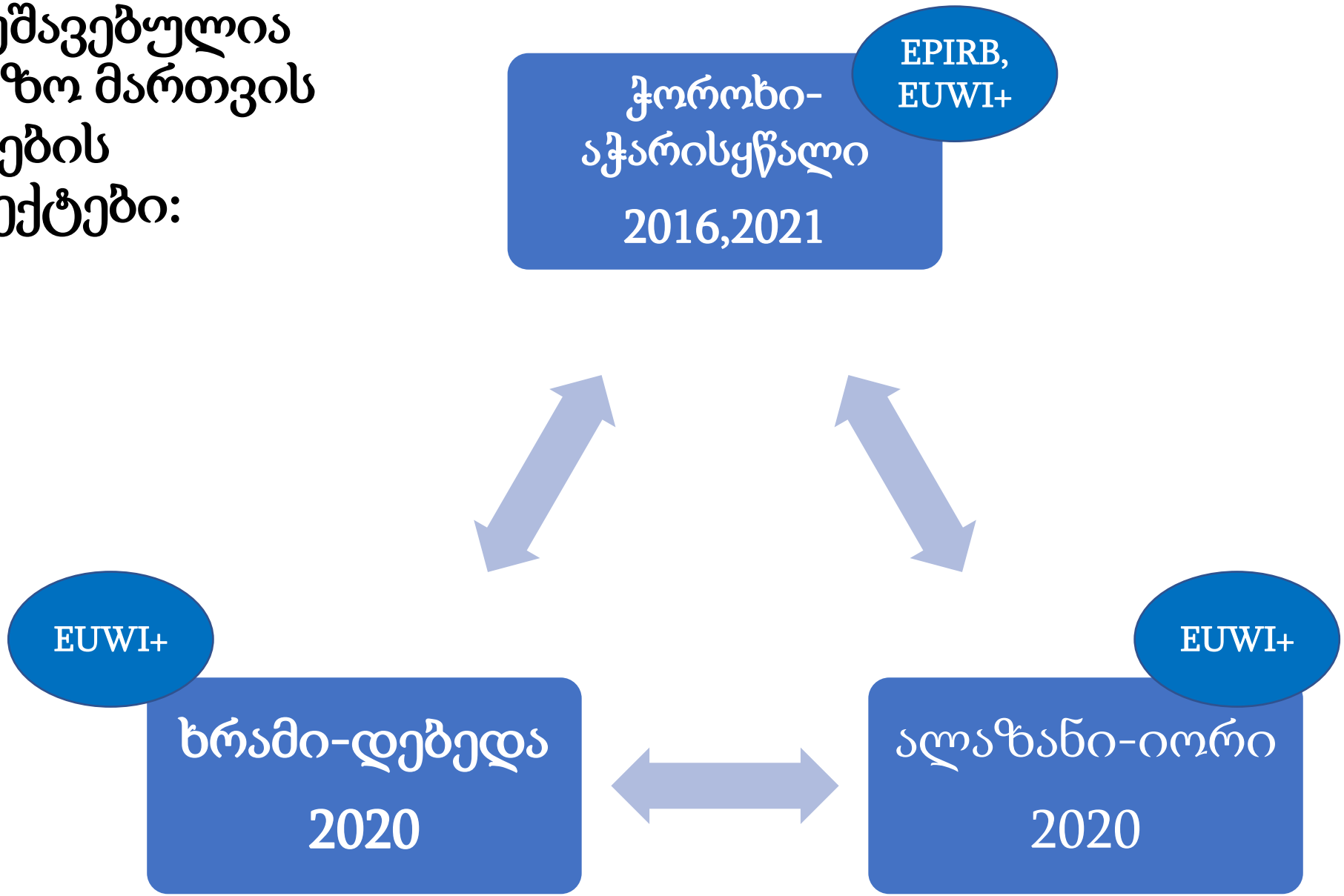
შემუშავებულია სააუზო მართვის გეგმების პროექტები:



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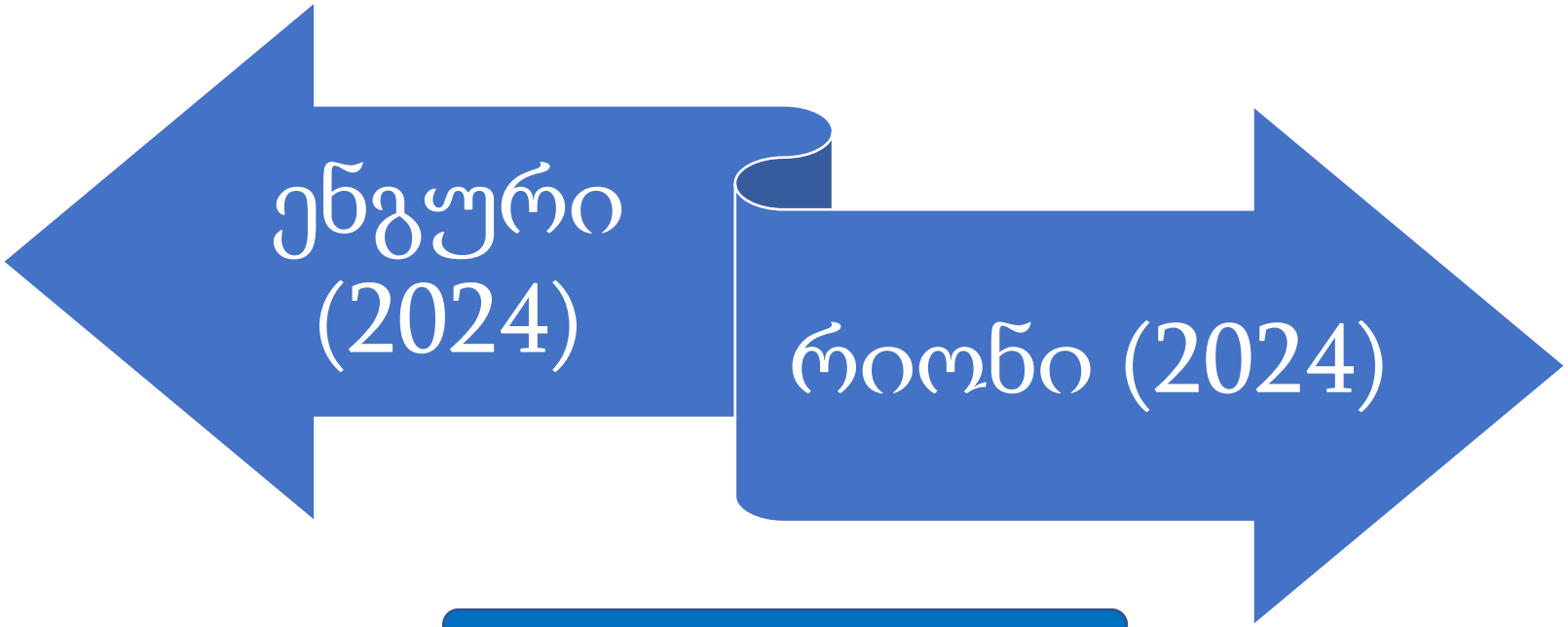
შემუშავების პროცესშია საარუზო მართვის გეგმების პროექტები



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საარუჩო მართვის გეგმების სტრატეგიული გარემოსდაცვითი შეფასება (სგშ)

„წყლის რესურსების მართვის შესახებ“ საქართველოს კანონი (მუხლი 25)

„გარემოსდაცვითი შეფასების კოდექსი“ (მუხლი 20),

სგშ-ს სტატუსი:

- ალაზანი-იორი - 2021 (EUWI+)
- ენგური - 2025 (EU პროექტი – Better water quality for citizens’ health and environment)
- რიონი - 2025 (EU პროექტი – Better water quality for citizens’ health and environment)
- ხრამი-დებედა - **??**
- ჭოროხი-აჭარისწყალი - **??**

საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

კანონის სხვა სიახლეები

წყლის მონიტორინგის სისტემის ჩამოყალიბება ევროკავშირის კანონმდებლობის შესაბამისად

უფლებამოსილი ორგანოების კომპეტენციების გამიჯვნა

სანებართვო სისტემის აღდგენა ზედაპირულ წყლებზე

ზედაპირული წყლებიდან წყალაღების მოსაკრებლის აღდგენა

- *“ფასიანი გუნებათსარგებლობის” პრინციპი*

წყლის მონიტორინგის პროგრამა

არსებული მდგომარეობა

- მიწისქვეშა წყლების რაოდენობრივი და ქიმიური მონიტორინგი
- ზედაპირული წყლების რაოდენობრივი, ქიმიური, ბიომონიტორინგი

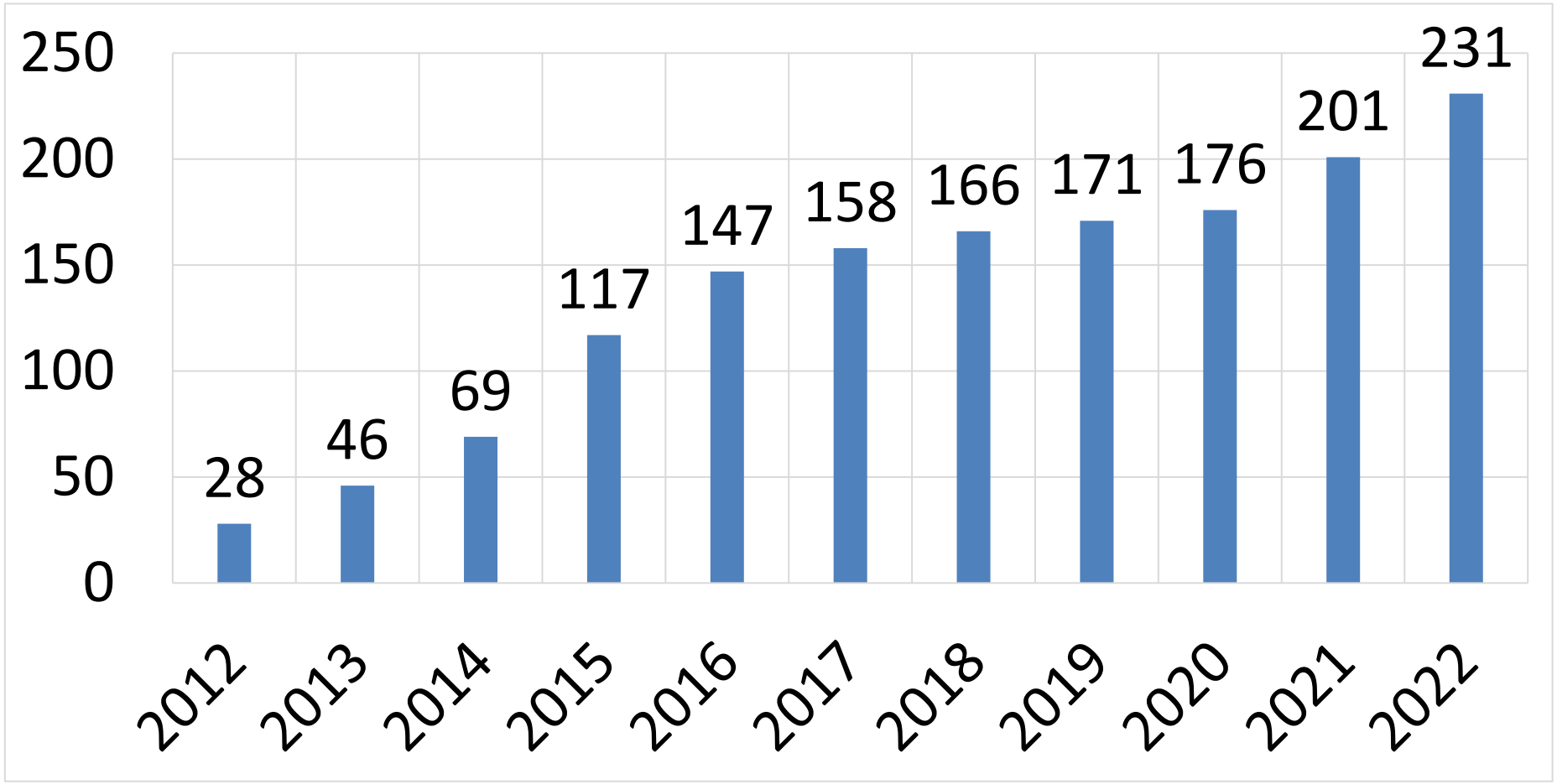
შემსრულებელი - სსიპ გარემოს ეროვნული სააგენტო

პროგრესი

ევროკავშირის მოთხოვნებთან შესაბამისად:

- ქსელის გაფართოება - განსაკუთრებით მიწისქვეშა წყლებზე
- ბიომონიტორინგის და ჰიდრომორფოლოგიური მონიტორინგის განვითარება

ზედაპირული წყლის მონიტორინგის პუნქტების რაოდენობა

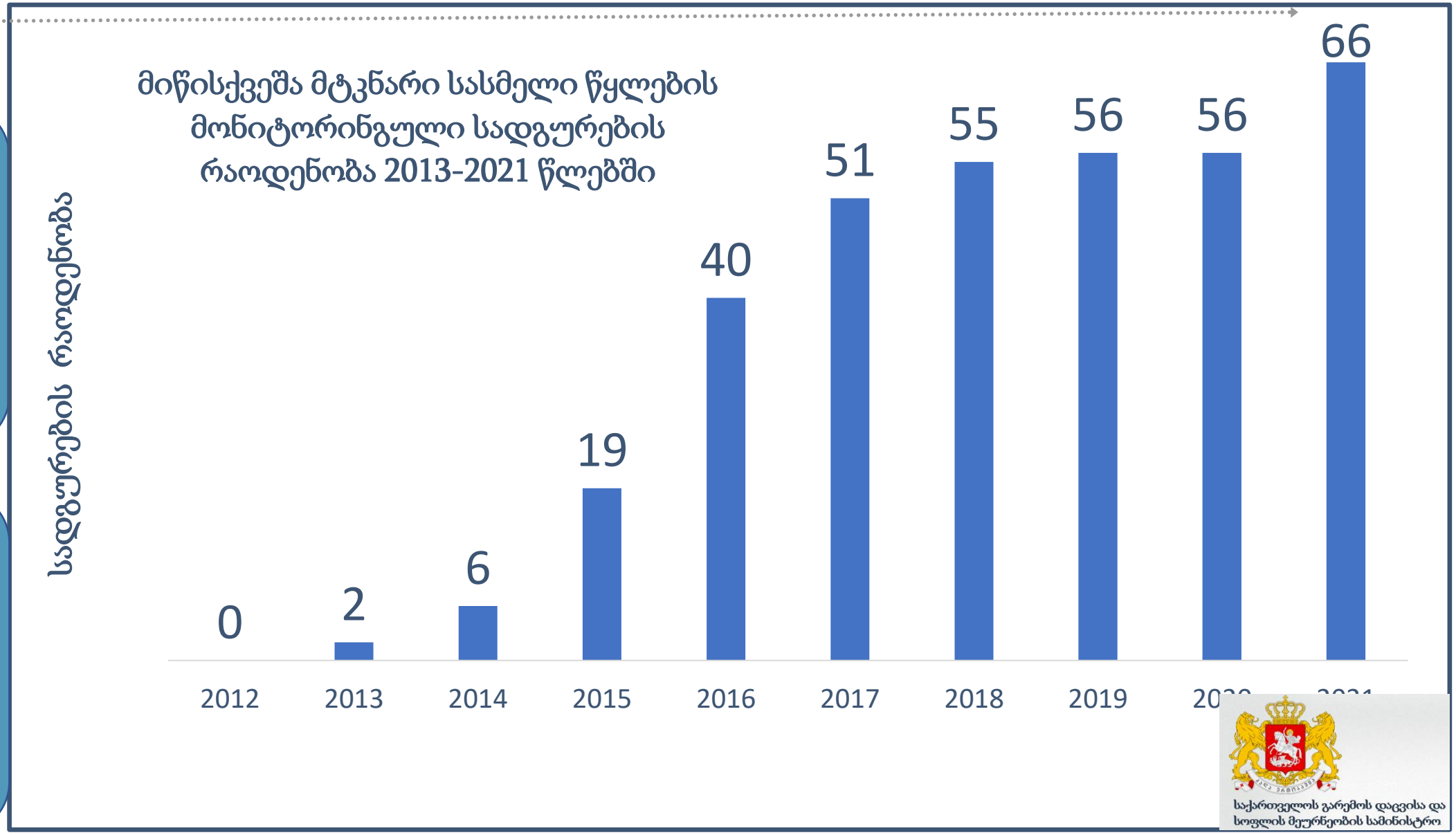


საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

მიწისქვეშა წყლების სახელმწიფო ჰიდროგეოლოგიური მონიტორინგის სისტემა

საქართველოში მიწისქვეშა მტკნარ სასმელ წყლებზე მონიტორინგი **განახლდა 2013 წელს**

მონიტორინგის ქსელში წყალპუნქტების ჩართვა **ეტაპობრივად განხორციელდა**



საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

ეკონომიკური მექანიზმები

არსებული მდგომარეობა

- მოსაკრებელი მტკნარი მიწისქვეშა წყლების მოპოვებაზე (0,005 ლ/მ3, 4 ლ/მ3)
  - *კანონი ბუნებრივი რესურსებით სარგებლობისათვის მოსაკრებლების შესახებ*
- ჯარიმები წყლის კანონმდებლობის დარღვევაზე
  - *ადმინისტრაციულ სამართალდარღვევათა კოდექსი*
- წყლის დაბინძურებაზე ზიანის ანაზღაურება
  - *მთავრობის დადგენილება ტექნიკური რეგლამენტის - „გარემოსთვის მიყენებული ზიანის განსაზღვრის (გამოანგარიშების) მეთოდიკა“ დამტკიცების შესახებ*
- მოსაკრებელი ზედაპირული წყლის აღებაზე გაუქმებულია 2008 წლიდან

პროგრესი

- ზედაპირული წყლის ობიექტებიდან წყალაღებაზე ეკონომიკურად დასაბუთებული მოსაკრებლის აღდგება

(OECD-ის პროექტი ზედაპირული წყლის აღებაზე მოსაკრებელზე, ORI. Founder?GEO)

საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო

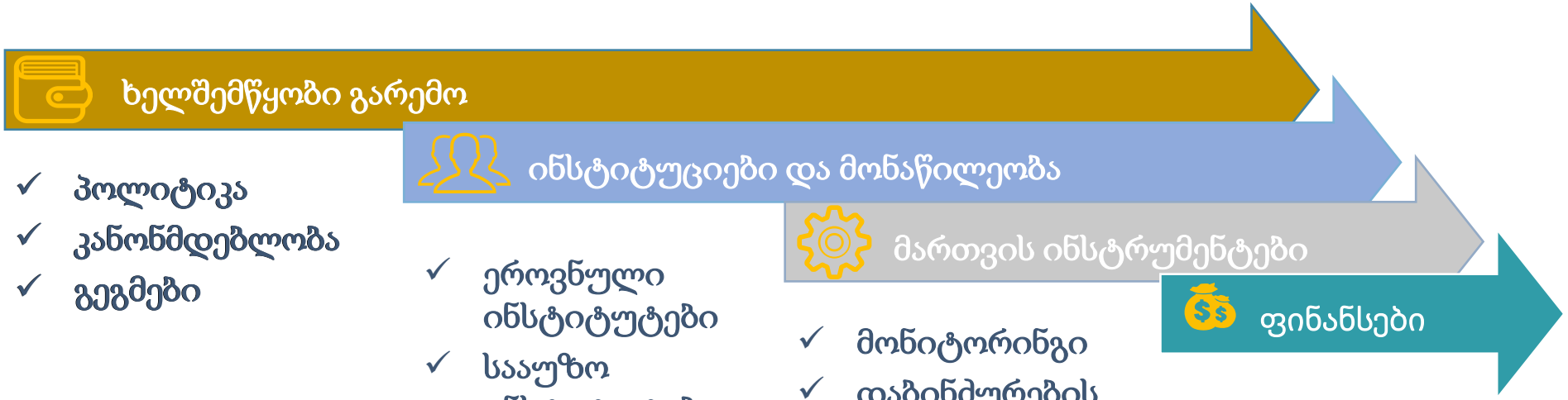
კანონქვემდებარე ნორმატიული აქტები (მთავრობის დადგენილებები)

- „წყლის ობიექტების იდენტიფიკაციისა და საზღვრების დადგენის წესი”;
- „მდინარეთა აუზების/საარუზო უბნების საზღვრების დამტკიცების თაობაზე”;
- „ადამიანის მოხმარებისათვის განკუთვნილი წყლის ხარისხის შესახებ“;
- „საარუზო მართვის გეგმების შემუშავების, განხილვისა და დამტკიცების პროცედურის შესახებ“;
- „წყლის რესურსების სახელმწიფო მონიტორინგის დაგეგმვისა და განხორციელების წესი”
- „პოტენციური წყალდიდობების რისკის ქვეშ მყოფი არეალების შეფასების შესახებ“.
- ტექნიკური რეგლამენტი „წყალდაცვითი ზოლის შესახებ“;

კანონქვემდებარე ნორმატიული აქტები (მთავრობის დადგენილებები)

- „ზედაპირული წყლის ხარისხის სტანდარტების დამტკიცების თაობაზე“;
- ტექნიკური რეგლამენტი „ზედაპირული წყლის ობიექტებში ურბანული და სამრეწველო ჩამდინარე წყლების ჩაშვების პირობები“;
- ტექნიკური რეგლამენტი „წყალარინების (საკანალიზაციო) სისტემაში ჩამდინარე წყლის ჩაშვებისა და მიღების პირობებისა და დამაბინძურებელ ნივთიერებათა ზღვრულად დასაშვები ნორმები“;
- „ზედაპირული წყლის ობიექტებზე სპეციალური წყალსარგებლობის ნებართვის გაცემის წესისა და პირობების დამტკიცების თაობაზე“;
- ტექნიკური რეგლამენტი - „მიწისქვეშა მტკნარი სასმელი წყლის მოპოვების მიზნით ჭაბურღილების აღრიცხვის წესი“ ;
- „საარუზო მართვის საკონსულტაციო–საკოორდინაციო საბჭოების შექმნისა და საქმიანობის წესი“;
- „სასმელი წყლის წყალმომარაგების ობიექტების სანიტარული დაცვის ზონის დადგენისა და მის ფარგლებში საქმიანობის განხორციელების წესის დამტკიცების თაობაზე“.

SDG 6.5.1 - წყლის რესურსების ინტეგრირებული მართვა



- ✓ პოლიტიკა
- ✓ კანონმდებლობა
- ✓ გეგმები

- ✓ ეროვნული ინსტიტუტები
- ✓ საყუზო ინსტიტუტები
- ✓ საზოგადოების მონაწილეობა
- ✓ კერძო სექტორი
- ✓ გენდერი
- ✓ ტრანსსასაზღვრო ინსტიტუტები

- ✓ მონიტორინგი
- ✓ დაბინძურების კონტროლი
- ✓ ეკოსისტემების მართვა
- ✓ კატასტროფების რისკის შემცირება
- ✓ მონაცემთა გაზიარება
- ✓ მონაცემთა გაზიარება ტრანსსასაზღვრო დონეზე

- ✓ ეროვნული ბიუჯეტი
- ✓ შიდა რეგიონული ბიუჯეტი
- ✓ მომხმარებლებისგა ნ მიღებული შემოსავალი
- ✓ ტრანსსასაზღვრო დაფინანსება

2023 წლის საბოლოო შედეგი

55 ქულა

(high medium)

2024-2025 წწ. გეგმები და საჭიროებები

- სააუზო მართვის ახალი სტრუქტურული ქვედანაყოფების შექმნა (ევროკავშირის რეკომენდაციები, ტრენინგები, ტვინინგის პროექტი)
- ჭოროხი-აჭარისწყალის, ალაზანი-იორის, ხრამი-დებედას სააუზო მართვის გეგმების პროექტების განახლება
- ჭოროხი-აჭარისწყალის და ხრამი-დებედას სააუზო მართვის გეგმების სტრატეგიული გარემოსდაცვითი შეფასება
- მდ. მტკვრის სააუზო მართვის გეგმის შემუშავება (წინასწარი შეთანხმება AFD-სთან)
- სააუზო მართვის საკონსულტაციო–საკოორდინაციო საბჭოების შექმნა
- კანონქვემდებარე ნორმატიული აქტების შემუშავება და დამტკიცება

გმადლობთ ყურადღებისთვის!

საქართველოს გარემოს დაცვისა და
სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო