# Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E) Actions by OECD

Organization: OECD

## Title:

## **Strengthening water management**

Focus area: 2,4,5,8 Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital; Shift consumer behaviours towards sustainable consumption patterns; Develop clean physical capital for sustainable production patterns; Improve access to services, healthy living and well-being.

**Description of the action:** This action aims to support reform of water policies in EECCA countries by contributing to achieving broader development goals, including water-related post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which feature prominently water resources management, trans-boundary water cooperation and policy integration; and by supporting economically, financially and environmentally sound management of water resources, including adaptation to climate change; recalling that the COP 21 climate conference stressed the importance of wise water management strategies, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, which are fundamental for the provision of safe water, livelihoods and sustainable energy sources.

It will include two components:

- 1) Strengthening the economic and financial dimensions of water management, including adaptation to climate change
- 2) Strengthening water institutions in the EECCA region

Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate: 2016-18

Type of action: Information, education-based, capacity-building and voluntary instruments Examples of concrete projects could include: reviews of water allocation mechanisms, with a view to ensuring that they contribute to green growth; assessments of water infrastructure needs (including for multi-purpose infrastructure) and analyses of lower-cost alternatives and financing schemes; reviews of economic instruments for water management, with a view to aligning them with water priority objectives, etc.

Economic sectors: water

Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate: ENV/EPOC/EAP(2016)2

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Improved water management in EECCA countries through better economic regulation of water supply and sanitation, better allocation of roles between public and private actors, reduced over-fragmentation in the water supply and sanitation sector, while at the same time, ensuring the economic and financial sustainability of water resources management and services.

*SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:* Related to Sustainable Development Goals:

- 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

- 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Recommendations, as appropriate:---

Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:---

Partners: Co-operation with EU Water Initiative, UNECE

# Contact points:

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