

18th meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment, 17-18 October 2023

item 8(a) Projects related to monitoring and assessment under
the Convention:

**Update on the Khrami-Debeda monitoring agreement and
the Debeda surveys conducted in 2023**

Ms. Maia Javakhishvili

**Deputy Head, Environment and Climate Change Department
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia**

1. Main achievements in this area of work

Background:

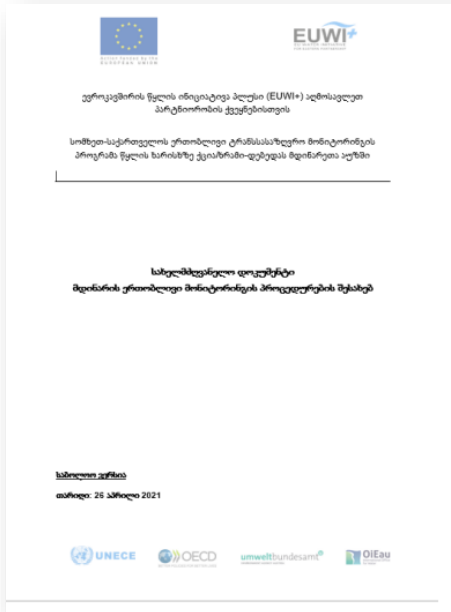
- 2011: Armenian-Georgian Joint Transboundary Monitoring Program Of Water Quality in Ktsia(Khrami)-Debeda River Basin.

Recent Developments:

- October 2019: UNECE-initiated bilateral meeting in Yerevan to discuss Georgia-Armenia cooperation on the Ktsia/Khrami-Debeda basin.
- 2019-2021: UNECE mediation for the "Joint River Monitoring Procedures" document.
- September 2020: Pilot monitoring conducted in Khrami-Debeda basin with Georgian and Armenian specialists.

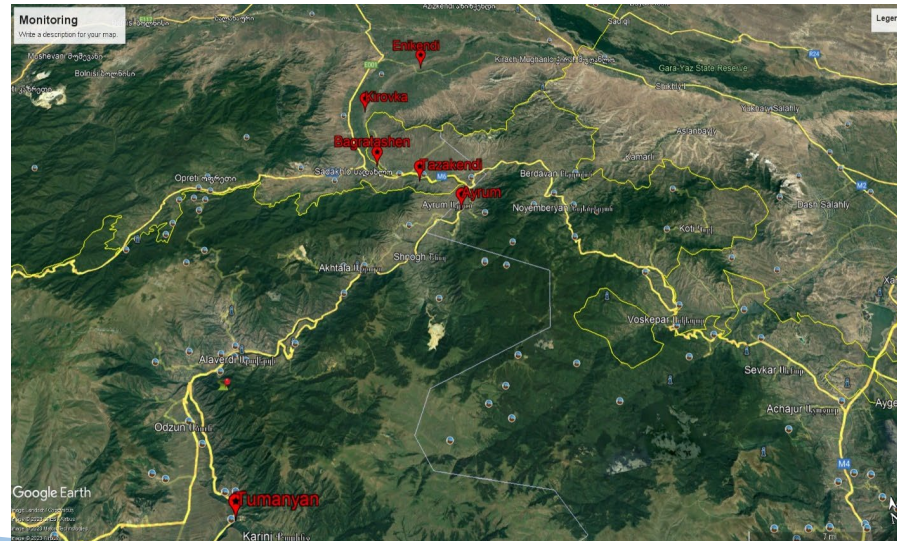
Khrami-Debeda Basin Management:

- 2020: draft of RBMP developed with EU support (EUWI+ project) of Khrami Debeda basin.
- EUWI+ (2016-2021): (1)Progress on joint river monitoring procedures and (2) a draft bilateral monitoring agreement between Armenia and Georgia nearing signature.
- EU4Environment:Water Resources & Environmental Data: joint effort for collaborative monitoring



2. How was it achieved?

- Progress is underway on a technical agreement for collaborative monitoring in this region, as part of the **EU4Environment** project focusing on water resources and environmental data.
- **Shared Surface Water Monitoring:**
 - 20 chemical parameters assessed.
 - Includes field measurements, BOD5, COD, main ions, nutrients, ammonium, and nitrite as indicators of organic pollution.



Monitoring On September 04-05, 2023

Cross-border monitoring was carried out on the territory of Georgia and Armenia of the Debeda basin. Three samples were taken in Georgia, 3 in Armenia.

Georgia:

River basin	River	Site	Latitude ⁴⁾	Longitude ⁴⁾
Debeda	Debeda	Tazakendi	41° 13.242'N	44° 51.274'E
Debeda	Debeda	Kirovka	41° 18.135'N	44° 48.454'E
Debeda	Debeda	Enikendi	41° 20.6655'N	44° 52.699'E



Armenia:

River basin	River	Site	Latitude ⁴⁾	Longitude ⁴⁾
Debed	Debed	Bagratashen	41°14.518'	44°48.733'
Debed	Debed	Ayrum	41°11.260'	44°53.511'
Debed	Marts	Tumanyan	40°59.129'	44°39.233'



TRANSBOUNDARY GROUNDWATER SURVEY

- Georgia and Armenia *(in the Khrami/Debed basin)*

- In March 2023, within the framework of the EU project “EU4Environment – Water Resources and Environmental Data” workshops were held in Tbilisi. Armenian, Georgian and international experts participated in the meetings;
- Joint field survey was planned at the meeting;
- In august 2023, Georgia prepared **”TRANSBOUNDARY GROUNDWATER SURVEY MANUAL 2023 GEORGIA-ARMENIA“** - Relevant sampling points, analytical parameters and other organizational issues were determined;
- **”JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY GROUNDWATER SURVEY MANUAL“** was created in September, 2023.



TRANSBOUNDARY GROUNDWATER SURVEY

- Georgia and Armenia (*in the Khrami/Debed basin*)

- Joint field research was carried out on **October 3-4, 2023**;
- **2 samples were taken from Georgia and 1 from Armenia.**

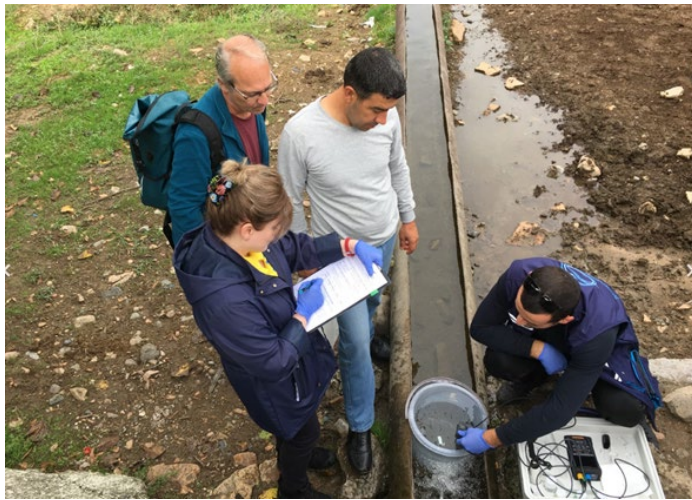
Country	Type of site	Location	X coordinate	Y coordinate
Georgia	spring	Village Burma / Marneuli municipality	485936	4562672
Georgia	spring	Village Damia / Marneuli municipality	478760	4568906
Armenia	well	Bagratashen	410 14' 13.9"	440 49' 01.8" 4



- **Samples are transported to laboratories in both countries;**
- **As we know, international experts will prepare a mission assessment report.**

3. Challenges and lessons learned

- Enhancing the awareness of state, regional, and local government agencies regarding water quality monitoring.
- Discussion of monitoring results between Armenia and Georgia is essential to evaluate and compare water quality in relevant area.
- Bilateral meetings among the parties are crucial for the efficacy of result monitoring within the National Policy Dialogue.



4. Planned future activities



- Finalized report on joint monitoring.
- Analyzing potential pollution sources.
- Enhancing the range of parameters for a more comprehensive analysis of potential water pollution sources.
- Identifying causes and assessing long-term natural conditions along Ktsia/Khrami and Debeda rivers, Armenia-Georgia border.

5. Partners - Implementing Parties



EU4Environment
Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries

- Republic of Armenia, Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center Laboratory – Ministry of Environment (AM);
- Georgia, National Environmental Agency, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia (GE)

Thank you!

**Maia Javakhishvili, Deputy Head, Environment and Climate
Change Department, MEPA**
**Elina Bakradze, Deputy Head – Environmental Pollution
Monitoring Department, National Environmental Agency**



WEB

<https://nea.gov.ge/>



EMAIL

Maia.Javakhishvili@mepa.gov.ge

Elina.Bakradze@nea.gov.ge



RESOURCES

[EU4Environment:Water&Data](#)



WATER
CONVENTION

