

# Programme area 2 –European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

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Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes



# 1. Progress and achievements in this area of work in the triennium, esp. since 2014

- \* Elaboration of a new national water law and its by-laws (in Georgia)
- \* Ongoing processes to ratify the Protocol on Water and Health (in Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan)
- \* Activities to strengthen the use of economic instruments for water law at national level (in Armenia and Kyrgyzstan), the subnational level (Republic of Buryatiya, Lake Baikal Basin, the Russian Federation) and the transboundary level (in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia)
- \* Development of recommendations on a sustainable business model for water supply and sanitation in small towns and rural settlements in Kazakhstan



## 2. Main results and lessons learned

- \* Political leadership of the EC and the Chair of the EECCA –EUWI
- \* Role of key strategic partners: UNECE and OECD
- \* Coordination of NDP activities with other EU activities
- \* NPDs in terms of topics evolve over time
- \* Leadership and commitment of national actors in the process
- \* Coordination with development partners to ensure the sustainability of results
- \* Building on multiple ECE activities
- \* Flexibility in planning of activities is necessary (in case of changes in governments)
- \* Level of funding activities (NDPs are typically set for several years and require a medium- to long-term perspective)



# 3. Plans in this area in the draft programme of work for 2016-2018

- \* Future priorities of work under NPDs:
  - (a) the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus;
  - (b) the role of water in supporting the transition to green economy,
  - (c) transboundary cooperation
- \* Differentiation of focus:
  - Central Asia: water diplomacy, nexus, green economy
  - Eastern Europe/Caucasus: approximation of EU water legislation (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine signatories of the Association Agreements with the EU in 2014)

