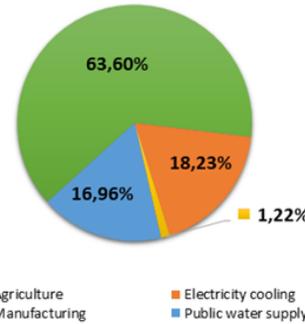
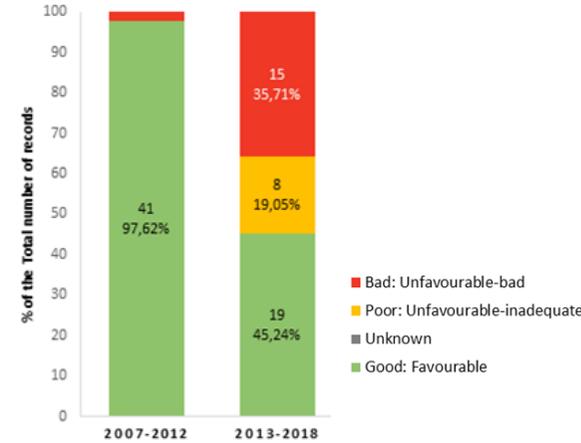




# of inhabitants **0.9 million**  
Surface area **9 213 km<sup>2</sup>**  
GDP per capita **92 pps [1]**  
Significant bodies of water (RBDs) **Cyprus**  
Polity **unitary presidential republic**  
Layers of government **central government; 6 districts; 39 municipalities; 478 communities**  
Legislative powers at the sub-national level **No**  
Decentralisation index **1.1 (15 out of 27) [2]**  
Water Exploitation Index plus (WEI+) **70.63% (2017) [3]**



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



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



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

**Main actors responsible for WEFE nexus relevant governance**

**NEXUS PILLARS**

**POLICY MAKING**

**POLICY EXECUTION**

**Water**

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment

Water Development Department; districts; municipalities; communities; local water supply authorities

**Energy**

Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry

Energy Department; districts; municipalities; communities

**Food**

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment

provincial agricultural offices; municipalities; communities

**Ecosystems**

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment

Department of Environment; districts; municipalities; communities

**WEFE NEXUS PERSPECTIVE**

**CHALLENGES**

- Address issues of severe water scarcity
- Improve the wastewater management infrastructure
- Establish conservation objectives and measures for all Natura 2000 sites
- Launch an awareness-raising campaign about the Natura2000 network and its benefits
- Support the development of national business and biodiversity platforms

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Cyprus' Recovery and Resilience Plan aims to:
  - transform and modernise water resource management
  - to improve the coordination between water management authorities, the adoption of smart technologies, the promotion of water reuse and the expansion of the wastewater treatment infrastructure
- A new governmental strategy and action plan for biodiversity have been formulated for the next decade (2020-2030)



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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