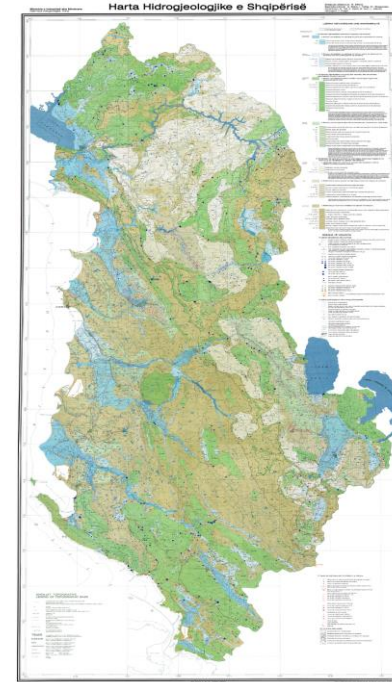


ALBANIA WATER SECURITY INITIATIVE

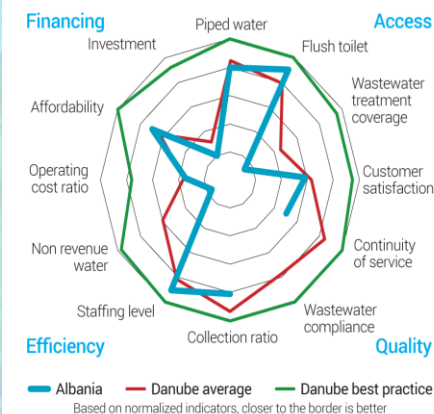


Albania – at a glance

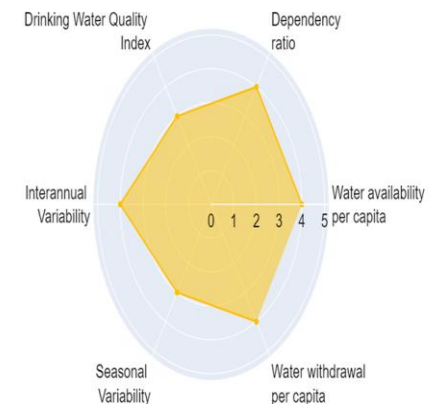
- **Albania is a very water-rich country**
- Population 2.81 million
- freshwater is estimated at 14280 m³/capita/year
- water supply mainly from natural springs and underground water sources (83%)
- 7 river basin districts (RBD)
- 150 small streams form 8 big rivers in Albania
- 3 large lakes and 247 small ones cover a total of 4% of the country's territory
- Hydropower is the main source of electricity 97%



Sustainability Assessment



Sector Sustainability Assessment	Value	Danube Average	Danube best practice
Sector Sustainability Assessment	55	64	96





	EFFECTIVENESS	ACCEPTANCE	JUSTICE & ETHICS	FEASIBILITY	FLEXIBILITY	SIDE EFFECTS	URGENCY
Implement a water security plan for the country	36	31	36	23	29	32	43
Implement a water security plan for the region	46	30	38	29	38	43	48
Implement a water security plan for the municipality	36	35	33	26	30	42	36
Implement a water security plan for the community	40	31	31	28	27	36	39
Implement a water security plan for the household	40	27	29	22	27	36	36
Close investment gap of the municipal level	38	31	24	24	29	34	34
Invest in water infrastructure at the municipal level	48	39	36	31	39	49	50



Deep Dive Albania



Water in Albania – some “worrying facts”

- Only 14% of all wastewater is safely treated in Albania
 - Only about 53% of the population is connected to sewers
 - Over 600 irrigation reservoirs, designed capacity of 506 million cubic meters, potentially supplying half the irrigation water use. Yet, due to sedimentation: actual retention capacity is around 290 million cubic meters
 - Almost two-thirds of the reservoirs have major technical damage which requires attention to ensure dam safety.
 - Annual electricity generation has fluctuated massively (e.g. 2022, due to a drought spell), leading to high imports in all but the very wettest years
 - Drought risk worrisome due to the large dependency on the reservoir network for irrigation and electricity generation: energy emergency in October 2021 and in March 2022 halted generation at 11 out of 13 of state-owned company hydropower plants due to drought
 - Flood risk has worsened in the recent decades, most likely due to deforestation, overgrazing and a lack of maintenance of the drainage system and pumping stations (see e.g. floods in 2021)
- → Climate Change impacts will increase uncertainty...



...but action is underway:

1st priority actions:

- Improve Capacity Development/Human Resource Plan at utility plus Operation & Maintenance level regarding the Water Supply and Sanitation sector
- Improve monitoring of water bodies in line with the EU-Aquis
- Improve dam safety and sustainable operation
- Support shift to more efficient, sustainable agricultural farms, including irrigation modernisation
- Design and implement a national disaster management plan

2nd priority actions:

- Development and/or revision of river basin management plans and the development of a financial strategy to secure the implementation of the associated program of measures
- Improve infrastructure planning and management regarding the water supply and sanitation sector
- Strengthen utilities to improve service and financial sustainability, including a successful utility aggregation
- Advance the implementation of EU water directives - development of DSIP (Directive-Specific Implementation Plans) for all WFD-sister Directives
- Reactivate strategies/ action plans to reduce Non-Revenue water and to increase energy efficiency of water supply and sanitation systems

3rd priority actions:

- Complete and/or maintain the register of water uses
- Further improve flood protection in line with the EU Floods Directive
- Review and further develop the tariffing system for water uses

An aerial photograph of a coastal town in Albania, featuring a sandy beach, buildings, and several small, lush green islands in the turquoise sea. The text "Thank you" is overlaid in white, centered in the upper half of the image.

Thank you

See you in ALBANIA