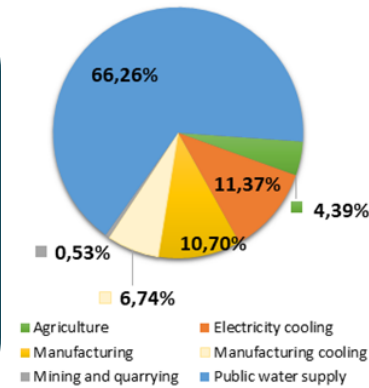
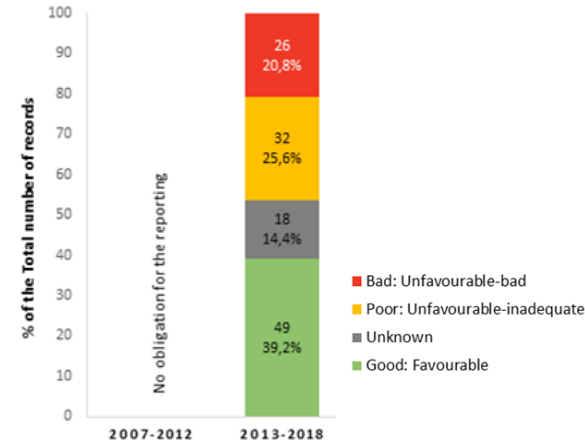




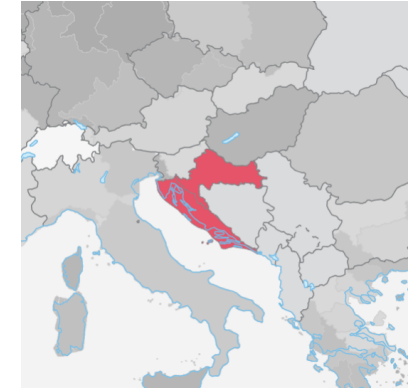
of inhabitants **3.9 million**
Surface area **55 896 km²**
GDP per capita **73 pps [1]**
Significant bodies of water (RBDs) **Danube**
Polity **unitary state**
Layers of government **central government; regional level (20 counties and City of Zagreb); local level (128 towns and 428 municipalities)**
Legislative powers at the sub-national level **No**
Decentralisation index **1.6 (16 out of 27) [2]**
Water Exploitation Index plus (WEI+) **0.36% (2017) [3]**



Water abstraction per sector in Croatia - Source: EEA (2022)



Conservation status for habitats in 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 in Croatia - Source: EEA (2021)



Water bodies with less than good ecological status in Croatia - Source: EEA (2021)

Main actors responsible for WEFE nexus relevant governance

NEXUS PILLARS

POLICY MAKING

POLICY EXECUTION

Water

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Energy

Croatian Waters; regional and local authorities

Energy

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Energy

Croatian Energy Regulatory Agency; regional and local authorities

Food

Ministry of Agriculture

regional and local authorities

Ecosystems

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Energy

Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature; State Institute for Nature Protection

WEFE NEXUS PERSPECTIVE

CHALLENGES

- Address leakages in water supply networks
- Improve wastewater management infrastructure
- Cooperate with water, energy and agriculture sectors to support Natura 2000 management
- Establish conservation objectives and measures for all Natura 2000 sites
- Help farmers understand how to comply with biodiversity and nitrates legislation

OPPORTUNITIES

- Croatia has developed a system for sharing water environmental data
- Croatia coordinates procedures for the Water Framework Directive and the Industrial Emissions Directive
- The Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature fulfils a coordinating role in the field of ecosystem services assessment



More information on WEFE nexus governance in the EU

[1] EU purchasing power standard
[2] <https://portal.cor.europa.eu/divisionpowers/Pages/Decentralization-Index.aspx>
[3] The threshold for water scarcity is set at > 20%

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