

Template for summary reports in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health

Executive summary

Please provide an overall evaluation of the progress achieved in implementing the Protocol in your country during the reporting period. Please provide a short description of the main steps taken and highlight important achievements, key challenges, success factors and concrete good practice examples.

Suggested length: maximum 2 pages

Part one General aspects

1. Were targets and target dates established in your country in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol?

Please provide detailed information on the target areas in part two.

YES NO IN PROGRESS

If targets have been revised, please indicate the date of adoption and list the revised target areas. Please provide detailed information in part two.

2. Were targets and target dates published and, if so, how?

Please explain whether the targets and target dates were published, made available to the public (e.g., online, official publication, media) and communicated to the secretariat.

Strategic objectives on water management and water supply are in the process of establishing under the new National Strategy for Development and Integration (present - 2030), which is being prepared by an intersectoral working group.

Targets regarding water resource management are established under the National Strategy on Water Resources Management 2018-2027, approved by DCM No. 73, dated on 7.2.2018, published at

http://www.qbz.gov.al/botime/fletore_zyrtare/2018/PDF-2018/52-2018.pdf

Targets regarding water supply and sanitation are in process of establishing under the draft of the new National Sectorial Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage (present - 2030).

3. Has your country established national or local arrangements for coordination between competent authorities for setting targets? If so please describe, including information on which public authority(ies) took the leadership and coordinating role, which public authorities were involved and how coordination was ensured.

YES

➤ The National Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management 2018-2027 has been developed by the working group set up by Order no. 449, dated 22.09.2015, of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration "On the establishment of the interinstitutional working group for the preparation of the document of the National Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management".

The working group consisted of representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration, Technical Secretariat of the National Water Council, Ministry of Energy and Industry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Local Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, Ministry of Finance, Water Regulatory Authority, Public Health Institute, National Protected Area Agency, National Environment Agency, National Agency of Water Resources, Albanian Geological Survey, Academy of Sciences, Water Resources Agencies, National Territorial Planning Agency, Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment Institute, National Coast Agency.

- Since 2018 Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MIE), supported by GIZ has established performance-oriented approach by introducing performance agreements to be negotiated, signed, and implemented between MIE represented by National Agency for Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Infrastructure (AKUM) and municipalities represented by mayors. Performance indicators are discussed, agreed, and made part of the performance agreements.

The Sectorial Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) is under development / revision from the Inter-institutional Working Group with the Technical Assistance of the German Government (through GIZ Albania).

With Order No.775 of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, dated 6.11.2018, the Inter-Institutional Working Group has been set up, led by MIE and composed of: Prime Minister's Office, Interior Ministry, Ministry of Financial and Economy (MFE), Ministry of Health and Social Protection (NHSP), Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development (MARD), Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MTE), Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU), Water Regulatory Agency (ERRU), National Agency for Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Infrastructure (AKUM), Institute of Public Health (IPH), Association of Municipalities, Water Supply and Sewerage Association (SHUKALB).

The draft strategy is not yet finalized because MIE in collaboration with AKUM are preparing a new water reform for aggregation of water utilities into regional water utilities. From 58 water utilities, it is expected 15 regional water utilities to be established.

The revised national strategy will include the reform as an integral part.

4. Was a programme of measures or action plan developed to support implementation of the targets? If so, please briefly describe that programme or plan, including how financial implications were taken into account.

YES

- **For the National Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management (NSIWRM):**

Regarding the action plan for implementation of NSIWRM a short term and long term financial prospective has been developed.

To start the implementation of the NSIWRM, an action plan for the first three years was prepared. This AP includes different activities for achieving the objectives and targets defined in the strategy. Other institutions, besides AMBU were defined as responsible for different activities in the action plan, such as MIE, MTE, MARD, NEA and Albanian Development Fund.

The budget for the NSIWRM is calculated based on the budget programmes in support of IWRM policy objectives. The estimates for 2021-2027 are based on the assumption that the ratio of resources for these programmes to total budget remains the same and economic growth for these years is 4,5 % per year. The assumption is vulnerable since the strategy

lifetime is much longer, thus the policies are most likely to change in course of time, resulting in a change in financing.

Under the Prime Minister's Order no. 157 dated 28.10.2018 "in order to take measures for the implementation of a wide sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the sectoral / cross-sectoral integrated mechanism ", there has been a resumption and composition of the Integrated Politics Management Groups.

The Mechanism of integrated sectoral/cross-sectoral management functions through IPMGs and Sectoral Leading Committees as follows:

- IPMGs for the cooperation in steering level in the priority field;
- SLDs for the cooperation in steering level within sectors of distinct importance for reforms in the interinstitutional interaction;
- Thematic Groups for the cooperation in technical level with development partners within specific sectors of the relevant priority field;
- IMPG- Integrated Water Management- whose role is performed by the National Water Council.

The roles of IPMGs are as follows:

- To provide cooperation and joint decision-making in political and management level for planning, coordination and monitoring of national cross-sectoral politics and programs in the priority field, reforms and strategic framework for the sector based on the wide sectoral/cross-sectoral approach principles and instruments;
- To ensure leading for the pursuit of coordinated implementation of priority policies and reforms, through reporting and monitoring of measures related to priority goals and objectives;
- To have a supporting role in coordinating planning, prioritizing, programming and monitoring of development assistance for the involved sectors, through organizing regular dialogue and interaction with developing partners;
- Serve as Sectoral Monitoring Committee for IPA Projects, ensuring the monitoring report of IPA funds referring each sector.

Based on this order, the Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU) serve as Technical Secretariat of the Integrated Water Management Group.

The Albanian Government is committed in demonstrating a strong will to continue the proactive management approach of foreign aid, in parallel with increasing the degree of prudence and improving strategic planning processes and monitoring, in the framework of the implementation of the Integrated Planning System.

With this approach a better coordination of the Mid-term Budget Preparation among different institution that have different responsibilities on water sector is intended to be achieved, with the focus on NSIWRM implementation.

➤ **For the draft National Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage (present - 2030):**

Comprehensive detailed Action Plans is prepared in line with NSDI and SDG 6 agenda.

This plan is an integral part of the draft strategy and will make the bases for future monitoring of the strategy.

For each of the seven strategic objectives of the draft strategy, priority measures, strategic goal, goal-setting measures, capital needs and responsible institutions have been defined.

Costing of the draft Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030).

- Determination of capital needs for unit for calculating capital needs such as water supply network, sewerage pipeline, treatment plant, family water meters, production water meters, zonal water meters. This definition provides an adequate basis for being able to recognize the total capital needs per year. Masterplan and financing strategy were the reference documents for defining unit investment and operation costs.
- Determination of capital needs to support strategic objectives
- Determination of additional capital needs and source of financing
- Determination of capital needs for technical assistance
- Determination of the financial gap to be considered in fully implementing the strategy as planned

Currently, this costing model is in the process of revision with the aim its update and improvement.

5. What has been done in your country to ensure public participation in the process of target setting in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, and how was the outcome of public participation taken into account in the final targets set?

- During the preparation of NSIWRM a long consultation process has been followed, with participation of different institutions on central and local levels, NGOs and stakeholders.
- During the review process of the draft Strategy of the Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present- 2030), all legal procedures of public consultations according to law no. 146/2014 "For Public Notice and Consultation" are followed. MIE organised several meetings with group of interest. Draft strategy is also published online on the website dedicated to public consultation.

<https://konsultimipublik.gov.al/Konsultime/Detaje/251>

6. Please provide information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on which public authorities had the main responsibilities and what other stakeholders were involved.

The main responsible authorities: Agency for Water Resources Management, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, National Agency on Water, Sewerage and Waste Infrastructure, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Institute of Public Health, National Agency of Environment, Water Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Report Template was distributed to all stakeholders to fill in the respective data. The collected information was processed in full form, and consultation with the contributing stakeholders is done for any clarification.

7. Please report any particular circumstances that are relevant for understanding the report, including whether there is a federal and/or decentralized decision-making structure.

N/A

Part two

Targets and target dates set and assessment of progress

For countries that have set or revised targets and target dates, please provide information specifically related to the progress towards achieving them. If you have not set targets in a certain area, please explain why.

For countries in the process of setting targets, please provide information on baseline conditions and/or targets considered under the relevant target areas.

Suggested length: one page (330 words) per target area.

I. Quality of the drinking water supplied (art. 6, para. 2 (a))

Compliance with the requirements of Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 379, dated 25.05.2016, which approves the regulation on “The request for the drinking water quality”. The regulation is prepared in approximation with the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

Annex I of the regulation is “Requests on Drinking Water Quaility” and contains 3 microbiological parameters, 31 chemical parameters, 26 indicator parameters and 4 radioactive parameters.

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Target under the draft Strategy of WSS (present - 2030):

Strategic Goal and Performance Indicators

- Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service

Target: Continuity of Water Supply (hours/day)

Draft indicators in the draft National Sectoral Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) are:

No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Short-term			Middle-term		
			Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
2	<i>Object description</i>							
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service							
2.4	Continuity of Water Supply in Coastal Areas	13	20	22	23	24		
2.5	Continuity of Water Supply (hours / days)	13	15	17	19	21	22	22
3	<i>Object description</i>							
	Improve efficiency and quality of water supply and sewerage service provision							
3.11	Completed Water Safety Plans for all licensed water utilities			20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
3.10	Establish Regional Laboratories for Drinking Water Quality (12)			1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	6.00
3.14	Development of emergency plans and risk mitigation analysis for all WSS, in case of emergency situations, natural disasters, and situations which pose a risk to the sustainability of WSS		50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

			Long-term				
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
2	<i>Object description</i>						
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service						
2.4	Continuity of Water Supply in Coastal Areas	13					
2.5	Continuity of Water Supply (hours / days)	13	22	23	23	24	24
3	<i>Object description</i>						
	Improve efficiency and quality of water supply and sewerage service provision						
3.11	Completed Water Safety Plans for all licensed water utilities		70%	80%	90%	100%	100%
3.10	Establish Regional Laboratories for Drinking Water Quality (12)		7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	12.00
3.14	Development of emergency plans and risk mitigation analysis for all WSS, in case of emergency situations, natural disasters, and situations which pose a risk to the sustainability of WSS		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Target under the Strategy of Integrated Water Resources Management, 2019-2027:

Strategic Objective	Targets (based on SDGs targets and OECD)	Targeted period
Basin level water resources management (also related to quality); Development and implementation of Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and Programme of Measures.	Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and PoMs are drafted, which imply clear criteria and with advantages for water use based on water source conditions in each basin (6 IMPWB and 6 PoMs) Measures are implemented	2027

- Results 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of Water NIPS project as described at area XII.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

- Water Supply Utilities are responsible for internal monitoring the quality of drinking water they supply; the Regional Health Structures are responsible for the external control of the drinking water quality in their respective administrative area; and the State Health Inspectorate is responsible for inspection based on Law Nr. 7643 dated 02.12.1992 “On sanitary inspection”, as amended.

The Local Healthcare Units control the drinking water quality and the hygienic – sanitary conditions of Water Supplies. When needed, they decide remedial actions to be taken by administrator and inform the State Sanitary Inspectorate, which proceeds based on Law No. 7643, of 2.12.1992 on “Sanitary Inspection”, as amended.

Depending on the situation, the Local Healthcare Units interrupt the supply of water to the population at risk or restricts the use of water only for sanitation, until the elimination of the cause of contamination and water quality is restored.

The Local Healthcare Units and Water Utilities Administrators announce through media, posters and give practical advices to the affected consumers.

The Local Healthcare Units prepare local monthly and yearly reports, while the Institute of Public Health prepares national monthly and yearly reports on on drinking water quality DW quality. This report is sent to related institutions and organizations and can be accessed by consumers on their request.

- Periodic monitoring of progress during the implementation of the strategy.

The thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", established based on the Prime Minister's Order no. 155, dated 25.4.2014 and chaired by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, has the responsibility to yearly evaluate and report the progress of the national sectoral strategies and plans related to water supply and sewerage sector.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018 "On taking measures to implement the broad sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral / cross-sectoral mechanism", with Order of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, no. 217, dated 24.05.2019 "On the establishment of the technical secretariat, within the functioning of the thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy plays the role of this technical secretariat.

- Under the Prime Minister's Order no. 157 dated 28.10.2018 "in order to take measures for the implementation of a wide sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the sectoral / cross-sectoral integrated mechanism ", there has been a resumption and composition of the Integrated Politics Management Groups.

The role of IPMGs, among others, is to provide cooperation and joint decision-making in political and management level for planning, coordination and monitoring of national cross-sectoral politics and programs in the priority field, reforms and strategic framework for the sector based on the wide sectoral/cross-sectoral approach principles and instruments, and to ensure leading for the pursuit of coordinated implementation of priority policies and reforms, through reporting and monitoring of measures related to priority goals and objectives;

Based on this order, the Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU) serve as Technical Secretariat of the Integrated Water Management Group.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Monitored target under Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (Determining of target value for year 2021 is in process).

Indicator/Year	2019	2020
Continuity of Water Supply (hours / days)	13.3 hours	14.0 hours

Monitored target under the Strategy of Integrated Water Resources Management:

Strategic Objective	Targets completion
Basin level water resources management (also related to quality); Development and implementation of Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and Programme of Measures.	- 2 out of 7 Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and PoMs are finalized. - 3 Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and PoMs are in process. 1 of them is published on-line for public consultation. - the remaining 2 Integrated Management Plans of the Water Basin and PoMs haven't started yet.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This target and fulfillment of the requests of drinking water quality regulation, approved by DCM No. 379, dated 25.05.2016, contribute not only to fulfilling the national and European legislation, but also to fulfilling SGDs as follows:

- SDG6: Water and sanitation for all - 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.
- SDG 2: Zero hunger 2.2 End malnutrition and meet targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age
- SDG 3: Good health and well-being 3.3 End neglected tropical diseases and combat water-borne diseases; 3.9 Reduce deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and water and soil pollution and contamination
- 6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated
- 6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality
- SDG 12: Sustainable consumption and production; 12.4 Achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes, and reduce their release to water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
- 14.1.1 (a) Index of coastal eutrophication; and (b) plastic debris density
- 14.2.1 Number of countries using ecosystem-based approaches to managing marine areas
- 14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas
- 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

II. Reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease (art. 6, para.2 (b))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

In addition to targets set for “I. Quality of the drinking water supplied”, the following target is set under the Strategy of Integrated Water Resources Management, 2019-2027:

Strategic Objective	Targets (based on SDGs targets and OECD)	Baseline Year 2017	Intermediate Year 2019	Middle – term period 2022	Intermediate Year 2024	Targeted period 2027	Verification means
Water Risks: Risks from water (floods and droughts) are contained through management and investment, serving all interests, through applying of legal acts as well as sub-acts which they transpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of integrated risk reduction plans from disasters and climate for water resources protection (implementation monitoring according to policy goals) 	0	1 National Management Plan	1 Plan / Water Basen (6 in total)	Updated National Management Plan	6 Updated Water Basens Management Plans	Strategies / Disasters Management Plans

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

- Under the Prime Minister's Order no. 157 dated 28.10.2018 "in order to take measures for the implementation of a wide sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the sectoral / cross-sectoral integrated mechanism ", there has been a resumption and composition of the Integrated Politics Management Groups.

The role of IPMGs, among others, is to provide cooperation and joint decision-making in political and management level for planning, coordination and monitoring of national cross-sectoral politics and programs in the priority field, reforms and strategic framework for the sector based on the wide sectoral/cross-sectoral approach principles and instruments, and to ensure leading for the pursuit of coordinated implementation of priority policies and reforms, through reporting and monitoring of measures related to priority goals and objectives;

Based on this order, the Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU) serve as Technical Secretariat of the Integrated Water Management Group.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Indicator/Year	2021
Risk Reduction Plans and Integrated Water Resources Protection from disasters and climate	Hazard and risks mapping and the flood risk management plans were approved as explained below:

- Decision of the National Water Council No 1, dated 15.06.2021 “On the approval of the preliminary flood risk assessment reports for the water basins Drin-Buna, Mat, Ishem, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman, Vjosa and the announcement of areas where there is a potential risk of floods or is likely to floods occur”, the approval of the Preliminary flood risk assessments for all 7 water basins as well as 46 areas where there is a potential risk of floods or floods are likely to occur in these basins.

- Decisions of the National Water Council No 2, dated 15.06.2021 "On the approval of flood risk maps for some areas of Erzen, Ishem, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosa water basins" and No 3, dated 15.06.2021 "On the approval of flood risk maps for some areas of the Drin-Buna water basin", the approval of hazard maps for 9 geographical territories in Albania, which include a total of 17 (out of 46 areas) where there is a potential risk of floods.

AMBU is currently working on drafting the Flood Risk Management Plan for the territory of sub-Shkodra, part of the cross-border water basin Drin-Buna, expected to be approved for implementation within 2022 and it will cover the period of 2023-2028. For this document are created the flood risk maps for the geographical territory of sub-Shkodra of the Drin-Buna water basin, which include 3 of the 46 areas identified with flood risk, for 5 scenarios with a probability of once in 10, 50, 100, 200 and 500 years.

Under the support of the Climate Adaptation Fund, supported by UNDP, which covers the transboundary area of the Drin-Bunë River Basin, will be considered the rest of the areas that were not covered by the GiZ project (5 out of 8 APSFRs). This project aims to follow all the necessary steps required by the EU Flood Directive, in terms of flood management for river basins.

Also AMBU, is being supported by “ The technical assistance operation is financed under the EU IPA II Multi- Beneficiary Programme for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia”, under the WBIF, where more specifically for Albania, will be prepared the Flood Risk Management Plans for Erzen, Ishem, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosa Rivers.

The Project, of which the Assignment, WB20-ALB-ENV-02 forms a part, aims to improve flooding conditions and ensure the protection of the areas adjacent to the downstream reaches of the rivers Ishem, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosa, over an approximate length of 300 kilometres, by way of the Feasibility Studies and Flood Risk Management Plans to be produced under the Assignment. Thus, it will contribute greatly to ensure prevention of flooding events and sustainable operation of agriculture, tourism and other economies in the project area. In so doing it will contribute to Albania’s harmonisation with the European Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) and the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This target contributes to fulfilling SDG13 and 9, especially:

- 13.1.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030
- 13.2.1 Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications
- SDG3: 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

III. Access to drinking water (art. 6, para.2 (c))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Strategic Goal and Performance Indicators

- Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service

Target: Water Supply Coverage

Water supply service coverage represents the percentage of served population by water supply utilities within their jurisdiction.

Draft indicators in the draft Sector Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) are:

			Short-term				Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025	
2	<i>Object description</i>								
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service								
2.1	Water supply Coverage (National Level)	79.1%	80.0%	81.0%	82.0%	83.4%	84.3%	85.1%	
2.1.1	Water supply coverage for urban areas	94.7%	95.0%	96.0%	97.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	
2.1.2	Water supply Coverage for Rural Areas	58.3%	60.0%	61.0%	62.0%	64.0%	66.0%	68.0%	

			Long-term				
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
2	<i>Object description</i>						
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service						
2.1	Water supply Coverage (National Level)	79.1%	86.0%	86.8%	87.7%	88.6%	90.3%
2.1.1	Water supply coverage for urban areas	94.7%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%
2.1.2	Water supply Coverage for Rural Areas	58.3%	70.0%	72.0%	74.0%	76.0%	80.0%

- Result 4 of Water NIPS project as described at area XII.

- Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Periodic monitoring of progress during the implementation of the strategy.

The thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", established based on the Prime Minister's Order no. 155, dated 25.4.2014 and chaired by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, has the responsibility to yearly evaluate and report the progress of the national sectoral strategies and plans related to water supply and sewerage sector.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018 "On taking measures to implement the broad sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral / cross-sectoral mechanism", with Order of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, no. 217, dated 24.05.2019 "On the establishment of the technical secretariat, within the functioning of the thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy plays the role of this technical secretariat.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Monitored target under Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (Determining of target value for year 2021 is in process).

Indicator/Year	2019	2020
Water supply coverage (%)	77.65%	77.53%
Water supply coverage – urban (%)	92.06%	93.50%
Water supply coverage – rural (%)	58.81%	58.00%

NOTE: Clarification on figures for baseline water coverage and monitored water coverage (year 2019):

Target values in the draft strategy are set based on the preliminary data supplied by AKUM (79.1%).

After data colaudation, the monitored target value resulted 77.65%

Etc.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The vision of the Albanian government defined in the draft National Sectoral Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) is a reliable nationwide system for water supply and sewerage that meets the needs of a developing economy and society in general, while preserving and protecting the environment, health and safety of citizens.

Realization of strategic objectives will serve to achieve the mission:

Develop appropriate policies and commit sufficient funds to improve the provision of water and sanitation services, and to move consistently towards compliance with European Union standards and sustainable development objectives.

This targets contribute especially to fulfilling SDG6: Water and sanitation for all - 6.1 Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

They contribute also to:

- Goal 1: No poverty; 1.4 Ensure access to basic services
- Goal 3: Good health and well-being; 3.2 End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age; 3.3 End neglected tropical disease and combat water-borne diseases ; 3.8 Achieve access to quality essential healthcare services
- Goal 4: Good quality education; 4.a Build and upgrade educational facilities and that provide safe and effective learning environments
- Goal 5: Gender equality 5.1 End discrimination against women and girls ;
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure; 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities; 11.1 Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

IV. Access to sanitation (art. 6, para.2 (d))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Strategic Goal and Performance Indicators

- Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service

Target: Sewerage Coverage

The sewerage service coverage is the percentage of served population within the jurisdiction of the WS Utilities.

Draft indicators in the draft Sector Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) are:

No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Short-term			Middle-term		
			Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
2	<i>Object description</i>							
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service							
2.2	Sewerage Coverage (National Level)	51.0%	52.0%	52.5%	53.5%	54.5%	56.7%	59.1%
2.2.1	Sewerage coverage for urban areas	81.0%	82%	83%	84%	85%	88%	90%
2.2.2	Sewerage coverage for rural areas	11%	12%	12%	13%	14%	15%	18%

No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Long-term				
			Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
2	<i>Object description</i>						
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service						
2.2	Sewerage Coverage (National Level)	51.0%	61.1%	63.1%	65.1%	66.0%	67.7%
2.2.1	Sewerage coverage for urban areas	81.0%	92%	94%	96%	96%	96%
2.2.2	Sewerage coverage for rural areas	11%	20%	22%	24%	26%	30%

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).

Periodic monitoring of progress during the implementation of the strategy.

The thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", established based on the Prime Minister's Order no. 155, dated 25.4.2014 and chaired by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, has the responsibility to yearly evaluate and report the progress of the national sectoral strategies and plans related to water supply and sewerage sector.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018 "On taking measures to implement the broad sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral / cross-sectoral mechanism", with Order of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, no. 217, dated 24.05.2019 "On the establishment of the technical secretariat, within the functioning of the thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy plays the role of this technical secretariat.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Monitored target under Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (Determining of target value for year 2021 is in process).

Indicator/Year	2019	2020
Sewerage coverage (%)	51.24%	52.00%
Sewerage coverage – urban (%)	80.65%	82.18%
Sewerage coverage – rural (%)	12.87%	15.00%

NOTE: Clarification on figures for baseline sewerage coverage and monitored water coverage (year 2019):

Target values in the draft strategy are set based on the preliminary data supplied by AKUM (51.0%).

After data colaudation, the monitored target value resulted 51.24%.

Etc.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The vision of the Albanian government defined in the draft National Sectoral Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) is a reliable nationwide system for water supply and sewerage that meets the needs of a developing economy and society in general, while preserving and protecting the environment, health and safety of citizens.

Realization of strategic objectives will serve to achieve the mission:

Develop appropriate policies and commit sufficient funds to improve the provision of water and sanitation services, and to move consistently towards compliance with European Union standards and sustainable development objectives.

This targets contribute especially to fulfilling SDG6: Water and sanitation for all; 6.2 Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, end open defecation and pay special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations; 6.3. Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse

They contribute also to:

- Goal 1: No poverty; 1.4 Ensure all population has access to basic services.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

V. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for water supply (art. 6, para.2 (e))

Based on the aspirations of Albanian Government for the implementation of EU directives, the Mission Statement reflects the fundamental purpose of this Strategy.

MISSION: Provide safe, reliable, sufficient and proper quality of water supply services for the entire population of Albania, in full compliance with the legal and regulatory framework. Ensure quality collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater to safeguard public health and in compliance with national environmental regulations.

The Mission for this Sector Strategy serves to focus the Government initiatives on seven key Strategic Objectives that need to be addressed, both in policy and in action, to bring about the desired improvement of water supply and sewerage.

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Beside the target set under the Strategic Objective “Expand and improve access to water supply and wastewater services to urban and rural population

- Increase access of both urban and rural populations to safe, reliable drinking water” (mentioned in target III above),

other targets set under the draft National Sectorial Strategy on Water Supply and Sewerage (present - 2030) that improve the Water Utilities level of performance are:

No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Short-term			Middle-term		
			Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
3	<i>Object description</i>							
	Improve efficiency and quality of water supply and sewerage service provision							
3.1	Reduction of Non - Revenue Water	63.7%	60%	57%	53%	50%	49%	48%
3.2	Reduction of Commercial Losses	40.0%	30%	25%	23%	22%	21%	20%
3.3	Metering Level for water consumption expressed in number of connections	75%	80%	90%	100%	100%	100%	100%
3.4	Metering Level for water production expressed in number of meters	15.0%	25%	30%	35%	40%	50%	60%
3.5	Zone Metering Level expressed in number of meters	3.0%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	40%
3.6	Reduction of Technical Losses	60.0%	55%	51%	47%	43%	40%	38%
3.7	Staff Efficiency Level expressed in staff/1000 connections	4.84	4.50	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.60	3.50
3.8	Current Collection Rate	80%	92%	94%	95%	95%	96%	96%
3.9	Past Due Bills Collection Rate	38.0%	45%	50%	52%	54%	56%	58%

			Short-term			Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
3.10	Establish Regional Laboratories for Drinking Water Quality (12)			1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	6.00
3.11	Completed Water Safety Plans for all licensed water utilities			20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
3.13	Design of PSP models (1-2 cases)				1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
3.14	Development of emergency plans and risk mitigation analysis for all WSS, in case of emergency situations, natural disasters, and situations which pose a risk to the sustainability of WSS		50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

			Long-term				
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
3	<i>Object description</i>						
	Improve efficiency and quality of water supply and sewerage service provision						
3.1	Reduction of Non - Revenue Water	63.7%	47%	47%	46%	46%	45%
3.2	Reduction of Commercial Losses	40.0%	18%	16%	14%	12%	10%
3.3	Metering Level for water consumption expressed in number of connections	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
3.4	Metering Level for water production expressed in number of meters	15.0%	70%	80%	90%	100%	100%
3.5	Zone Metering Level expressed in number of meters	3.0%	50%	60%	75%	85%	100%
3.6	Reduction of Technical Losses	60.0%	36%	34%	32%	31%	30%
3.7	Staff Efficiency Level expressed in staff/1000 connections	4.84	3.50	3.40	3.30	3.20	3.00
3.8	Current Collection Rate	80%	97%	97%	98%	98%	98%
3.9	Past Due Bills Collection Rate	38.0%	60%	62%	64%	66%	70%
3.10	Establish Regional Laboratories for Drinking Water Quality (12)		7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	12.00
3.11	Completed Water Safety Plans for all licensed water utilities		70%	80%	90%	100%	100%
3.13	Design of PSP models (1-2 cases)			1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
3.14	Development of emergency plans and risk mitigation analysis for all WSS, in case of emergency situations, natural disasters, and situations which pose a risk to the sustainability of WSS		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

			Short-term			Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
4	<i>Objective Description</i>							
	Strengthen the financial sustainability and affordability of water supply and sewerage services towards the principles of cost control and full cost recovery.							
4.1	Operations and Maintenance Costs (O&M) Coverage with Current Collections.	87.5%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
4.2	Total Operational Costs (TOC) Coverage (including Debt Service and Capital Reserve Funds) with Current Collections.	66.0%	75%	80%	82%	84%	86%	90%
4.3	Volumetric Tariff Annually Increased (expressed in % of increase)		10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%
4.4	Fixed Tariff Increased (ALL/conn)			120.00				140.00
4.5	Increase share of the Central Government Subsidy allocated for Performance Improvement	20.0%	35%	50%	55%	60%	65%	75%

			Long-term				
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
4	<i>Objective Description</i>						
	Strengthen the financial sustainability and affordability of water supply and sewerage services towards the principles of cost control and full cost recovery.						
4.1	Operations and Maintenance Costs (O&M) Coverage with Current Collections.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
4.2	Total Operational Costs (TOC) Coverage (including Debt Service and Capital Reserve Funds) with Current Collections.	92%	94%	96%	98%	100%	92%
4.3	Volumetric Tariff Annually Increased (expressed in % of increase)	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
4.4	Fixed Tariff Increased (ALL/conn)					170.00	
4.5	Increase share of the Central Government Subsidy allocated for Performance Improvement	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%	80%

			Short-term			Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
5	<i>Objective Description</i>							
	Enhance the capacities of the sector work force							

			Short-term			Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
5.1	Increase budget allocated to train water supply and sewerage utility staff (expressed as % total Payroll budget)	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%
5.2	Hours of staff training per year for certification (hours/year/person) for the operational and technical staff		15.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00

		Long-term					
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
5	<i>Objective Description</i>						
	Enhance the capacities of the sector work force						
5.1	Increase budget allocated to train water supply and sewerage utility staff (expressed as % total Payroll budget)	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%
5.2	Hours of staff training per year for certification (hours/year/person) for the operational and technical staff	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).

Periodic monitoring of progress during the implementation of the strategy.

The thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", established based on the Prime Minister's Order no. 155, dated 25.4.2014 and chaired by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, has the responsibility to yearly evaluate and report the progress of the national sectoral strategies and plans related to water supply and sewerage sector.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018 "On taking measures to implement the broad sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral / cross-sectoral mechanism", with Order of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, no. 217, dated 24.05.2019 "On the establishment of the technical secretariat, within the functioning of the thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy plays the role of this technical secretariat.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Monitored target under Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (Determining of target value for year 2021 is in process).

Indicator/Year	2019	2020
Reduction of Non - Revenue Water	64.4%	65.9%
Metering Level for water consumption	76.46%	78.62%

Metering Level for water production expressed in number of meters	685376 watermeters/ 886474 connectios	717725 watermeters/ 902142 connections
Staff Efficiency Level expressed in staff/1000 connections	6.13	5.9
Current Collection Rate	75.64%	73.96%
Operations and Maintenance Costs (O&M) Coverage with Current Collections.	101.64%	101.64%
Total Operational Costs (TOC) Coverage (including Debt Service and Capital Reserve Funds) with Current Collections.	77.5%	74.9%
Overall Annual Collection Rate	95.8%	89.8%

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

These targets contribute to increasing levels of performance of collective systems for water supply and sanitation and also in the following SDGs:

- SDG 3: Good health and well-being ; 3.9 Reduce deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and water and soil pollution and contamination

- SDG 6: Water and sanitation for all ; 6.1 Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all; 6.2 Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, end open defecation and pay special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations; 6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse; 6.4 Increase water-use efficiency and sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity; 6.a. Expand international cooperation and capacity-building

- Goal 13: Climate action ; 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VI. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (e))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Targets set in the draft Sector Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) under area IV, V and VII serve also this area.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VII. Application of recognized good practices to the management of water supply (art.6, para.2 (f))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

		Short-term				Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2020	Plan Year 2021	Plan Year 2022	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2024	Plan Year 2025
7	<i>Objective Description</i>							
	Design and implement a program to aggregate water utilities							
7.1	Development of an analytical report on physical context, enabling environment and aggregation purposes			100%				
7.2	Set-up the proper legal policy and legal instruments to conduct aggregation			100%				
7.3	Pass necessary laws and bylaws to support the aggregation process				100%			
7.4	Design and Implement faced Aggregation Process (expressed in number of utilities)	58	58	58	50	40	32	26

		Long-term					
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year 2019	Plan Year 2026	Plan Year 2027	Plan Year 2028	Plan Year 2029	Plan Year 2030
7	<i>Objective Description</i>						
	Design and implement a program to aggregate water utilities						
7.1	Development of an analytical report on physical context, enabling environment and aggregation purposes						
7.2	Set-up the proper legal policy and legal instruments to conduct aggregation						
7.3	Pass necessary laws and bylaws to support the aggregation process						
7.4	Design and Implement faced Aggregation Process (expressed in number of utilities)	26	26	26	26	26	26

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

MIE and AKUM are preparing a new water reform for aggregation of water utilities into regional water utilities, according to the territorial map studied and proposed by AKUM. From 58 water utilities, it is expected 15 regional water utilities to be established. Their object of activity is the provision of water supply service, collection, disposal and treatment of urban wastewater, in the territory of the proposed physical map, and will operate based on the Law on "Traders and companies ", as ammended.

These Regional Water Utilities will have shareholders the Ministry responsible for Water Supply and Sewerage infrastructure and the respective Municipalities that are included in the territory of the map proposed by AKUM.

NOTE: Clarification on figures for targets value regarding the process of water utilities agglomeration:

Target values in the draft strategy are set based on the preliminary planification of water utilities agglomeration by AKUM.

After the decision of AKUM to speed up this process, the new target value is planned to be 15 agglomerated WUs.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

The process of aggregation hasn't started yet

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This target is linked also with area V and VI - Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for water supply/ sanitation.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VIII. Application of recognized good practice to the management of sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (f))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Same as in area VII above

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This target is linked also with target VI (above) - Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for sanitation.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

IX. Occurrence of discharges of untreated wastewater (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (i))

For each target set in this area:

- Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Strategic Goal and Performance Indicators

- Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service

Target: Wastewater Treatment Coverage from treatment plants.

SewerWastewater Treatment Coverage from treatment plants represents the percentage of the treated sewage towards the total sewage generated.

Draft indicator in the draft Sector Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (present - 2030) are:

			Short-term				Middle-term		
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
2	<i>Object description</i>								
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service								
2.3.1	Wastewater Treatment Coverage by WWYP	14.3%	15%	16%	17%	18%	20%	21%	

			Long-term				
No.	Strategic objective/ Priority measures	Baseline Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year	Plan Year
		2019	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
2	<i>Object description</i>						
	Expanding and improving the quality of water supply and sewerage service						
2.3.1	Wastewater Treatment Coverage by WWTP	14.3%	23%	25%	27%	29%	30%

- Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Periodic monitoring of progress during the implementation of the strategy.

The thematic group "Reform of water supply and sewerage sector", established based on the Prime Minister's Order no. 155, dated 25.4.2014 and chaired by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, has the responsibility to yearly evaluate and report the progress of the national sectoral strategies and plans related to water supply and sewerage sector.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018 "On taking measures to implement the broad sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral / cross-sectoral mechanism", with Order of the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, no. 217, dated 24.05.2019 "On the establishment of the technical secretariat, within the functioning of the thematic group "Reform of water supply

and sewerage sector", the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy plays the role of this technical secretariat.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Monitored target under Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services (Determining of target value for year 2021 is in process).

Indicator/Year	2019	2020
Wastewater Treatment Coverage by WWTP	13.65%	13.7%

NOTE: Clarification on figures for baseline Wastewater Treatment Coverage by WWTP and monitored Wastewater Treatment Coverage by WWTP (year 2019):

Target values in the draft strategy are set based on the preliminary data supplied by AKUM (14.3%).

After data colaudation, the monitored target value resulted 13.65%.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

These targets contribute in SDG 6: Water and sanitation for all, especially in goal 6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

X. Occurrence of discharges of untreated storm water overflows from wastewater collection systems (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (ii))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XI. Quality of discharges of wastewater from wastewater treatment installations (art. 6, para. 2 (h))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

- Requests of Law no. 9115, dated on 24.7.2003 “On environmental treatment of wastewater”, as amended

- Result 2 of Water NIPS project as described at area XII.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

These target contribute in SDG 6: Water and sanitation for all, especially in goal 6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

The quality of discharges from the wastewater treatment installations is not yet part of the monitoring programme of the National Agency of Environment because of the limited budget allocated for monitoring.

NEA monitors the surface water quality.

XII. Disposal or reuse of sewage sludge from collective systems of sanitation or other sanitation installations (art. 6, para.2 (i))

The ongoing project “Water Negotiations and Investment Planning Support” is financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and managed by AKUM on behalf of the Albanian Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy.

The purpose of the Project is:

To provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy and to the National Agency of Water Supply, Sewerage and Waste Infrastructure (AKUM) for

1. The development of key strategic documents for the water sector, and
2. Increasing their capability to implement investment policy in the water sector.

NIPS project is about putting in place the measures needed to achieve compliance with EU’s Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD - 91/271/EEC) as well as the Drinking Water Directive (DWD - 98/83/EC), by preparing so-called directive-specific implementation plans (DSIPs). These are being supplemented by a national strategy for the management of sewage sludge, an investment programme, a programme of legislative development and various capacity development activities.

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Tasks	Targeted time
1. Prepare report on agglomerations, sensitive areas and WSZ	December 2021
2. Prepare directive-specific implementation plans for DWD & WWT	October 2022

3. Prepare a national strategy for sludge management	July 2022
4. Prepare an investment programme for water supply and waste water	June 2023
5. Legal drafting to complete the transposition of relevant directives	September 2022
6. Development of capacity to support implementation	June 2023

Result 3 is the direct contributor to this area, i.e. area XII.

In addition, these results contribute to areas I, II, III, XI and XII.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Working groups have been set up and the program of activities for the timely realization of the objectives has been agreed.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Results	Status of completion
1. "Report on Identified Agglomerations for Wastewater and Water Supply Zones and Sensitive Areas" prepared	Delivered to AKUM
2. Directive-specific implementation plans prepared	In process
3. National strategy for sludge management prepared	In process
4. Investment programme for water supply and waste water prepared	Starts on September 2022
5. Legislation to complete the transposition of relevant directives drafted	In process
6. Development of capacity to support implementation	In process

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Besides Compliance with the national legislation and EU Directives related to water quality, these targets contribute in the following SDGs:

- Goal 3: Good health and well-being; 3.3 End neglected tropical diseases and combat water-borne diseases; 3.9 Reduce deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and water and soil pollution and contamination;

- Goal 6: Water and sanitation for all; 6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse;
 - Goal 15: Life on land; 15.1 Ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

In addition, the following legal acts/subacts are in power:

- DCM no. 177, dated on 31.3.2015 “On standards emission of wastewater and zoning criteria for receiving water environments”;
- Law no.10 463, dated on 22.9.2011 “On Integrated Waste Management”, as amended;
- DCMNo. 127, dated 11.2.2015 “On requirements for use in agricultural of sludges from wastewater”.

XIII. Quality of wastewater used for irrigation purposes (art. 6, para.2 (i))

Surface water used as water resources for irrigation are as below:

560 million m³ water collected in 630 reservoirs;

450 million m³ water obtained from rivers.

Groundwater resources have not significant role in irrigation

So far, wastewater is not used for irrigation purposes.

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

- Monitoring of irrigation water quality is based in the law no. 24/2017 “On administration of irrigation and drainage”.

XIV. Quality of waters which are used as sources for drinking water (art. 6, para. 2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

- Albania has fully approximated the directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy with the law nr 111/2012 on Integrated Management of Water Resources, as amended in June 2018.

According to the SANE 27 project calculations, this directive is only partially transposed.

The transposition level of this directive was increased by the adoption of the Decision of Council of Ministers No 1015 of 16.12.2020, "For the content and implementation of the National Water Resources Management Strategy, of the River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans".

In cooperation with the EUSIWM project, a new legal package was drafted, which includes a new law "On Water Resources Management" and 12 bylaws that will transpose this and other water related EU Directives. Following the Prime Minister's Order No. 24, date 09.02.2021 "On the establishment of the inter-institutional working group for drafting the legal package in the water resources management sector", a working Group was established, and has held ten meetings where the draft Law "On Water Resources Management" has been consulted during 2021. Currently the WRMA is working on the consolidation of the draft law in order to reflect all the comments received by the members of this working group.

Article 47 "Water bodies used for production of drinking water"

1. The river basin council for the respective river basin, should identify in particular:
a) all water bodies intended for human consumption, with average yield of 10 m³ per day or supplying more than 50 people;

b) all water bodies intended for such uses in the future.

2. The river basin council and the relevant authorities for administration and management of water resources should ensure the protection of water resources referred to in this article, in order to avoid deterioration of their quality and to perform the necessary cleaning in that level, in order to obtain drinking water.

3. The Council of Ministers, upon proposal of the Minister, approves the sanitary protection zones for water resources defined in this article and the regulatory provisions for the implementation of these provisions.

Article 87 "Monitoring of water bodies designated for the production of drinking water"

River basin agency is responsible for monitoring of surface and ground water bodies, designated for drinking water production.

- DCM No. 379, dated 25.05.2016, which approves the regulation on "The request for the drinking water quality", in approximation with the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

- DCM no. 550, dated 15.07.2020 "On the approval of the application forms for water resources use, construction activities on the coast, activities in the water bodies, liquid discharges, use and reuse of waste waters and untreated waters, accompanying documents, review and decision-making procedures, authorization and permit forms, their special conditions, and validity terms.

- More than 90 % of drinking water is produced from groundwater extraction, from this 83% from aquifers by pumping stations and 17% from springs. The quality of ground waters is being monitored from Albanian Geologic Survey, through monitoring wells. The quality on the source is under pressure due to informal wells, mostly on urban areas that impact the ground water quality and quantity.

XV. Quality of waters used for bathing (art. 6, para.2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Compliance with the requirements of DCM No. 797, dated 29.09.2010, which approves the regulation "On administration of bathing water quality". The regulation is prepared in approximation of the Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC.

The bathing water quality is performed by the Institute of Public Health, contracted by NEA based on National Monitoring Programme.

This program is performed for the two main parameters: Streptococcus faecalis (probably Escherichia Coli) and Intestinal Enterococce (IE) and the assessment is done in accordance with Bathing Water Directive 76/160/KEE during the summer period.

During 2019 – 2021 the sampling stations for the bathing water of Velipoja, Shengjini, Tale, Durres, Gjiri i Lalezit, Kavaja (Golem, Spille, Qerret), Divjaka, Semani, Vlora (Vlora, Orikum, Zvernec), Dhermi, Palasa, Himara, Borshi, Qeparoi, Saranda, Ksamil, Pogradec and Lin are 119.

Sampling is done in accordance with Annex IV of the Bathing Water Directive:

- one pre-season sample is to be taken shortly before the start of the bathing season;
- no fewer than four samples (including the pre-season sample) are to be taken and analysed in the most recent season;
- an interval between sampling dates should not exceed one month.

For each sampling station there are 9 series done along the summer period.

All these data are reported to the European Environmental Agency and published at the Annual Report of the European Bathing Waters Quality.

Compliance with the national legislation related to bathing water quality contributes in the following SDGs:

- Goal 3: Good health and well-being; 3.3 End neglected tropical diseases and combat water-borne diseases; 3.9 Reduce deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and water and soil pollution and contamination;
- Goal 6: Water and sanitation for all; 6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and increase recycling and safe reuse;

XVI. Quality of waters used for aquaculture or for the production or harvesting of shellfish (art. 6, para.2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Regarding the quality control of water used in aquaculture for the production of shellfish, analysis of water samples are analyzed at the Food Safety and Veterinary Institute, based on the monitoring plan of the production area.

XVII. Application of recognized good practice in the management of enclosed waters generally available for bathing (art. 6, para.2 (k))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Compliance with the requirements of decision no. 835, dated 30.11.2011 for the approval of the regulation "On hygienic-sanitary requirements of swimming pools"

<http://ins-shendetesor.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/VENDIM-I-K%3%8BSHILLIT-T%3%8B-MINISTRAVE-Nr.-835-dt.-30.11.-2011-P%3%8B-MIRATIMIN-E-RREGULLORES-P%3%8B-K%3%8BRKESAT-HIGJIENO-SANITARE-T%3%8B-PISHINAVE.pdf>

This regulation sets out the hygienic-sanitary, environmental, structural, technical, managerial and safety requirements that must be met by public and private swimming pools for use in swimming and recreation in order to protect the health and safety of the users who bathe in them and the staff involved. in their management.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

Among other issues, the regulation provides:

- internal control, as the responsibility of the pool administrator,

When internal controls identify situations risks to public health, the administrator takes measures to protect health, including closing all or part of the pool, and immediately communicates to local public health structures the nature of the risk and the measures taken.

- External control, as the responsibility of local public health structures and inspection as the responsibility of the State Health Inspectorate.

- ANNEX 10 MODEL INTERIOR REGULATION OF THE POOL

Pursuant to the requirements of this regulation, the State Health Inspectorate has drafted and implements the Verification List for the inspection of swimming pools.

http://www.insq.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/liste_verifikimi_per_pishinat.pdf

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This target contributes not only in SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), but also SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) etc., ensuring the quality of waters using for bathing.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XVIII. Identification and remediation of particularly contaminated sites (art. 6, para.2 (l))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

NOTE: According to the monitored data, NEA prepares the Annual State Report, identifying the pollution sources, the status of the stations and gives recommendations.

The Ministry responsible for environment, as the competent authority for the implementation of Law 27/2016 "On chemicals management", has taken a series of steps to improve the safe management of chemicals in the country, the approximation of European Union legislation related to REACH, CLP, mercury, asbestos, with the aim of increasing safety and protecting health and the environment from hazardous chemicals, articles and products.

- The Office of Chemicals has been established at the National Environmental Agency, as an obligation deriving from Law 27/2016 "On the management of chemicals", and as a guarantee and the main body for the implementation of chemicals legislation and their management in Albania.

- Implementation (from March 2019) of the Project "Support to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment for Improving Chemicals Management", financially supported by the Swedish Government / SIDA, and implemented by the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI), contributes to building the technical and administrative capacity of institutions involved in the field of chemicals, as well as the implementation of legislation adopted in this field.

XIX. Effectiveness of systems for the management, development, protection and use of water resources (art. 6, para.2 (m))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

Strategic Objective	Targets	Verification means
<p>Water management: Water is managed in a sustainable and comprehensive way, serving all interests. Equal social and economic water benefits and involvement in decision-making for men and women are ensured, according to the principles of IMWR and EU water environmental policies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the respective legislation and regulations; • Operation of the funding and cost recovery structures; • Operation of the inter-institutional coordination mechanisms; • Operation of mechanisms for interest groups inclusion with an orientation for gender involvement in consultation during the decision-making process (an informative debate); • Consolidation of institutional responsibilities (such as planning, assessments, distribution, monitoring, implementation); • A proportional representation of women and men in water decision-making bodies (NWC, the local and water basin councils) and public consultations for water management on a national, regional and local level. 	<p>Legislation, Orders of Ministers, National Water Council decisions and bylaws, Evaluation of WRM Plans by WCD, INSTAT Statistics, Surveys</p>

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

➤ Under the Prime Minister's Order no. 157 dated 28.10.2018 "in order to take measures for the implementation of a wide sectoral / cross-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the sectoral / cross-sectoral integrated mechanism ", there has been a resumption and composition of the Integrated Politics Management Groups.

The role of IPMGs, among others, is to provide cooperation and joint decision-making in political and management level for planning, coordination and monitoring of national cross-sectoral politics and programs in the priority field, reforms and strategic framework for the sector based on the wide sectoral/cross-sectoral approach principles and instruments, and to ensure leading for the pursuit of coordinated implementation of priority policies and reforms, through reporting and monitoring of measures related to priority goals and objectives;

Based on this order, the Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU) serve as Technical Secretariat of the Integrated Water Management Group.

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

Targets	Status of completion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the respective legislation and regulations; • Operation of the funding and cost recovery structures; • Operation of the inter-institutional coordination mechanisms; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various subacts have been adopted in order to help the implementation of the amendment of the water law and also a new legal package has been prepared to help the transposition of all water related directives. • -----

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of mechanisms for interest groups inclusion with an orientation for gender involvement in consultation during the decision-making process (an informative debate); • Consolidation of institutional responsibilities (such as planning, assessments, distribution, monitoring, implementation); • A proportional representation of women and men in water decision-making bodies (NWC, the local and water basin councils) and public consultations for water management on a national, regional and local level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • through IPMG & Thematic Groups • through the public consultation law. • institutions have clear roles and responsibilities already defined. • through the public consultation law as well as through the participation in public hearings, RB water councils meetings, through website etc.
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4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

These targets contribute to the following SDGs:

- Goal 5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment
- Goal 6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time
- Goal 6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources
- Goal 16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group
- Goal 6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management
- Goal 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation
- Goal 5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Referring to the law on integrated water resources management 111/2012, as amended, there is a obligation that all WS Utilities should define the sanitary protection areas to all water resources used for drinking water extraction. Actually not all the water resources have identified and implemented the sanitary protected area. There are difficulties on urbanization of the areas, hydrogeological studies etc.

XX. Additional national or local specific targets

In cases where additional targets have been set, for each target:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Part three

Common indicators¹

I. Quality of the drinking water supplied

1. Context of the data

1. What is the population coverage (in millions or per cent of total national population) of the water supplies reported under sections 2 and 3 below?

The rationale of this question is to understand the population coverage of the water quality data reported under sections 2 and 3 below.

Before the Territorial Reform of 2015, the Water and Sewerage Utilities had to serve only the population under their jurisdiction (about 85% of the total population). The targets set in previous Strategy of WSS 2011-2017 refer to that population, i.e. the ratio of served population towards the population in jurisdiction. After the Territorial Reform, there are no areas (population) left out of jurisdiction of WS Utilities. Data on water and sanitation coverage for year 2017 and 2018 indicate the ratio of the population served towards the population in jurisdiction which was increasing from the year 2016 until end of 2018, when all the population was under the jurisdiction of WS Utilities.

Please describe the type of water supplies for which data is included in the following tables, and the population share covered by these supplies.

The WS Utilities supply both the urban and rural population under their jurisdiction.

Please also clarify the source of the water quality data provided (e.g., data from regulatory authorities).

2. Please specify from where the water quality samples reported in sections 2 and 3 below are primarily taken (e.g., treatment plant outlet, distribution system or point of consumption).

The rationale of this question is to understand where the samples were primarily taken from for the water quality data reported in sections 2 and 3 below.

Samples are taken at the treatment plant outlet, distribution system and mostly at points of consumption.

Sample points are determined by Local Healthcare Units in agreement with WS Utilities, aiming to represent as much as possible the water supply system.

3. In sections 2 and 3 below, the standards for compliance assessment signify the national standards. If national standards for reported parameters deviate from the World Health Organization (WHO) guideline values, please provide information on the standard values.

The rationale of this question is to understand any possible differences between the national standards for microbiological and chemical water quality parameters and the respective WHO guideline values.²

The requests for compliance assessment are determined in the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 379, dated 25.05.2016, which approves the regulation on “The request for the

¹ In order to allow an analysis of trends for all Parties under the Protocol, please use wherever possible 2005 — the year of entry into force of the Protocol — as the baseline year.

² The latest edition of the WHO *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality* is available at: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/dwq-guidelines-4/en/.

drinking water quality”, in approximation with the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

2. Bacteriological quality

4. Please indicate the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). Parties may also report on up to three other priority microbial indicators and/or pathogens that are subject to routine water quality monitoring.

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” water supplies or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column “area/category” in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/ category</i>	<i>Baseline value (2007)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2019)</i>	<i>Current value (2021)</i>
<i>E. coli</i>	Total	1.37%	0.67%	0.93%	0.81%
	Urban				
	Rural				

NOTE: Fecal streptococcus is not routinely monitored by all district laboratories. It is analyzed only when the presence of E. Coli is verified.

3. Chemical quality

5. Please report on the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for chemical water quality with regard to the following parameters:

- (a) Arsenic;
- (b) Fluoride;
- (c) Lead
- (d) Nitrate.

6. Please also identify up to three additional chemical parameters that are of priority in the national or local context.

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column “area/category” in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

NOTE - Data gathered for chemical quality of drinking water are insufficient because they are not regularly analyzed by the WS Utilities and the regional health authorities due to lack of laboratory capacities.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Current value (2021)</i>
Lead	Total		0.0 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Nitrate	Total		0.0 %		0.037%
	Urban				
	Rural				
Nitrite	Total		0.0 %		0.035%
	Urban				
	Rural				
Iron	Total		2.98 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Manganese	Total		2.98 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Cadmium	Total		0.0 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Copper	Total		0.0 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Chromium	Total		0.0 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				
Nickel	Total		0.0 %		
	Urban				
	Rural				

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Area/category</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Current value (2021)</i>
Ammonium	Total				0.053%
	Urban				
	Rural				
Free residual Chlorine	Total			16.67 %	3%
	Urban			16.2 %	
	Rural			49.1 %	

II. Outbreaks and incidence of infectious diseases related to water

In filling out the below table, please consider the following points:

(a) *For reporting outbreaks, please report confirmed water-related outbreaks only (i.e., for which there is epidemiological or microbiological evidence for water to have facilitated infection);*

(b) *For reporting incidents, please report the numbers related to all exposure routes. In your response:*

(i) *Please report cases per 100,000 population;*

(ii) *Please differentiate between zero incidents (0) and no data available (-).*

Please extend the list of water-related diseases, to the extent possible, to cover other relevant pathogens (e.g., enteric viruses, Giardaintestinalis, Vibrio cholerae).

Please indicate how the information is collected (e.g., event-based or incidence-based surveillance).

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

	<i>Baseline (2010)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Baseline (2010)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Current value (2021)</i>
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bacillary dysentery (shigellosis)	10.7	17	15.43	2	1	1	0
Enterohaemorrhagic E. coli.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Viral hepatitis A	0.95	3.5	0.25	1	0	0	0
Typhoid fever	0.48	0.86	0.54	0	0	0	0

III. Access to drinking water

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” water supply systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to drinking water.

<i>Percentage of population with access to drinking water</i>	<i>Baseline value (2007)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Current value (2020)</i>
Total	73.29 %	81.3 %	77.6 %	77.53%
Urban	85.55 %	90.4 %	98.2 %	93.50%
Rural	49.67 %	71.7 %	58.4 %	58.00%

Estimates provided by the WHO/United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation. *JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>*

√ National estimates. *Please specify how “access” is defined and what types of drinking-water supplies are considered in the estimates in your country.*

In particular, please specify if the above percentage on “access to drinking water” refers to access to (tick all applicable):

- √ Improved drinking water sources (as per JMP definition)
- √ Supplies located on premises
- Supplies available when needed
- Supplies that provide drinking water free from faecal contamination

The above data is based on national estimates.

Access is defined as the ratio of the population supplied by the centralized water supply system to the total population under the jurisdiction of the WS Utilities.

IV. Access to sanitation

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to sanitation.

Percentage of population with access to sanitation	Baseline value (2007)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)	Current value (2020)
Total	44.27 %	49.3%	51.9%	52.0%
Urban	---	71.6 %	79.3 %	82.18%
Rural	---	3.2 %	14.9 %	15.00%

Estimates provided by JMP. JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>

National estimates. Please specify how “access” is defined and what types of sanitation facilities are considered in the estimates in your country.

In particular, please specify if the above percentage on “access to sanitation” refers to access to (tick all applicable):

- Improved sanitation facilities (as per JMP definition)
- Facilities not shared with other households
- Facilities from which excreta is safely disposed in situ or treated off site

The above data is based on national estimates.

Access is defined as the ratio of the population supplied by the centralized water supply system to the total population under the jurisdiction of the WS Utilities.

V. Effectiveness of management, protection and use of freshwater resources

1. Water quality

1. On the basis of national systems of water classification, please indicate the percentage of water bodies or the percentage of the volume (preferably) of water³ falling under each defined class (e.g., for European Union countries and other countries following the European Union Water Framework Directive⁴ classification, the percentage of surface waters of high, good, moderate, poor and bad ecological status, and the percentage of groundwaters/surface waters of good or poor chemical status; for other countries, in classes I, II, III, etc.).

³ Please specify.

⁴ Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.

(b) **For other countries**

(i) *Status of surface waters*

<i>Percentage of surface water falling under class^a</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify the year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2015)</i>	<i>Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (2018)</i>	<i>Current value (2021)</i>
I		0.0 %	10.8%	5.2%
II		20.0 %	27.0%	44.7%
III		50.0 %	43.2%	10.5%
IV		10.0 %	5.4%	21%
V		20.0 %	13.5%	15.78%
Total number/volume of water bodies classified				
Total number/volume of water bodies in the country				

Status of surface waters based on the data for each monitoring station

Classification	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
Monitoring Stations Year 2014	2 stations 5.9 %	12 stations 35.3 %	12 stations 35.3 %	1 station 2.9 %	7 stations 20.6 %
Monitoring Stations Year 2015	2 stations 5.9 %	12 stations 35.3 %	12 stations 35.3 %	1 station 2.9 %	7 stations 20.6 %
Monitoring stations Year 2018	4 stations 10.8%	10 stations 27%	16 stations 43.2%	2 stations 5.4%	5 stations 13.5%
Monitoring stations Year 2019	4 stations 10.5%	10 stations 26.3%	16 stations 42.1%	2 stations 5.26%	5 stations 13.1%
Monitoring stations Year 2020	0 stations 0 %	18 stations 47.36%	7 stations 18.4%	6 stations 15.78%	6 stations 15.78%
Monitoring stations Year 2021	2 stations 5.2%	17 stations 44.7%	4 stations 10.5%	8 stations 21%	6 stations 15.78%

Surface water quality monitoring in Albania is performed based on Decision of Council of Ministers No. 1189 of 18.11.2009 "On the rules and procedures for implementation of National Monitoring Program", DCM No. 246, dated 30.04.2014 "On the determination of environmental quality standards for surface water" and the National Environmental Program.

The laboratory of the National Environmental Agency works in full accordance with the Quality Manual ISO 17025 and is accredited for the main chemical – physical parameters such as: pH, conductivity, alkalinity, suspended solids, chemical oxygen demand, biochemical oxygen demand, nitrite, nitrate, ammonium, ortho-phosphorous and total phosphorous.

Surface water monitoring network is extended in rivers (all the nutrients with a frequency 4 times/year), lakes (all the nutrients, chlorophyll a and trophic state with a frequency 3 times/year) and lagoons (all the nutrients and chlorophyll a with a frequency 3 times/year).

The monitoring network is as follows:

- 38 sampling stations in rivers Drin, Bune, Mat, Ishem, Erzen, Seman, Shkumbin dhe Vjose.
- 3 sampling stations in tributaries of Ohrid lake
- 10 sampling stations in lakes Ohrid, Shkoder, Prespe, Micro Prespa
- 14 sampling stations in coastal areas Durres, Vlore, Sarande, Shengjin and Velipoja.
- 4 sampling stations in lagoons of Karavasta and Narta.

The quality assessment and classification of rivers, lakes and lagoons is done based on the limit values established by Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 October 2000 and for the coastal areas the monitored parameters are compared with the limit values of the DCM 177 date 31.03.2005.

Based on these classification the selection of the sampling stations is carried out according to the criteria for the fullest representation of the water quality status depending on the degree of impact of human activity taking into account the entire length of the river in the upper flow, the middle flow and the bottom flow before discharge into the sea.

Drini Basen– This basen is monitored in 6 sampling stations, Mati Basen - This basen is monitored in 4 sampling stations, Ishem – Erzen Basen – This basen is monitored in 10 sampling stations, Shkumbini Basen – This basen is monitored in 4 sampling stations, Seman Basen – This basen is monitored in 8 sampling stations, Vjosa Basen– This basen is monitored in 5 sampling stations.

Status of bathing waters

	Category	A Excellent Quality	B Good Quality	C Sufficient Quality	D Poor Quality/ Immediate Action
Year 2011	%	45%	19%	1%	34%
10 beaches	Number of sampling stations	33	14	1	25
Year 2015	%	68%	15%	6%	10%
12 beaches	Number of sampling stations	53	12	5	8
Year 2018	%	82.4%	13%	0.9%	3.7%
19 beaches	Number of sampling stations	89	14	1	4

Year 2019	%	89	2.5	6	2.5
22 beaches	Number of sampling stations	106	3	7	3
Year 2020	%	89.9	5	0.9	4.2
22 beaches	Number of sampling stations	107	6	1	5
Year 2021	%	51	32	8	9
22 beaches	Number of sampling stations	60	38	10	11

(ii) *Status of groundwaters*

Until June 2019, groundwater monitoring program was performed by Albanian Geological Survey (AGS), contracted by NEA. This monitoring covers the six river basins as follows: Vjosa, Shkumbini, Ishem – Erzeni, Drini, Mati and Semani river basin's and the Ionic Area in a total of 59 monitoring stations.

The parameters monitored and assessed are as follows: pH, hardness, alkalinity, acidity, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, salinity, heavy metals, high salinity areas, sensitive areas from volume contamination.

The last monitoring contract was only for the first monitoring phase of the year 2019.

Based on the groundwater quality assessment for the first phase May – June 2019 the parameters monitored are within the limited values.

From July and following, AGS performs twice/year the hydrodynamic and hydrochemical monitoring of groundwater in the most important aquifers according to a defined network, mainly in porous aquifers that have the majority use for drinking water. This monitoring network contains 77 representative monitoring points of the river basins of Albania as well as 8 monitoring points belonging to the Ionian basin.

The summary report on quantitative and qualitative evaluation of groundwater, contains also the relevant recommendations. It is sent to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the National Agency for Water Supply - Sewerage and Waste Infrastructure, Water Resources Management Agency and National Environmental Agency.

2. Please provide any other information that will help put into context and aid understanding of the information provided above (e.g., coverage of information provided if not related to all water resources, how the quality of waters affects human health).

2. Water use

3. Please provide information on the water exploitation index at the national and river basin levels for each sector (agriculture, industry, domestic), i.e., the mean annual abstraction of freshwater by sector divided by the mean annual total renewable freshwater resource at the country level, expressed in percentage terms.

Water Demand (10 ⁹ m ³ /year)	Current		2027	
	Gross	% ⁵¹	Gross	%
Water used for agriculture (including irrigation)	0.74 ²	1.8	1.10	2.8
Water used for industry (including hydropower)	0.01	0.0	0.01	0.0
Water used for drinking water	0.33	0.8	0.29	0.7
Total Demand	1.08	2.6	1.40	3.5
Water Balance	40.62		38.42	

The above table summarises the national situation. However, the fact that nationally there is a positive water does not necessarily mean that there is a positive balance in each of the six defined river basins with Albania. The following table gives the annual situation for each of the six river basins, which depicts a clear water surplus.

Part four

Water-related disease surveillance and response systems

1. In accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol:

Has your country established comprehensive water-related disease surveillance and early warning systems according to paragraph 1 (a)?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

Has your country prepared comprehensive national or local contingency plans for responses to outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease according to paragraph 1 (b)?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

Do relevant public authorities have the necessary capacity to respond to such outbreaks, incidents or risks in accordance with the relevant contingency plan according to paragraph 1 (c)?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

2. If yes or in progress, please provide summary information about key elements of the water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response systems (e.g., identification of water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, notification, communication to the public, data management and reporting). Please also provide reference to existing national legislation and/or regulations addressing water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response.

The food and water – related diseases are mandatory reported in Albania through the statutory notification monthly reporting system, weekly syndromic surveillance system –ALERT, and laboratory surveillance of infectious agents transmitted through water and food. They are part of mandatory reported diseases list and the outbreaks related to them should be investigated within 24 hours by joint multisectorial outbreak investigations teams according to the Law Nr. 15/2016 on Infectious Diseases and infections prevention and control. Timeliness of the detection and the response is a key element of measuring the success.

¹As a percentage of total renewable water resources.

² From 'Water Supply and Sewerage Master Plan for Albania - January 2013'

3. Please describe what actions have been taken in your country in the past three years to improve and/or sustain water-related disease surveillance, early warning systems and contingency plans, as well as to strengthen the capacity of public authorities to respond to water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, in accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol.

- The guide on food related disease outbreak management and response is finalized, while the guide on water related disease outbreak management and response is drafted and is under consultation.

- An event based surveillance guideline has been prepared and web based national information system for reporting events, syndromes, diseases and outbreaks and their measures has been prepared and implemented.

- Risk assessment guidelines have been prepared. The Public Health Operation Center is established and Standard Operating Procedures are developed.

- The of timeliness of detection and response of such outbreaks has been evaluated and serves as an important indicator for success of outbreak detection and response measures.

Part five

Progress achieved in implementing other articles of the Protocol

Please provide a short description of the status of implementation of articles 9 to 14 of the Protocol, as relevant.

Suggested length: up to two pages

Article 9

Public awareness, education, training, research and development and information

- Educational curricula on hygiene, health and the environment;

- Promotional campaigns, activities, publications etc according to the promotional calendar of Ministry of Health and Social Protection and the Ministry of Tourism and Environment;

- Extracurricular and supplementary activities carried out by schools in the framework of the World Water Day.

Article 10

Public information

- The Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 379, dated 25.05.2016, which approves the regulation on "The request for the drinking water quality" requires consumer information through a three-year report on the quality of drinking water, prepared by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, based on annual reports prepared by the Institute of Public Health.

- Decision no. 643 dated 14.09.2011 requires the continuous monitoring of strategic objectives (performance indicators) by the Monitoring Unit at the National Water Supply and Sewerage Agency has been sanctioned. The Monitoring Unit prepares the annual reports on Performance of Water and Sewerage Sector. These annual reports are published in the website of the National Water Supply and Sewerage Agency for the period 2006-2020.

- Law no. 8102, dated 28.03.1996 "On the Regulatory Framework of the Sector for Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal and Treatment", as amended, requires preparation of the Annual Reports on situation of the water supply and sewerage sector. These annual reports are published in the website of the Water Regulatory Authority for the period 2009-2021.

Article 11

International cooperation

- DCM No.772, dated 24.9.2010 for the implementation of the International Health Regulation

Article 12

Joint and coordinated international action

- DCM No.772, dated 24.9.2010 for the implementation of the International Health Regulation

Article 13

Cooperation in relation to transboundary waters

- Framework Agreement of 3 July 2018 between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of Montenegro on Mutual Relations in the Management of Transboundary Water Resources. In 2019 was established the Special Commission on transboundary water administration, chaired by the deputy Minister of the Ministry for EU and Foreign affairs.
- Law nr 111/2012 on Integrated Management of Water Resources, as amended in June 2018. The provisions of this law regulate the legal relations arising from the use of water resources in the Republic of Albania and apply, inter alia, to transboundary waters.
- The Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the extended transboundary Drin Basin (MoU - Tirana, Albania, 25 November 2011) signaled the initiation of coordinated action at the Drin Basin level (shared between Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo and Greece), after the Drin Dialogue that launched on 1 December 2009, in Podgorica, Montenegro.

Part six

Thematic part linked to priority areas of work under the Protocol

1. Water, sanitation and hygiene in institutional settings

1. In the table below, please provide information on the proportion of schools (primary and secondary) and health-care facilities that provide basic water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

Basic services refer to the following:

(a) *Basic sanitation service: Improved facilities (according to JMP definition), which are sex-separated and usable at the school or health-care facility;*

(b) *Basic drinking water service: Water from an improved source (according to JMP definition) is available at the school or health-care facility;*

(c) *Basic hygiene service: Handwashing facility with water and soap available to students (schools) or patients and health-care providers (health-care facilities).*

If the above definitions/categories do not apply in your country, please report for alternative categories for which data are available. In this case, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).

<i>Institutional setting</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
<i>Schools</i>	

<i>Institutional setting</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
Basic sanitation service	
Basic drinking-water service	
Basic hygiene service	
<i>Health-care facilities</i>	
Basic sanitation service	
Basic drinking-water service	
Basic hygiene service	

2. Has the situation of WASH in schools been assessed in your country?
 YES NO IN PROGRESS
3. Has the situation of WASH in health-care facilities been assessed in your country?
 YES NO IN PROGRESS
4. Do approved policies or programmes include actions (please tick all that apply):
 To improve WASH in schools
 To improve WASH in health-care facilities
5. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) or programme(s).

For WASH in HCF:

- Albanian National Health Strategy 2021-2030 and Action Plan for implementation of the Strategy
<https://qbz.gov.al/eli/fz/2022/57/6d601d9c-0b00-4fd5-a2c4-b55abfdb7980>
- Quality standards for accreditation of hospitals.
- Quality standards for accreditation of university health structures.
- Quality standards for accreditation of primary healthcare facilities.
<http://www.hap.org.al/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Standardet-e-cilesise-per-akreditimin.pdf>
- DCM no. 237, dated on 06.03.2009 for determining the criteria for opening and closing of hospitals
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/26.pdf>
- All healthcare wastes producers are obliged to comply with the requirements of: DCM no.798, dated 29.9.2010 On the approval of the regulation "On the management of hospital waste"
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/798.pdf>
- National Guide for Safe Hospital Waste Management
https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Udhezuesi_kombetar.doc
- Action Plan for prevention, preparedness and response against COVID-19
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/plani-i-veprimit-per-parandalimin-pergatitjen-dhe-pergjigjen-kunder-covid-19/>
- The Strategy of Reopening the Health Care System in Albania
https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Covid_Strategjia-e-rihapjes.pdf
- National Plan for Vaccination against Covid -19
- National Plan of Response 2021-2023
- The Strategy of Response autumn-winter
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Strategjia-e-pergjigjes-vjeshtedimer-20-21.pdf>

- Guideline ‘On care and anti-covid-19 measures in pre-university educational structures for the academic year 2020-2021’
https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Udhezim-per-shkollat-2021_210831_152525.pdf
- Order “On taking hygienic-sanitary measures to prevent the spread of acute respiratory infections including COVID - 19 in preschools institutions, kindergartens, nurseries and other educational institutions
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Urdher-105-per-marrjen-masave-higjeno-sanitare-ne-inst-parashkolllore-kopshtecerdhe-dhe-inst-aresimore.-u.105.pdf>
- Order 561- On taking measures to prevent COVID-19 infection for employees of public administration, supermarkets and shopping centers
<https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Urdher-561-vaksinimi-administrata.pdf>
- Document “Standard Operating Procedure in Prevention and Control of Hospital Infections” is in approval process.

Related to WASH in schools:

- Decision no. 319, dated 12.4.2017 on the approval of School Design Standards
https://arsimi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/VKM_319_date_12.04.17_standarti_i_projektimit_te_shkollave_1-1.pdf
- Based on point ç, of article 28, of law no. 69/2012, ‘On the pre-university education system in the Republic of Albania’, as amended, the basic unit of local government has the task of guaranteeing hygienic-sanitary conditions in the buildings of public educational institutions.
https://arsimi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Ligji_Parauniversitar.pdf
- Based on article 111, of regulation no. 730/1 "On the functioning of pre-university educational institutions in the Republic of Albania", in each pre-university educational institution functions the commission of health, safety, maintenance and environment, which regularly monitors the conditions of maintaining health and hygiene in school.
<https://arsimi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Udher-Nr.-31-date-28.01.2020-Rregullore-per-IAP.pdf>
- In the conditions of the situation created by the pandemic "COVID-19" in the guide of the Agency for Quality Assurance of Pre-University Education (ASCAP), "For the beginning of the school year 2020-2021", are defined the measures of safety and hygiene in school
<https://www.ascap.edu.al/udhezuesi-per-fillimin-e-vitit-shkollor-2020-2021/#>
- Joint Order no. 336, dated 14.07.2021 of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development "On the approval of the regulation on food standards in the premises of pre-university educational institutions"
Among other things, the regulation requires that the child must have access to drinking water throughout the stay in the educational institution, preferably through the supply from the network. The facilities designated for the preparation, service and / or consumption of food in the educational institution must be special, adapted for this purpose and meet the standards and hygienic-sanitary requirements.
<https://qbz.gov.al/eli/fz/2021/165/c588e8b0-96cb-4297-a179-bddd92923979;q=mjediset%20e%20institucioneve%20arsimore%20parauniversitare>

2. Safe management of drinking-water supply

6. Is there a national policy or regulation in your country, which requires implementation of risk-based management, such as WHO water safety plans (WSPs), in drinking water supply?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

7. If yes, please provide reference to relevant national policy(ies) or regulatory documentation.

- **Guideline of Water Safety Planing for Small Scale Water Supply, 2019**

https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Udhezuesi_Plan_Sigurise_Ujit_Sist_Vegjel_FU.pdf

- **Roadmap for implementation of WSP, 2019**

https://shendetesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Udherrefyes_per_zbatim_Plan_Sigurise_Ujit.pdf

8. In the table below, please provide information on the percentage of the population served with drinking-water under a WSP.

Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).

<i>Percentage of population</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
Total	---77.65%

3. Equitable access to water and sanitation

9. Has the equity of access to safe drinking-water and sanitation been assessed?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

10. Do national policies or programmes include actions to improve equitable access to water and sanitation (please tick all that apply):

- To reduce geographical disparities
- To ensure access for vulnerable and marginalized groups
- To keep water and sanitation affordable for all

11. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) and programme(s).

Part seven Information on the person submitting the report

The following report is submitted on behalf of Republic of Albania in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

Officers responsible for submitting the national report	
Name: Zhaneta Miska Specialist Directory of Primary Care and Public Health Policies E-mail: Zhaneta.Miska@shendetesia.gov.al Telephone number: +355 694114117 Name and address of national authority: Ministry of Health and Social Protection Rruga e Kavajës, 1001, Tirana Signature:  Date: 15.04.2022	Name: Arduen Karagjozi Director Directory of Strategic Management E-mail: arduen.karagjozi@stkk.gov.al Telephone number: +355 692473380 Name and address of national authority: Water Resources Management Agency Blvd "Zhan D'Ark", Prona nr. 33, Shtëpia e Ushtarakëve, Tirana Signature:  Date: 15.04.2022

Submission

1. Parties are required to submit their summary reports to the joint secretariat, using the present template and in accordance with the adopted guidelines on reporting, 210 days before the next session of the Meeting of the Parties. Submission of the reports ahead of this deadline is encouraged, as this will facilitate the preparation of analyses and syntheses to be made available to the Meeting of the Parties.
2. Parties are requested to submit, to the two addresses below, an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy by e-mail. Electronic copies should be available in word-processing software.

Joint Secretariat to the Protocol on Water and Health

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