

**ALBANIA
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROJECT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT
FRAMEWORK
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN
(Final 11.10.2013)**

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFP	Albania Forestry Project
ASCI	Areas for Special Conservation Interest
CFPMP	Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans
CMMP	Communal Microcatchment
DFS	District Forestry Service
DGFP	General Directorate of Forests and Pastures
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPR	Environmental Performance Review
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FPDS	Forest and Pasture Strategy
FPUA	Forest and Pasture User Associations
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoA	Government of Albania
LAG	Local Action Groups
LEAP	Local Environmental Action Plan
MEFWFA	Ministry of Environment Forest and Water Administration
MIS	Management Information System
MC	Micro-Catchment
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRDP	Natural Resources Development Project
PCD	Project Concept Note
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PIM	Project Implementation Manual
PMT	Project Management Team
RC	Regional Coordinator
REA	Regional Environment Agency
SA	Social Assessment
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
WFP	World Food Program
WRM	Water Resources Management

Summary

1. INTRODUCTION

The Government of Albania (GoA) has applied for financial assistance (US\$ 22.88) from the World Bank and other Donors (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency-SIDA, Global Environmental Facility –GEF, other WB Trust Funds) for the preparation and implementation of an Environmental Service Project (ESP) whose main objective is to implement the existing Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMP) and Communal Microcatchment (CMCPs) supported under the National Resources Development Project (NRDP) which was finalised in 2011 and extend the process of participatory micro-catchment management planning and implementations to all communes in Albanian.

This document describes the results of the Environmental Assessment (EA) carried out for the preparation of the ESP and includes the Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF) developed for its implementation.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The project has been classified by WB as an environment category B. It therefore needs to undergo an Environmental Assessment (EA) whose main objective is the identification and assessment of the potential negative environmental impacts of the proposed project activities so as to either prevent them or minimize them through adequate mitigation measures.

Given the specific characteristics of the ESP, in which activities to be financed through its Component 1 are only foreseen at this present stage and will only be confirmed during project implementation, WB procedures foresee that an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is developed so as to allow adequate screening of the activities proposed for financing.

In case screening through application of the EMF indicates that potential negative environmental impacts are possible, the Framework gives indications for the preparation of specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs).

3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The preparation of an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is part of the requirements of the ESP project preparation efforts. The objective of the EMF is to prepare a list of the activities that will potentially be implemented during the years of project development, determine their potential environmental impacts and provide recommendations for the mitigation measures that will need to be put into place in order to minimize the negative impacts. The EMF provides for processes, tools and framework of institutional responsibilities to enable project personnel to carry out the

necessary screening and assessments in order to adequately plan for the environmental management of the ESP activities. Details on the methodology of EMF application and its specific tools are given in the dedicated Chapter 9. The EMF for ESP has been prepared on the basis of the WB 2008 EMF toolkit. Particular attention has been given to the lessons learnt from the EMF application to NRDP activities in order to simplify the specific tools as much as possible and make them easier to use and to understand by the Commune and FPUAs staff. In addition, an effort has been made to identify the capacity training needs of the local associations and institutions so as to make a more efficient application of the EMF possible. As the overall project is Category B, the EMF includes provisions for excluding Category A projects from financing and also includes measures for pest-management related environmental risks.

4. STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

World Bank Operational Policies foresee that the EA of a category B project undergo a Public Consultation Process. Albanian Law requires public consultation only in the case of projects for which a full EIA is required.

A first Public Consultation Workshop was organized in Tirana on the 31st of July to present the planned activities and emphasis was made on the importance to have the audience contributions to be able to fine tune the instruments used in NRDP implementation in order to make the whole process more effective.

Participants were stakeholders identified by the PMT and the Consultant team. The complete list of the participants is provided in PIM Annex H. Minutes of the workshop are provided in PIM Annex H.

Stakeholder Consultation was also carried out during the different field trips carried out while preparing the EA and the EMF. Annex 1 contains the list of the stakeholders who were consulted in these occasions.

A final Public Consultation Workshop was held on the 26th of September. The list of Participants and the Minutes of the Meeting are presented in the Annex to this report.

5. ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

It is not generally expected that the ESP will have major negative environmental impacts, but rather that it will help fight land and watershed degradation through both physical interventions and the empowerment of rural population and of local and central institutions.

The following are some of the actions foreseen by the ESP that will result in positive environmental impacts:

- ESP will continue the successful processes of community based regeneration of forests and pasture areas started by the AFP and continued under the NRDP.
- Forest and pasture regeneration will fight land degradation and erosion issues suffered in large areas of the country.
- Interventions focusing on water management (irrigation and flood control) will contribute to both improve livelihoods of rural upland communities and lessen erosion effects.
- Development of new income production activities such as sustainable tourism and basic produce processing will be explored with the aim of bringing new resources to the rural communities and allow for their more sustainable management of their forest and pastoral resources.
- The effort that will be made to address potential key policy constraints and capacity building is aimed to drive sustainable development of the upland areas.

The potential environmental impacts (both positive and negative) of each of the presently foreseen interventions foreseen by component of the ESP are discussed in the following Paragraphs and listed in detail in *Table 7*.

As the project activities impact directly on the livelihoods of the local rural communities, particular attention will need to be paid to indirect and cumulative impacts of interventions and of potential impacts that may be a consequence of ESP impact on local economies and society.

Proposed environmental mitigations corresponding to each of the foreseen activities listed in the table indicating the responsibility for implementation are presented and discussed in the EMF activity Table in Chapter 8.

5.1 Air

The foreseen impacts of ESP activities on air quality are mostly insignificant. As in the case of the NRDP, the impact on air of sustainable forest and pastures interventions will be in relation to Climate Change through Carbon Sequestration and will mostly be positive impacts.

The only potentially negative impact could come from burning of eradicated shrubs resulting from cleaning of abandoned pasture lands as it would release Carbon in the atmosphere. To minimize the impact, the shrubs should be cut and used for household cooking or winter heating.

The minor negative impacts on air quality is the dust emissions arising from the activities related to erosion control and prevention such as construction of check dams and fences to protect pasture areas. These impacts will nevertheless be minimal and temporary.

5.2 Soil and Groundwater

A number of the activities foreseen by the ESP are focused on regeneration of forests and of degraded or abandoned pasture lands with the ultimate objective to prevent soil erosion. Only minor environmental impacts on soil and groundwater can be expected from these and examples are the following:

- Potential minor risk of leakages of fuel/oil due to use of transport vehicles;
- Potential contamination of groundwater if fertilizers and pesticides are used to improve forest health and growth patterns.

These issues will successfully be addressed by appropriate maintenance and adequate leak prevention measures for the vehicles potentially used in the activities and, more importantly, appropriate training of farmers for use of pesticides and fertilizers. With particular reference to the issues of chemicals usage, an Integrated Pesticide Management Plan is a part of the EMF.

5.3 Forests

The overall impact of the ESP activities will be positive for forests.

Potential foreseen environmental impacts include the following:

- a) Potential increase of grazing and/or harvesting pressure on unprotected areas in case of limiting access on selected areas of forests and pastures.
- b) Reduction of forest diversity/loss of biodiversity through excessive use of Robinia pseudoaccacia and Mediterranean pine tree.
- c) Impoverishment/alteration of soil quality

Mitigation measures include ensuring participatory process in the selection of the sites so as to respect everyone's rights and minimize overuse/overgrazing issues on other areas, monitoring of number of livestock numbers and adequate diversification of species to be used in reforestation interventions.

5.4 Surface Water

The main foreseen ESP interventions directly impacting surface waters are the ones focusing on the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation networks, water reservoirs and pumping stations.

A specific effort must be made during ESP implementation to ensure that Commune participatory planning must take place at the base of ESP grants allocation to ensure benefits arrive to the weaker parts of the communities.

Additional minor environmental impacts may be caused by spillage of potentially harmful substances/chemicals during construction, if any are used. Adequate monitoring of used substances and leakage/spillage prevention measures will further minimize these risks.

5.5 Biodiversity and Protected Areas

As in the case of forests, the overall impact of the ESP activities on protected areas and biodiversity should be positive as its main focus is sustainable forest and pasture management.

Potential foreseen negative environmental impacts of which some evidence is available from NRDP implementation include the following:

- a) Reduction of forest diversity/loss of biodiversity through excessive use of Black locust (*Robinia pseudoaccacia*) and Mediterranean pine tree.
- b) Impoverishment/alteration of soil quality.
- c) Potential visual/landscape impact due to construction of check dams, fences and other permanent structures.

All these potential negative impacts can be minimized by appropriate planning and diversification of species used for reforestation activities and adequate choice of the materials to be used for the constructions.

Measures are included in the ESP EMF which will also avoid the financing of harmful activities inside Protected Areas.

The following table lists all the activities presently foreseen for the ESP giving a short but detailed description of expected potential positive, negative and cumulative environmental impacts. Activities are subdivided in sections by project component and impacts are indicated positive/negative or neutral per environmental aspect.

Table 1: Environmental impacts and mitigation measures

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste management	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
Component A – Ipad Like Agri-Environmental Measures													
A.1 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures	Details are given in the following cells												
A.2 Implementation of Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs) existing under the NRDP . The following activities can also be included in the Implementation of MicroCatchment Management Plans (Section A3)													
Forest Protection: ban community access to forest	X	X	x	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	-potential increased pressure on other forest areas	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Silvicultural activities: (see details in Annex)	-	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers; Potential groundwater contamination issues due to fuel leakages of transport vehicles; Potential noise and dust impact on natural habitat due to usage of transport vehicles: Potential soil erosion issues due to tracts made by transport vehicles.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Harvesting and Utilisation: (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential noise and air quality issues due to road transport of forest products; Potential groundwater contamination issues due to fuel leakages of transport vehicles; Potential soil erosion issues due to tracts made by transport vehicles;	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Afforestation -(see details in Annex)-	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Reforestation (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Seedling Production	x	-	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	Potential improvement of quality of	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesti-	Positive: high

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste management	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
(see details in Annex)											seedlings and consequent impact on soil; reduced erosion and increased soil moisture retention; -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	cides ; Potential transport issues and waste management issues related to packing.	Negative: low Cumulative: low
Erosion prevention and control (other than forestation) (see details in Annex)	√	√	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Reduction of erosion processes; Introduction of cultivations variety.	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of fertilisers; Potential intensification of grazing on adjacent lands which are not fenced.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Protection of degraded pasture land and newly planted forest by construction of fences	x	x	√	√	x	√	x	x	x	x	Reduction of erosion process erosion and increased soil moisture retention;	Potential overgrazing issues on other land parcels	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Construction of small erosion control structures (check dams)	√	x	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-	Reduction of erosion process.	Potential noise and dust impact on natural environment during construction and visual impact due to permanent structures.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
A.3.Preparation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)													
A.3. implementation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)													
Pasture													
Protection (fencing)	x	x	√	√	x	√	x	x	-	-	Reduction of erosion process erosion and increased soil moisture retention;	-Potential overgrazing issues on other land parcels; -Potential noise and dust impact on natural environment during construction and visual impact due to permanent structures. -	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Rehabilitation (cleaning shrubs and rocks)	x	x	√	√	√	-	-	x	-	x	Improved pasture lands, less land surfaces exposed to overgrazing;	Potential shrub disposal issues such as burning;	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Silvopastoral planting	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved pasture lands, less land surfaces exposed to overgrazing	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Overseeding to enrich the vegetation	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved pasture lands, less land surfaces exposed to overgrazing.	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Construction of water points for livestock	x	√	-	x	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved livestock quality and limitation of grazing areas;	Potential I impacts on groundwater through gathering of livestock;	Positive: high Negative: low

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact -/√ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste management	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
Shelter (coral)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved livestock quality and limitation of grazing areas	Potential permanent visual impact; Potential impacts on groundwater through gathering of livestock	Cumulative: low Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Agriculture													
Reduction of Bareland (abandoned/refused): (see details in Annex)	X	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Improved soil productivity and stability -Increased rotation will fight soil moisture and nutrients depletion and the build up of weeds, pests and diseases -Produce yield will be increased so as to reduce pressure on marginal lands	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies;	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Appropriate use of marginal agricultural land (private land on slope with shallow soils: (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Improved soil productivity and stability Increased rotation will fight soil moisture and nutrients depletion and the build up of weeds, pests and diseases -Produce yield will be increased and will reduce pressure on marginal lands	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies;	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Trees on field boundaries (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste management	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
											leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk.		
Small scale irrigation (see details in Annex)	√	√	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	Increased crop production and diversification, reduced pressure on marginal lands.	Potential risk of community water supply conflicts	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Planting of vineyards for revenue production have an extra positive effect of embellishment of the landscape	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Rainfed horticulture fruits/vegetables/forages	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Irrigated horticulture (fruits/vegetables/forages)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Beekeeping	x	x	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Enhance crop impollination and quality; Provide produce to increase community revenue	Minor visual impact.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Artificial insemination for cattle to improve quality in order to reduce grazing pressure	x	x	x	√	√	√	-	x	x	x	Enhance livestock quality and reduce grazing pressure on pasture lands;	Potential solid/veterinary waste management issues	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Promotion of recreational and sustainable tourism through maintenance and rehabilitation of mountain paths and traditional houses for accommodations of tourists and trekkers	-	x	-	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Provide potential revenues for the communities; Provide access to natural resources for recreational purposes;	Commercial tourist activities may bring degradation to habitat; Solid waste and waste water management issues; Noise/dust issues related to construction works.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: medium

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste management	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
Primary processing of produce for sustainable production	-	x	-	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Provide potential revenues for the communities;	Commercial activities may bring degradation to habitat through mishandling of solid waste and waste water management and use of natural resources.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: medium
Component B-Payment for environmental services (PES)													
B1: Development of appropriate mechanisms and enabling the environment for PES	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	X	x	x	Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low
B2: Development of Carbon Sequestration projects													
<i>Forest Protection</i> : ban community access to forest	x	x	x	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	-potential increased pressure on other forest areas	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Reforestation (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
B3: Development of payment for watershed services schemes	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	x	x	x	Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low
Component C- Institutional and Implementation Support and Monitoring													
C1 Capacity building to stakeholders Institutions	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water	
C2 Strengthening good governance	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water	
C3 Empowering beneficiaries	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: medium Negative: low Cumulative: medim
C4 Project Management and Administration	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	x	x		Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

WB OP4.01 foresees that an EMP be prepared in case of Category B projects. In the case of the ESP project, where the contents of project activities is unknown at its offset, but will be identified during implementation, it is foreseen that interventions proposed for grant financing undergo and environmental screening process which will identify both the potential adverse environmental impacts and whether an EMP will be necessary.

ESP preparation also foresees the development of an EMF. The identification of all the potential adverse environmental impacts and definition of their mitigation measures has been done by the EA and are described in **Table 5** and the EMF Table in *Annex 1*. Based on the experience of NRDP, it is expected that only a restricted number of intervention typologies will be in need of an EMP.

In case it is defined that an EMP should be prepared for a proposed intervention, its proposal should include both the screening module and the completed EMP which must then get approval from the PMT.

A number of examples have been included for each of the foreseen interventions in the EMP modules that have been prepared and that are included in *Annex 5*. These include the cases that have been seen in the Ulza and Baz / Suçi Communes.

In addition, a sample EMP preparation exercise was organized in the Commune of Rubik and is included in *Annex 6*.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

An Environmental Management Framework (EMF) has been developed for the ESP to be applied to the small grants program and for the project activities that are not known prior to project Appraisal. The EMF is an integral component of ESP implementation and must be made into an active tool during the planning of interventions for which financing will be requested and preparation of application forms. It will then need to be used again during preparation of the Management Plans and its tools be included.

Particular attention was given to the lessons learnt from the implementation of the NRDP EMF. These are the following:

- Simplify screening checklists
- Include Screening checklists in Guidelines for Management Plans
- Include Environmental Expert in PMT
- Include environmental expert support/training for application of EMF screening checklists
- Include Pesticide Management Plan in EMSF
- Include Fire prevention measures
- Improve monitoring mechanisms of environmental mitigation implementation

For this reason, involvement of the people who will be implementing the ESP EMF in future was sought in order to make the screening tools as user friendly as possible.

The institutional responsibility framework and the different screening instruments are described in the following paragraphs.

As Operational Policy 4.09 on pesticide management was triggered, an Integrated Pest Management Plan was also prepared as part of the EMF and is described in detail in a separate Section.

7.1 Environmental and Social Screening Process

All intervention applications under ESP must be screened for potential environmental and social impacts by the PMT. In order to facilitate and make this process possible, a number of tools and procedures have been prepared. These are under the Section Environmental Management Framework and include the following:

- A list of all foreseen interventions and of their potential social and environmental impacts
- An Environmental and Social Checklist Questionnaire to be applied to all the grants scheme
- An Environmental Field Appraisal Form to be applied in the case the results of the application of the Screening Questionnaire indicate that a more in depth assessment of the proposed intervention is needed
- An Environmental Management Plan form (Examples are presented in *Annex 5 of EMF*) to be prepared in case the Screening Questionnaire or the Field Appraisal Form indicate that an EMP is needed, and
- An Annual Environmental Audit form to guide annual environmental and social assessment of all financed interventions

All tools indicate the parties/stakeholders responsible for preparation.

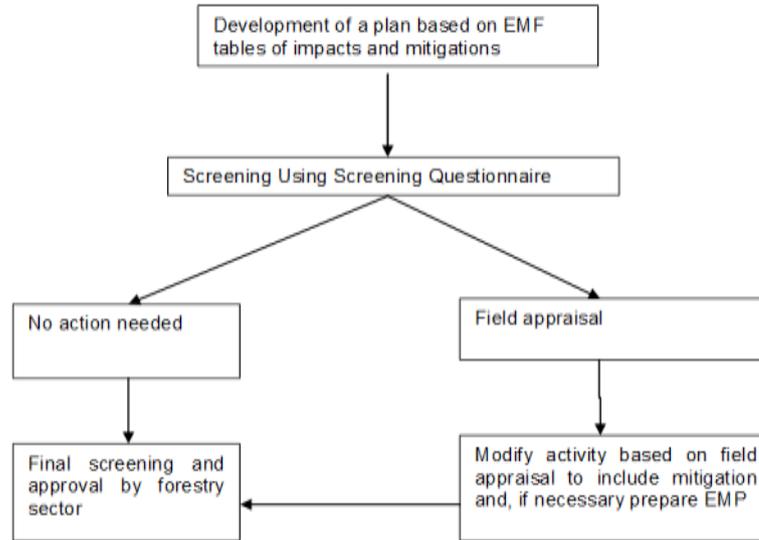
7.1.1 Outline of the Screening Process

The communities will develop their management plans (new communes) and grant applications. At this stage, the team working on the development of the plan should be referring to the EMF activities tables and be using it as a guide for a correct environmental and social design of the MC plan and/or activity.

Early effective environmental and social screening of the foreseen interventions will drive the environmental analysis process in helping to plan the *Avoidance, Prevention* and *Minimisation* of adverse effects sometimes just by avoiding certain works and /or site locations.

The following **Figure** outlines the screening process.

Figure 1: Process of environmental screening for management plan development and grant applications (investment plans)



7.1.2 Institutional Framework for the EMF of the ESP

Directorate of Forest and Pastures has the overall responsibility for EMF.

A Project Steering Committee should be created including all relevant institutional stakeholders, while operative functions related to the EMF should be Directorate of Forests and Pastures which should include an environmental expert.

An annual Environmental Performance Audit will be carried out by an independent Consultant with the collaboration of the Regional Environmental Agencies and under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment.

7.2 Annual Environmental Performance Audit

The EMF foresees that an annual environmental performance audit will be conducted by an independent organization, in order to assess overall compliance with EMF procedures and ensure that environmental management and the implementation of mitigation measures are part of the ESP implementation. It should also identify potential criticalities in order to fine tune future EMF performance. The annual audit should include the following tasks:

- Review of the paper trail of screening checklists and reports and check its significance with respect to the implemented activities;

- On the basis of this review, select a number of sub-projects for field visits to investigate compliance with proposed mitigation measures, and identification of potential impacts that are not being adequately dealt with;
- Recommend practical improvements to the EMF screening checklists in order to fine-tune the operation of the EMF based on practical experience;
- Discuss ESP activities in with the PMT, Regional Coordinators and selected FPUAs representatives
- Assess the needs for further training and capacity building and make recommendations.

An Annual Audit report should include the following:

- A review of the sub-projects (i) screened for environmental impacts, (ii) provided with technical advice from Regional Coordinators, (iii) further assessed, (iv) implemented with an EMP,
- Description of the actual operation of the EMF as it has occurred in practice
- Identification of environmental risks that are not being fully addressed or mitigated,
- Identification of potential cumulative environmental impacts;

Environmental Assessment Report

1. INTRODUCTION

The Government of Albania (GoA) has applied for financial assistance (US\$ 22.88) from the World Bank and other Donors (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency-SIDA, Global Environmental Facility – GEF, other WB Trust Funds) for the preparation and implementation of an Environmental Service Project (ESP) whose main objective is to implement the existing Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMP) and Communal Microcatchment (CMCPs) supported under the National Resources Development Project (NRDP) which was finalized in 2011 and extend the process of participatory micro-catchment management planning and implementations to all communes in Albanian.

This document describes the results of the Environmental Assessment (EA) carried out for the preparation of the ESP and includes the Environmental Social Management Framework (EMF) developed for its implementation.

1.1 Scope of Work

The project has been classified by WB as an environment category B. It therefore needs to undergo an Environmental Assessment (EA) whose main objective is the identification and assessment of the potential negative environmental impacts of the proposed project activities so as to either prevent them or minimize them through adequate mitigation measures.

Given the specific characteristics of the ESP, in which activities to be financed through its Component 1 are only foreseen at this present stage and will only be confirmed during project implementation, WB procedures foresee that an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is developed so as to allow adequate screening of the activities proposed for financing.

In case screening through application of the EMF indicates that potential negative environmental impacts are possible, the Framework gives indications for the preparation of specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs).

1.2 Environmental and Social Management Framework

The preparation of an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is part of the requirements of the ESP project preparation efforts.

The objective of the EMF is to set up a process, based on the foreseen activities that will potentially be implemented during the years of project development and their potential environmental impacts in order to provide recommendations for the mitigation measures that will need to be put into place in order to minimize the negative impacts.

The EMF provides for processes, tools and framework of institutional responsibilities to enable project personnel to carry out the necessary screening and assessments, to the small grants program and for the project activities that are not known prior to project Appraisal, in order to adequately

plan for the environmental management of the ESP activities. Details on the methodology of EMF application and its specific tools are given in the dedicated Chapter 9.

The EMF for ESP has been prepared on the basis of the WB 2008 EMF toolkit. Particular attention has been given to the lessons learnt from the EMF application to NRDP activities in order to simplify the specific tools as much as possible and make them easier to use and to understand by the Commune and FPUAs staff.

In addition, an effort has been made to identify the capacity training needs of the local associations and institutions so as to make a more efficient application of the EMF possible.

As the overall project is Category B, the EMF includes provisions for excluding Category A projects from financing and also includes measures for pest-management related environmental risks.

1.3 Stakeholder and Public Consultation Process

World Bank Operational Policies foresee that the EA of a category B project undergo a Public Consultation Process. Albanian Law requires public consultation only in the case of projects for which a full EIA is required.

A first Public Consultation Workshop was organized in Tirana on the 31st of the July to present the following:

- a) Foreseen ESP Project activities;
- b) Foreseen EMF institutional structure;
- c) Foreseen EMF capacity building targets;
- d) Environmental Assessment objectives and contents;
- e) Social Assessment Contents and Methodology.

Emphasis was made on the importance to have the audience contributions to be able to fine tune the instruments used in NRDP implementation in order to make the whole process more effective.

Participants were stakeholders identified by the PMT and the Consultant team. The complete list of the participants is provided in PIM Annex H. Minutes of the workshop are also provided in PIM Annex H.

Stakeholder Consultation was also carried out during the different field trips carried out while preparing the EA and the EMF. Annex 1 contains the list of the stakeholders who were consulted in these occasions.

A second Public Consultation Workshop was held on the 26th of September. The list of Participants and the Minutes of the Meeting are presented in Annex to this report.

In addition, documentation relevant to the ESP project contents and its Environmental Assessment was made available on the web, in Associations of Communes and National Federation of FPUAs offices, so that the interested

public could consult it. Information about the availability of the documentation was published on the xxx newspapers (??) on xxx date.

Full documents will be disclosed in the final and last public consultation in October/November. The list of Participants and the Minutes of the Meeting are presented annex to this report.

1.4 Layout of this report

The remainder of this EA report is structured as follows:

- *Chapter 2* – Project description
- *Chapter 3* – Regulatory Framework Review
- *Chapter 4* – Project Context Review
- *Chapter 5* – Analysis of Potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures
- *Chapter 6* – Analysis of Alternatives
- *Chapter 7* - Environmental Management Plan

Annex 1	List of stakeholders interviewed during field visits
Annex 2	Annex I and II of the EIA Law
Annex 3	Details of main EU Directives relevant to ESP
Annex 4	Details of activities of Environmental Impacts Evaluation Table

In separate Sections

- Environmental Management Framework
- Integrated Pesticide Management Plan

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Environment Services Project (ESP) aims to maintain and implement the existing Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs) and Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs) supported under the closed Natural Resources Development Project (NRDP) and extend the process to communes without plans. The participatory micro-catchment management planning and implementation will also be maintained and scaled up to include more communes and extend the activities undertaken. Investments will be implemented through competitive grants which, through the application process and extension advice, will support improved financial and business planning capacity. At the same time the implementation of the CFPMPs and CMCPs will help address climate resilience issues through increasing the absorptive capacity of the landscape, reducing erosion and better management of water, forest and pasture resources. Global benefits and climate mitigation will be enhanced through continued and increased sequestration of carbon in both the CDM registered plots but also in the improved management of the forest resources and in terms of reduced erosion and improved habitats for biodiversity. Through reduced erosion and land degradation, the productivity of the land will be enhanced, and the life span

of downstream water infrastructure will be increased and the ongoing maintenance costs reduced. Institutional capacity to support the local communes, user associations, ARDA and to undertake monitoring and reporting will be built.

Review of the NRDP implementation identified the following key lessons¹:

1. Flexible design and adaptation to local conditions is critical to the success of the participatory approach. Community participatory processes, including communal natural resource management are highly site specific activities that need to be developed in a localized contextual setting. Design of such projects should be flexible and accommodate underlying factors such as landscape, climate, tradition, wealth, communal social capital, and absorption capacity.
2. Local stakeholder involvement remains a key determinant for success. Local stakeholder involvement was necessary for receiving feedback on local site conditions and other commune-specific issues. Raising awareness, communication and confidence building measures are required for local buy-in, and must be a staple of any community based projects.
3. Monitoring and Evaluation systems should be simple and focused. Natural resource management projects are difficult to monitor and, to be effective any system needs to be as simple and easily used by non-IT specialists as possible;
4. GIS mapping for management plans is essential. Standardized digital mapping is essential for the preparation of resource management plans. This is doubly important in Albania, where the land registration office requires detailed maps for the registration process; and,
5. Clarity of user rights is a pre-requisite for sustainability.

2.1 Project Objectives

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is:

To support sustainable land management practices with the aim of reducing human-induced land degradation, and increasing communities' income, in targeted project areas which are mainly in erosion prone rural areas.

The main objective of the project will be the enhancement sustainable land management practices (50% of the PDO), followed by the reduction of land degradation (30% of the PDO) and increasing target community income (20%).

The previous natural resources projects in Albania started processes aiming ultimately at sustainable land management practices. These processes need to be continued to keep the momentum on, and to enable the participants in sustainable management to adjust to the ever changing overall environment

¹ Project Concept Document, May 2013

(markets, economic, political, integration). In particular, the proposed project will further consolidate the achievements so far.

The project will continue to support the implementation of forest and pasture management by forest the forest and pasture users in Albania through providing services and opportunities for the users of the resource, their associations and Local Government Units (LGUs) to further build their capacities and get better control of forest and pastures already transferred to them as result of the government policy for the decentralization of the forest and pasture management.

The implementation of improved and more sustainable land management practices will enhance the management of forests, pasture and water resources and will in-crease the absorptive capacity of the landscape and help revert soil degradation and reduce erosion.

Through reduced land degradation and erosion, the Project activities will improve the productivity of the land as well as provide alternative uses for abandoned lands. The quality and quantity of water for whatever use will be secured and the life span of downstream water infrastructure will be increased and the ongoing maintenance costs reduced.

The project will introduce and support the establishment of payment for environmental services scheme in Albania. It will support the development of necessary activities to create an enabling environment for the scheme to be successful. The aim is to provide for a better sharing of benefits from environmental services and provide alternative financing mechanisms for improved land administration and sustainable use of natural resources.

The grant financing support to rural farmers, their associations and local communities will provide more income generation opportunities and support government efforts for poverty alleviation in rural areas.

The competitive manner of this support scheme will encourage local communities, LGU and farmers to raise their capacities in terms of sustainable environmental and financial management. Through its capacity building component it will pave the way for future support of the forest and pasture sector by the future EU rural development and agri-environment financing mechanisms that will be provided under Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II). IPA II is expected to be in force January 2014 (COM(2011) 838 Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance). The IPARD II (the financing instrument of IPA II) is expected to include measures for forest improvement.

The project will build on the experience gained and lessons learned during the successful implementation of earlier projects (Albania Forestry Project and the NRDP). Through capacity building and institutional support activities the project will enhance the sustainability of the important results achieved from those projects.

The implementation of the national forest inventory and forest management information system will improve knowledge on forest resources extension and productivity in the country and assist policy development and planning. It will also facilitate monitoring and regular reporting to international bodies (EU/FAO/UN).

2.2 Description of Project Components¹

Component A - IPARD Like Agri-Environmental Measures

The Project will provide under Component A services to farmers and their associations and representative groups to help themselves to adopt sustainable land management practices. The project will provide grants for rural development measures that promote environmentally sustainable farming/forestry practices, biodiversity conservation, the preservation and development of 'natural' farming and forestry systems, and traditional agricultural landscapes. The grants are targeted to activities de-fined in the existing CFPMPs and CMCPs and the new integrated micro-catchment plans to be prepared under the Project. Most of the forests transferred to communes' ownership were highly degraded and because the forest will take many years to mature, it will be some time before there are significant returns to the Forest and Pasture Users 'Associations (FPUAs) from wood products. Further investments are required to continue plan implementation and to secure ongoing communal support. Although the communes supported by the NRDP now understand the principles of sustainable forest management they lack resources to continue implementation.

The Project will provide appropriate, research based information and guidelines, and training on resource management disseminated through permanent local government structures and awareness campaigns to the FPUAs and farmers. Updating and preparation of the practical guidelines is an activity under Component C. This component arranges the dissemination.

The Project will provide assistance in preparation and implementation of management plans. This includes updating management plans which expire during the Project period, methods for upgrading forest management plans to micro-catchment management plans including improvement of the micro-catchment management planning guidelines and process, application of the ministry Annual Operation Planning guidelines and the monitoring of implementation.

The Project will work on improved value chain services by undertaking a study and preparation of a short term and medium term forest products processing and marketing plan. The study will be an input to a road-map to future financing opportunities.

Whilst under Component C the overall legal and administrative measures are supported regarding the land registration and ownership, Component A will define supporting measures at the local level to increase land security

¹ Integrated Safeguards Datasheet Concept Stage

and equal opportunities for all to participate in sustainable management and use of land. This will include identification and regulating user rights – every man’s rights – as a part of FPUAs constitution.

The Project will provide training to FPUAs and LGUs under this component including the grant scheme, environmental management, planning, implementation, application of forestry and pasture guidelines, monitoring and reporting, forest law enforcement and fire prevention. The project will prepare and maintain a calendar of training events and publish the calendar in an appropriate way. Training will be offered to communes and associations on equal basis but based on applications. Calls for training will appear in the information. The project applies a principle of interest in training.

Component B - Payment for Environmental Services (PES)

Land degradation has been identified as a major natural resource management issue in Albania. Unsustainable management and use, such as over grazing, fires, and over harvesting and extensive firewood collection are causing anthropogenic pressure linked to degradation, erosion, and flooding in Albanian landscapes. The decentralization reform has transferred more than two thirds of forest and pasture to communes, and has created an opportunity to improve natural resource management through supporting the local level stakeholders. Stronger local tenure creates incentive for sustainably manage and protect the natural resources but support for the management activities and remuneration from the produced environmental benefits are needed.

The aim of this component is to develop mechanisms that allow sustainable financing of natural resource management beyond the ESP horizon. The component supports the development and implementation of two types of mechanisms for sustainable financing, i) Carbon sequestration (B.1) and ii) Payment for watershed services (B.2).

Many ecosystem services are typically public goods and do not remunerate those who generate them. This can lead to a situation where the supply and consumption of the services are not at an optimal level and resource base is being degraded. Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanisms provide incentive system to increase the supply of ecosystem services so that those providing ecosystem services are compensated or rewarded, and those who use the services pay for the benefits derived from the services. In context of the ESP, both sub-components, B.1 and B.2, enable investment and remuneration for management activities that otherwise would be uncompensated for and, hence, undersupplied.

Component 2 directly supports and delivers on the ESP development objectives. Both sub-components (B.1, B.2) implement activities and establish financing mechanisms to reduce human-induced land degradation and support sustainable livelihoods through provision of and compensation for ecosystem services.

To establish PES mechanisms the basic operational environment related to tenure, the potential services and markets stakeholders, policies and legislation, and governance need to be in place. In the Albanian legal framework PES is neither explicitly permitted nor prohibited by law. Land and resource tenure enabling application of PES mechanisms is clear, however, rights to economic benefit from ES should be clarified. The ecosystem services and their supply and demand can be identified and pre-existing work and example on this regard (e.g. “Study and Analysis of Innovative Financing for Sustainable Forest Management in the Southwest Balkan”, and CDM project “Assisted Natural Regeneration of Degraded Lands in Albania”) is available and will significantly benefit the ESP Component 2. Basic stakeholder awareness is in place due to previous projects but further awareness raising activities are needed. Required basic level of governance in terms of access to information, transparency, public participation, accountability and rule of law is in place but the project will further develop the governance related capacities to secure operational PES mechanisms.

Component C - Institutional and Implementation Support and Monitoring

Component C combines all activities and tasks that are required to implement the second part of the Project strategy – “enabling environment”. The Project will implement a number of tasks which are grouped to sub-components Capacity building to stakeholder institutions, Strengthening good governance, and Empowering beneficiaries. If Albania becomes an EU candidate country, the Project activities need to be carefully coordinated with EU activities. The EU action will be based on a certain need assessment for each sector. It is expected that support for acquis compliance will remain available through project support or other implementation modalities such as dedicated facilities. Forestry is under environment in the EU enlargement. Quote: *“EU environment policy aims to promote sustainable development and protect the environment for present and future generations. It is based on preventive action, the polluter pays principle, fighting environmental damage at source, shared responsibility and the integration of environmental protection into other EU policies. The acquis comprises over 200 major legal acts covering horizontal legislation, water and air quality, waste management, nature protection, industrial pollution control and risk management, chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), noise and forestry. Compliance with the acquis requires significant investment. A strong and well-equipped administration at national and local level is imperative for the application and enforcement of the environment acquis.”* Unquote.

The Project interventions will contribute to the streamlining the legislative framework, and building national and local administration in forestry sector. The Project will apply a set of various means to implement the activities including supporting government working groups, consultancies, study tours, training and on-the-job training. The Project supports the working groups in the following activities:

- NFI planning, design and implementation
- AIFIS planning, design and implementation

- Strengthening technical bodies
- Establishment of support systems for post project financing opportunities
- Supporting institutional change process,
- Improvement of legal and admin framework incl. supporting clarification of remaining issues regarding user rights and forest/pasture land registration; updating existing guidelines (forestry, environment)
- Gender Action Plan and implementation
- Setting up prototype Local Action Groups (LAGs)

The composition of the working groups will be decided during the implementation. However, the working groups should include wide expertise, knowledge of EU instruments, include all relevant sectors, and have mandate to decide. Some of the working groups will have a role in preparing for decisions by the Council of Ministers.

The project will provide a total of c. 30'000 training days under Component C.

The following table outlines the foreseen activities under each component, suggest who should take the responsibility for them, and indicates expected outputs.

Table 2: Project Components and Activities

Component/Activity	Responsibility	Outputs
Component A - IPARD Like Agri-Environmental Measures		
<i>A.1: Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures</i>	ARDA	Investment grants of 3,5 mill EUR distributed
<i>A.2: Implementation Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs)</i>	FPUAs	251 management plans implemented sustainably
<i>A.3: Implementation and preparation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)</i>	FPUAs	75 new micro-catchment plans prepared; 30 management plans implemented sustainably
Component B - Payment for Environmental Services (PES)		
<i>B.1: Development of carbon sequestration projects</i>	Forest Sector	x ton eCO2 sequestered
<i>B.2: Development of payment for watershed services schemes</i>	Forest Sector	Payment for environmental services introduced
Component C - Institutional and Implementation Support and Monitoring		
<i>C.1: Capacity building to stakeholder institutions</i>	Forest sector	Forest resource known and monitored
<i>C.2: Strengthening good governance</i>	Forest sector	Legal and institutional framework
<i>C.3: Empowering beneficiaries</i>	Forest sector	Women and vulnerable groups participate increasingly
<i>C.4: Monitoring and Evaluation</i>	Forest sector	Results based monitoring in place

2.3 Potential Environmental Impacts

The project has been classified as an environment category B and triggers the safeguard policy on Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01) as no major adverse and irreversible environmental impacts are anticipated under the proposed project. Additional safeguards triggered by the project have been indicated as the following by the Concept Stage Integrated Safeguard Data Sheet:

- a) Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)
- b) Forests (OP/BP 4.36)
- c) Pest Management (OP/BP 4.09)
- d) A decision was yet to be taken in relation to the international Waterways safeguard (OP/BP 7.50).

Under component 1, all sub-projects financed through the provision of grants will be screened to ensure they will not cause adverse environmental impacts. Grant applications will have a section on the potential environmental impacts of the sub-projects and an environmental management plan containing the proposed mitigation measures if grant activities are likely to have potential negative impacts. Specific mitigation measures will be foreseen to minimize impact on Natural Habitats and a specific Integrated Pest Management Plan will be part of the EMF.

A number of the foreseen activities under Component 2 will be similar to the forest processes or agriculture activities of Components 1. In this case they will also be screened for potential adverse environmental impacts.

Component 3 foresees activities related to institutional capacity building, so minimal adverse environmental impacts is expected from them. A measure related to green procurement will nevertheless be included in the project manual as to ensure that projects supplies will be environmental sustainable as much as possible.

An in depth study of the foreseen social impacts of ESP has been conducted separately and is presented in Annex G of the Project Implementation Manual.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

This section presents the regulatory framework for the ESP project. It is made up of applicable WB Safeguards Policies and relevant environmental Albanian Legislation. Given Albania's effort towards harmonisation with the European environmental aquis, key European Directives regulating environmental issues are also briefly introduced.

3.1 WB Safeguards Policies

This section outlines the Safeguard Policies that are relevant to the ESP project, briefly describe their contents and indicates whether they are triggered

by project contents. Table 3 at the end of the Section summarizes them for a quick reference.

3.1.1 OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment

OP 4.01 has been triggered as WB policies require that all projects proposed for Bank financing undergo an environmental screening to ensure they are adequately classified and that their potential environmental impacts are correctly assessed.

The ESP project has been classified as a B category project and therefore will need to undergo a “partial environmental assessment”.

As explained in the OP, a proposed project is classified as Category B if its potential adverse environmental impacts on human populations or environmentally important areas--including wetlands, forests, grasslands, and other natural habitats, “are less adverse than those of a category A”. These impacts are in any case not irreversible and mitigation measures can easily be designed for them. As demonstrated by the implementation of the NRDP, most of the activities which will also be object of ESP component 1 financing have marginal, if any, negative impacts on the environment. A Category B classification of the project is therefore considered more than suitable as it is precautionary.

Given the characteristics of the ESP, including the fact that it will identify and develop subprojects in the course of its implementation, WB policies foresee that its EA process must include the preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework, an Environmental Management Plan and undergo public consultation.

The EMF will contain a provision to screen for Category A which cannot be financed under the ESP.

3.1.2 OP 4.04 Natural Habitats

OP 4.04 is triggered since the targets of the ESP project activities are forests, pastures and water sheds that may include locations in protected areas. The project is nevertheless consistent with it since its aim is to support sustainable management of these habitats through a community participatory process which should contribute to the improvement and optimisation of current forest and pasture management practices. Potential negative impacts will be screened through the EMF which should also ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are adopted in sub- projects which are chosen for financing. Biodiversity issues, which are implicitly not included in OP 4.02, will also be taken into consideration.

3.1.3 OP 4.09 Pest Management

OP 4.09 is triggered as planting of fruit trees and vineyards have been included in the erosion control measures. Although cost motivation limit the local usage of pesticides and fertilizers, screening for pesticides and provisions for integrated pest management control is included in the EMF which

will outline when a specific pest management plan will be required and include a specific Integrated Pesticide Management Plan IPMP which will be annexed to the EMF.

3.1.4 OP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources

Project activities are not foreseen to be undertaken in areas of cultural relevance, nor is any substantial excavation work foreseen. In any case, provision for screening of cultural heritage sites will be made in the EMF.

3.1.5 OP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement

No resettlement is foreseen as a consequence of project activities which support the decentralization of forests and pastures from central to local governments through the development and implementation of participatory management plans which involve local communities and traditional users of pastures and forest. No private land will be taken away, but rather the effort to formalise the transfer from state to commune property of forests will be supported.

3.1.6 OP 4.20 Indigenous People

The project does not impact indigenous people groups. Nevertheless the preparatory process includes an extensive social assessment effort to help ensure that the project is socially inclusive, properly targeted and cognizant of social risks including social safeguards.

3.1.7 OP 4.36 Forestry

OP 4.3 is triggered since forests are the main target of the ESP activities. Activities carried out in the NRDP which will be extended by the ESP include the following: afforestation, remedial forest operations (cleaning, re-spacing, silvicultural thinning and enrichment planting. Potential environmental impacts will be screened thorough the EMF and mitigations put into place when deemed necessary.

3.1.8 OP 4.37 Safety of Dams

OP 4.37 is applied if project activities foresee construction or rehabilitation of dams of more than 15m height. The NRDP did not target any project site involving dams nor is this expected of the ESP. In case any subactivities in microcatchment areas involve retention structures qualified professionals will need to be involved.

3.1.9 OP 7.50 Projects in International Waters

Two international rivers flow through Albania. They are the Vjose and the Drini. International lakes include the Ohrid and Skadar. OP 7.50 was not triggered in the NRDP since activities only involved small-scale rehabilitation and improvement of existing schemes, such as repairs to canal lining, re-sectioning, replacement of non-functioning gates and pumps etc.

As most rivers or their tributaries in Albania have international relevance, in the case new irrigation schemes are financed, provisions be made in the

EMF for application of the safeguard. All activities on international waterways or tributaries to such water ways, that may cause changes in the quality or quantity of the water supplied to the riparian states, shall not be financed.

3.1.10 OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas

No project activities are foreseen to take place in disputed areas.

The following summarizes the WB Operation Procedures that have been considered and their applicability.

Table 3: Summary of WB Operational Procedures applicable to ESP

Operational Policy	Applicability
OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment	Yes
OP 4.04 Natural Habitats	Yes
OP 4.09 Pest Management	Yes
OP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources	No
OP 4.12 Involuntary Replacement	No
OP 4.20 Indigenous People	No
OP 4.36 Forestry	Yes
OP 4.37 Safety of Dams	No
OP 7.50 Projects in International Waters	No/Yes: to be determined at this stage
OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas	No

3.2 Albanian Environmental Policy and International Commitments

The following paragraphs summarize the strategic national documents which drive the efforts made by the Albanian Government in the development of environmental legislation in compliance with the EU environmental acquis.

3.2.1 Key National Environmental Policies

In June 2006 Albania signed the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union which entered into force on April 1st 2009. This Agreement requires that Albania accomplishes a number of obligations, among which the overall approximation of the Albanian legislation within the European legislation. As a consequence, the Government of Albania has prepared and is implementing the National Plan for the Implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement as the main monitoring instrument of its political, economic, legal and institutional reforms which is considered an integral part of the National Strategy for Development and Integration 2007-2013, adopted by the Council of Ministers in March 2008.

According to this Strategy "...Enforcement of environmental legislation by strengthening of the Regional Environment Agencies and inspectorates, improvements in the permitting system" is among the strategic goals and "...Areas to be targeted are mineral resources, protected zones, soil, flora and fauna protection, water resources and water rights (notably a planning

system and the strengthening of river basin authorities) ...” is among the strategic priorities of Albania. It also provides the basis for the strategic planning in the field of water and sanitation and water resources management and protection .

3.2.2 National Environmental Action Plan

A first National Environmental Action Plan was prepared in 1994 and then updated in 2002. The priorities identified by the new NEAP focused on institutional and legal framework reforms identifying the following ten priorities:

- Improving cooperation among Ministries, departments and local authorities;
- Developing suitable environmental policies;
- Promoting the sustainable use of natural resources;
- Improving the country’s environmental inspection structure;
- Establishing an information system;
- Improving environmental information available to NGOs and the public;
- Developing an adequate strategy with business on the environmental issues;
- Strengthening the environmental impact assessment system;
- Completing the country’s environmental legal framework; and
- Drafting local environmental action plans (LEAPs).

Among the objectives was the creation of conditions for future membership of the European Union (EU), confirmed from the 1994 edition, and the need to integrate environment into other sectors such as the development of a strategy and action plan for the development of sustainable and integrated rural strategy, a strategy for sustainable tourism, and a strategy and action plan for land protection against erosion.

The following LEAPs have been prepared: “Tirana Municipality: 1994, 2001; Fier Municipality: 1998 – 1999; Dibra Region: 1998 – 1999; Pogradec Municipality: 2000-2001; Lezha Municipality: 2002; Shengjin and Velipoje Municipality 2006 as well as the REAP; 17 Communes in Korça Region (REC Albania, 2012).

3.2.3 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan¹

In 1999, the Council of Ministers approved the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), whose main objective was to fulfill the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity which Albania signed in 1994 and the indications of the Pan-European Strategy on Biological and Landscape Diversity. The strategy identified national priorities and necessary actions for the implementation of the Convention.

The NBSAP remains the main policy document on nature and biodiversity protection, covering the period 2000-2015. Many of its recommendations have been implemented, notably the increase in protected areas coverage and modernization of the legal framework. However, implementation needs

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considerable improvement. Illegal logging and hunting and unauthorized construction in nature reserves remain significant concerns. An effective monitoring and information system has yet to be developed. In line with the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011-2020, Albania intends to revise and update the NBSAP.

Future plans for fulfilling the Convention's obligations, as identified by the country's last national report to CBD, include: (i) increasing protected areas coverage to 17 per cent in 2013, (ii) developing and implementing management plans for protected areas and action plans for globally threatened and endemic species, (iii) implementing new legal provisions concerning biodiversity monitoring, (iv) implementing the Emerald network of the Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) in preparation for Natura 2000. These are going to be challenging tasks given the considerable amount of financing required.

3.2.4 National Strategy for Socio Economic Development

A "National Strategy for Socio-Economic Development" was prepared in 2001 and included a chapter entitled "Environment, Growth and Poverty Reduction" which set out long and medium-term objectives for the environment. It again indicates Albania's long term objective to achieve gradually appropriate environmental standards in compliance with the association process with the EU. In November 2007 the new Inter-sectorial Rural Development Strategy of Albania (ISRDSA) was published to as the rural development plan for the country over the period 2007-2013 setting priorities in compliance with the EU directives on rural development policy.

3.2.5 Sector Strategy for Agriculture and Food¹

The 2007 Sector Strategy of Agriculture and Food (SSAF) for the period 2007-2013 was prepared for the sector that can be considered one of the most important of the Albanian economy. Although, the sector's contribution to GDP has been decreasing over recent years, agriculture remains the main work option for people living in rural areas (50 per cent of the total population).

Some of the priorities identified in the SSAF are closely related to the activities targeted by the ESP. These include the following:

- Improve the management of irrigation and drainage systems – as water is the main input for increasing agricultural production;
- Further develop the marketing of agricultural and agroprocessing products, in order to ensure investments for environment-friendly technology;
- Increase the level and quality of technologies, information, and knowledge of farmers and agroprocessors, using these tools for dissemination of environment-friendly production and processing methods.

Other important documents in support of Albanian environmental policy are the following:

- National Environmental Strategy (2006-2020)
- National Waste Management Strategy (2010-2025)
- National Strategy of Water Supply and Sewerage Services Sector (2011-2017)
- National Action Plan for the Management of Noise (2011)
- National Strategy for Tourism (2008)
- Sector Strategy for Transport (2008-2013)
- Strategy for the Development of the Forestry and Pastures Sector in Albania (2003)
- National Water Strategy (1997, updated in 2004 and presently under revision. An initial Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Position Paper, was completed in 2011.
- National Strategy of Energy and Action Plan (2003, updated in 2005)
- Strategy and Action Plan for Protection of Land from Erosion (2005, only draft)
- Aarhus Convention Implementation Strategy (2005)
- Strategy and Action Plan for the Development of Tourism Sector Based on Cultural and Environmental Tourism (2005)
- Strategy for Hazardous Wastes (2006)
- National Strategy of Fishing and Aquaculture (2007, only draft)
- Strategic Action Plan for Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park (2002, updated in 2010)
- Strategy and action plan for the Solid Waste (2010)

3.2.6 Key International Conventions

Albania has ratified the following main international environmental Conventions:

- On May 30, 1990, Albania participated by accession to the Barcelona Convention "For the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution" (Barcelona, February 16, 1976). Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (1982) and the Protocol for the Protection of Biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea (1996). 6 protocols are ratified by Albania until now.
- On October 4 1991, Albania ratified the ESPOO Convention (Finland) "On Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context."
- On March 18, 1992 Albania signed the convention "On the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes" (Helsinki March 17, 1992). The ratification of the convention was done on January 5, 1994.
- On October 3, 1994 Albania signed the basic text of the Convention on Climate Change (New York, May 9, 1992). The Council of Ministers approved the accession of Albania to this convention by the decree no. 580 on June 29, 1993. The Kyoto Protocol on UNFCCC was ratified 2004.
- The Convention on Biological Diversity was signed on January 5, 1994 and it entered into force on April 5, 1994. In 2004 Albania become party to the Protocol on Biosafety (Cartagena Protocol) of the Convention on

Biological Diversity. Also recently this year (2013) Albania Parliament ratified the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization.

- On November 29, 1995 Albania participated by accession to the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar, 1971) or the "Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat".
- On October 31, 1995 Albania signed the Bern Convention (September 19, 1979) "For the Protection of Flora and Wildlife Fauna of the Natural Environment in Europe," which was ratified by the Parliament on March 2, 1998.
- Convention on preservation of wildlife and natural European habitats (The Bern Convention) was ratified in 1998.
- The Convention on Combat Desertification (December 4, 1996), Albania accesses to the convention in December 1999.
- The Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus-Denmark, June 25, 1998), Albania was among the 35 countries, which signed this convention and ratified it in 2000
- The Convention on Protection of Migratory Species of Wildlife known also as the Bonn Convention (Bonn, on June 23, 1979). Albania has access by the Parliament decision in November 2000.
- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Washington, D.C., on 3 March 1973, amended at Bonn, on 22 June 1979). Albania access to this convention by Parliament decision in March 2002.
- The Convention on Protection of Ozone Layer was ratified on the year 2000.

3.3 National Environmental and Forestry Regulatory Framework

The following paragraphs are a summary of the Albanian regulatory framework in the environmental and forestry sectors.

3.3.1 Background 1

The Albanian legal system is based on the following hierarchy: Constitution, primary legislation (laws) and supporting normative acts, such as by-laws, government decisions, decrees, ministerial orders, regulations, instructions and standards. The Constitution, approved in 1998, calls upon the Albanian authorities to preserve a healthy environment, ecologically suitable for present and future generations, and includes sustainable development principles, as well as *"the right of the public to have access to information on the state of the environment."*

Although the first basic law on the environment was approved in 1967, the development of a modern environmental legal system based on democratic principles began only in 1991. Most laws are drafted by the technical directorates of the Ministry of Environment in close cooperation with the Directorate for Environmental Legislation and Foreign Relations.

Albania's environmental laws are implemented through by-laws, regulations and decisions. A great effort is being made to revise Albanian legislation to meet EU standards. Important instruments in this regard in the sectors of environment and forest were the EU funded project ELPA "Implementation of the national plan for the approximation of the environmental legislation (August 2008-November 2010)"¹, and the ongoing project "Technical assistance for strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration in Albania for law drafting and enforcement of national environmental legislation" (2012-2014), as well as the WB supported forestry projects, including NRDP.

The following sections summarize the concepts included in the main regulatory framework relevant to ESP implementation.

Law on Environmental Protection²

The 2011 Law on Environmental Protection, No. 10431, substitutes the 2002 Law No. 8934 and transposes the Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability. The Law entered into force in 2012. It provides a clear legal basis and framework for further transposition of a large number of environmental directives which are relevant to the protection of the environment. Many new by-laws are still required for the implementation of the new Law. Drafts of some have already been prepared such as the DCM on the Implementation of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, and DCM on Access to Public on Environmental Information.

The law recognizes and provides for the protection and preservation of five elements of the environment: Water, Air, Soil, Nature and Forests, and Climate Change related issues. It provides for the protection of environment in the process of planning, including the use of instrument like environmental strategies and plans, Local Environmental Action Plans, Strategic Environment Assessment and Environment Impact Assessment. According to this Act, all activities that affect the environment should be subject to an Impact Assessment and licensing system, which are developed in more detail in the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (2011).

The law provides the basis for State of Environment Monitoring which includes monitoring of:

- a. Quality of groundwater's;
- b. Air quality;
- c. Waste;
- d. Noise;
- e. Radiation;

¹ Activities were focusing among others on: Drafting of a new Law on Environmental Protection through transposition and integration of directives included in IPC sector; Transposition of the horizontal legislation in line with Directive 97/11/EC, 91/692/EEC and 90/313/EEC; Drafting secondary legislation; Full transposition of EU legislation on solid waste.

² UNECE EPR2012

- f. Soil quality;
- g. Flora, fauna, biodiversity and forest;
- h. The impacts of significant economic sectors on environmental components;
- i. Monitoring natural phenomena and its potential impacts on environment;
- j. Monitoring the impacts of environmental pollution on human health.

The law also provides for the establishment of the Environmental Information System for the purpose of integrated protection and management of environment and/or its individual components, monitoring of implementation of environmental policies, national and international reporting and providing information to the public.

The law provides also dispositions regarding environmental liability based on the “polluter pays principles” and obligations for remediation and restitution measures.

Law on Environmental Impact Assessment-EIAI

The 2011 Law on Environmental Impact Assessment, No. 10440, aims at improving the existing environmental impact assessment (EIA) system. It fully transposes the Directive of 27 June 1985 “On the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment” as amended by Directive 97/11/EC, Directive 2003/35/EC and Directive 2009/31/EC.

The aim of the law is to ensure a high level of environmental protection through prevention, mitigation and compensation of potential adverse environmental impacts of implemented projects (activities) as well as making a transparent and open decision making process with the inclusion of all interested stakeholders.

The objective of this law is to provide environmental clearance to new development activities following environmental impact assessment. The EIA law defines the rules, procedures, deadlines, rights and duties on the process of the assessment of the potential direct/indirect impacts of the activity on the environment. According to EIA law, all projects and activities are broadly categorized into two categories. All projects or activities included in Annex I require full scale environment impact assessment. Activities included under Annex II require an environmental screening by a certified environmental expert.

At the end of the EIA process, based on the activity type, one of three types of environmental permit is issued:

- Integrated environmental permit (MoEFWA competence);
- Environmental permit (MoEFWA competence);
- Environmental consent or authorization (issued by REAs).

It should be noted that none of the foreseen activities of the ESP are included in Annex I since they are small scale interventions mostly designed to prevent land degradation. Any proposed activity which should need a full EIA will not be financed by the ESP project. However, some of the activities could be included in Annex II of the Law (the list is attached in *Annex 2*) list of activities requiring an environmental screening.

The law requires public information and consultation process to be conducted only for the full scale environmental impact assessment (Annex I activities). Art.7 (point 4) provides that the methodologies for EIA and procedures to be followed are defined by guidelines to be approved by the Ministry of Environment. However, bylaws are presently still missing including the one related to the certification of experts.

Law on Environmental Permitting

The Law on Environmental Permitting, no 10448/2011, transposes completely EU: Directive 2008/1/EC of January 15 2008 on integrated pollution prevention and control.

The law defines three different categories of activities requiring environmental permits based on their impact on the environment as well as procedures for permit granting, as well as the three different types of permits to be issued by the Ministry structures. The law also characterizes the measures for the pollution and damage prevention of the activities, and when is not possible the mitigation measures for the pollution in air, water and soil.

This such permitting regime is not enforced at the present time in Albania as the list of installations for which such types of permits must be issued has not been published by the Ministry of Environment although it was expected by 2013. Given the time horizon of the ESP, it may be that this permitting regulation may be issued during its implementation, but given the nature of the activities foreseen by the ESP, it is not expected that they will need to undergo major permitting procedures.

Forestry Law

The Law on Forests and Forestry Service Police, (no 9385/2005), is the main law on forests. The law states that forest resources in Albania should be managed in a sustainable way to fulfill multiple purposes including production, protection and conservation of biodiversity. It addresses forest use rights, including community-based forest management, and establishes forest governance bodies. It is supported by various regulations setting stumpage and other forest fees, guidelines for auctions of standing wood, instructions for protection against forest fires, the principles for the selection and establishment of protected areas, and the use of forests for recreational purposes.

Additional existing significant regulatory tools in this sector are the following¹:

- The 2008 MoEFWA Order on Approval of Forms for Identification of Forest and Pasture Fires sets up a centralized system for data collection on forest and pasture fires.
- The 2010 Regulation for the Prevention and Suppression of Wild Fires in Forests and Pastures, and for the Organization of the Voluntary Units for Fire Suppression.
- The 2008 Guidelines on the Cadastre of Forest and Pasture Fund are fundamental for the development of monitoring of the state of forests and pastures in Albania.

The new Draft Law on Forests

This law regulates the development and protection of forests and pastures as natural resources and a national wealth of special importance, for its irreplaceable values in climate and soil protection, conservation and improvement of the balance of the natural environment, biodiversity, genetic resources, production potentials and hydro regime, as liabilities in the interest of present and future generations, on the national level and beyond.

The object of this law are the governance, management and the protection of national forest and pasture resources, based on the principles of sustainable development, reflected in sector strategic documents and the commitments of the Republic of Albania in the framework of international conventions, agreements, protocols and treaties signed to ensure the preservation of biological diversity, regenerative abilities and potential, with the aim of continuously fulfilling the environmental, economic, social and cultural functions, in the interest of the whole society, locally and nationally.

It sets rules, obligations, rights, responsibilities and relationships of state institutions, local government units, private owners, users, non for profit organizations and private business, management, governance and protection of the national forest and pasture resources. The law also defines the organization and functioning of the Forest Service as a public service, and it unifies the information system of forests and pastures, regardless of form of ownership.

It is foreseen that the monitoring of forests and pastures will be carried out by the Agency for Environment and Forest as part of the national environmental monitoring effort, in cooperation with the forest service. The Forest Police, under the National Environmental Inspectorate is the main specialized body for enforcing the law. The law foresees several implementation decrees to be issued in a 6 month period after its approval and entry to force (about 15 by law acts).

¹ UNECE EPR 2012

A first draft Law is being prepared and still under discussion with the interested stakeholders; it is expected to be sent for approval in the Parliament by the end of 2013.

Law for Pasture Fund

The aim of this Law, no 9693/2007, is to manage the pastures and meadows fund, the assessment of the caring capacity and the protection of the ecological balance in these ecosystems, defining the role and responsibilities of the related government and local institutions, as well as the scientific and specialized institutions, private sector and related business.

It requests the inventorying and registration procedures for pastures and meadows land by the respective forest regional structure every 10 years. This law requests the elaboration of a strategy (every 10 years) and plan of actions (every 3 years), elaborated by the government structures, and a management plan (every 10 years) elaborated by different actors but approved by the local/regional forestry government entity.

Additional draft regulatory tools in the forestry sector are the following:

- Draft Law on Genetic Material and Pastures.
- Draft Law on the Identification of the Criteria and Procedures for the Creation of Strategic Wood Material in Stands and the Treatment of Virgin Forests.

Law on Protected Areas

The object of this Law, no 8906/2002, is the declaration, preservation, administrations, management and usage of protected areas and their natural and biological resources; the facilitation of conditions for the development of environmental tourism, for the information and education of the general public and for economic profits direct or indirect, by the local population, by the public and private sector. The purpose of this law is to provide special protection for important components of natural reserves, biodiversity and the nature as a whole, through the establishment of protected areas. This law regulates the protection of six categories of protected areas, applied in the territory of the Republic of Albania. The categorization of areas, status and level of protection for each area is based on the criteria of World Centre of Nature Conservation (IUCN). Dispositions of this law regulate also the procedures for the declaration of a PA, removal and change of the status of PA and its buffer zone, management plans and their implementation, ownership in PA, activities in PA, the right to visit a PA, monitoring and administration bodies, environmental impact assessment, objectives of Ecological network, development, planning, coordination and direction of ecological network, etc.

The designation of protected areas request the participation of all stakeholders stated that a declaration of a protected area shall be made “*upon receipt of opinion from local government organs, specialised institutions, non-profit organizations and from private owners in case their estate is includes in the protected area*”. In addition, it is required that the proposal declaring the

protected area includes “*the results of consultation process with civil society stakeholders, in particular the approval by the local municipality within and around the proposed area, including received comments and reflection into the proposal*”.

The law had been amended in 2008 by inclusion of the main provisions of the Habitats Directive, 1991/43/EC. According to the amendment, the territory of the protected area can be divided into subzones, according to the importance of habitats and ecosystems which are part of, stipulating that internal zoning “*may contain central area, recreation area, the area of traditional use, the area of sustainable development and other subzones which fit to the territory*”. The amendment also introduces a new protected category as the “Regional Parks” for the area with interest to the community.

A DCM has been approved in 2011 to transpose the rules and procedures for the designation of Special Areas for Conservation, foreseen by annexes III and IV of the Habitats Directive.

Law on Biodiversity Protection

The overall objective of the Law on Biodiversity protection, no 9587/2006, is “to ensure the protection and the preservation of biological diversity” and to “regulate the sustainable use of the biological diversity components, through the integration of the key elements of biodiversity in strategies, plans, programs and in decision making at all levels”. This law established the legal basis for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in compliance with the requirements of the Convention on Biodiversity and the EU Habitat and Wild Bird Directives.

The law identifies the instruments for biodiversity planning and protection including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP), biodiversity inventorying and monitoring network, emergency plans and trans-boundary impact assessments.

Other regulations relevant to the sector include the following:

- The Wildlife Protection Act (2008) To protect wild animals and birds through the creation of National Parks and Sanctuaries
- The Law on the Determination of Rules and Procedures Governing International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (No.9867/ 2008).
- The Law on the Protection of Wild Fauna (2008) endorsed provisions of the Birds Directive related to protection measures.
- The DCM on the Determination of the Criteria for Establishment of Biodiversity Inventory and Monitoring Network, (no. 84/2009), prepared the ground for the biodiversity monitoring network to be set up in Albania.
- The 2010 Law on Hunting endorsed all provisions of the EU Birds Directive related to hunting means, methods and precautionary measures to be undertaken in order to ensure the long-term survival of bird species and of their habitats.

Law “Integrated management of water resources”

The Law on Integrated Management of Water Resources, no 111/2012, was prepared on the basis of the Water Framework Directive (200/60/EC) and regulates the legal status of water and water state, the methods and conditions of water management (water use, water protection, regulation of watercourses and other water bodies, and protection from adverse effects of water), the method of organizing and performing of water management tasks and functions, basic conditions for carrying out of water management activities; powers and duties of Government administration and other Government bodies, local authorities and other legal subjects, and other issues of importance to water management.

The law provides that a programme for the monitoring of water status in each River Basin shall be established and implemented (Article 7 of WFD) in order to have a coherent and comprehensive overview of the water status in the river basin district. For surface waters the programme shall cover the volume and level or rate of flow to the extent relevant for ecological and chemical status. For groundwater the programme shall cover monitoring of the chemical and quantitative status. The law also requires specific monitoring of waters used for abstraction of drinking water. The National Water Council is responsible for establishing and implementing the monitoring programme.

The following legal acts are presently still waiting for approval.

- Decision on Urban Wastewater Treatment;
- Decision on Priority Substances in Water;
- Decision on Water Quality Standards

Law “On protection of air from pollution”

The Law on protection of air pollution, no 8897/2002, amended by law no. 10266/2010, is intended to guarantee the right of every individual to live in a clean air environment, protect human health, fauna, flora and natural and cultural values of the Albanian environment from air pollution through:

- measures to forecast air quality of the environment, in order to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on health and the environment as a whole;
- assessment of ambient air quality based on the methods and criteria used in the European Community;
- obtaining appropriate information for ambient air quality and ensure availability of this information to the public, among other things, by signalling thresholds;
- Maintaining the quality of ambient air, when it is good and to improve it in other cases".

The law requirements include the following:

- An air Quality Monitoring and Management plan is established dividing the territory of Albania into specific monitoring zones.
- National Action Plans for air quality are developed every 5 years in order to prevent and or reduce the air pollution.

- Local air quality action plans to be developed if an air quality hot spot is located within a territory.

Law on Public Participation in the decision making process for the environment”

The right for the public information had been mentioned in article 13 of the new law of environment with the aim of the transparency and their participation in the decision making process and elaboration of strategic documents.

The decision of the government no. 994, date 2.7.2008 “For public participation in the decision making process for environment”, is based on the Aarhus Convention text. It explains all the steps of the participation of the public in this process and the methods in doing it. Furthermore in the law of EIA the process of participation of the public in consultation for the prepared report is explain in details and give a broad space to the public before the decision is made.

In the last period in Albania the cooperation with civil society and public access to information is improved. However, the Laws on Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Permits are still not aligned with the *acquis* and include serious deviations such as the ‘silent consent’ concept. Relevant environmental impact assessments and public consultations are not systematically carried out.

Law on Irrigation and Drainage (No 8515/99)

Although not directly tied to the environmental sector, the Law on irrigation and drainage is significant for the ESP project as it foresees to finance small irrigation systems rehabilitation and construction for which the Law sets the following rules:

- irrigation systems and drainage systems shall be operated in an equitable manner so as to promote and protect the interests of all beneficiaries;
- irrigation systems and drainage systems shall be operated in a rational manner so as to prevent over-watering, erosion and pollution and to promote the protection of the environment;
- the beneficiaries of irrigation systems, drainage systems and flood defence works should bear the costs of their operation and maintenance.

Article 5 of the Law foresees and regulates the creation of water users organisations that may be created to manage and maintain one or more irrigation systems.

Additional laws relevant to the environmental sector include the following:

- Draft Law, transposition of EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
- Draft DCM on Air Quality Management, transposition of Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe, and Directive 2004/107/EC relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.

- Law on Integrated Waste Management transposes the Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC completely. The draft law was approved by Parliament in October
- 2011, but on 3 November 2011 the President refused to decree it and returned it to Parliament for further consideration.
- Draft Law on Accidents Control from Risks related to Hazardous Substances which transposes the directives 96/82/EC, 2003/105/EC, 1999/314/EC and 91/692/EC.
- Draft Law on Bans and Restrictions of Production to be placed on the Market and Use of Certain Hazardous Substances, Mixtures and Articles partially transposes Regulation EC/1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH).
- Draft Law on Persistent Organic Pollutants fully transposes Regulation EC/850/2004, as amended by Directive 79/117/EEC.
- Law on Protection of Marine Environment from Pollution and Damage, No. (8905/2002).
- Law on Protection of Transboundary Lakes, No. 9103/2003.
- Law on Environmental Treatment of Polluted Water, No. 9115/2003.
- 2008 Law on Irrigation and Drainage, No. 9860

3.3.2 Enforcement of Legislation

Enforcement of environmental legislation in Albania is hindered by the lack of economic resources which limits both monitoring and inspection activities. Poor implementation and weak enforcement are also due to the absence of information and education campaigns that would increase public awareness and sense of responsibility.

Measures are being undertaken by the Ministry with the support of the EU and other donors to strengthen the country's monitoring networks and the Environment Inspectorate, as well as the Forestry Police and the Fishery Inspectorate.

Practical mechanisms for enforcement are incomplete and inadequate, and in need of simplification. The principal enforcement instruments are fines, suspending or closing operations, withdrawing permits (issued through EIA) and prosecution under one of the seven environmental crimes in the Penal Code. Only a small percentage of fines imposed for violating the law are actually paid, because the penalty for nonpayment, confiscation, is a very slow and complicated procedure.

The administrative capacity in the environment sector has been increased in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration, the inspectorates and the river basin agencies. However, the Ministry of Environment still lacks financial and human resources. Other issues include the following:

- The cooperation and coordination with the other Ministries need to be improved.

- The Environment Agency needs extensive investment in equipment and training to manage issues such as permit applications, permit monitoring, environmental monitoring and sampling and legislative enforcement.
- The National Environment Inspectorate is understaffed. Local authorities have limited budgets and scarce administrative tools to develop the infrastructure and services required.
- Coordination within the central government and between state and local authorities is weak.

3.4 EU Directives

As mentioned in the previous sections, one of the key objectives of the Government of Albania's Strategic Plan for European Integration is further harmonisation with the EU's environmental acquis. Considering the ESP's sectors of interventions, the most relevant pieces of EU legislation are the following:

- Habitats Directive; Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural
- Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- Birds Directive; Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds.
- Water Framework Directive; Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for
- Community action in the field of water policy.
- Council Regulation 1698/2005; on support for Rural Development from the
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).
- New EU Draft Forest Strategy awaited by the end of 2013.

Details of the objectives of the above mentioned directives and an overview of the main requirements that must be undertaken by Member States, and ultimately by Albania if it joins the EU, are outlined in Annex 3.

3.5 Key Institutional Framework¹

The main institution dealing with environmental issues in Albania is the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration (MoEFWA) which was established in 2001. Since 2002, the tasks and structure of the Ministry has been changed several times. The 2011 Law on Environmental Protection and laws relating to protection of air, water, biodiversity define the responsibilities of MoEFWA. At the same time, according to the Law on Environmental Protection, other entities (ministries, councils) also serve "as legal administrators of various parts and components of the environment". In cooperation with the MoEFWA and on defined scope of duty, they provide important contribution to the protection of environment.

¹ UNECE EPR 2012

Currently, the MoEFWA is responsible also for forestry issues. About 120 employees work in 3 general directorates. Operative Support is provided by the Environment and Forest Agency (EFA) with its 12 regional environment agencies (REAs), and by 12 Regional Inspectorates with 39 inspectors.

The main duties of the EFA are the following:

- Provides technical support, services and consultation to MoEFWA;
- Performs monitoring activities;
- Collects, processes and publicizes information on environment and forestry;
- Prepares and publicizes the State of Environment Report;
- Organizes and participates in training programmes and project implementation.

The main duties of the EI inspectors are to:

- Control the compliance of entities with the requirements of environmental legislation and conditions of environmental permits;
- Monitor the environmental impact of the entities and determine measures to be taken for environmental protection;
- Draft the annual program of inspections;

As resources and instrumentation are limited, their inspections is limited to visual impacts.

The REAs control and ensure the implementation of the environmental legal framework, issue permits and control compliance with their conditions, and collect and process data on the environmental situation. REAs conduct environmental inspections and participate in the process of releasing environmental declarations in the context of specific projects.

Additional territorial units, which work according to an integrated annual and monthly plan supervised by the Ministry, include:

- 36 district forestry services directorates-DFSD (with some 1100 employees, being reduced);
- 6 watershed agencies (with about 20 employees)
- 13 drainage boards (DBs), supervised by MoAFCP, are currently the key operators responsible for major irrigation systems, drainage management and flood protection including reservoir dam safety.

DFSD technical functions and responsibilities include control over the implementation of legal provisions and by-laws in force for forests, pastures, protected areas, wild flora and fauna, hunting and other activities that take place in forests.

In close collaboration with the LGUs, the DFSDs play an important role in the forest transfer process and are also expected to serve as a forest extension body for communal and private forests, by organizing training and extension services for private owners and specialized structures in LGUs responsible for communal forests.

The tasks of the regional institutions of MoEFWA are complex. The current conditions are not always adequate to requirements. The implementation of environmental policy, compliance with environmental legislation and permitting depend on their work. Capacity of regional institutions of MoEFWA satisfies neither the current nor the expectedly higher requirements in the future.

Local government units (LGUs, comprising municipalities and communes) represent an important element for environmental protection. With regard to waste management, they are required to:

- Designate sites for the collection and processing of production waste in accordance with
- environmental criteria and development plans;
- Organize the dumping of waste and hazardous substances, and the protection of green areas in urban zones and their surroundings;
- Administer management of urban waste, including water treatment plants and solid waste management.

With regard to noise management, it is the LGUs which:

- Lead the formulation and implementation of local action plans for noise control that are
- approved by councils of municipalities and communes;
- Lead the process of noise mapping;
- Declare quiet zones in populated or open environments and place limitations on noise in accordance with local action plans.

The local government environmental inspection and control structures are responsible for implementing the law at the local level.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (MAFCP), is responsible for water utilization for irrigation purposes and for drainage issues. Issues at regional level, are dealt by the regional directorate of Agriculture and through drainage boards;

3.5.1 Environmental Monitoring

Environmental monitoring in Albania is presently very limited and fragmented and is being developed mostly through specifically dedicated projects. However, its present scope of work does not cover the whole country and data from the rural areas is basically nonexistent.

Between 2010 and 2013, an EU-IPA funded project has been in implementation with the objective to support the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration to implement a National Monitoring Program through the expansion and consolidation of an operational Integrated Environmental Monitoring System (IEMS), capable of using environmental standards and EU directives as a general reference framework. The revision of IEMS has been completed and is presently the object of fine-tuning. The representativeness of each monitoring and sampling site has been assessed. Prioritization of indicators and stations has been completed taking into account the national, EU and other international requirements. The process of prioritization has provided the basis for elaborating different sets of monitoring pro-

grammes. In this way the System has been transformed made more flexible and more affordable for present financial funding potentials of the country.

The Basic Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) proposed for 2013 includes high priority stations and parameters, but due to limited funds the program is implemented for 60% of its scope of work. One of the main activities of this project is also the development of the integrated database including specific components for air, water, soil and biodiversity. The complete integrated database has now been installed in the National Environmental Agency for fine-tuning.

4. PROJECT CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

Albania is situated in the south-western region of the Balkan Peninsula. The country has a total area of 28,748 km², which makes it one of the smallest countries in Europe. The neighboring countries are Montenegro to the north-west, Serbia to the north-east, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the north and east, and Greece to the south and south-east. Albania has a 487 km-long coastline divided between the Adriatic and Ionian Seas.

The climate varies with the topography. The main climatic regions of the country are the coastal lowlands with typically Mediterranean weather and the highlands with a Mediterranean-continental climate. These general climatic patterns are markedly affected by the geographic latitude and by variations in altitude. Over 70 per cent of the country is vary rugged and largely inaccessible mountains.

Due to the convergence of the airflow from the Mediterranean Sea and the continental air mass, the average precipitation is heavy. Average annual rainfall in the mountains can be as high as 3,000 mm, while on the coast, it averages 1,000 mm. Most of the precipitation drains into the rivers and flows into the Adriatic Sea. The average temperatures in August, the hottest month, range from 17° to 31°C. In January, the coldest month, they range from 2° to 12°C.

Albania is administratively divided into 12 prefectures (or counties), under which there are 36 districts. The third-level administrative divisions, municipalities in urban areas or communes in rural areas, are below these prefectures and districts. The larger municipalities are called “Bashki” in Albanian.

On 1 October 2011, the usually resident population in Albania was 2 821 977¹. The population has declined around 8.0 per cent, compared to the 2001 census, where the enumerated population was 3 069 275. The difference is largely due to emigration, which typically occurs in the young generation.

¹ The 2011 Albanian Population and Housing Census

The resident population in urban areas was 53.5 per cent while 46.5 per cent of the population lived in rural areas. This shows that internal population movements have continued at high levels during the inter-censal period 2001-2011 mainly from rural areas to urban areas whose already weak and insufficient infrastructure has been put under significant stress.

Most of today's environmental degradation in rural areas is closely tied to poverty. With little wealth, infrastructure or modern standards of living, natural resources are over-exploited (e.g. forest destruction, over-grazing, over-fishing), thus seriously threatening wildlife and the natural environment.

4.1 Description of the Environmental Baseline

The focus of the ESP is sustainable rural community development through the implementation of environmental friendly forest and pasture management methodologies, erosion control measures and development of income producing agricultural and recreational activities.

The ESP will also continue with the NRDP carbon sequestration activities, while it also introduces the innovative PES component which has the objective to foresee remuneration for all those interventions that reduce land erosion problems and provide direct benefits to down stream parties such as hydroelectric power plants.

Given these general objectives, the components of the environmental baseline which have been considered for the Environmental Assessment of the ESP are the following:

- a) Air (as far as Climate Change issues are concerned)
- b) Land degradation
- c) Water resources/water quality
- d) Forests
- e) Protected areas/Biodiversity

4.1.1 Air

Very limited air monitoring is presently conducted in the country and it is mainly done in urban areas. In the Albanian rural areas however there is little concern related to air quality, but rather the effect that non sustainable forest management may have on the broader issue of Climate Change. Albania ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1995.

1According to its First National Communication (FNC), Albania is a relatively low net emitter of greenhouse gases (GHGs), with relatively low carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per capita, mainly due to the fact that over 90% of its power generation is hydroelectrical. The energy sector contributes more than 60% of total emissions. Relatively high CO₂ emissions on a per-GDP basis are explained mainly due to high energy intensity. Based on

1 Haki Kola & Enkeleda Pjetri Albania Country Report: FAO Forest and Climate Change in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 2010.

the predictions for future emissions, by 2020 total emissions will rise by more than five times.

Commitments to be fulfilled through becoming a party to the UNFCCC are the following:

- Develop, periodically update, publish and make national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol.
- Formulate, implement, publish and regularly update national and, where appropriate, regional programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change.
- Communicate information related to implementation of the UNFCCC to the Conference of Parties (CoP).

Literature review indicates that climate change effects in Albania include the following:

- Season characteristics and duration (winters are milder and shorter, summers are longer and hotter);
- Droughts in summer and sometimes even in autumn, and then sudden floods,
- Coastal erosion all along the Adriatic coast due to sea level rise—
- Destruction of the coastal forests and vegetation,
- Increasing the salinity in the lagoons and fields near the coast.
- Increased forest fires.

The NRDP financed activities to sequester carbon in 4,774 ha of degraded forest or bare-lands and sequestered 63,759 tons of Carbon between 2004 and 2010, with an additional 140,000 tons of carbon foreseen to be sequestered by 2018.

The following **Figures 3** and **4** show photographs of Carbon sequestration intervention in the Communes of Ulza (Mediterranean pines) and Baz (Robinia)

Figure 2: Carbon Sequestration Activities in Ulza Commune



Figure 3: Carbon Sequestration Activities in Ulza Commune



4.1.2 Soil and Groundwater

Land degradation and soil erosion is one of the main environmental issues in the country. While visiting different Communes during the assignment, soil erosion was the main concern for most of the Mayors and most of the people interviewed. The following **Figure 5** and **6** show some of the land erosion effects that were evident in the Commune of Suçi.

Figure 4: Land erosion along the national road near Burrel



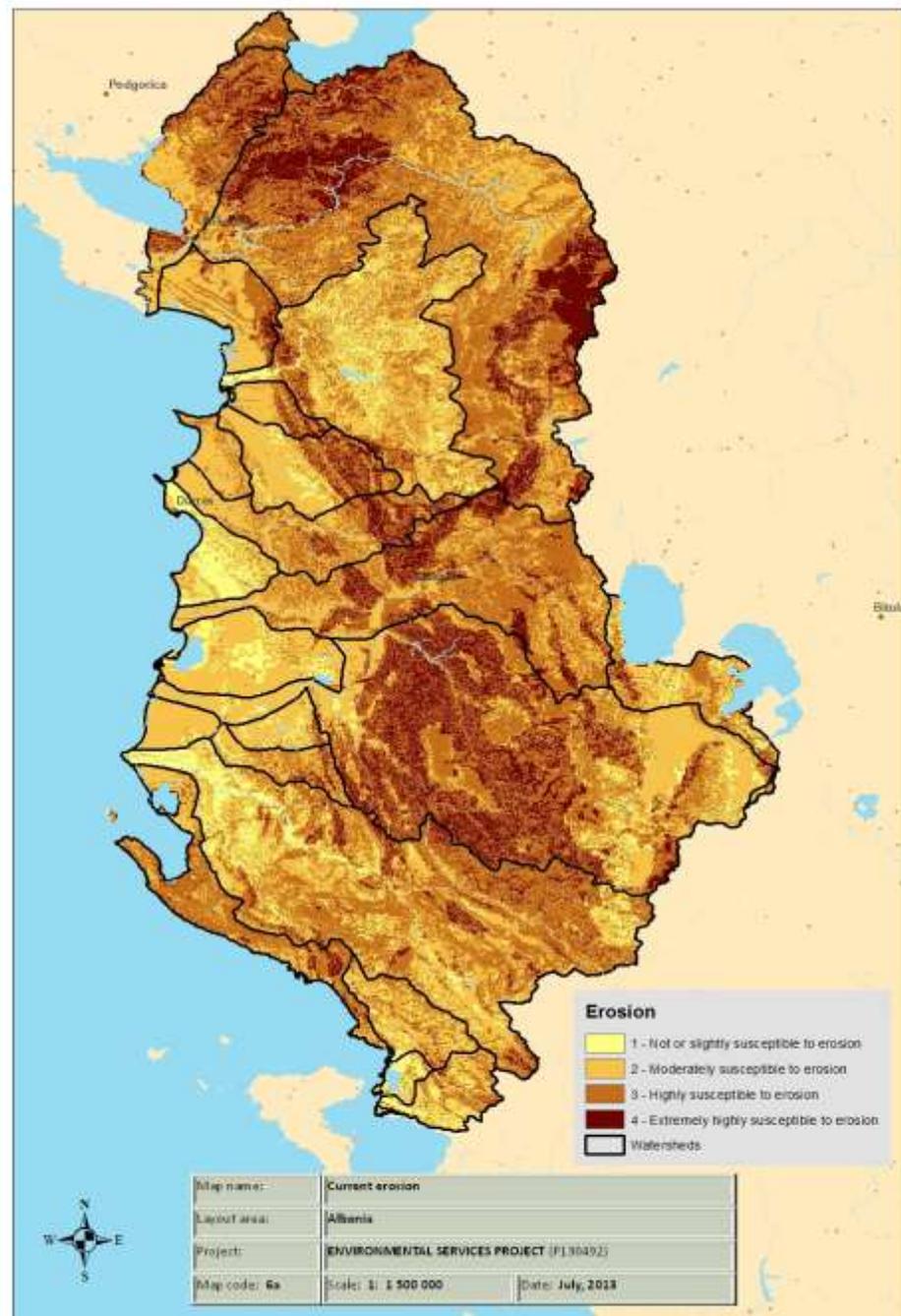
Figure 5: Land erosion along the national road in Komsia Commune



Uncontrolled grazing on pasture lands and wood cutting for heating are some of the main factors that lead to land degradation and to soil erosion. The 2009-2010 State of the Environment Report indicates that soil erosion continues to be significant and quantities of sediment close to 8-24 tons/ha per year are transported by river water. The highest value of soil erosion is found in the rivers Shkumbin and Seman.

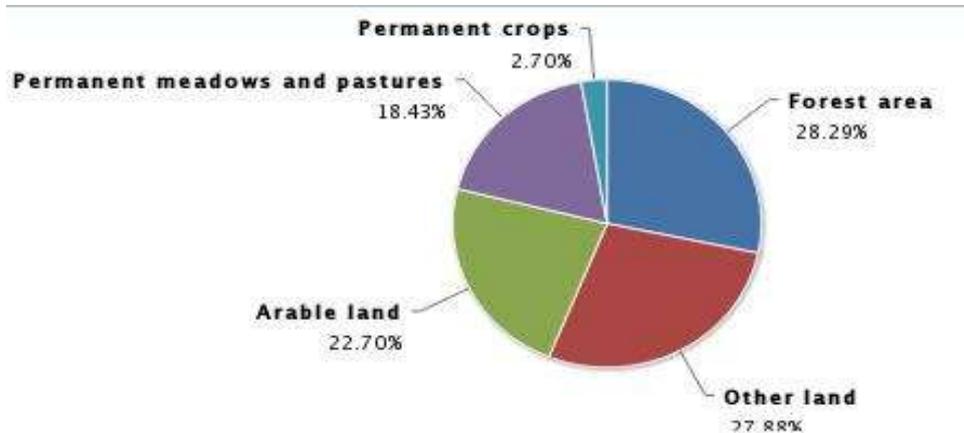
The following **Figure 7** shows a map of the land erosion situation in the country.

Figure 6: Land Erosion across Albania



The following **Figure 8** shows the different land uses in the country in 2011.

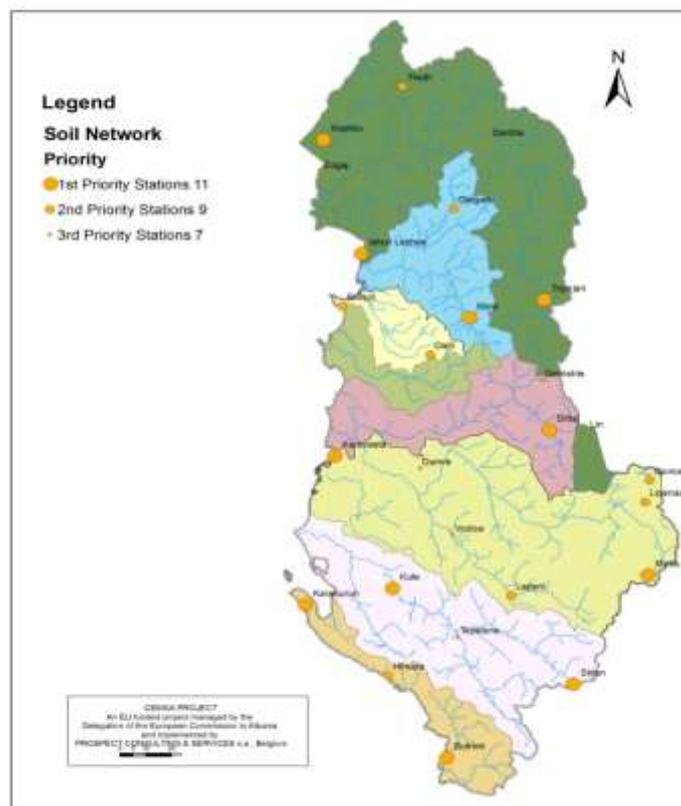
Figure 7: Land use in Albania in 2011



Source: FAO stat at http://faostat3.fao.org/home/index.html#VISUALIZE_BY_AREA (accessed on 17.8.2013).

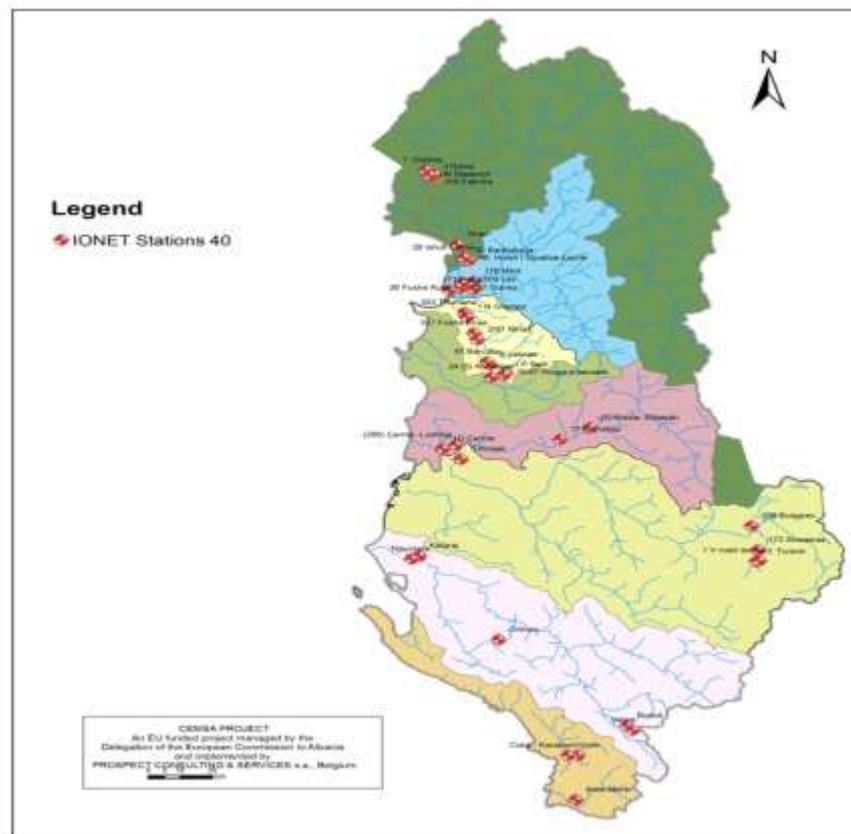
The following **Figure 9** shows the network of soil quality monitoring stations in the country proposed by the IPA financed Basic Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) for 2013.

Figure 8: Proposed network of soil quality monitoring stations



While the following **Figure 10** shows the EMP proposed network for groundwater quality monitoring.

Figure 9: Proposed network for groundwater quality monitoring.



4.1.3 Forests¹

The 2005 Albanian Law on Forests and the Forestry Service, No. 9385, defines forests as an area covered at least 30 per cent by dense trees on more than one tenth of a hectare, while open forest or forest land is defined as an area covered 5-30 per cent by forest vegetation, unregistered in another land-use cadastre.

In 2009 the forestry lands (high forests, low forests/coppices, shrubs and other areas with forest vegetation) encompassed 1,071,880.2 ha, which accounts for 37.28 per cent of the territory of Albania.

The deciduous high forest tree species (in particular beech and oak) were prevailing in Albania's forest resources in 2009, both in terms of surface covered (56.8 per cent) and stand volume (69.6 per cent), while coniferous forest stands (mostly black pine, fir and maritime pine) accounted for only 16.4 per cent of the total forest land area and for 21.1 per cent of the total forest stand volume. Areas overgrown by bushes accounted for some 24 per cent of the total forest area and 9.3 per cent of the total timber volume.

¹ UNECE EPR 2012

Almost three quarters of the territory extends between 200 and 2,000 m above sea level, with a mean value of 708 m, which is twice the average for Europe. Forests are distributed over most of the country but, due to the agricultural use of lowlands, are predominantly on hilly and mountainous areas with steep and partly unstable slopes.

Importantly, the 2005 national forest inventory shows that on the slope gradient in afforested areas, the majority (62.15 per cent) of forest sample plots were located on terrain with a slope gradient exceeding 40 per cent where forest management, and in particular forest harvesting, should not take place. Only 2.61 per cent of sample plots were in the 0-10 per cent gradient category most suitable for forest management practices and a further 35.24 per cent in the 11-40 per cent category where the management of forests, including harvesting, can still be economically sustainable.

In addition, the accessibility of forest stands which are suitable for management is further limited by the generally underdeveloped network of forestry roads. Consequently, forest management practices, in particular logging (both authorized and illegal), concentrate on the most accessible areas, directly adjacent to existing regular transport roads.

Over the last 70 years the forest area has been reduced by more than 300,000 ha mostly due to clearance for agriculture. Rural poverty has caused severe damage through overharvesting and overgrazing. Such practices may result in additional adverse effects as a decrease in natural water retention capacity, increased threat of forest fires, and the disappearance of wildlife and bird species which require larger undisturbed forest complexes.

Deforestation is considered one of the major environmental problems in Albania. The forests around villages are generally the most damaged and degraded as villagers cut wood for heating and cooking.

In addition, the lack of investment in silviculture, reforestation, pest and disease control, maintenance of forest roads, fire protection, etc., continues to cause the loss and degradation of the habitats of many forest flora and fauna species.

The implementation of sustainable forestry policies and practices is therefore a priority issue for Albania. In 2004 the DGFP issued the Strategy for the Development of the Forestry and Pasture Sector in Albania: Action Plan which identified the following six main forest policy goals:

- Maintain the integrity of the forests and pastures;
- Promote sustainable natural resource management;
- Promote the transition to a market-driven economy;
- Transfer management responsibility for selected State forests and pastures to the local government;
- Improve State management of production forests and the summer pasture resource base; and
- Develop recreation and tourism opportunities in forests and protected areas.

Between 1990 and 2009 the total surface of forest land increased by some 27,200 ha (**Table 4**). Simultaneously, the surface area classified as high forest decreased by some 32,300 ha (6.6. per cent of the high forest surface in 1990) and in 2009 accounted for 42.37 per cent of the total surface. However, depending on the statistical method used for forest area and forest type classification, available data on forest structure may differ. For instance, data from the 2004 national forest inventory project, Special Study on Forest and Pasture General Plan, following the categorization method later confirmed by the 2005 Law on Forests and the Forestry Service, estimates the high forest surface at 294,957 ha (19.68 per cent of the total forest area) with a breakdown into areas covered by coniferous high forest (84,461 ha) and broad-leafed high forest (210,496 ha), while the acreage of coppice forest is estimated at 405,016 ha (27.02 per cent), of shrubs at 241,724 ha (16.13 per cent).

Table 4: Changes in forestry land structure between 1990 and 2009

Type of Area	Surface (in thousand ha)				
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009
Forest	788.8	775.2	769.3	782.4	784.9
High Forest	486.5	471.2	459.6	458.3	454.2
Low forest	302.3	304.0	309.7	324.1	330.7
Shrubs	255.9	254.8	254.5	257,8	257,9
Other areas with forest vegetation		14.7	23.9	23.8	29.1
Total	>1,044.7	1,044.7	1,047	1,064.0.7	1,071.9

Sources: FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment, 2010.

The Albania Forestry Project (AFP) between 1996 and 2004 and the Natural Resource Development Project (NRDP) between 2006 and 2011, both financed by the World Bank, have first supported the transfer of user rights and management of forest and pastures from the State to local communities. Under the communal forestry component of the AFP some 1,284 ha were successfully afforested, 10,378 ha received cleaning and/or pre commercial thinning and vegetative cutting was carried out on a further 1,578 ha. In addition some 36 km of fence was constructed to protect natural regeneration and re-growth.

The NRDP supported the preparation and implementation of Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs) and Communal Micro-Catchment Plans (CMCPs) in 251 communes for a total of 775,511 ha of forests and pastures. The ESP should expand this to the rest of the country. The following **Figures 11 and 12** show photographs of silvicultural interventions in the Commune of Baz . The first photograph shows the effects of forest regeneration after a few years while the second shows the forest at the beginning of the intervention.

Figure 10: Silvicultural intervention in the Commune of Baz
This side of the road shows thick regenerated forest after intervention



Figure 11: Silvicultural intervention in the Commune of Baz

The other side of the road shows thinner and poorer forest at an earlier intervention stage.



The following **Figure 13** is the forest cover map of the country.
 Figure 12: Forest Cover in the Country.



4.1.4 Surface Water

Despite its relatively small size, Albania is rich in water resources that include rivers, groundwater, lakes and seas.

As mentioned earlier, because the water divide is to the east of Albania's borders, a lot of water from neighboring countries drains through Albania to the Adriatic Sea. However, only the Drini, the longest river in the country which flows in from Kosovo, (length 285 km), has a stable, constant flow while most other rivers have irregular seasonal flow patterns and some are totally dry in the summer season.

Figure 13: The river Fan in the month of August from Rubik Commune



The three lakes of Albania, lakes, Ohrid, Shkoder and Prespa, are all situated on the country's borders (FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Greece respectively). The biggest, Lake Ohrid, has an area of 358.2 km².

The following **Figure 15** shows Albania's seven river watersheds. These are the Drini, the Mati, the Ishmi, the Erzeni, the Shkumbini, the Semani and the Vjosa. The rivers are generally mountainous and have a torrential regime. In general, river flows are the highest in winter or early spring during the wet season and carry large quantities of solid matter. All the watersheds will be targeted by the ESP project

Figure 14: Main Watersheds of Albania



4.1.5 Surface Water Quality¹

The quality of surface water is not well known throughout the country due to very limited ongoing monitoring of both waste water emissions and water quality.

In general, the quality is often a problem due to pollution through discharge of untreated wastewater from urban settlements, as well as from industries with obsolete technology.

The uncontrolled dumping of urban waste on the banks of rivers exacerbates the problem of the quality of surface water. This high pollution load in surface water is leading to a deterioration of groundwater quality and especially concerns low-lying areas, where most of the population lives and most industrial and agricultural activities take place.

The discharge of sewage in water bodies, especially in coastal tourist areas and delicate ecosystems, is a major environmental concern for the Government, the business community and the public. Feasibility studies and detailed designs have been completed (for Vlora, Saranda, Durrës, Lezha, Shengjin and Pogradec) and constructions of sewerage water treatment plants are ongoing in Saranda, Durrës and Lezha with the support of different donors.

Environmental monitoring of waters is carried out by several scientific institutes contracted by the MEFWA on annual basis: Institute for Energy, Water and Environment (ex- Hydrometeorology Institute) for surface water quality and quantity, Agency of Environment and Forestry (ex-Institute of Environment) for wastewater discharges, and Institute of Public Health for water biological monitoring.

Presently, water quality monitoring is based on information provided by sampling at the 30 stations of the national river water quality monitoring network and monitoring at 6 lake stations. Wastewater discharges in the eight main cities are monitored to measure their impacts on rivers, lakes and coastal waters. Groundwater monitoring on a low scale is carried out in the Drini, Mati, Ishmi–Erzeni, Shkumbini, Semani, Vjosa and Zona Jonike basins. However, it is insufficient to present a comprehensive assessment of the current situation.

The following **Figure 16** shows the proposed EMP network of surface water and monitoring stations in the country.

¹ UNECE EPR 2012

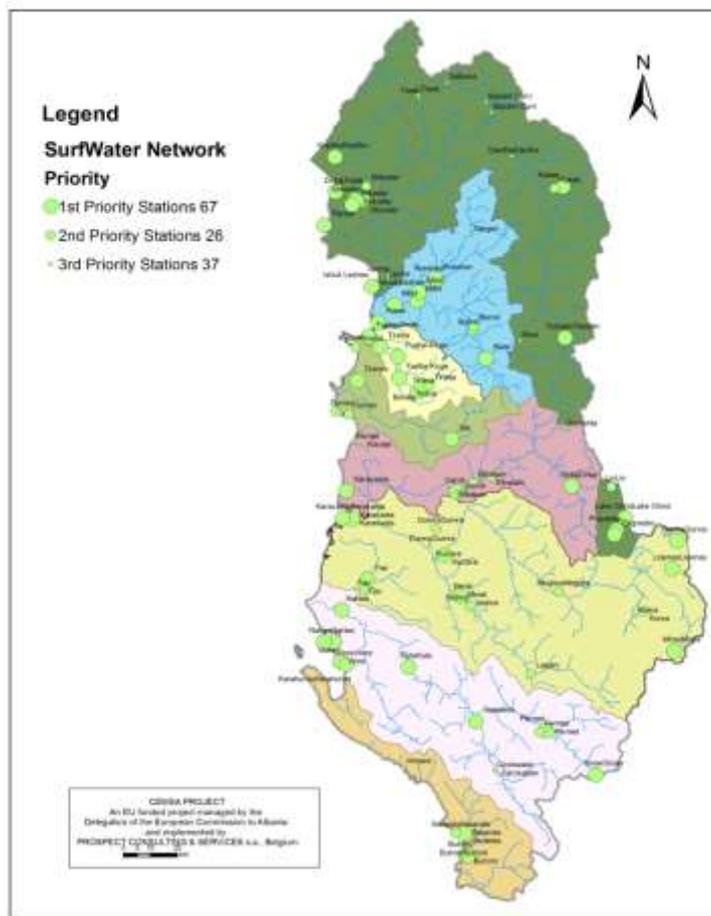


Figure 15: Surface water quality monitoring stations
Source: CEMSA Project Consolidation of the Environmental Monitoring System in Albania, May 2013.

4.1.6 Irrigation1

Agriculture has always been, and is still, the main resource of Albania. Because of the climatic features along the coast where most of the country's high productive lands are located, agriculture is critically dependent on irrigation. Yet the irrigation networks suffered at the fall of the State farms system, either by direct destruction or by lack of maintenance. Of the total area of 423,000 ha which is designed to be covered by the irrigation system, only 180,000 ha are covered by a working irrigation system.

To cope with the deficiencies in the irrigation networks, the present practice is to use groundwater for irrigation. This practice endangers the aquifers, since the extracted discharges are not subject to any control, and may lead to over-abstraction and resulting saltwater intrusion in coastal areas.

Programmes are underway to rehabilitate the networks and bring them back to their original conveyance capacity within a few years.

Micro catchment activities financed by the NRDP included rehabilitation of irrigation networks and construction of water reservoirs. The following are photographs of interventions in the Suçi Commune

Figure 16: Water reservoir for irrigation built under NRDP in Suçi



Figure 17: Water irrigation drenches built under NRDP in Suçi



Figure 18: Water reservoir for irrigation built under NRDP in Suçi



Figure 19: Agricultural fields irrigated by NRDP water reservoirs



4.1.7 Biodiversity and Nature Protection¹

Throughout recent years Albania has achieved progress and made a major investment in the future protection of its unique natural and landscape assets. Pursuant to the main areas of work identified by the 2000 NBSAP, and also as a result of the National Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) for the period 2006-2009, the protected area network has been gradually extended. Since 1996 the surface area legally declared as protected areas in Albania has more than tripled from 108,475 ha to 378,748 ha, bringing the total proportion of protected areas in different management cat-

¹ UNECE EPR 2012

egories to 13.17 per cent in 2011, compared with only 5.7 per cent in 2002. The positive trend is particularly visible for the legal designation of protected areas corresponding to IUCN category II (national parks), category IV (habitat/species management areas) and category V (protected landscapes/seascapes).

However, the designation of new national parks, which currently constitute almost half of Albania's national ecological network, will not bring positive effects for biodiversity and nature conservation unless these parks are properly managed and sustainably financed, which is not yet the case, taking into account, for example, that management plans for the majority of national parks, including those established almost half of a century ago, are still lacking.

In the EC Member States, the presence of habitats and species listed under relevant annexes to the Habitats Directive requires the designation of SACs constituting the Natura 2000 network. Similarly, the effective protection of natural habitats and species of priority importance for the conservation of biological diversity in Albania would require the designation of either numerous smaller strictly protected nature reserves, or strict (passive) protection zones of adequate size within the boundaries of, for example, national parks or protected landscapes and seascapes.

The identification and delineation of such areas, based on sound scientific field research and nature inventories, is most probably one of the most urgent priorities for work during the preparation of protected area management plans in Albania, in particular for its national parks, which currently constitute half of the country's ecological network.

Three wetland areas in Albania are currently listed as Ramsar sites (Karavasta Lagoon, Butrinti wetland complex, and Lake Shkoder and Buna River wetland complex), the total area of which accounts for over 83,000 ha or some 2.9 per cent of the country's territory. Albania cooperates with Montenegro on the integrated management of Lake Shkoder Managed Nature Reserve and Ramsar site. A similar success story is the cooperation with Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the joint management of the Lake Prespa basin, which has been identified as the potential fourth Ramsar site.

4.1.8 Monitoring of Biodiversity

The current status of biodiversity monitoring can be characterized as rather incomplete and fragmented.

Several biodiversity monitoring and research programmes are being implemented by research institutions contracted for this purpose by MoEFWA, e.g. monitoring of habitats with rare, endemic and threatened plant species and their ex-situ conservation by the botanical gardens, and Monitoring of the Trophic Status of Lagoons by the Faculty of Natural Sciences).

The other important institutions involved in biodiversity monitoring are: the Centre of Flora and Fauna Research consisting on the Museum of Natural Sciences and the Botanical Garden and the Biotechnology Department – all above mentioned institutions subordinated to the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Tirana University under MoES; and the Forestry Department within the EFA.

Most recently, some progress has been achieved with the inventory and mapping of natural and seminatural habitats, the conservation of which, pursuant to the EC Habitats Directive, requires the designation of special areas of conservation (SACs).

The first Red List¹ of Albanian Fauna and Flora, published in 2007 and elaborated according to the criteria set up by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), provides information on threatened species present in Albania.

According to the more up-to-date information gathered from monitoring reports between 2007 and 2009, as many as 46 mammal species (of the newly indicated total of 91 mammal species, thus 50.1 per cent), 115 bird species (of the new total of 330, thus 34.8 per cent), 37 reptile species (100 per cent), 15 amphibian species (100 per cent), 54 fish species (of 311, thus 17.4 per cent), 108 insect species (of 680, thus 15.9 per cent) and 130 mollusc species (of 183, thus 71 per cent) were considered to be threatened on a national scale in Albania.

According to MoEFWA data on the main wild fauna species, the populations of protected animal species listed under annex II to the EU Habitats Directive either remain stable or have increased notably in number between 2002 and 2010. On the other hand, a significant decline of game species populations has been noted between 2002 and 2010, in particular for the brown European hare and rock partridge. The latter is a species listed under Annex I to the Birds Directive. Its population has been reduced by over one third over the last eight years, due to either overhunting or poaching.

The NRDP and AFP projects had a very positive impact biodiversity in the country, particularly in the increased habitat surface and the improvement of the species living condition. One of the aim of the projects was the protection of natural habitats and biological diversity as the forest offer habitat for to flora and fauna and, depending on their health, vitality and the way it is managed, secures its own perpetuation through the functioning of the forest ecological processes.

The forests protection additionally protect the watersheds, maintain and increase the populations of important species of plants and animals, provide living laboratories for scientific research and education, improve environmental conditions in surrounding areas and maintain cultural values.

¹ The IUCN Red list includes Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable species.

The following **Table 5** summarizes the present situation for the protected areas network in Albania, **Figure 21** shows the Map of the Protected Areas in Albania and **Figure 22** shows the monitoring network for biodiversity proposed by the EMP.

Table 5: *A summary of the present situation for the protected areas network in Albania.*

No	PA Category	Number of sites	Surface (ha)	% of PA	% of the total territory
1	Strictly protected area	2	4,800	1.0	0.1
1	National parks	15	210,510.4	45.7	7.4
3	Monuments of nature (a. Bio & geological monument; b. Nature Monument)	740	3,470	0.8	0.1
		4			
4	Managed areas/Nature park	23	127,180.1	27.6	4.4
5	Protected landscape/seascape	5	95,864.4	20.8	3.3
6	Protected resource area	4	18,245.0	4	0.6
	Total	799	460,060.9	100%	16.00%

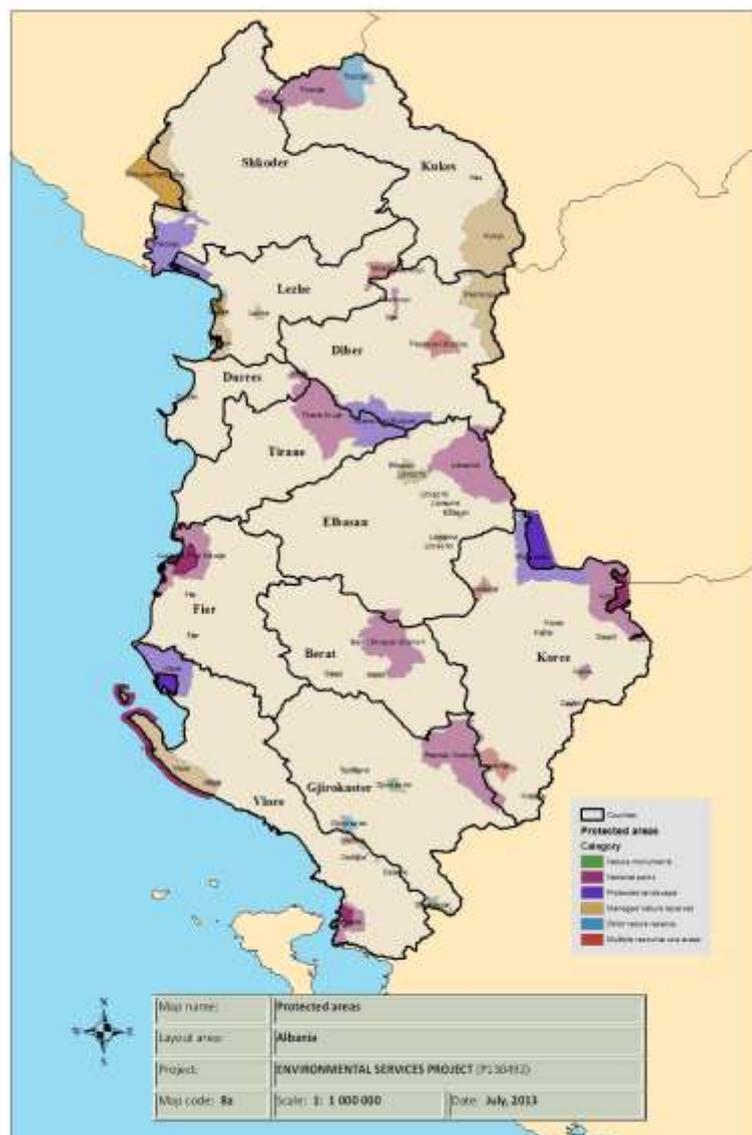
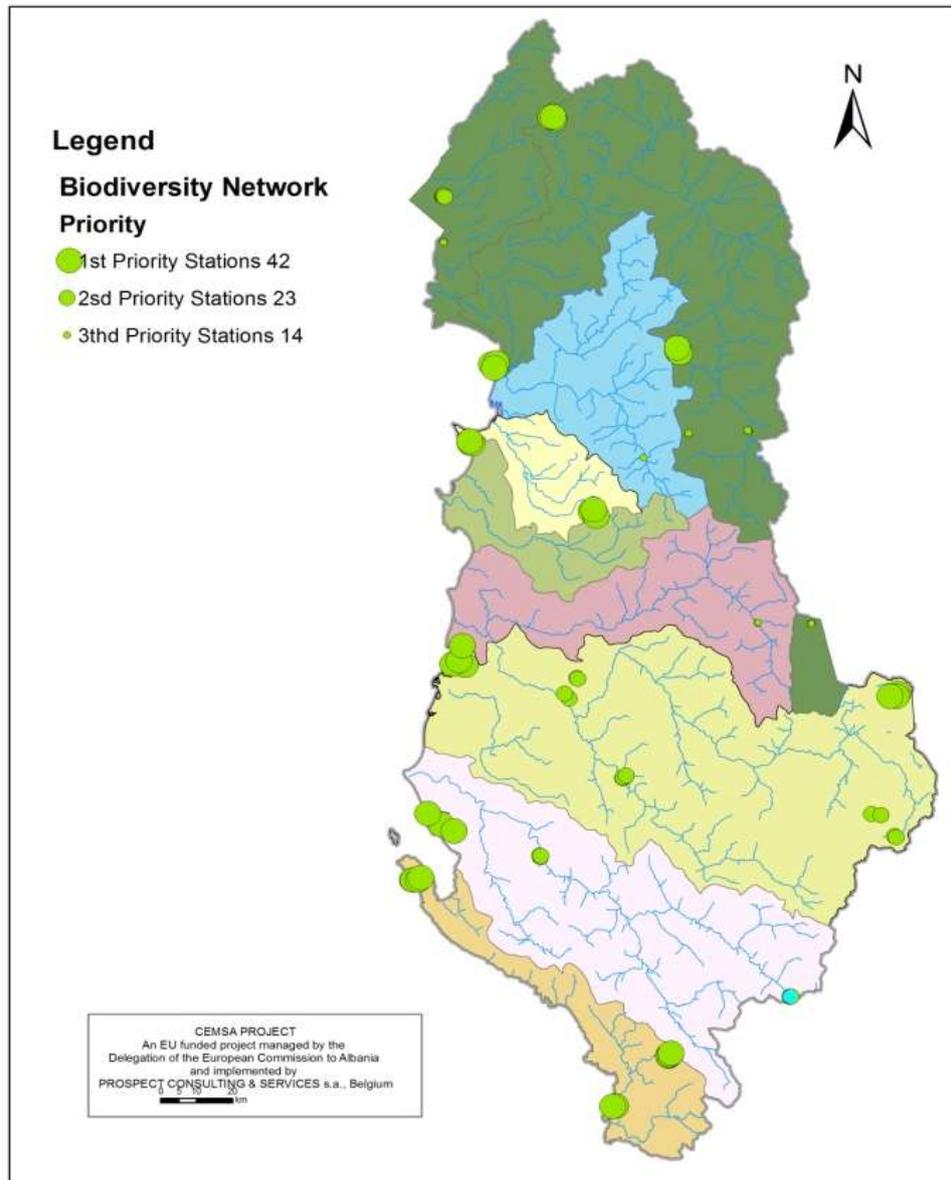


Figure 20: Map of protected areas network in Albania
Source: MoEFWA

Figure 21: Biodiversity Monitoring network Map of protected areas network in Albania proposed by EMP



5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION ASSESSMENT

This Chapter identifies and discusses potential environmental impacts of the activities foreseen by the ESP and proposes possible mitigation measures. Its contents are the basis for the development of the ESMF which is presented in Chapter 7.

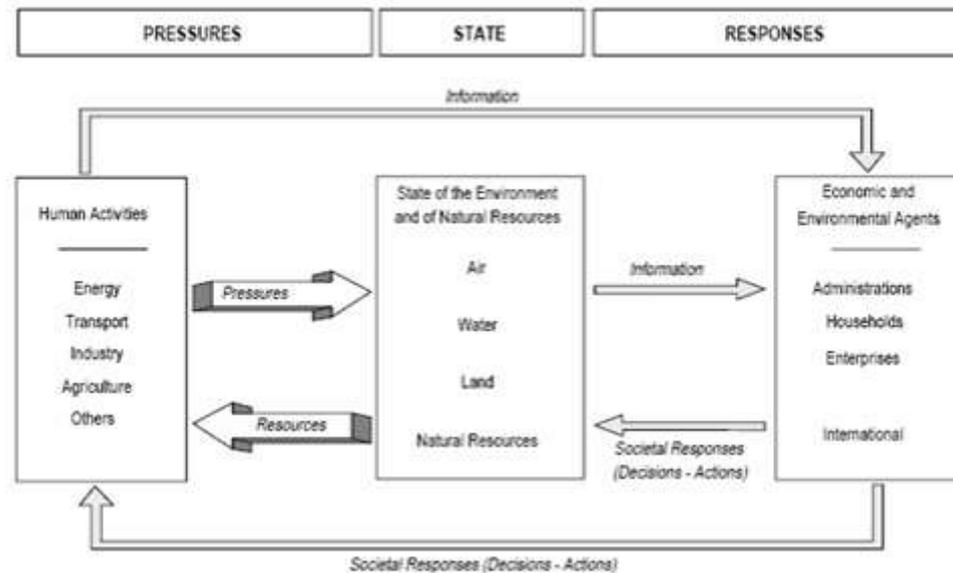
5.1 Overall Assessment

The OECD PSR (Pressure-State-Response) framework, whose outline is described in **Figure 23**, states that human activities exert pressures on the environment such as emission of contamination or land use. These pressures can induce changes in the state of the environment (for example, changes in ambient pollutant levels, habitat diversity, water flows, etc.). Society then

responds to changes in pressures or state with environmental and economic policies and programs intended to prevent, reduce or mitigate pressures and/or environmental damage.

In Albania, the second National Environmental Strategy for the period 2006-2020 (NES2) which was adopted in 2006 followed the sustainable development concept used in the Driving force–Pressure–State–Impact– Response (DPSIR) methodology.

Figure 22: PSR Framework1



Indicators can be powerful tools to help identify and support PSR relationships, both at the reporting stage and subsequently during policy analysis, but need to be well documented and monitored.

As discussed previously, environmental monitoring in Albania is presently very limited and fragmented and is being developed mostly through specifically dedicated projects. However, its present scope of work does not cover the whole country and data from the rural areas is basically nonexistent.

The following **Table 6** indicates proposed sample indicators addressing the main environmental aspects relevant to the ESP Project. Although very limited if any data is available to give them significance, the proposed list may be used as reference for future environmental monitoring developments these are the aspects that should be measured and monitored.

Some of these indicators have been also been considered in both the National Strategy for Development and Integration 2007-2013 and in the 2007 Environmental Cross Cutting Strategy .

1 Reference: OECD

Table 6: Proposed Sample Environmental PSR Indicators

Environmental Aspect	Indicator
Air	Climate
Soil and groundwater	Occupied land
Soil and groundwater	Landslides
Soil and groundwater	Geology
Soil and groundwater	Soil and groundwater contamination
Soil and groundwater	Groundwater reserves
Soil and groundwater	Quality of groundwater and soil
Surface water	Surface water contamination
Surface water	Surface water consumption
Surface water	Surface water reserves
Surface water	Quality of river water
Surface water	% population with adequate water facilities
Surface water	Expenditure for the provision of water services
Waste and wastewater	Wastewater quality
Waste and wastewater	Generation of wastewater
Waste and wastewater	Waste water treatment and disposal
Waste and wastewater	Municipal waste generation and disposal
Natural environment (forests)	Impact on forests (forest cover/forest quality)
Natural environment	Impact on natural habitats
Natural environment	Landscape - Visual impact
Natural environment	Natural and protected areas
Natural environment	Flora and fauna
Natural environment	Land use
Natural environment	Land erosion phenomenas
Natural environment	Areas of forests rehabilitated annually
Natural environment	Area of invasive plant species rehabilitated annually
Noise	Noise Emissions

5.2 Analysis of Potential Environmental Impacts

It is not generally expected that the ESP will have major negative environmental impacts, but rather that it will help fight land and watershed degradation through both physical interventions and the empowerment of rural population and of local and central institutions. The following are some of the actions foreseen by the ESP that will result in positive environmental impacts:

- ESP will continue the successful processes of community based regeneration of forests and pasture areas started by the AFP and continued under the NRDP.
- Forest and pasture regeneration will fight land degradation and erosion issues suffered in large areas of the country.
- Interventions focusing on water management (irrigation and flood control) will contribute to both improve livelihoods of rural upland communities and lessen erosion effects.
- Development of new income production activities such as sustainable tourism and basic produce processing will be explored with the aim of bringing new resources to the rural communities and allow for their more sustainable management of their forest and pastoral resources.
- The effort that will be made to address potential key policy constraints and capacity building is aimed to drive sustainable development of the upland areas.

The potential environmental impacts (both positive and negative) of each of the presently foreseen interventions foreseen by component of the ESP are briefly summarized in the following sections and listed in detail in a table at the end of this Chapter.

As the project activities impact directly on the livelihoods of the local rural communities, particular attention will need to be paid to indirect and cumulative impacts of interventions and of potential impacts that may be a consequence of ESP impact on local economies and society.

Proposed environmental mitigations corresponding to each of the foreseen activities listed in the table 7 indicating the responsibility for implementation are presented and discussed in the EMF activity Table in Chapter 8.

5.2.1 Air

The foreseen impacts of ESP activities on air quality are mostly insignificant. As in the case of the NRDP, the impact on air of sustainable forest and pastures interventions will be in relation to Climate Change through Carbon Sequestration and will mostly be positive impacts.

The only potentially negative impact could come from burning of stradicated shrubs resulting from cleaning of abandoned pasture lands as it would release Carbon in the atmosphere. To minimize the impact, the shrubs should be cut and used for household cooking or winter heating.

The minor negative impacts on air quality is the dust emissions arising from the activities related to erosion control and prevention such as construction of check dams and fences to protect pasture areas. These impacts will nevertheless be minimal and temporary.

5.2.2 Soil and Groundwater

A number of the activities foreseen by the ESP are focused on regeneration of forests and of degraded or abandoned pasture lands with the ultimate objective to prevent soil erosion. Only minor environmental impacts on soil and groundwater can be expected from these and examples are the following:

- a) Potential minor risk of leakages of fuel/oil due to use of transport vehicles;
- b) Potential contamination of groundwater if fertilizers and pesticides are used to improve forest health and growth patterns.

These issues will successfully be addressed by appropriate tuning and adequate leak prevention measures for the vehicles potentially used in the activities and, more importantly, appropriate training of farmers for use of pesticides and fertilizers. With particular reference to the issues of chemicals usage, an Integrated Pesticide Management Plan is a part of the EMF.

5.2.3 Forests

The overall impact of the ESP activities will be positive for forests. Potential foreseen environmental impacts include the following:

- a) Potential increase of grazing and/or harvesting pressure on unprotected areas in case of limiting access on selected areas of forests and pastures.

- b) Reduction of forest diversity/loss of biodiversity through excessive use of Robinia Pseudoaccacia and Mediterranean pine tree.
- c) Impoverishment/alteration of soil quality

Mitigation measures include ensuring participatory process in the selection of the sites so as to respect everyone's rights and minimize over-use/overgrazing issues on other areas, monitoring of number of livestock numbers and adequate diversification of species to be used in reforestation interventions.

5.2.4 Surface Water

The main foreseen ESP interventions directly impacting surface waters are the ones focusing on the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation networks, water reservoirs and pumping stations.

A specific effort must be made during ESP implementation to ensure that Commune participatory planning must take place at the base of ESP grants allocation to ensure benefits arrive to the weaker parts of the communities.

Additional minor environmental impacts may be caused by spillage of potentially harmful substances/chemicals during construction, if any are used. Adequate monitoring of used substances and leakage/spillage prevention measures will further minimize these risks.

5.2.5 Biodiversity and Protected Areas

As in the case of forests, the overall impact of the ESP activities on protected areas and biodiversity should be positive as its main focus is sustainable forest and pasture management. Potential foreseen negative environmental impacts of which some evidence is available from NRDP implementation include the following:

- a) Reduction of forest diversity/loss of biodiversity through excessive use of Robinia Pseudoaccacia and Mediterranean pine tree.
- b) Impoverishment/alteration of soil quality.
- c) Potential visual/landscape impact due to construction of check dams, fences and other permanent structures.

All these potential negative impacts can be minimized by appropriate planning and diversification of species used for reforestation activities and adequate choice of the materials to be used for the constructions. Appropriate screening measures are included in the ESP EMF which will also avoid the financing of harmful activities inside Protected Areas.

As mentioned at the beginning of this Chapter, the following **Table 7** lists all the activities presently foreseen for the ESP giving a short but detailed description of expected potential positive, negative and cumulative environmental impacts. Activities are subdivided in sections by project component and impacts are indicated positive/negative or neutral per environmental aspect. To simplify the format of the Table, details of the single activities are given in *Annex 5*.

Table 7: Potential impact and their mitigation

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
Component A – Ipard Like Agri-Environmental Measures													
A.1 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures	Details are given in the following cells												
A.2 Implementation of Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFMPs) existing under the NRDP . The following activities can also be included in the Implementation of MicroCatchment Management Plans (Section A3)													
Forest Protection: ban community access to forest	X	X	x	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	-potential increased pressure on other forest areas	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Silvicultural activities: (see details in Annex)	-	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers; Potential groundwater contamination issues due to fuel leakages of transport vehicles; Potential noise and dust impact on natural habitat due to usage of transport vehicles: Potential soil erosion issues due to tracts made by transport vehicles.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Harvesting and Utilisation: (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential noise and air quality issues due to road transport of forest products; Potential groundwater contamination issues due to fuel leakages of transport vehicles; Potential soil erosion issues due to tracts made by transport vehicles;	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Afforestation -(see details in Annex)-	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral											Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise				
Reforestation (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-		Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides and fertilisers	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Seedling Production (see details in Annex)	x	-	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x		Potential improvement of quality of seedlings and consequent impact on soil; reduced erosion and increased soil moisture retention; -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of pesticides ; Potential transport issues and waste management issues related to packing.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Erosion prevention and control (other than forestation) (see details in Annex)	√	√	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-		Reduction of erosion processes; Introduction of cultivations variety.	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of fertilisers; Potential intensification of grazing on adjacent lands which are not fenced.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Protection of degraded pasture land and newly planted forest by construction of fences	x	x	√	√	x	√	x	x	x	x		Reduction of erosion process erosion and increased soil moisture retention;	Potential overgrazing issues on other land parcels	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Construction of small erosion control structures (check dams)	√	x	√	√	√	√	x	x	-	-		Reduction of erosion process.	Potential noise and dust impact on natural environment during construction and visual impact due to permanent structures.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
A.3.Preparation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)														
A.3. implementation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)														
Pasture														
Protection (fencing)	x	x	√	√	x	√	x	x	-	-		Reduction of erosion process erosion and increased soil moisture retention;	-Potential overgrazing issues on other land parcels; -Potential noise and dust impact on natural environment during construction and visual impact due to permanent structures. -	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Rehabilitation (cleaning shrubs)	x	x	√	√	√	-	-	x	-	x		Improved pasture lands, less land	Potential shrub disposal issues such as burning;	Positive: high

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral											Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise				
and rocks)												surfaces exposed to overgrazing;		Negative: low Cumulative: low
Silvopastoral planting	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved pasture lands, less land surfaces exposed to overgrazing	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Overseeding to enrich the vegetation	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved pasture lands, less land surfaces exposed to overgrazing.	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Construction of water points for livestock	x	√	-	x	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved livestock quality and limitation of grazing areas;	Potential I impacts on groundwater through gathering of livestock; Potential permanent visual impact;	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Shelter (coral)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Improved livestock quality and limitation of grazing areas	Potential impacts on groundwater through gathering of livestock	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Agriculture														
Reduction of Bareland (abandoned/refused): (see details in Annex)	X	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Improved soil productivity and stability -Increased rotation will fight soil moisture and nutrients depletion and the build up of weeds, pests and diseases -Produce yield will be increased so as to reduce pressure on marginal lands	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies;	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low	
Appropriate use of marginal agricultural land (private land on slope with shallow soils: (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies;	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low	

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact -/√ negative/positive; x neutral										Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise			
											and flood risk; -Improved soil productivity and stability Increased rotation will fight soil moisture and nutrients depletion and the build up of weeds, pests and diseases -Produce yield will be increased and will reduce pressure on marginal lands		
Trees on field boundaries (see details in Annex)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk.	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Small scale irrigation (see details in Annex)	√	√	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	Increased crop production and diversification, reduced pressure on marginal lands.	Potential risk of community water supply conflicts	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Planting of vineyards for revenue production have an extra positive effect of embellishment of the landscape	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	X	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: low
Rainfed horticulture fruits/vegetables/forages	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low
Irrigated horticulture (fruits/vegetables/forages)	x	-	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Reduce erosion through enhancement of soil cover; -Increased soil moisture retention	Potential impacts on groundwater if fertilisers and pesticides are used and potential consequent risk to human health from contamination of water supplies.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact - / √ negative/positive; x neutral											Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise				
												leading to reduced runoff, erosion and flood risk; -Increased revenue from produce	plies.	
Beekeeping	x	x	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	Enhance crop impollination and quality; Provide produce to increase community revenue	Minor visual impact.	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Artificial insemination for cattle to improve quality in order to reduce grazing pressure	x	x	x	√	√	√	-	x	x	x	Enhance livestock quality and reduce grazing pressure on pasture lands;	Potential solid/veterinary waste management issues	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Promotion of recreational and sustainable tourism through maintenance and rehabilitation of mountain paths and traditional houses for accommodations of tourists and trekkers	-	x	-	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Provide potential revenues for the communities; Provide access to natural resources for recreational purposes;	Commercial tourist activities may bring degradation to habitat; Solid waste and waste water management issues; Noise/dust issues related to construction works.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: medium	
Primary processing of produce for sustainable production	-	x	-	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Provide potential revenues for the communities;	Commercial activities may bring degradation to habitat through mishandling of solid waste and waste water management and use of natural resources.	Positive: high Negative: medium Cumulative: medium	
Component B-Payment for environmental services (PES)														
B1:Development of appropriate mechanisms and enabling the environment for PES	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	X	x	x	Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low	
B2: Development of Carbon Sequestration projects														
<i>Forest Protection</i> : ban community access to forest	x	x	x	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	-Forest regeneration -Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention - Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	-potential increased pressure on other forest areas	Positive: high Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Reforestation	x	-	√	√	√	√	-	-	-	-	Forest regeneration	Potential impacts on groundwater through use of	Positive: high	

Project Component and Activity	Area of Impact -/√ negative/positive; x neutral											Potential Positive impacts	Potential Negative impacts	Cumulative Impact Significance/Risk
	Surface water	Groundwater	Landscape	Land degradation	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Solid waste	Waste water	Air quality	Noise				
(see details in Annex)												-Reduction of soil erosion effects -Increased soil moisture retention -Improved quality, health and productivity of communal forests	pesticides and fertilisers	Negative: low Cumulative: low
B3: Development of payment for watershed services schemes	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	x	x	x	Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low	
Component C- Institutional and Implementation Support and Monitoring														
C1 Capacity building to stakeholders Institutions	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water		
C2 Strengthening good governance	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water		
C3 Empowering beneficiaries	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Improve local capacities	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: medium Negative: low Cumulative: medim	
C4 Project Management and Administration	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	x	x	Green procurement	Potential issues of solid waste management/waste water;	Positive: low Negative: low Cumulative: low		

6. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

The following paragraphs present a short discussion of the potential project alternatives that were considered during ESP preparation including the '*zero alternative*' scenario which implies the absence of a project.

6.1 'Zero Alternative' Scenario

From an environmental point of view, the 'Zero Alternative' Scenario in the case of the ESP the objective of which is sustainable management of the country's forest and pasture resources contributing to a large portion of the population livelihood, represents a far more negative scenario than its actual implementation.

This statement is easily supported by the analysis of the results obtained through the implementation of the AFP and NRDP which are substantiated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Forest inventory report (See Section 4.1.3).

It is a fact that, as mentioned in Paragraph 4.1.3, the communal forestry component of the AFP supported natural regeneration and re-growth with the construction of 36 km of fence, successful afforestation of some 1,284 ha, cleaning and/or precommercial thinning of 10,378 ha, and vegetative cutting was carried out on a further 1,578 ha.

In following years, the NRDP and later the INRDP, supported the preparation and implementation of Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs) and Communal Micro-Catchment Plans (CMCPs) in 251 communes for an additional total of 775,511 ha.

If ESP is not implemented less resources will be available to continue the implementation of the existing CFPMPs and CMCPs, prepare and implement new CMCPs in new Communes and revised 10 year long CFPMPs whose lifespan is coming to an end in the ESP implementation period. It is important to maintain the momentum for change in the land use practices, and at the same time to contribute to the long term financial sustainability of integrated rural development.

All benefits that have been generated for both rural communities and natural habitats will slowly come to a stop and land degradation would continue and communities livelihoods will continue to decline with consequences whose impact will be felt country wide.

6.2 Potential Project Alternatives to the ESP

The ESP is presently formulated to foresee financing of the Component 1 activities, mainly implementation of the CFPMPs and the micro-catchment inte-

grated resource management plans, through a competitive grant application scheme, whereby the participants and user associations will need to apply competitively for funding.

This innovation with respect to the NRDP has been introduced with the objective to stimulate the preparation of technical proposals and business plans, in compliance with the management plans' objectives and prescriptions, but also, and importantly, financial and business sustainability. This may drive desirable land-use practices and could stimulate the inclusion and participation of vulnerable groups.

On the other hand, financing of the activities foreseen under component 2 and component 3 will not need to undergo any application procedures and will be financed directly.

A possible alternative to this scheme is to foresee direct payment also for the activities foreseen by Component 1 cancelling the concept of a competitive grant application. However, it has been considered that the process of competitive grants application will stimulate the users association in the design and preparation of better all around activities, from environmental, social and economic feasibility/sustainability point of view and will enable the PMT to prioritize interventions through the evaluation of the single applications and consequently optimise the results of the investments being made. It is therefore considered more desirable.

Another option is to invest more heavily to afforestation and reforestation under component 1 and less in building payment for watershed services under component 2. However, this would not contribute to the long term financial sustainability. Either approach would bring equal benefits to environment.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

WB OP4.01 foresees that an EMP be prepared in case of Category B projects. In the case of the ESP project, where the contents of project activities is unknown at its offset, but will be identified during implementation, it is foreseen that interventions proposed for grant financing undergo an environmental screening process which will identify both the potential adverse environmental impacts and whether an EMP will be necessary.

ESP preparation also foresees the development of an EMF. The identification of all the potential adverse environmental impacts and definition of their mitigation measures has been done by the EA and have been described in **Table 7** and the EMF Table in **Annex I**. Based on the experience of NRDP, it is expected that only a restricted number of intervention typologies will be in need of an EMP.

In case it is defined that an EMP should be prepared for a proposed intervention, its proposal should include both the screening module and the completed EMP which must then get approval from the PMT.

An EMP should include the following:

- a) An outline of the proposed intervention.
- b) Description of the foreseen adverse environmental impacts: the adverse impacts are identified through the screening process.
- c) Description of the mitigation measures for each identified adverse environmental impact, identifying both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation.
- d) Description of a monitoring program of the mitigation measures and of their success in minimising the identified adverse impacts of the implemented interventions. Like in the case of the mitigation measures, the monitoring program should identify both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation.
- e) Description of the implementation schedules of both mitigation measures and related monitoring plans.

Given the limited technical capacities available at the rural community level, the monitoring parameters of the mitigation measures should be simplified as much as possible so as to allow effective monitoring and community involvement. It would be preferable to identify common sense parameters rather than technical/scientific ones, and given the nature of the interventions and their objectives these should be easily developed.

Examples given for a number of proposed activities are the following:

- a) Forest protection (forest processes): are animals seen grazing in the protected areas or are people seen harvesting where they should not?
- b) Forest regeneration (forest processes): are trees seen to be actually getting stronger or is there some problem with the health of the forest?
- c) Water irrigation measures: are there problems with the newly implemented irrigation systems?
- d) Soil erosion measures: are surface waters seen muddier than usual?

7.1 Identification and Description of Adverse Environmental Impacts and Mitigation measures

The potential adverse environmental impacts of the interventions that at present can be foreseen for ESP support are listed in the EMF Table of foreseen activities of the ESP which is presented in *Annex 1*. During the preparation of the EMP, the table should be consulted and the suggested adverse impacts and proposed mitigation measures can be reviewed and confirmed.

As explained in Chapter 5, a complete detailed analysis of the foreseen environmental impact is presented in the Environmental Assessment section and in particular in **Table 7**.

7.2 Definition and Description of a Monitoring Program, Institutional Responsibility and Implementation Schedule

Given again the characteristic of the ESP, which foresees that the precise identification of interventions is to take place during project implementation, it will only be possible to define all aspects related to the specific EMP at the time of its preparation. These will include the following:

- a) Monitoring Program
- b) Institutional responsibility
- c) Costs
- d) Implementation Schedule.

A number of examples have been included for each of the foreseen interventions in the EMP modules that have been prepared and that are included in *Annex 5 in EMF*. These include the cases that have been seen in the Ulza and Baz / Suçi Communes. In addition, a sample EMP preparation exercise was organised in the Commune of Rubik.

7.3 Sample EMP in Rubik Commune

On the 20th of August a sample preparation of an EMP was simulated in the Commune of Rubik. Participants included the head of the FPUA, Mr Gjon Presi and Mr Gjergj Deday, from the DFS.

The EMP preparation material was also submitted to them and their comments and suggestions in relation to efficient applicability incorporated. The main priorities of the Rubik Commune are erosion issues due to deforestation which was largely caused by acid rains which were a consequence of the presence of a copper smelter which has presently been shut down for the past 25 years. The Rubik Commune was object of a CFMP and interventions on its territory mostly included reforestation and check dams for erosion controls. The following are photographs of the check dams built in the Rubik territory using rocks that were available locally.

Figure 23: The lowest of a Check Dam system



Figure 24: Evidence that the check dam, built 5 years ago, has almost reached its full upstream capacity.



Figure 25: The check dam seen from upstream

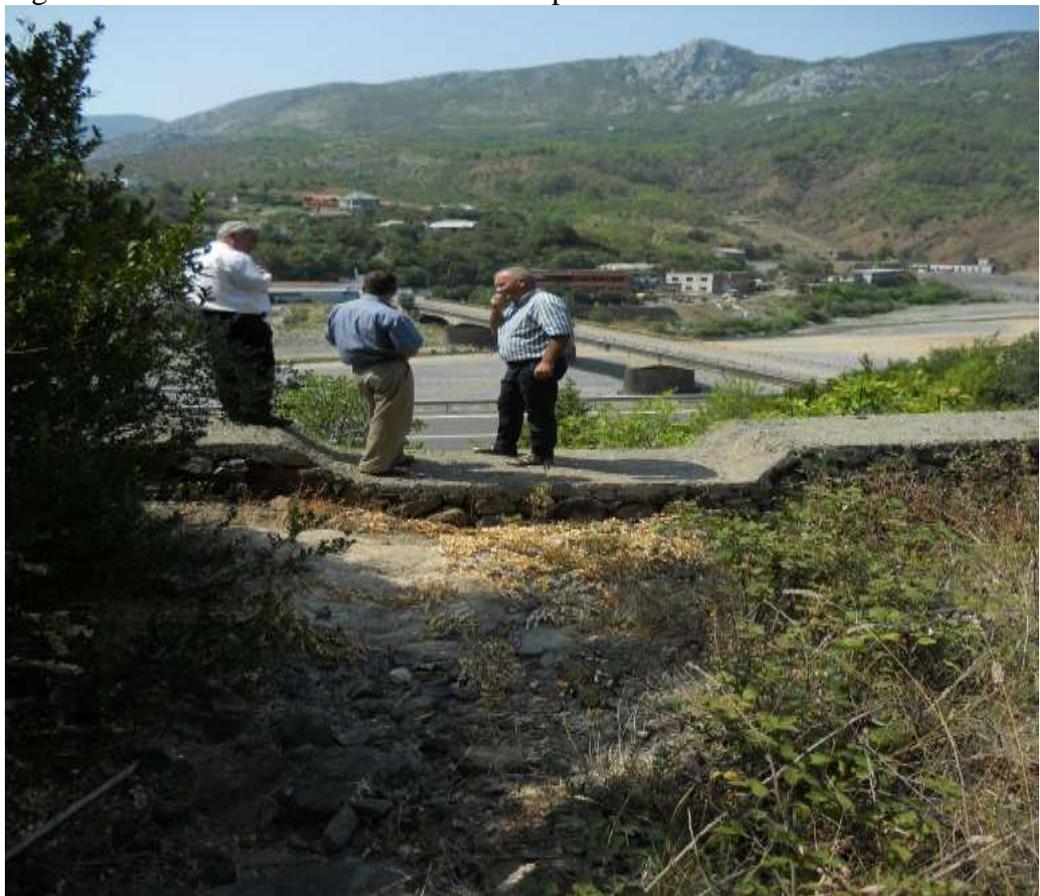


Figure 26: A larger check dam near the Byzantine Church.



Figure 27: The slope near the check dam with evidence of land slide and reforestation intervention



Figure 28: The old copper smelter factory and the River Fan



The main adverse environmental impacts foreseen by its construction is the visual impact which has actually been mitigated, as suggested, through the use of rocks found in the stream itself. The main institution who should be responsible for EMP design, implementation and monitoring is the DFS and this is motivated by its technical capacities. On the other hand, it was also agreed that all issues related to Social impacts should be dealt by the Commune. Costs for these monitoring activities are not significant as it would be the DFS technicians to carry them out.

The completed sample EMP is attached in *Annex 5 in EMF*.

7.4 Estimate of EMP Costs

As discussed previously, given the nature of the activities foreseen by the implementation of the ESP, it is expected that only a limited number of EMPs will need to be prepared. In the case where an EMP will be needed, it is not expected that installation of monitoring/measurement equipment will be necessary, as it will hardly be sustainable, and therefore the EMP installation and monitoring costs will in any case be marginal.

Annex 1 List of stakeholders interviewed during field visits

July 24th 2013

Ulza Commune:

Llesh Lleshi – communal forester

Fran Fufi – CFUA

Genti Cupi – Diber Regional Coordinator

Baz Commune:

Fatmir Kurti – Mayor of Bazi commune

Rexhep Neli, – CFUA

Genti Cupi – Diber Regional Coordinator

Suçi Commune:

Mazllem Celiku – CFUA

Genti Cupi – Diber Regional Coordinator

August 19th 2013

Rubik Commune:

The head of the FPUA: Mr Gjon Preci, and

Mr Gjeg Dedaj, from the Forest Service Directorate

For EMP modules, comments were also received from the following persons:

Forest Service Directorate, Mirdite: Gjergj Dedaj

Regional Coordinator, Elbasan : Jakov Boduri

Regional Coordinator, Diber: Genti Cupi

Annex 2 Annex I and II of the EIA Law

ANNEX I:

PROJECTS SUBJECT TO PROFOUND EIA PROCEDURES

1. Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
2. Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 20 megawatts or more.
3. Nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors including the dismantling or decommissioning of such power stations or reactors (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load). Nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors cease to be such an installation when all nuclear fuel and other radioactively contaminated elements have been removed permanently from the installation site.
4. (a) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel.
 (b) Installations designed:
 - i. for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel,
 - ii. for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste,
 - iii. for the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel,
 - iv. solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste,
 - v. solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or radioactive waste in a different site than the production site.

Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel;
Installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical, chemical or electrolytic processes.
5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20 000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilization of more than 200 tonnes per year.
6. Integrated chemical installations, i.e. those installations for the manufacture on an Industrial scale of substances using chemical conversion processes, in which several units are juxtaposed and are functionally linked to one another and which are:
 - a) for the production of basic organic chemicals;
 - b) for the production of basic inorganic chemicals;

- c) for the production of phosphorous-,nitrogen-or potassium-based fertilizers (simple or compound fertilizers);
- d) for the production of basic plant health products and of biocides;
- e) for the production of basic pharmaceutical products using a chemical or biological process;
- f) for the production of explosives.

7.

- (a) Construction of lines for long-distance railway traffic;
- (b) Construction of airports with a basic runway length of 2 100 m or more. For these purposes “airports” means airports which comply with the definition in the 1944 Chicago Convention setting up the International Civil Aviation Organization (Annex 14).;
- (c) Construction of motorways and express roads. For these purposes “express road” means a road which complies with the definition in the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries of 15 November 1975;
- (d) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.

8. (a) Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes;
- (b) Trading ports, piers for loading and unloading connected to land and outside ports (excluding ferry piers) which can take vessels of over 1 350 tonnes.

9. Waste disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment under heading D9, or landfill of hazardous waste, as defined in the Law on Integrated Waste Management.

10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment under heading D9 of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day, as defined in the Law on Integrated Waste Management.

11. Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water abstracted or recharged is equivalent to or exceeds 10 million cubic metres.

12.

- (a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where this transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year;
- (b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2 000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 % of this flow.

In both cases transfers of piped drinking water are excluded.

13. Waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 30 000 population equivalent as defined in the law on water resources.

14. Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 50 tonnes/day in the case of petroleum and 10 000 m³/day in the case of gas.

15. Dams and other installations designed for the holding back or permanent storage of water, where a new or additional amount of water held back or stored exceeds 10 million cubic metres.

16. Pipelines with a diameter of more than 800 mm and a length of more than 40 km:

(a) for the transport of gas, oil, chemicals, and

(b) for the transport of carbon dioxide (CO₂) streams for the purposes of geological storage, including associated booster stations.

17. Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than:

(a) 1 000 places for broilers, 20 000 places for hens;

(b) 3 000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); or

(c) 900 places for sows.

18. Industrial plants for the

(a) production of pulp from timber or similar fibrous materials;

(b) production of paper and board with a production capacity exceeding 50 tonnes per day.

19. Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 0.5 hectares, or peat extraction, where the surface of the site exceeds 1 hectares.

20. Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 10 km.

21. Installations for storage of petroleum, petrochemical, or chemical products with a capacity of 50 000 tonnes or more.

22. Storage sites for the geological storage of carbon dioxide, as set out in separate legislation.

23. Installations for the capture of carbon dioxide streams for the purposes of geological storage from installations covered by this Annex, or where the total yearly capture of carbon dioxide is 1.5 mega tonnes or more.

ANNEX II

PROJECTS SUBJECT TO PRELIMINARY EIA PROCEDURES

1. Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture

- a) Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings;
- b) Projects for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes;
- c) Water management projects for agriculture, including irrigation and land drainage projects;
- d) Initial afforestation and deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use;
- e) Intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I);
- f) Intensive fish farming;
- g) Reclamation of land from the sea.

2. Extractive industry

2.1 Quarries, open-cast mining and peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I);

2.2 Underground mining;

2.3 Extraction of minerals by marine or fluvial dredging;

2.4 Deep drillings, in particular:

- geothermal drilling,
- drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material,
- drilling for water supplies, with the exception of drillings for investigating the stability of the soil;

2.5 Surface industrial installations for the extraction of coal, petroleum, natural gas and ores, as well as bituminous shale.

3. Energy industry

(a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Annex I);

(b) Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables (projects not included in Annex I);

(c) Surface storage of natural gas;

(d) Underground storage of combustible gases;

(e) Surface storage of fossil fuels;

(f) Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite;

(g) Installations for the processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I);

(h) Installations for hydroelectric energy production;

(i) Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms);

(j) Installations for the capture of carbon dioxide streams for the purposes of geological storage from installations not covered by Annex I of this Law.

4. Production and processing of metals

(a) Installations for the production of pig iron or steel (primary or secondary fusion) including continuous casting;

(b) Installations for the processing of ferrous metals:

(i) hot-rolling mills;

(ii) smitheries with hammers;

(iii) application of protective fused metal coats;

(c) Ferrous metal foundries;

- (d) Installations for the smelting, including the alloyage, of non-ferrous metals, excluding precious metals, including recovered products (refining, foundry casting, etc.);
- (e) Installations for surface treatment of metals and plastic materials using an electrolytic or chemical process;
- (f) Manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles and manufacture of motor vehicle engines;
- (g) Shipyards;
- (h) Installations for the construction and repair of aircraft;
- (i) Manufacture of railway equipment;
- (j) Swaging by explosives;
- (k) Installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.

5. Mineral industry

- (a) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
- (b) Installations for the manufacture of cement;
- (c) Installations for the production of asbestos and the manufacture of asbestos-products (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Installations for the manufacture of glass including glass fibre;
- (e) Installations for smelting mineral substances including the production of mineral fibres;
- (f) Manufacture of ceramic products by burning, in particular roofing tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, stoneware or porcelain.

6. Chemical industry (Projects not included in Annex I)

- (a) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals;
- (b) Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides;
- (c) Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.

7. Food industry

- (a) Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
- (b) Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products;
- (c) Manufacture of dairy products;
- (d) Brewing and malting;
- (e) Confectionery and syrup manufacture;
- (f) Installations for the slaughter of animals;
- (g) Industrial starch manufacturing installations;
- (h) Fish-meal and fish-oil factories;
- (i) Sugar factories.

8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries

- (a) Industrial plants for the production of paper and board (projects not included in Annex I);
- (b) Plants for the pre-treatment (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerization) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
- (c) Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;
- (d) Cellulose-processing and production installations.

9. Rubber industry

Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products

10. Infrastructure projects

- (a) Industrial estate development projects;
- (b) Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks;
- (c) Construction of railways and intermodal trans-shipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I);
- (e) Construction of roads, harbours and port installations, including fishing harbours (projects not included in Annex I);
- (f) Inland-waterway construction not included in Annex I, canalization and flood-relief works;
- (g) Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long term basis (projects not included in Annex I);
- (h) Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport;
- (i) Oil and gas pipeline installations and pipelines for the transport of carbon dioxide streams for the purposes of geological storage (projects not included in Annex I);
- (j) Installations of long-distance aqueducts;
- (k) Coastal work to combat erosion and maritime works capable of altering the coast through the construction, for example of dykes, moles, jetties and other sea defence works, excluding the maintenance and reconstruction of such works;
- (l) Groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes not included in Annex I;
- (m) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins not included in Annex I.

11. Other projects

- (a) Permanent racing and test tracks for motorized vehicles;
- (b) Installations for the disposal of waste (projects not included in Annex I);
- (c) Waste-water treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Sludge-deposition sites;
- (e) Storage of scrap iron, including scrap vehicles;
- (f) Test benches for engines, turbines or reactors;
- (g) Installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres;
- (h) Installations for the recovery or destruction of explosive substances;
- (i) Knackers' yards.

12. Tourism and leisure

- (a) Ski-runs, ski-lifts and cable-cars and associated developments;
- (b) Marinas;
- (c) Holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas and associated developments;
- (d) Permanent camp sites and caravane sites;
- (e) Theme parks.

Annex 3 Details of main EU Directives relevant to ESP

EU DIRECTIVES RELATIVE TO ESP

Habitats Directive¹⁹

The Habitats Directive is a main tool of Europe's nature conservation policy. Its main aim is to promote the maintenance of its biodiversity through the conservation of its natural habitats of wild flora and fauna. It promotes the establishment of an ecological network of sites of Community interest (Special Areas of Conservation), known as the 'Natura 2000' network whose habitats and species are maintained at a 'favourable conservation status'.

The Directive requires the following from Member States:

- Identify and designate Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and implement measures to protect habitats and species within and beyond them. The measures are to correspond to the ecological requirements of the natural habitat types indicated in Annex I of the Directive and the species listed in Annex II that are contained within the sites (Article 6.1).
- Implement a series of measures to establish a system of strict protection for the species listed in Annex IV (a) of the Directive.
- Take the appropriate measures to establish a system of strict protection for the plant species listed in Annex IV (b) of the Directive.
- Carry out a number of monitoring activities relating to the implementation of the Directive.

The key tasks required to implement this directive are summarised in the following *Table 1.1a*

Table 1.1a Habitats Directive - Key Implementation Tasks

Phase	Tasks
<i>Planning</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Establish or delegate a competent authority to be responsible for implementing the requirements of the directive.2. On the basis of the criteria set out in Annex III, the competent authority should identify a suite of sites.3. In agreement with the Commission, Member States must designate the SACs and establish priorities for the management of these sites.4. The SACs to be selected are to include the full range of indigenous species, in particular habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II.
<i>Regulation</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For the designated sites, establish the necessary conservation measures which will meet the ecological requirements of the natural habitat types in Annex I and the

¹⁹ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/>

species in Annex II.

2. Maintain the wildlife population at appropriate levels, taking into account scientific and cultural requirements.
3. Take the necessary measures to establish a system of strict protection for the animal species listed in Annex IV (a) in their natural range. In particular, prohibit the deliberate capture or killing of specimens of these species in the wild.
4. For the listed species, prohibit the keeping, transport and sale or exchange, and offering for sale or exchange, of specimens taken from the wild, except for those taken legally before this directive is implemented.
5. Establish a system of strict protection for the plant species listed in Annex IV (b).
6. Where deemed necessary ensure that the taking and exploitation of certain species of wild plants and animals (listed in Annex V) is controlled to ensure that they are maintained at a 'favourable conservation status' (Art. 14).
7. Prohibit the use of specified means of capture and killing certain animal species (listed in Annexes IV and V) (Art. 15 and Annex VI).
8. Regulate the deliberate introduction of non-native wildlife species, so as to protect the native populations.
9. Take steps to prevent deterioration of SACs and the disturbance of species for which they were created.
10. Assess any plans or projects that is likely to have a significant effect on the SAC network and prohibit plans or projects that would adversely affect the integrity of the sites (Art. 6).

***Monitoring
and Research***

1. Establish a system to monitor the incidental capture and killing of the animal species listed in Annex IV (a) and ensure that capture or killing activities do not have a significant effect on the species concerned.
2. Establish a monitoring system covering all of the monitoring activities required in the directive.
3. Encourage the necessary research and information exchange necessary to achieve the objectives of the Directive.
4. Where necessary, continue monitoring and surveillance after control of the taking and exploitation of certain species of wild plants and animals to ensure that they are maintained at a 'favourable conservation status'.
5. Study the desirability of re-introducing native species where this might contribute to their conservation.

***Information
and Reporting***

1. Report to the Commission, as appropriate on the following:
 - Sites that host natural habitat types and species listed in Annexes I and II;
 - Nomination of sites and designation of SACs;
 - Cases of derogations from specified requirements of the Directive (every two
-

- years);
- Results of scientific investigations and research (Art. 18);
 - Estimates relating to possible co-financing by the Community (Art. 8);
 - Implementation of the Directive (Art. 17);
 - The implementation of measures taken under the Directive (every six years) (Art. 23);
 - Transposition, adopted in the field covered by the Directive (Art. 23).
2. Consult the public before: agreeing to a plan or project that is likely to have a significant effect on an SAC (Art. 6); and re-introducing native species (Art. 22).
 3. Promote education and general information on species protection and conservation (Art. 22).

Source: Handbook on the Implementation of EC Environmental Legislation (2003)

○ Birds Directive²⁰

The Directive on the conservation of wild birds (this is the codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended) is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union. It was adopted unanimously by the Member States in 1979 as a response to increasing concern about the declines in Europe's wild bird populations resulting from pollution, loss of habitats as well as unsustainable use. It was also in recognition that wild birds, many of which are migratory, are a shared heritage of the Member States and that their effective conservation required international co-operation.

The directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species. Since 1994 all SPAs form an integral part of the NATURA 2000 ecological network.

The Birds Directive bans activities that directly threaten birds, such as the deliberate killing or capture of birds, the destruction of their nests and taking of their eggs, and associated activities such as trading in live or dead birds, with a few exceptions (listed in Annex III - III/1 allows taking in all Member States; III/2 allows taking in Member States in agreement with European Commission). The Directive recognises hunting as a legitimate activity and provides a

²⁰ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/>

comprehensive system for the management of hunting (limited to species listed in Annex II - II/1 allows hunting in all Member States; II/2 allows hunting in listed Member States) to ensure that this practice is sustainable. This includes a requirement to ensure that birds are not hunted during the periods of their greatest vulnerability, such as the return migration to the nesting areas, reproduction and the raising of chicks. It requires Member States to outlaw all forms of non-selective and large scale killing of birds, (especially the methods listed in Annex IV). It promotes research to underpin the protection, management and use of all species of birds covered by the Directive (Annex

The main requirements of implementation of the Directive are listed in the following *Table 1.2a*.

Table 1.2a Birds Directive - Key Implementation Tasks

Phase	Tasks
Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish or delegate a competent authority to be responsible for implementation of the requirements of the directive. 2. The competent authority should develop a system to protect all birds in the wild state. 3. The competent authority should identify and designate SPAs - areas that are important to rare or vulnerable bird species listed in Annex I of the directive and those used by migrating species, with particular reference to wetlands (either inland or coastal, such as estuaries) and especially wetlands of international importance, according to the criteria in the directive. 4. Ensure that the competent authority is consulted under the EIA Directive (85/337.EEC) for proposals significantly affecting SPAs.
Regulation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take the necessary measures to maintain bird populations at appropriate levels, taking into account scientific and cultural requirements. 2. Take special conservation measures for the species listed in Annex I and for regularly occurring migratory species, especially those dependent on wetlands of international importance. 3. For each SPA, take actions to ensure appropriate management and to avoid deterioration of sites and their habitats and disturbance of species. 4. Establish a general system to protect all listed bird species referred to in Article 1, including protection from disturbance, keeping, killing and capture and, protection of their habitat in accordance with the requirements of the directive. 5. Prohibit any activities relating to sale except those species listed in Annex III. This protection also extends to eggs and nests. 6. Ensure that hunting of species listed in Annex II is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Articles 7 and 8 and ensure the management of bird populations. 7. Ensure that any derogations from Art. 5-8 allowed under Art. 9 are specified in ac-

cordance with the Directive are subject to an annual review by the Commission.

8. Ensure that the introduction of non native species of birds does not adversely affect local flora and fauna.
9. Assess any plan or project that either by itself or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on an SPA.
10. Carry out remedial measures to maintain or enhance the ecological value of SPAs, should monitoring indicate that there has been any deterioration in habitat quality and/or value to bird species listed in Annex I.

Monitoring
and Re-
search

1. Encourage specific research and scientific study to support the protection of designated sites and bird species. Particular attention should be paid to the subjects listed in Annex V.
2. Establish a monitoring system covering the spectrum of activities within the directive. The monitoring should include: assessment of population levels of Annex I species; ecological value and integrity of SPAs; and effectiveness of mechanisms to prevent undue harmful activities to bird species listed in Annex II.
3. Monitor compliance with the conditions relating to the marketing of wild birds, the effect of hunting on conservation efforts and the effect of introducing non-native species.

Consultation
and Report-
ing

1. Consult with the public before agreeing to a plan or project that is likely to have a significant effect on an SPA.
2. Consult with the Commission about the introduction of non-native species of birds.
3. Report to the Commission, as appropriate on the following:
 - Transposition and implementation of the Directive;
 - Designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs);
 - The practical application of hunting regulations;
 - Derogations from the provisions of the Directive;
 - Measures taken to comply with the directive;
 - Research activities;
 - Compensatory measures adopted according to Article 6 habitats Directive; and
 - Transpositions of national law adopted in the field covered by the Directive.

Source: Handbook on the Implementation of EC Environmental Legislation (2003)

○ The Water Framework Directive (WFD)²¹

The principal objective of the WFD is for all water bodies of the EU to be of “good ecological and good chemical status” by 2015, unless there are significant reasons for derogation. Classification is carried out through analysis of both biological and physical-chemical elements.

Main requirements of the Directives include the following:

- Preventing further deterioration and protecting and enhancing the status of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands;
- Promoting the sustainable consumption of water;
- Specific controls for high risk pollutants, so called Priority Hazardous Substances;
- Contributing to the mitigating effects of floods and droughts.

In relation to groundwater quality the directive takes a precautionary approach and states that no deterioration in status should occur. Groundwaters are classified dependent on quantity and chemical quality as either being of “good” status or “poor” status. In the case of the latter the directive specifies that bodies should be restored to “good” status where technically feasible and without entailing disproportionate costs. The WFD states that the entry of pollutants to groundwater must be either prevented or in certain cases limited.

In relation to quantity of groundwater the WFD stipulates that abstractions from groundwater must not exceed a sustainable level. Of the annual groundwater recharge a certain level is needed to support connected ecosystems essential functions. To be sustainable, abstractions from groundwater must not infringe on the groundwater recharge used for this ecosystem maintenance. The WFD is innovative in providing a framework for integrated management of groundwater and surface water.

The key tasks required to implement this directive are summarised below.

Table 1.3a Water Framework Directive – Key Implementation Tasks

Phase	Tasks
<i>Planning</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify river basins and assign them to individual river basin districts. 2. Assign groundwater bodies to river basin districts. 3. Assign coastal waters to river basin districts. 4. Establish competent authorities, using either existing structures or creating new ones, and establish administrative arrangements to ensure that the directive is im-

²¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/>

plemented effectively within River Basin Districts.

5. The competent authority should make institutional arrangements to enable it to fulfil its implementation tasks, such as planning, monitoring and enforcing the requirements of the directive.
6. The competent authority should undertake a review of the characteristics of the river basin using methods set out in the WFD.
7. The competent authority should assess the impact of human activity in the river basin.
8. Assess all relevant and available information on industrial discharges, dangerous substances and wastewater discharges and plants.
9. Collect information on the extent and location of diffuse sources of pollution, in particular from agriculture.
10. Using data already available, identify waters that are affected by pollution.
11. Assemble data on water abstracted for drinking water, agricultural, industrial and other uses.
12. In collaboration with water suppliers, the competent authority should identify all existing and potential surface waters and groundwaters which are used or intended to be used as drinking water abstractions in each river basin.
13. The competent authority should undertake an economic analysis of water use including abstraction for drinking water, waste water discharges, forecasts of supply and demand and trends, and assessment of infrastructure needs.
14. Set up a register of protected areas in each river basin district., protected areas all being specified in the Directive, including those under EU nature protection legislation. Co-operation and co-ordination must be arranged between competent authorities, particularly those responsible for managing the protected areas.
15. Put in place arrangements to update the review of the river basin characteristics at 6 yearly intervals and other reviews.
16. Having gathered the relevant data, establish environmental objectives to apply in the river basin.
17. Within the defined river basins, establish the four basic types of surface water systems as rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal, and assess the ecological status of each according to the range of physico-chemical, biological and hydromorphological characteristics as defined in the directive.
18. Place each body of water into one of three classes high quality, good quality and poor quality by comparing the data with historical information for the site concerned or for a similar site.
19. As there are few sites in Europe which are unaffected by anthropogenic activity, the Directive sets out criteria for establishing similar eco-types based on a number of natural parameters.

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20. For groundwater, the quantitative status must be assessed by comparing variations in groundwater levels with associated rates of recharge and abstraction (both natural and artificial) in order to ascertain that the rate of abstraction does not exceed the long-term available resource. In addition, the chemical status of groundwater should be monitored.
 21. Identify waters that, due to their natural condition will not achieve good water quality although all measures to improve them as identified in the river basin plan have been taken.
 22. Identify specific bodies of water for which less stringent environmental objectives must be set. Include these objectives in the river basin plan.
 23. Establish a programme of measures, as part of river basin plans containing information as set out in Annex VII to achieve the environmental objectives of the directive and other measures decided as necessary by the competent authority.
 24. River basin plans may be supplemented by more detailed local action plans for particular aspects or for parts of the river network.
 25. Establish a system of public consultation on river basin management plans which allows public access to draft copies of the plan at least one year prior to the start date, allowing 6 months for public comments to be received in writing.
 26. Once public comments have been taken into account, a final plan must be published.
 1. The competent authority must establish a monitoring programme to determine water status. Annex V specifies the detailed monitoring and assessment criteria.
 2. Designate monitoring sites according to Annex V, and monitor identified sites for parameters listed in Annex V.
 - The results of monitoring must be presented as:
 - Biological: a numerical value representing departure from the reference conditions of the site;
 - Chemical: a quality classification as "good quality " or "ailing to achieve good quality";
 - Ecological: high quality, good quality, fair quality, poor quality or bad quality. These results must be presented on a map.
 3. The competent authority / national agency will have to ensure that there is an exchange of biological data between the Member States to build up a set of data representing a selection of ecotype sites to be known as the intercalibration network.
 4. Prepare emergency plans to respond to incidents and take restorative actions after pollution has occurred. Preventative measures should be identified. Risk assessment should be an integral part of the plans.

Selection and Implementation of Economic Instruments

1. The competent authority should prepare a financial plan to provide water pricing policies for cost recovery for services provided for water users.
2. The cost recovery system adopted must, however, allow for an affordable domestic water supply. Exemptions for payments may be granted within the river basin plan. Investigations should be undertaken to assess what is affordable for water consumers in the Candidate Country.
3. Exemptions from application of such water pricing policies may be granted provided this does not compromise the purpose and achievement of the objectives of the Directive, but the reasons for the same must be explained in the river basin plan.

Consultation and Reporting

1. The Government should establish contact with other countries whose river basins cross international boundaries. A jointly-run international River Basin Authority should be sought to be set up where necessary, if this is feasible.
2. The competent authority must organise suitable consultation mechanisms in order for the public to see and comment upon the river basin plans.
3. A reporting and recording system should be established on both a river basin and a national level with the associated data bases to enable reports to be made to the public and to the Commission.
4. The competent authority must send copies of plans and programmes to the Commission.
5. Report to the Commission on:
 - River basin districts, including assigned groundwaters and coastal waters
 - Assignment details of the competent authorities;
 - Issues which fall outside the competence of the competent authorities but which affect water
 - management;
 - River basin plans for whole river basins;
 - Programmes and plans dealing with sub-basins, particular water issues or particular water classes or ecosystems;
 - Plans covering parts of international river basins.

Source: Handbook on the Implementation of EC Environmental Legislation (2003)

○ **Council Regulation 1698/2005²²**

The Council Regulation on Rural Development (RDR) sets essential rules governing rural development policy for Member States for the period 2007 to 2013, as well as the policy measures available to them.

Under this Regulation, rural development policy for 2007 to 2013 is focused on three themes (known as "thematic axes"). These are:

- improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector;
- improving the environment and the countryside;
- improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of the rural economy.

To help ensure a balanced approach to policy, Member States and regions are obliged to spread their rural development funding between all three of these thematic axes.

A further requirement is that some of the funding must support projects based on experience with the [Leader Community Initiatives](#). The "Leader approach" to rural development involves highly individual projects designed and executed by local partnerships to address specific local problems.

As before 2007, every Member State (or region, in cases where powers are delegated to regional level) must set out a rural development programme, which specifies what funding will be spent on which measures in the period 2007 to 2013.

A new feature for 2007 to 2013 is a greater emphasis on coherent strategy for rural development across the EU as a whole. This is being achieved through the use of National Strategy Plans which must be based on [EU Strategic Guidelines](#).

This approach should help to:

- identify the areas where the use of EU support for rural development adds the most value at EU level;
- make the link with the main EU priorities (for example, those set out under the Lisbon and Göteborg agendas);
- ensure consistency with other EU policies, in particular those for economic cohesion and the environment;
- assist the implementation of the new market-oriented CAP and the necessary restructuring it will entail in the old and new Member States.

²² <http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/>

○ **New EU Draft Forest Strategy**²³

A new EU Forest Strategy has been discussed in the last few years and is expected to be finalised and approved by the end of 2013.

The draft EU Forest Strategy aims to achieve "long-term multifunctional and sustainable forestry and innovative forest sector in compliance with the following objectives:

- fully contributes to Europe 2020 Strategy and other 2020 targets,
- fulfils present and future social, economic and environmental needs,
- supports forest-related livelihoods

The Strategy should contribute to developing at the EU level the vision of European Forests 2020 of the pan-

European Forest Europe process: *"To shape a future where all European forests are vital, productive and multifunctional. Where forests contribute effectively to sustainable development, through ensuring human wellbeing, a healthy environment and economic development in Europe and across the globe. Where the forests' unique potential to support a green economy, livelihoods, climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, enhancing water quality and combating desertification is realised to the benefit of society."*

The **mission** of the EU Forest Strategy should be "to underpin well-coordinated and coherent forest-related policies at EU, international and national levels, and the conditions necessary for safeguarding and enhancing the sustainable management and use of forests and their multiple goods and services".

The Strategy should aim to sustainable management of forests by 2020 , and thus:

- contribute to balancing the different forest functions and meeting demands,
- provide a basis for forestry and the whole forest-based value chain to be competitive and viable contributors to the green economy.

23 http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/fore/publi/sfc_wg7_2012_full_en.pdf

Annex 4 Details of activities of Environmental Impacts Evaluation Table

Silvicultural activities: clearing (first thinning), marking stems to be removed, cutting, removing cut material from forest; pruning; forest fire prevention and control, fire breaks; fertilizing; pest management (forest health).

Harvesting and Utilisation: -thinning (second thinning): marking, cutting, forest transport, storage (landing operations), road transport; harvesting mature timber: marking, cutting, forest transport, storage (landing operations), road transport.

Afforestation: planning: site selection, species selection; site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation; planting/sowing; irrigation, weeding, pest control, checking survival rate

Reforestation: Natural regeneration; Assisted natural regeneration

- **Gap Planting:** planning: site selection, species selection; site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation; planting/sowing; irrigation; weeding; pest control; Checking survival rate
- **Direct sowing:** planning: site selection, species selection; site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation; planting/sowing; weeding; pest control; Checking survival rate

Seedling Production: seed collection, soil preparation, sowing, watering, spraying for pests, weed control, packing, transport.

Erosion prevention and control (other than forestation): planning: site selection; gully control, planting other than tree species.

Reduction of bareland (abandoned/refused): Preparing land (initial plowing, leveling), marking, digging holes; planting seedlings or rootstocks; applying fertilizer; establishing trellis posts; Planting of fruit trees, medicinal plants for family/communal consumption and revenue; Planting of alfalfa for forage

Appropriate use of marginal agricultural land (private land on slope with shallow soils): Preparing land (initial plowing, leveling), marking, digging holes; planting seedlings or rootstocks; applying fertilizer; establishing trellis posts; making pocket terraces; pruning; supplying and applying pesticides; harvesting.

Trees on field boundaries: Preparing land; marking, digging holes, planting seedlings, applying fertilizer.

Small scale irrigation: Construction of water reservoirs for irrigation and rehabilitation/repairs of irrigation canals/pumping stations

Environmental and Social Management Framework

1. INTRODUCTION

This Document describes the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) which has been developed for the ESP to be applied to the small grants program and for the project activities that are not known prior to project Appraisal. The EMF is an integral component of ESP implementation and must be made into an active tool during the planning of interventions for which financing will be requested and preparation of application forms. It will then need to be used again during preparation of the Management Plans and its tools to be included.

Particular attention was given to the lessons learnt from the implementation of the NRDP EMF. These are the following:

- Simplify screening checklists
- Include Screening checklists in Guidelines for Management Plans
- Include Environmental Expert in PMT
- Include environmental expert support/training for application of EMF screening checklists
- Include Pesticide Management Plan in EMSF
- Include Fire prevention measures
- Improve monitoring mechanisms of environmental mitigation implementation

For this reason, involvement of the people who will be implementing the ESP EMF in future was sought in order to make the screening tools as user friendly as possible. The institutional responsibility framework and the different screening instruments are described in the following paragraphs. As Operational Policy 4.09 on pesticide management was triggered, an Integrated Pest Management Plan was also prepared as part of the EMF and is described in detail in a separate section.

1.1 Environmental and Social Screening Process

All intervention applications under ESP must be screened for potential environmental and social impacts by the implementing agencies. In order to facilitate and make this process possible, a number of tools and procedures have been prepared. These include the following:

- A list of all foreseen interventions and of their potential social and environmental impacts has been prepared and is presented in *Annex 1*
- An Environmental and Social Checklist Questionnaire to be applied to all the grants scheme *Annex 2*.
- An Environmental Field Appraisal Form to be applied in the case the results of the application of the Screening Questionnaire indicate that a more in depth assessment of the proposed intervention is needed *Annex 3*.

- An Environmental Management Plan form **Annex 4** to be prepared in case the Screening Questionnaire or the Field Appraisal Form indicate that an EMP is needed,
- A completed EMP carried out in the community of Rubik to be used as example is presented in **Annex 5**,
- An Annual Environmental Audit form to guide annual environmental and social assessment of all financed interventions **Annex 6**)

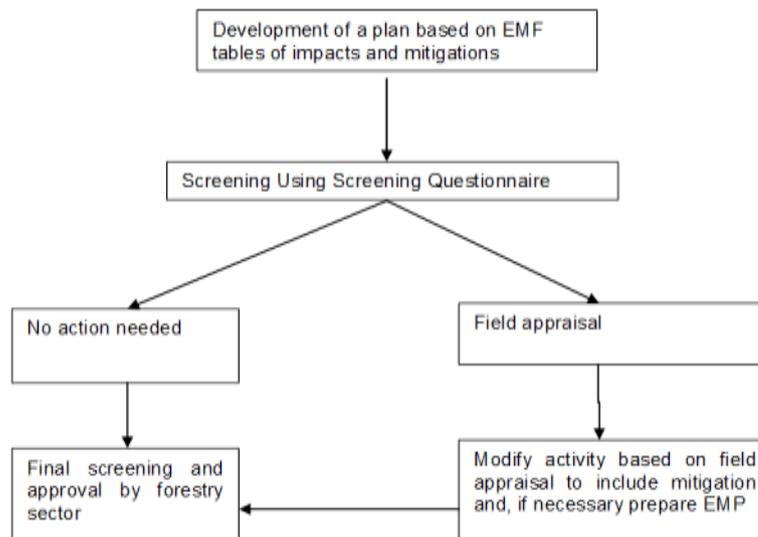
All tools indicate the parties/stakeholders responsible for preparation. Additional details of the specific impacts of all the interventions, if needed, are provided in **Table 7 in the EA Report**.

1.2 Outline of the Screening Process

The communities will develop their management plans (new communes) and grant applications. At this stage, the team working on the development of the plan should be referring to the EMF activities tables and be using it as a guide for a correct environmental and social design of the MC plan and/or activity.

Early effective environmental and social screening of the foreseen interventions will drive the environmental analysis process in helping to plan the *Avoidance, Prevention and Minimisation* of adverse effects sometimes just by avoiding certain works and /or site locations. The following **Figure 30** outlines the screening process.

Figure 29: Process of environmental screening in ESP MC plans Development and Grant Application



1.3 Institutional Framework for the EMF of the ESP

The following **Figure 31** shows the proposed institutional framework for the implementation of the EMF of the ESP.

Operative functions related to the EMF are the responsibility of Ministry of Environment, Forestry Sector which should include an environmental expert. Ministry of Agriculture, ARDA is responsible for screening grant applications.

An annual Environmental Performance Audit will be carried out by an independent Consultant with the collaboration of the Regional Environmental Agencies and under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment.

The following **Table 8** summarises the foreseen EMF activities and related responsibilities which are also indicated in the EMF Table of activities and foreseen impacts in *Annex 1*.

Table 8: Foreseen EMF activities and related responsibilities

Planned EMF Activities	Responsibility	Outputs
Screening of activities by applying EMF check lists (Annex 2) and, if required, field appraisal form (Annex 3) when preparing new Integrated Microcatchment Management Plans and when implementing existing Management Plans	Commune/PC/Forest Sector with support of regional Environmental Agency and Extension Services	Compiled EMF screening forms and planning of Environmental mitigation practices to be included in Management Plans
Screening of activities when preparing grants applications	Applicant	Compiled EMF screening forms and planning of Environmental mitigation practices to be included in grants applications
Monitoring of environmental mitigation practices included in Management Plans (Annex 4 and 5)	FPUAs/Commune forestry experts/Regional Environmental Agency with Consultant support	Activities and performance reports (Compliance or non compliance to MPs prescriptions)
Annual Auditing activities (Annex 6)	Consultant Services	Annual audit reports
Trainings/Workshops	Forest sector/PC/Consultant Services	Training

1.4 Annual Environmental Performance Audit

The EMF foresees that an annual environmental performance audit will be conducted by an independent organisation, in order to assess overall compliance with EMF procedures and ensure that environmental management and the implementation of mitigation measures are part of the ESP implementation. It should also identify potential criticalities in order to fine tune future EMF performance. The annual audit should include the following tasks:

- Review of the paper trail of screening checklists and reports and check its significance with respect to the implemented activities;
- On the basis of this review, select a number of sub-projects for field visits to investigate compliance with proposed mitigation measures, and identification of potential impacts that are not being adequately dealt with;
- Recommend practical improvements to the EMF screening checklists in order to fine-tune the operation of the EMF based on practical experience;
- Discuss ESP activities in with the PMT, Regional Coordinators and selected FPUAs representatives
- Assess the needs for further training and capacity building and make recommendations.

The Annual Audit report should include the following:

- A review of the sub-projects (i) screened for environmental impacts, (ii) provided with technical advice from Regional Coordinators, (iii) further assessed, (iv) implemented with an EMP,
- Description of the actual operation of the EMF as it has occurred in practice
- Identification of environmental risks that are not being fully addressed or mitigated,
- Screening of potential cumulative environmental impacts,
- Recommendations for improvement and strengthening the performance of the EMF.

In the case of the ESP, it is expected that cumulative environmental impacts are not significant. An evaluation of these is made in the last column of **Table 5** of detailed environmental assessments.

The annual audits will provide the GoA with important information in relation to environmental performance of the ESP and its implementation and it will give indications in relation to the possibility of improving it.

It is recommended that the Regional Environment Agencies (REA) actively participate in the audits and all local training and awareness raising activities in order to gain first-hand experience of the identification and management of key environmental issues.

1.5 Training and Capacity Building for EMF Implementation

The successful implementation of the EMF and if the environmental mitigation measures of the ESP depend entirely on the level of attention and competence of the local stakeholders who shall be involved in the various activities.

Although training and capacity building activities have been ongoing in both the AFP and NRDP projects, turnover of personnel in the various organizations may somewhat have hindered the capacity building process. It would be useful if a certain degree of continuity be kept in the management of the implementa-

tion activities as long term sustainability of the ESP is dependent on the capacity of communities and local and national authorities to carry out the associated design, planning, approval and implementation of the management plans and of their environmental screening.

1.5.1 Environmental Training and Awareness Raising

As an innovation with respect to the NRDP, it is recommended that an environmental expert is to be included in the PMT to ensure adequate environmental screening and environmental impacts mitigation measures design.

Given that capacity building and training has already been undertaken by the NRDP, a needs assessment would be highly recommendable to ensure adequately targeted training. Targets should include the Regional Coordinators, the Forest and Agriculture Extension Services, the Regional Environmental Agencies, ARDA and the communities themselves.

The following **Table 9** contains recommendations of the contents and level of training for the various actors involved in the EMF ESP implementation.

Table 9: Recommended training requirements

Training Requirement	PMT Environmental Specialist and RCs	Regional Environment Agencies/ Communal forest/agricultural experts/Extension services	FPUAs
EIA law, relevant environmental policies	T	T	A
Use of the EMF	T	T	T
Potential localised impacts of foreseen interventions and mitigation measures	T	T	A
Supervision, monitoring and evaluation of foreseen activities implementation	T	T	A
Exchange of information between different implementation regions	T	T	A

The level of recommended training is the following:

T= In -depth training, to a level that allows trainees to go on to train others, including technical procedures where relevant;

A= Awareness-raising in which the participants acknowledge the significance or relevance of the issues, but are not required to have technical or in-depth knowledge.

1.6 Estimated Costs for the EMF

The activities related to EMF implementation which are summarized in **Table 7** are part of the day-to-day activities of project staff, and so should not involve any incremental costs to the project. However, activities that will probably need a dedicated budget to provide for qualified trainers are indicated in the following **Table 10**.

Table 10: Foreseen EMF Activities with potential costs

Target audience	Training Contents	Duration	Frequency
PMT environmental expert, Regional Coordinators,	-Knowledge of natural resources management and environmental issues; -Application of the EMF: use of screening checklists, knowledge of mitigation measures -IPMP application	Two day workshop in the first year; one day refresher in the following years	Annual
Community stakeholders	Use of the screening checklist Mitigation measures implementation for interventions and their monitoring	Ongoing during participatory planning of MC plans and grant application preparation	Throughout the project
Regional Environment Agencies/Extension Services, both agricultural and forest	Training on EMF implementation: screening, mitigation and environmental assessment triggers; Monitoring and evaluation of activities Conducting annual project environmental performance audits	On the job training for EMF screening with RC. On-the-job training with Audit Team (1 week per year)	During grant and MC plan preparation activities Annual

As foreseen by the EIA Law, the Annual Environmental Performance Audit needs to be contracted to an independent local expert organisation. The estimated time input is one month a year.

The environmental training described in **Table 9** would require the involvement of a local expert organisation with possible inputs from international experts for the initial training of the trainers exercise, i.e. the initial workshop indicated in the Table, (at a maximum estimated cost of US \$10,000), but the most important training effort would need to be constant and operative on the field.

Finally, it is probable that an independent expert advice and support will be required from time to time in support of EMF implementation and review. This is the reason that it has been recommended that an environmental expert should be included in the Project Management Team (PMT). An estimate of this cost is around US\$5,000 per year in professional fees and expenses.

Annex 1: List of potential environmental impacts

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
Component A – Ipad Like Agri-Environmental Measures				
A.1 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures	See details in following cells	Screening process as described in the grants operation manual and as detailed in the following cells. Gender, age and social sensitive criteria need to included in screening process.	1.applicants 2.extension service 3.ARDA/PMT	1.before submission of applications 2. evaluation of applications 3. financing decision
A.2 Implementation of Communal Forestry and Pasture Management Plans (CFPMPs) existing under the NRDP . <i>The following activities can also be included in the Implementation of MicroCatchment Management Plans (Section A3)</i>		Included in the preparation of Annual Operation Plans	PMT/PC/Commune	At time of identification of activities to be financed through competitive selection
<i>Forest Protection: ban community access to forest</i>	Consequences related to restricted access of community to forests with traditional user rights: increased pressures on other areas, especially state forest.	Appropriate community planning for wood harvesting in other forest areas.	PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert/FPUAs	To be included in Annual Operational Plan
<i>Silvicultural activities:</i> -clearing (first thinning), marking stems to be removed, cutting, removing cut material from forest; -pruning -forest fire prevention and control, fire breaks -fertilizing -pest management (forest health)	Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities Potential transport issues related to removing cut material from forest if done with vehicles; Potential negative impact of	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected; Identify adequate mitigation measures in case vehicles are used for transport activities (risk of soil and groundwater contamination by fuel leakages, noise and dust impact on natural habitat); erosion due to tracts Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training to	PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs Agricultural expert	To be included in Annual Operational Plan Consider Annual ground water quality sampling/monitoring plan

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	fertilizers and pesticides on water table and surrounding water bodies	farmers; Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods to farmers; Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing	Water quality monitoring expert/ Regional Environmental Agency for Monitoring program	
<p><i>Harvesting and Utilisation:</i></p> <p>-thinning (second thinning): marking, cutting, forest transport, storage (landing operations), road transport;</p> <p>-harvesting mature timber: marking, cutting, forest transport, storage (landing operations), road transport.</p>	<p>. Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities</p> <p>Potential transport issues related to removing cut material from forest if done with vehicles;</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level planning to ensure all users rights are considered and respected.</p> <p>Identify adequate mitigation measures in case vehicles are used for transport activities (risk of soil and groundwater contamination by fuel/oil leakages, noise and dust impact on natural habitat); Mitigation of erosion due to temporary tracts, blocking streams and rivulets by introduction of reduced impact logging (RIL)</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs/Regional Environmental Agency for monitoring program</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p>
<p><i>Afforestation</i></p> <p>-planning:site selection, species selection</p> <p>-site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation</p> <p>-planting/sowing</p> <p>-irrigation</p> <p>-weeding</p> <p>-pest control</p> <p>-Checking survival rate</p>	<p>Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities</p> <p>Reduction of forest diversity/loss of biodiversity through excessive use of black locust tree (<i>Robinia pseudoaccacia</i>) and Mediterranean pine tree. Impoverishment/alteration of soil quality</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected.</p> <p>Selection of appropriately diverse species to be planted to safeguard biodiversity.</p> <p>Provide capacity building for fire protection Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training.</p> <p>Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs</p> <p>Water quality monitor-</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>Consider Annual ground water quality sampling/monitoring plan if pesticides and fertilisers are used.</p>

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	<p>Traditional method of fire to promote shoot growth could spread to re-forested areas</p> <p>Potential negative impact of pesticides on water table and surrounding water bodies</p>	<p>Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing.</p>	<p>ing expert/ Regional Environmental Agency for Monitoring program</p>	
<p><i>Reforestation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Natural regeneration -Assisted natural regeneration <p>Gap Planting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -planning:site selection, species selection -site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation -planting/sowing -irrigation -weeding -pest control -Checking survival rate <p>Direct sowing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -planning:site selection, species selection -site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation -planting/sowing -weeding -pest control -Checking survival rate 	<p>Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities</p> <p>Potential negative impact of pesticides on water table and surrounding water bodies;</p> <p>See above for pest control</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected.</p> <p>Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods</p> <p>Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs</p> <p>Water quality monitoring expert/ Regional Environmental Agency for Monitoring program</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>Consider Annual ground water quality sampling/monitoring plan if pesticides and fertilisers are used.</p>
<p>Seedling Production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -seed collection -soil preparation -sowing -watering -spraying for pests -weed control -packing -transport 	<p>Potential usage of pesticides and fertilisers</p> <p>Potential waste management issues related to packing</p> <p>Potential transport issues if using vehicles</p>	<p>Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods</p> <p>Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing</p>	<p>Water quality monitoring expert/ Regional Environmental Agency for Monitoring</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>Consider Annual ground water quality sampling/monitoring plan if pesticides and fertilisers are used</p>
<p>Erosion prevention and control (other than forestation)</p>				

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
-planning:site selection -gully control -Planting other than tree species -fencing	Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected	PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs	To be included in Annual Operational Plan
Protection of degraded pasture land and newly planted forest by construction of fences	Potential overgrazing caused on adjacent unprotected land may increase soil erosion Appropriate selection for material and construction method used to build fences	Arrange for agreements on herd sizes and grazing patterns within the participating community. Monitoring of livestock numbers during project implementation. Tagging of livestock to make monitoring possible (this is legally required already) Application of "green procurements" guidelines for fence material	PC/FDS/head of Commune and FPUAs/Extension services	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation
Construction of small erosion control structures (check dams)	Temporary impact for noise/dust on surrounding natural habitat during construction Localised erosion problems Permanent visual impact Potential impact for downstream water users	Application of standard environmental mitigation measures (through checklists) during building/repair of erosion control structures: erosion, noise and dust control. Appropriate use of low visual impact building materials and supervision of design and construction by qualified engineer. Application of "green procurements" guidelines for fence material Appropriate water management planning and monitoring of erosion control effectiveness	PC/DFS/FPUAs Local water management authorities	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
A.3.Preparation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)	Potential issues of green procurement to ensure that operations are carried out in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner	Ensure gender issues are considered by involving as many women and young people as possible. Ensure preparation of management plans is carried out in an environmentally sustainable way by including EMF screening of activities and preparation of EMP to include environmental mitigations if negative impacts are identified.	PMT/head of communes	To be included in Grant operational manual

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
A.3. implementation of Communal Micro-catchment Plans (CMCPs)	Issues, mitigation measures, responsibilities and timing related to forestry processes are the same as the ones indicated for activities in component A2. Additional activities that maybe more specific to Microcatchment Management Plans are listed below:	Included in the preparation of Annual Operation Plans. Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected..	PMT/PC/Commune	At time of identification of activities to be financed through competitive selection
Pasture				
Protection (fencing)	Temporary impact for noise/dust on surrounding natural habitat during construction Permanent visual impact	Appropriate selection for material and construction method used to build fences	PC/Commune/FPUAs	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
Rehabilitation (cleaning shrubs and rocks)	Potential shrub disposal issues: . the more shrubs, the more C in pastures, but less favourable pasture. If the shrubs are burned, C is released permanently in the air. If they are left on ground, C in these conditions is fixed almost permanently because it does not rot.	Appropriate shrub disposal should be considered depending on situation.	PC/Commune/FPUAs	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
Silvopastoral planting	Planting fodder trees	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected..	PMT/PC/Commune/F PUA	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
Overseeding to enrich the vegetation	Potential biodiversity issues	Adequate species selection should be made to safeguard biodiversity	PC/Commune/FPUAs	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
Construction of water points for livestock	Families with many livestock units would have more advantage. . Potential impacts on water quality may be caused through pollution by livestock at new water points	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected: water points should be built in the poorest areas of the villages so as to bring benefits to the less well off families. Adequate planning to locate watering points so as not to effect downstream	PC/DFS/local water management authorities	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitoring/sample during annual EA

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
		watering needs.		
Shelter (coral)	Temporary impact for noise/dust on surrounding natural habitat during construction Permanent visual impact	Appropriate selection for material and construction method used to build fences	PC/Commune/FPUAs	To be included in individual MC Management Plan and Monitored during implementation
Agriculture				
<p><i>Reduction of Bareland (abandoned/refused):</i> -Preparing land (initial plowing, leveling), marking, digging holes, planting seedlings or rootstocks, -applying fertilizer, -establishing trellis posts, -making pocket terraces, -pruning, -supplying and applying pesticides, -harvesting</p> <p>Planting of fruit trees, medicinal plants for family/communal consumption and revenue</p> <p>Planting of alfa alfa for forage</p>	<p>Potential use of pesticides to enhance fruit harvests Potential use of fertilisers may cause water ground water pollution.</p> <p>Introduction of forage on marginal lands may increase number of livestock and cause overgrazing and consequently erosion problems</p>	<p>Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing</p> <p>Adequate planning for sustainable quantities of livestock needs to be carried out at community level</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAsAgricultural expert</p> <p>PC and DFS/ Head of Commune /Extension services</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p>
<p><i>Appropriate use of marginal agricultural land (private land on slope with shallow soils):</i> -Preparing land (initial plowing, leveling), marking, digging holes, planting seedlings or rootstocks, -applying fertilizer, -establishing trellis posts, -making pocket terraces, -pruning, -supplying and applying pesticides, -harvesting</p>	<p>All agricultural land is under private ownership now although title deed is still lacking in many areas.</p> <p>Potential use of pesticides to enhance fruit harvests Potential use of fertilisers may cause water ground water pollution</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected</p> <p>Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs</p> <p>Agricultural expert PC and DFS/ Head of Commune /Extension services</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p>

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	tion.	to ensure no degradation is ongoing		
<p><i>Trees on field boundaries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Preparing land, -marking, -digging holes, -planting seedlings, - applying fertilizer, 	<p>All agricultural land is under private ownership now although title deed is still lacking in many areas. The household in question to be involved in the activities</p> <p>Potential use of pesticides to enhance fruit harvests Potential use of fertilisers may cause water ground water pollution.</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs</p> <p>Agricultural expert PC and DFS/ Head of Commune /Extension services</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p>
<p>Small scale irrigation</p> <p>Construction of water reservoirs for irrigation and rehabilitation/repairs of irrigation canals/pumping stations</p>	<p>Potential water utilisation conflicts could arise in the community. Presently pumps are privately owned and villagers pay a fee for use. If common property, the villagers will benefit from lower fee.</p>	<p>Participatory process is essential in the planning of the irrigation system and localisation of the reservoirs. In the case of NRDP, reservoirs were built and a timing arrangement was agreed upon to ensure equal distribution of water in the community. Periodic consultation should be carried out to ensure no potential conflictual situation is developing on water rights.</p>	<p>PC /Head of Commune/FPUAs/water services</p>	<p>To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitoring during implementation</p>
<p>Planting of vineyards for revenue production have an extra positive effect of embellishment of the landscape</p>	<p>Negative impacts include removal of native vegetation and use of fertilisers and pesticides to impact soil and groundwater quality</p> <p>Potential conflict within the community as vineyards are</p>	<p>Adequate support for fertilisers and pesticide usage must be provided and integrated pest management applied when possible Adequate participatory process must be ensured in the selection of beneficiaries to avoid community conflict: it is important to monitor that gender, age and social crite-</p>	<p>PC/FDS/head of Commune and FPUAs/Extension services</p>	<p>To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation</p>

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	planted on private properties of single farmers.	risks are applied in the planning of activities and investments.		
Beekeeping	Potential impact of pest control substances	Adequate beekeeping and pest control training should be provided	PC/head of Commune and FPUAs/Agricultural service	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation
Rainfed horticulture fruits/vegetables/forages	Potential community user rights conflicts Potential use of pesticides to enhance fruit harvests Potential use of fertilisers may cause water ground water pollution.	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected: it is important to monitor that gender, age and social criterias are applied in the planning of activities and investments. Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing	PC /Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs Agricultural expert PC/ Head of Commune /FPUAs	To be included in Annual Operational Plan
Irrigated horticulture (fruits/vegetables/forages)	Potential community user rights conflicts Potential use of pesticides to enhance fruit harvests Potential use of fertilisers may cause water ground water pollution.	Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected: it is important to monitor that gender, age and social criterias are applied in the planning of activities and investments. Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing	PC and DFS/Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs Agricultural expert PC and DFS/ Head of Commune /Extension services	To be included in Annual Operational Plan
Artificial insemination for cattle to improve livestock quality in order to reduce grazing pressure	Veterinary support may introduce chemicals. Proper management and disposal must be	Capacity building should be provided to ensure proper handling of veterinary medicines and adequate disposal procedures.	Consultants/FPUAs/Communes/PC/	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	ensured to avoid potential environmental impact			
Promotion of recreational and sustainable tourism through maintenance and rehabilitation of mountain paths and traditional houses for accommodations of tourists and trekkers	Careful monitoring to avoid misuse of paths and accommodation places (No hunting to be allowed). Build awareness and capacity in relation to solid waste management and other environmental management issues. Screening should be conducted for culture heritage buildings Organisation of interest groups to ensure community participation	Capacity building should be ensured to communities for the management of environmental issues such as waste management/waste water treatment etc and to support in management and operation of cooperatives It is important to monitor that gender, age and social criterias are applied in the planning of activities and investments.	Consultants/FPUAs/Communes/PC/ cooperative experts	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation
Primary processing of produce for sustainable production	Production of honey, mushrooms, medicinal herbs, charcoal and other similar products, should be implemented to help sustainability of community and should be organised in interest groups. Capacity should be provided in relation to environmental management of soil waste/waste water, energy and water supply and usage, transport, packaging etc.	Capacity building should be ensured to communities so that they can add value to the production chain and be given support in the operation and management of an agricultural cooperative. It is important to monitor that gender, age and social criterias are applied in the planning of activities and investments.	PCHead of Commune/FPUAs/Consultants	To be included in individual MC Annual Operational Plan and Monitored during implementation
Component B-Payment for environmental services (PES)	See Details in the following cells	Screening Process as foreseen in	PMT/RC	To be included in ESP Manual and Monitored during implementation
B1:Development of appropriate mechanisms and enabling the environment for PES	Potential social and environmental impact issues may arise	Green Procurement should be implemented in relation to paper work and contracts.	PMT/RC	To be included in ESP Manual and Monitored during implementation
B2: Development of Carbon Sequestration projects				
<i>Forest Protection: ban community access to forest</i>	Consequences tied to restricted	Appropriate community planning for wood	PC and	To be included in Annual Opera-

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
	access of community to forests with traditional user rights: increased pressures on other areas, especially state forest.	harvesting in other forest areas.	DFS/Communal Forest expert/FPUAs	tional Plan
<p><i>Afforestation/ Reforestation/</i> -Natural regeneration -Assisted natural regeneration Gap Planting -planning:site selection, species selection -site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation -planting/sowing -irrigation -weeding -pest control -Checking survival rate Direct sowing -planning:site selection, species selection -site preparation: weeding, pitting, soil preparation -planting/sowing -weeding -pest control -Checking survival rate</p>	<p>Activities will take place either in state forest or in forests with user rights where the owners will become involved in the activities</p> <p>Potential negative impact of pesticides on water table and surrounding water bodies;</p> <p>See above for pest control</p>	<p>Appropriate planning at Commune level to ensure all users rights are considered and respected.</p> <p>Monitor and prevent pesticide usage and provide adequate awareness training Provide training for integrated pest control and appropriate natural fertilisation methods Periodical monitoring of key water bodies to ensure no degradation is ongoing</p>	<p>PC and DFS/Communal Forest expert and Head of Commune/Extension services/FPUAs</p> <p>Water quality monitoring expert/ Regional Environmental Agency for Monitoring program</p>	<p>To be included in Annual Operational Plan</p> <p>Consider Annual ground water quality sampling/monitoring plan if pesticides and fertilisers are used.</p>
Component C- Institutional and Implementation Support and Monitoring				
C1 Capacity building to stakeholders Institutions	Potential social and environmental impact issues may arise	All processes implementation should undergo social screening to ensure rights of all community members are respected and all vulnerable groups are included. Green Procurement: all goods purchased for the implementation of the activities should undergo screening to ensure they are sourced in an environmentally sustainable manner.	PMT/PC/Communes/FPUAS	To be included in Management Plans and Annual Operational Plans
C2 Strengthening good governance	Potential social and environmental impact issues may arise	All processes implementation should undergo social screening to ensure rights of	PMT/PC/Communes/FPUAS	To be included in Management Plans and Annual Operational

Project Component and Activity	Potential Social and Environmental Issues	Social and Environmental Mitigations	Responsibility for Action	Timing in Project horizon
		all community member s are respected and all vulnerable groups are included. Green Procurement: all goods purchased for the implementation of the activities should undergo screening to ensure they are sourced in an environmentally sustainable manner.		Plans
C3 Empowering beneficiaries	Potential social and environmental impact issues may arise	All processes implementation should undergo social screening to ensure rights of all community member s are respected and all vulnerable groups are included. Green Procurement: all goods purchased for the implementation of the activities should undergo screening to ensure they are sourced in an environmentally sustainable manner.	PMT/PC/Communes/ FPUAS	To be included in Management Plans and Annual Operational Plans
C4 Project Management and Administration	Potential social and environmental impact issues may arise	All processes implementation should undergo social screening to ensure rights of all community member s are respected and all vulnerable groups are included. Green Procurement: all goods purchased for the implementation of the activities should undergo screening to ensure they are sourced in an environmentally sustainable manner.	PMT/PC/Communes/ FPUAS	To be included in Management Plans and Annual Operational Plans

Annex 2 ESP Grant Activity Environmental And Social Screening Form

Environmental and Social Checklist Form (must be filled out for every application)			
Name of Management Plan:			
Name of Commune:			
Project application Number:			
Scope of Project and Activity:			
General Project Information		Yes	No
Has the project been selected by the Commune on a participatory basis?			
Provide evidence of how this was done:			
Does the project involve women and vulnerable groups:			
Provide evidence of how this was done:			
If the answer is no to these two questions, the activity selection process should be repeated			
Has the local population or any NGO's expressed concern about the proposed activity's environmental/social aspects or expressed opposition?			
If yes, give details:			
Describe selected site location:			
Is map attached?			
Why was the land chosen?			
Who owns the land?			
Site Environmental/Social Screening		Yes	No
Is the land currently occupied or regularly used for productive purposes (e.g. gardening, farming, pasture, fishing locations, forests)?			
Does the proposed activity displace individuals, families or businesses?			
Does it result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees or household infrastructure?			
Is the selected land inside or near a protected or environmentally sensitive area?			

Is the selected site in an area where potential water usage conflicts may arise?		
Is the selected site in a medium/high erosion potential area?		
Is the selected area near cultural heritage sites or historical buildings/sites?		
If any of the answers is yes, provide details:		
Foreseen activity: What activity does the project foresee?		
A2. Forest processes		
A2 Minor new construction: (small erosion/gully control structures (check dams), fences, water points for livestock, water ponds for irrigation)		
If yes, has a work program been foreseen?		
Give evidence: For example, what resources will be used in construction and operation (e.g. materials, water, energy):		
A3. Agricultural processes:		
Describe		
Activity Environmental/Social screening:		
Does the proposed activity require a FULL environmental impact assessment under the Albanian Law for Environmental Impact Assessment? If yes, this activity cannot be financed.		
Does the activity foresee any of the following?	Yes	No
A3. Diversion or use of surface waters.		
A3. New or rebuilt irrigation or drainage systems.		
A3. Construction of small dams, weirs, reservoirs or water point.		
A3. Use of pesticides		
A3. Use of fertilizers		
A3. Veterinary interventions (artificial insemination)		
A3. Vehicle transport of produce		
A3. Rehabilitation of buildings		
A3. Development of trekking paths		
A3. Production of solid waste		
A3. Production of Waste water		
If any of the answers in the above section is yes, a site assessment and an Environmental Management Plan is required before the activity implementation is started.		

CERTIFICATION

We certify that we have thoroughly examined all the potential adverse effects of this subproject. To the best of our knowledge, the subproject plan as described in the application and appended design reports (e.g. EMP), if any, will be adequate to avoid or minimize all adverse environmental and social impacts.

Community representative (signature):

Date:

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Desk Appraisal by regional Coordinator/PMT:

- The subproject can be considered for approval.** The application is complete, all significant environmental and social issues are resolved, and no further subproject planning is required.
 - A field appraisal is required.**
 - An EMP is required**

The following issues need to be clarified at the subproject site:

A Field Appraisal report and, if deemed necessary, an EMP will be completed and added to the subproject file.

Name of desk appraisal officer (print):

Signature:Date:
.....

Annex 3 EMF Environmental Field Appraisal Form

Name of Management Plan:			
Name of Commune:			
Project application Number:			
Scope of Project and Activity:			
FPUA representative name and address:			
Head of Commune name and address:			
Regional Project Coordinator name and address:			
Name of PMT member reviewing:			
General Project Information	Yes	No	
Detailed description of the project activities and objective:			
Detailed description of women and vulnerable groups involvement:			
Describe selected site location:			
Is map attached?			
Site Environmental/Social Issues	yes	no	
Does the proposed activity displace individuals, families, cultivations or businesses?			
Does it result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees or household infrastructure?			
Is the selected land inside or near a protected or environmentally sensitive area?			
Is the selected site in an area where potential water usage conflicts may arise?			
Is the selected site in a medium/high erosion potential area?			
Is the selected area near cultural heritage sites or historical buildings/sites?			
<i>Does the proposed project foresee any of the following activities?</i>			
Minor new construction: (small erosion control structures (check dams), fences, water points for livestock, water ponds for irrigation)			
Diversion or use of surface waters.			
New or rebuilt irrigation or drainage systems.			
Construction of small dams, weirs, reservoirs or water point.			
Use of pesticides			
Use of fertilizers			
Veterinary interventions			
Beekeeping			
Transport of produce			

Rehabilitation of buildings		
Development of trekking paths		
Production of solid waste		
Production of Waste water		
If any of the answers is yes, has an EMP been prepared for the project and does it contain appropriate mitigation measures?		
If the answer is yes, and the EMP is adequate, no further action is required. The proposal can be submitted for final approval		
If the answer is yes and the EMP is not adequate, it must be improved before the application is considered		
If the answer is yes and no EMP is available, it must be prepared and assessed before application can be considered further.		

Field Appraisal by Regional Coordinator/REA/FPUA

- The subproject can be considered for approval.** The field appraisal of the proposed project site and local consultation with the proposing and potentially affected parties have given evidence that community and the proposed project have addressed the environmental and social issues in compliance with the ESMF requirements.
- **Further subproject preparation work must be completed before the application can be considered further.** The following issues need to be clarified at the subproject site:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

This Field Appraisal report and an EMP will be completed/improved and added to the subproject file.

Name of desk appraisal officer (print):
.....

Signature: Date:

Annex 4 Environmental Management Plan

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES

An EMP should include the following:

- a) An outline of the proposed intervention (first page, project description).
- b) Description of the foreseen adverse environmental impacts: the adverse impacts are identified through the screening process (All impacts are identified in EMF foreseen activities table Annex 1 which can be used for guidance).
- c) Description of the mitigation measures for each identified adverse environmental impact, identifying both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation. (All mitigation measures are identified in EMF foreseen activities table Annex 1 to be used for guidance).
- d) Description of a monitoring program of the mitigation measures and of their success in minimising the identified adverse impacts of the implemented interventions. Like in the case of the mitigation measures, the monitoring program should identify both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation.
- e) Description of the implementation schedules of both mitigation measures and related monitoring plans.

Estimated cost and institutional responsibility of both mitigation measures and monitoring plans are suggested in the tables, but should be confirmed during EMP preparation.

ESP ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Name of Management Plan:	
Name of Commune:	
Project application Number:	
Scope of Proposed work:	
FPUA representative name and address:	
LGU	
Regional Project Coordinator name and address:	
Name of PMT member reviewing:	
General Project Information	
Detailed description of the proposed work and objective:	
Is proposed activity included in Annex I of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law (Law 10440/2011)? See Annex 2 of Environmental Assessment Report for guidance	
If answer is Yes, activity CANNOT be financed under ESP scheme. Interrupt process.	
Is proposed activity included in Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law (Law 10440/2011)? (see Annex 2 of Environmental Assessment Report for guidance)	
If yes, Environmental Screening by a certified expert must be undertaken.	
Is the proposed site location inside or in the Buffer zone of a Protected Area? If yes, please check if the proposed activity is allowed: The Law 8906, dated 6.6.2002 "On protected areas" defines the size of the buffer zone and the list of activities that are not allowed for different categories of protected areas as follows: Art.5 Strict nature reserve; Art. 6 National Parks; Art. 7 Nature Monuments; Art. 9 Managed Nature Reserves; Art. 10 Protected landscape; Art. 11 Multiple resource use areas. Regional Natural Park Also Art. 12 provides that forest and other natural resources within protected areas are excluded from harvesting and are managed in compliance with the PA management plan.	
If proposed activity is included in any of the lists, consider an alternative site selection.	
In order to develop appropriate EMP select specific activity module from the following pages	

Forest Processes (A description of the different processes is available in the list of Activities Tables)								
Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA (Annex II) ▪ Law on Forest and Forest Police ▪ Law on Environment Protection ▪ Law on Plant Protection (list of allowed pesticides) ▪ Law on Water management ▪ Law on Integrated Waste Management 								
Main requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law (No 10440, date 07/07/2011): Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II (point 1. Agriculture: c) Afforestation and deforestation for changing to other type of land use; ▪ Article 20 of the Law on Forest and Forest Police (No 9384 date 04/05/2005) requires the protection of forests and pastures from any negative impact. The new law on forests keeps the same article (Art. 19) on the protection of forests and pasture from any negative impact but additionally adds an article (Art. 33) about environmental impact assessment of activities in forests and pastures. ▪ The Law on Environmental Protection (No 10 431, date 9.6.2011) requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on plant protection requires use of registered pesticides (EU approved) ▪ The law (No. 10463 date 22/09/2011) on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices ▪ The law (Nr.10 463, date 22.9.2011) on integrated waste management (Art 16) defines the extended responsibilities of the producer and (Art 21) defines the responsibilities for integrated waste management for any "waste producer". 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	Install/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning		Environmental Screening		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	RC/PMT	Before application submission
Implementation	Soil pollution due to Potential leakages of oil/hydrocarbons	Manage use of motor vehicles, storage of machinery on non permeable surfaces, clean up spills	Visually inspect for signs of leaks	Cost of excavating and disposing of 1m3 of soil with spill 500 euros	marginal	Workers/contractors	Workers/LGU/FPUA	During Activity implementation
Operation			Forest Health	marginal	marginal	LGU/Forest Service	Forest service/RC	After intervention has been completed.

Comments								
Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Agricultural Processes								
Reference Laws:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA (Annex II) ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on plant protection (list of allowed pesticides) ▪ Law on Water management ▪ Law on integrated waste management 								
Main requirements:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II (point 1. Agriculture); ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on plant protection requires use of registered pesticides (EU approved) ▪ The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices ▪ The law on integrated waste management (Art 16) defines the extended responsibilities of the producer and (Art 21) defines the responsibilities for integrated waste management for any “waste producer” 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	Install/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning		Environmental/IPMP Screening		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	RC/PMT	Before application submission
Implementation/ Operation	Potential excessive use of pesticides/fertilizers	IPMP/awareness training	Quantities of pesticides being bought and used	Cost of disposal of pesticides and potential contamination by pesticides is MAJOR.	marginal	Farmers/LGU	LGU/FPUA	During Activity implementation

Implementation/ Operation	Soil pollution due to Potential leak-ages of oil/hydrocarbons	Manage use of motor vehicles, storage of machinery on non permeable surfaces, clean up spills	Visually inspect for signs of leaks	Cost of excavating and disposing of 1m3 of soil with spill 500 euros	marginal	Workers/contractors	Work-ers/LGU/F PUA	During Activity im-plementation
Comments: Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Surface water quality and management: irrigation, water points, quality control								
Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA (Annex II) ▪ Law on Forest and Forest Police ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on Water management 								
Main requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II; ▪ Article 20 of the Law on Forest and Forest Police requires the protection of forests and pastures from any negative impact. The new law on forests keeps the same article (Art. 19) on the protection of forests and pasture from any negative impact but additionally adds an article (Art. 33) about environmental impact assessment of activities in forests and pastures. ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices. The law (Art 32) also defines rules for use of water for different purposes and priorities (Art 36). 								

Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning		Environmental Screening		marginal		LGU/FPUA		Before application submission
Planning	Social conflicts	Community participation in design	Appropriate water distribution	marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	RC/PMT	Before application submission
Construction	Potential Reduced availability of water quantities	Capacity Building in surface water management	Monitor Water Quantity and complaints arising in community	marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	Farm-ers/DFS/RC	During activity implementation
Construction	Potential Reduced availability of water quality	Awareness building	Monitor Water Quantity and complaints arising in community	marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	Farm-ers/DFS/REA/RC	During activity implementation
Operation	Potential social and environmental impacts	Adequate Monitoring	Arising of Both community conflicts and problems in the appearance of water	marginal	marginal	Farm-ers/LGU/FP UA	Farm-ers/DFS/REA/RC	Every six months
Comments								
Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								

Use of fertilizers/pesticides/chemicals for agriculture								
Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on plant protection (list of allowed pesticides) ▪ Law on Water management 								
Main requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on plant protection requires use of registered pesticides (EU approved) ▪ The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	In-stall/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	Potential pesticide contamination	Screening with Integrated pesticides Management Plan Sites for storing of chemicals should be segregated and have impermeable floorings	Quantities of Pesticides/ Fertilizers	Cost of disposal of pesticides and potential contamination by pesticides is MAJOR.	marginal	Farmers/LGU/FP UA	Farmers/RC/PMT	Before application submission
Implementation	Potential pesticide contamination	Capacity building to farmers/FPUAs for integrated pest management; Capacity building to screen for dangerous chemicals to Environmental Agency,	Number of trained persons	Cost of disposal of pesticides and potential contamination by pesticides is MAJOR.	marginal	PMT/RC	PMT/RC	During project implementation
Implementation/Operation	Potential pesticide contamination	Integrated pesticides Management Plan Sites for storing of chemicals should be segregated and have impermeable floorings	Groundwater /surface water quality monitoring if pesticides are used	Cost of disposal of pesticides and potential contamination by pesticides is	Cost of annual analysis	Farmers/Agri extension	Farmers/Agri extension/ REA	Annual water quality analysis

Operation	Potential pesticide contamination	Integrated pesticides Management Plan Sites for storing of chemicals should be segregated and have impermeable floorings	Fruit/vegetable quality monitoring	MAJOR. Cost of not being able to market produce for pesticide contamination is MAJOR	marginal	Agri extension	National Food safety authority	Yearly/Seasonal check
Comments Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Use of transport vehicles								
Reference Laws: No specific law to regulate the use of transport vehicles. General environmental protection rules are valid here as well: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on Forest and Forest Police ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on Water management 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning								
Implementation/operation	Air quality	Appropriate maintenance of vehicles	Unnecessary due to minimal impact	marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	LGU/FPUA	Not Applicable
	Noise	Appropriate maintenance of vehicles	Unnecessary due to minimal impact	marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	LGU/FPUA	Not Applicable
	Soil surface damage and erosion	Appropriate maintenance of vehicles	Visual inspection for signs of soil damage	Cost of repairing erosion damages is MAJOR	marginal	LGU/FPUA	LGU/FPUA	While works are ongoing
	Soil pollu-	Manage use of	Visually inspect for	Cost of excavat-	marginal	Work-	Work-	During Activity implementa-

	tion due to Potential leakages of oil/hydrocarbons	motor vehicles, storage of machinery on non permeable surfaces, clean up spills	signs of leaks	ing and disposing of 1m3 of soil with spill 500 euros		ers/contractors	ers/LGU/FPU A	tion
Comments								
Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Construction/rehabilitation of historical buildings								
Reference Laws:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on cultural heritage ▪ Law on EIA ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on integrated waste management 								
Main requirements:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law (No 9048 Date 07-04-2003) "on cultural heritage" defines that any person is obliged to preserve cultural heritage values (Art. 8). Art 17 defines rules for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage sites/buildings ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on integrated waste management (Art 16) defines the extended responsibilities of the producer and (Art 21) defines the responsibilities for integrated waste management for any "waste producer" 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law Use of traditional materials and practices	Review materials and construction practices against traditional ones Mandatory submission of complete design in application	Such practices may incur additional costs and should be included in design	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Before application submission
Construction	Potential waste management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during construction

		inert materials						
Operation	Potential waste water management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Ensure all waste water is collected in leak proof septic tanks which are regularly emptied and disposed of appropriately	Visual inspection to ensure no release of wastewater and liquid wastes into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during operation
Comments Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Construction/Rehabilitation of walking paths in mountain areas								
Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA ▪ Law on Forest and Forest Police ▪ Law on environment protection 								
Main requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II ▪ Article 20 of the Law on Forest and Forest Police requires the protection of forests and pastures from any negative impact. The new law on forests keeps the same article (Art. 19) on the protection of forests and pasture from any negative impact but additionally adds an article (Art. 33) about environmental impact assessment of activities in forests and pastures. ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost	Institutional responsibility			

Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Phase
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	PMT/RC	Before application submission
Implementation	Potential waste management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during construction
Operation	Potential waste management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during operation
Comments Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Construction of agricultural produce processing units								
Reference Laws:								

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA (Annex II) ▪ Law on environment protection ▪ Law on Water management ▪ Law on integrated waste management 								
<p>Main requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II (point 1. Agriculture: ç) Afforestation and deforestation for changing to other type of land use; ▪ The Law on environment protection requires the protection of all elements of environment from pollution (air (Art. 16), water (Art 17), soil (Art. 18), nature (Art 20). It also requires integrated waste management (Art 33) and protection against negative impacts of using chemicals (Art 34) ▪ The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices ▪ The law on integrated waste management (Art 16) defines the extended responsibilities of the producer and (Art 21) defines the responsibilities for integrated waste management for any “waste producer” 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	PMT/RC	Before application submission
Implementation	Potential waste and waste water management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during construction
Operation	Potential waste and waste water management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during operation
Comments								
Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								
Units of artificial Insemination								

Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on Veterinary service 								
Main requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The law on veterinary service (No 10 465, date 29.9.2011) in Albania defines all rules for the handling of animals and artificial insemination 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	In-stall/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	PMT/RC	Before application submission
Implementation	Potential waste and waste water management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically
Operation	Potential waste and waste water management issues	Ensure appropriate Waste management Maximize reuse of inert materials	Visual inspection to ensure no release of waste into the environment	Cost of transport of waste to disposal site	marginal	Workers/contractors	Contractor /RC and PMT	Periodically during operation
Comments								
Comments should include any indication/issue relative to the activities indicated in the EMP								

Erosion Control Measures: Construction of small dams
Reference Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on EIA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Law on Forest and Forest Police ▪ Law on Water management 								
<p>Main requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II ▪ Article 20 of the Law on Forest and Forest Police requires the protection of forests and pastures from any negative impact. The new law on forests keeps the same article (Art. 19) on the protection of forests and pasture from any negative impact but additionally adds an article (Art. 33) about environmental impact assessment of activities in forests and pastures. ▪ The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices 								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	Install/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	PMT/RC/FDS	Before application submission
Implementation	Dust/noise generated during construction	Limit work on site to times when noise disruptions are allowed. For prolonged work, ensure noise levels are acceptable and use appropriate workers protection. In case of significant dust emissions, use water to suppress dust.	Monitor complaints from neighbours, visually ensure dust generation is acceptable Monitor working hours and noise levels (audibly)	1 m3 of water for dust suppression: marginal	marginal	Workers/Contractors	Contractors/RC/PMT	Periodical during implementation
Implementation	visual	Ensure the use of local materials. Ensure opinions and approval of local authorities are met	Review materials and construction practices Mandatory submission of complete design of construction.	marginal	marginal	Workers/contractors/RC	Contractors/PMT/RC/FDS	Periodical during implementation

Annex 5 ESP Sample EMP for Rubik Commune

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES

An EMP should include the following:

- a) An outline of the proposed intervention (first page, project description).
- b) Description of the foreseen adverse environmental impacts: the adverse impacts are identified through the screening process (All impacts are identified in EMF foreseen activities table Annex 1 which can be used for guidance).
- c) Description of the mitigation measures for each identified adverse environmental impact, identifying both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation. (All mitigation measures are identified in EMF foreseen activities table Annex 1 to be used for guidance).
- d) Description of a monitoring program of the mitigation measures and of their success in minimising the identified adverse impacts of the implemented interventions. Like in the case of the mitigation measures, the monitoring program should identify both the cost and institutional responsibility for its implementation.
- e) Description of the implementation schedules of both mitigation measures and related monitoring plans.

Estimated cost and institutional responsibility of both mitigation measures and monitoring plans are suggested in the tables, but should be confirmed during EMP preparation.

Name of Management Plan:	
Name of Commune:	Rubik
Project application Number:	n.a.
Scope of Proposed work:	Gully Control: construction of check dams
FPUA representative name and address:	Mr Gjon Presi
LGU	n.a.
Regional Project Coordinator name and address:	n.a.
Name of PMT member reviewing:	n.a.
General Project Information	
Detailed description of the proposed work and objective: A series of check dams were built to avoid heavy soil erosion in gullies. Dams were built with stones found locally and stabilized with concrete.	
Is proposed activity included in Annex I of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law (Law 10440/2011)? See Annex 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report for guidance no If answer is Yes, activity CANNOT be financed under ESP scheme. Interrupt process.	
Is proposed activity included in Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law (Law 10440/2011)? (see Annex 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report for guidance) The Law was not existent at the time of NRDP implementation. However, irrigation and water management structure are now included in Annex II of EIA Law. So screening might be necessary for future similar activities. If yes, Environmental Screening by a certified expert must be undertaken.	
Is the proposed site location inside or in the Buffer zone of a Protected Area? NO If yes, please check if the proposed activity is allowed: The Law 8906, dated 6.6.2002 "On protected areas" defines the size of the buffer zone and the list of activities that are not allowed for different categories of protected areas as follows: Art.5 Strict nature reserve; Art. 6 National Parks; Art. 7 Nature Monuments; Art. 9 Managed Nature Reserves; Art. 10 Protected landscape; Art. 11 Multiple resource use areas. Regional Natural Park Also Art. 12 provides that forest and other natural resources within protected areas are excluded from harvesting and are managed in compliance with the PA management plan. If proposed activity is included in any of the lists, consider an alternative site selection.	
In order to develop appropriate EMP select specific activity module from the following pages	

Erosion Control Measures: Construction of small dams								
Reference Laws: Law on EIA Law on Forest and Forest Police Law on Water management								
Main requirements: EIA Law: Art 8 requires an Environmental Screening for activities included in Annex II Article 20 of the Law on Forest and Forest Police requires the protection of forests and pastures from any negative impact. The new law on forests keeps the same article (Art. 19) on the protection of forests and pasture from any negative impact but additionally adds an article (Art. 33) about environmental impact assessment of activities in forests and pastures. The law on water management provides that pollution control (Art 26) is achieved through implementation of relevant emission limit values, emission controls based on best available techniques or in the case of diffuse impacts, through the best environmental practices								
Please check the Table on Foreseen Impacts and Mitigation Measures for all activities in Annex 1				Cost		Institutional responsibility		
Phase	Foreseen Impact	Mitigation measure	Monitoring measure	Install/operate	Monitor	Install/operate	Monitor	Timing
Planning	EIA	Screening in compliance with EIA law		marginal	marginal	LGU/FPUA	PMT/RC/FDS	Before application submission
Implementation	Dust/noise generated during construction	Limit work on site to times when noise disruptions are allowed. For prolonged work, ensure noise levels are acceptable and use appropriate workers protection. In case of significant dust emissions, use water to suppress dust.	Monitor complaints from neighbours, visually ensure dust generation is acceptable Monitor working hours and noise levels (audibly)	1 m3 of water for dust suppression: marginal	marginal	Workers/Contractors	Contractors/RC/PMT	Periodical during implementation
Implementation	visual	Ensure the use of local materials. Ensure opinions and approval of local authorities are met	Review materials and construction practices Mandatory submission of complete design of construction.	marginal	marginal	Workers /contractors/ RC	Contractors/PMT/RC/FDS	Periodical during implementation

Annex 6 EMF Annual Environmental Audit Form

The following Table lists all activities contained in *Table 5.2a* of detailed environmental impacts assessment. Details of each activity are described in Annex 4. Please identify the ones implemented in your region and add the required details.

2.	Name of Region					
3.	Regional Project Coordinator Name					
4.	Name of PMT member reviewing					
5.	Date of Report					
6.	Types of activities	Approved during the year	Application included an EMF checklist	Number of activities requiring:		
				Field Appraisal	EMP	Specific TA
Components A.1 A.2 A.3 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures:						
Forest Processes:						
	Forest Protection					
	Silvicultural activities					
	Harvesting and Utilisation					
	Afforestation					
	Reforestation					
	Seedling Production					
Components A.1 A.2 A.3 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures:						
Erosion prevention and control (other than forestation)						
	Protection of degraded pasture land and newly planted forest by construction of fences					
	Construction of small erosion control structures (check dams)					
Components A.1 A.2 A.3 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures:						
Pastures						
	Protection (fencing)					
	Rehabilitation (cleaning shrubs and rocks)					
	Silvopastoral planting					
	Overseeding to enrich the vegetation					
	Construction of water points for livestock					
	Shelter (coral)					
Components A.1 A.2 A.3 Provision of competitive grants for rural development measures:						
Agriculture						
	Reduction of Bareland (abandoned/refused)					
	Appropriate use of marginal agricultural land (private land on slope with shallow soils)					
	Trees on field boundaries					
	Small scale irrigation					
	Planting of vineyards for revenue production have an extra positive effect of embellishment of the landscape					

2.	Name of Region					
3.	Regional Project Coordinator Name					
4.	Name of PMT member reviewing					
5.	Date of Report					
6.	Types of activities	Approved during the year	Application included an EMF checklist	Number of activities requiring:		
				Field Appraisal	EMP	Specific TA
	Rainfed horticulture fruits/vegetables/forages					
	Irrigated horticulture (fruits/vegetables/forages)					
	Beekeeping					
	Artificial insemination for cattle to improve quality in order to reduce grazing pressure					
	Promotion of recreational and sustainable tourism through maintenance and rehabilitation of mountain paths and traditional houses for accommodations of tourists and trekkers					
	Primary processing of produce for sustainable production					
Component B-Payment for environmental services (PES) Development of Carbon Sequestration projects						
	<i>Forest Protection: ban community access to forest</i>					
	<i>Reforestation (see details in Annex)</i>					
	B2: Development of Carbon Sequestration projects					
	<i>Forest Protection: ban community access to forest</i>					

Unforeseen environmental or social problems: Please indicate whether any unforeseen environmental and/or social problem was caused by the implementation of any of the activities approved this year. If any, please summarize the problem(s) and what was or will be done to solve them.

Activity	Problem(s)	Actions taken	Actions to be taken

Have there been any environmental or social analyses carried out by other parties (NGOs, other Donors, etc.....) in your district/province? If so, please describe them briefly.

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Have you noticed any particular difficulties/issues with implementing the EMF in the past year (e.g. administrative, communications, forms, capacity)? If so, please describe them briefly.

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Training: Please summarize the training received in your region in the past year, as well as key areas of further training you think is needed.

Group	Training Received	Training Needed
PMT		
Regional Coordinator		
District Forestry Service Officers		
Forestry/Agricultural Extension Services		
Regional Environmental Agencies		
Communities (FPUAs, Forest and agriculture experts)		

Integrated Pest Management Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Protection Service Project has been classified by the WB as an environment category B and triggers OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment. In addition, because it is foreseen that agricultural interventions may be financed and that therefore some fertilizers and pesticides may be used, considering the potential environmental of improper pesticide use and impacts associated, the safeguard on pest management, OP 4.09, has been triggered and an integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) must be part of the project preparation documents.

2. REQUIREMENTS OF WB OPERATIONAL POLICY 4.09

The purposes of OP 4.09 include the following:

- i. to maximize the use of biological or environmental control methods and minimize the use of chemical pesticides.
- ii. To ensure that the beneficiary country's regulatory framework includes instruments for the promotion and support of safe, effective and environmentally sound pest management, and if not, support the development of national capacity.
- iii. minimize the environmental and health hazards related to pesticide usage.

3. REQUIREMENTS OF ALBANIAN LAW FOR PESTICIDES USE

The Albanian Law on Crop Protection no. 9362 of 2005, amended in 2008, sets out rules on chemicals that can be imported, traded and used in Albania.

It indicates in its art 4 that it is the responsibility of the Directorate of Plant Protection Service to cooperate and coordinates its work with the General Directorate of Standardizing to adapt the international and European standards in the field of Plant Protection Service. Art 22 indicates that products to be used in Albania are only the ones which undergo registration. These are the ones in compliance with EU Council Directive 79/117/EEC prohibiting the placing on the market and use of plant protection products containing certain active substances and Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market.

The updated lists of both allowed and not allowed Crop Protection products are presented in *Annex 1*.

4. CHARACTERISTICS OF IPMP FOR ESP

The ESP does not provide financing for the purchase of any pesticides nor does it specifically support the introduction of new pest management practices. However, as it does finance agricultural interventions, it indirectly may cause an increase in the use of pesticides. For this reason, an IPMP must be made available and used by the PMT as a guideline to protect human health and the environment from the negative impacts of the use of pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture and ensure compliance with its requirements.

In addition, the IPMP will help protect the natural ecosystem and the natural agents which are beneficial and which fight the pests, pollinate, etc. and will also help establish a framework for critical analysis of activities such as introduction of invasive species, transport and storage of pesticides and management of pesticide residues and waste packaging.

The IPMP will also guide the PMT in the needs to develop awareness raising and educational programs for farmers in relation to chemical use and biological pest control.

Some of the potential pest and pest management issues, impacts and Mitigation measures are indicated in the following **Table 11**.

Table 11: Pest Management Issues

Potential issue	Project activity	Mitigation measure
Pest management	Inability to recognize need for proper pest management may lead to improper use of pesticides	Awareness on pesticide use to be built in farmers and capacity building in alternative methods of pest management provided
Increase Productivity	Increased reliance on chemicals for pest management and fertilization	Raise awareness in pesticide use and implement IPMP ; Training in agricultural intensification and consequent changes in practices
Improper pesticide use by untrained farmers	Use of pesticides by untrained farmers in agricultural activities.	Ensure farmers are trained and are aware of pesticides risk. Train them on IPMP and list of allowed pesticides.
Availability of pesticides to untrained farmers poses a risk	Use of pesticides by untrained farmers in agricultural activities.	Ensure farmers attend training, conduct monitoring and evaluation, clearly communicate lists of recommended versus lists of banned pesticides
Storage of pesticides, waste management of pesticides and their packaging.	Use of pesticides by untrained farmers in agricultural activities.	Training of farmers for pesticide storage and waste management.
Marketing and Export of Agricultural Products	Improper Pesticides use may limit the markets of agricultural products	Raising of farmers awareness to market problems tied to pesticide usage

4.1 IPMP Implementation Cycle for the ESP

A proper integrated pest management cycle includes the following components:

- Identification of the actual pest management need
- Promotion of alternative methods of pest management

- Selection of appropriate pesticides
- Safe transportation and storage of pesticides
- Correct application of pesticides
- Adequate management of remaining pesticides and their packaging
- Education of farmers for all phases of pest management (from establishing the need to management of pesticide wastes)

4.2 IPMP Institutional Responsibility

Responsibility for the implementation of the IPMP for the ESP will be of the PMT.

The PMT will ensure implementation of the IPMP through the organization of training courses and ensuring specific dedicated supervision activities are carried out for agricultural activities which may involve the use of pesticides. The PMT will formulate an annual work plan for the implementation of the IPMP for the agricultural activities foreseen by the microcatchement management plans where pesticide use may take place. The work plan will include the following:

- a) Identification of pesticide use potential
- b) Estimate of costs for training sessions for staff and farmers
- c) potential demonstration activities for farmers,
- d) field visits to ensure compliance or provide advice,
- e) coordination with other units of MoEAWF.

Annex 1 List of Permitted Crop Protection products

List Nr. 1

List of Plant Protection Chemicals/Products Registered, allowed to be imported, traded and used in Albania_May 2013

NR Nr. & Date of Registration	COMMERCIAL NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	CLASSIFICATION	APPLICANT	
1. 14/11/2011	AGROFOS 5 GR	Chlorpyrifos	Insekticid	Ypsilon S.A	251/1
2. 02/10/2012	ABAMEX 36 EC	Abamectine	Insekticid-akaricid	MAC-GmbH	490
3. 18/03/2011	ACROBAT WG	Dimetomorph+Mancozeb	Fungicid	BASF	168/2
4. 25/05/2005	ACTARA 25 WG	Thiamethoxam	Insekticid	Syngenta	164/1
5. 21/11/2007	AFALON 45 SC	Linuron	Herbicid	Mahkteshim-Agan	338
6. 18/03/2011	AFFIRM 095 SG	Emamectin benzoate	Insekticid	Syngenta	30
7. 16/03/2012	AGRIA-MANCOZEB 80 WP	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	441
8. 14/11/2008	AKTELLIC 50 EC	Pirimiphos Methyl	Insekticid	Syngenta	5/2
9. 08/01/2013	ALIAL 80 WP	Fosetil aluminium	Fungicid	Cheminova Agro	512
10. 02/10/2012	ALIEN	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	SIPCAM	495
11. 14/11/2008	ALLIETTE FLASH	Fosetil aluminium	Fungicid	BAYER AG	65/1
12. 02/10/2012	ALPHAMEX 100 EC	Alphacypermethrin	Insekticid	MAC-GmbH	491

13.	ALVERDE 18/03/2011	Metaflumizone	Insekticid	BASF	383
14.	AMINOPIELIK 600 SL 02/10/2012	2.4 D acid	Herbicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	485
15.	AMISTAR OPTI 21/11/2007	Azoxystrobine+Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	Syngenta	337
16.	AMOK G 16/03/2012	Gliphosate	Herbicid	United Phosphorus Limited	455
17.	ANTRACOL 70 WG 23/02/2007	Propineb	Fungicid	BAYER AG	73/1
18.	APPLAUD 25 WP 16/03/2012	Buprofenzin	Insekticid	Nyhon Nohyaku Co.Ltd	459
19.	ARAGOL L 40 18/03/2011	Dimethoat	Insekticid	SIPCAM	16
20.	ARMETIL C 29/12/2010	Metalaxyl+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Industrias Qiumicas del Valles SA	356
21.	ARMETIL M 357 29/12/2010	Metalaxyl+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Industrias Qiumicas del Valles SA	
22.	AVAUNT 15 SC 02/10/2012	Indoxacarb	Insekticid	Du Pont	284/1
23.	AVIATOR 489 02/10/2012	Dimetomorph+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	
24.	AXIAL 50 EC 18/03/2011	Pinoxaden	Herbicid	Syngenta	310
25.	BAKRENI ANTRACOL WP 63 01/02/2006	Propineb+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	BAYER AG	43
26.	BANJO 02/10/2012	Fluazinam	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	486
27.	BASAMID GRANULAR 53/1 09/06/2008	Dazomet	Insekticid-nematocid	Certis Europe	
28.	BASTA 15 26/02/2010	Glufosinate ammonium	Herbicid	BAYER AG	278

29.	BELTHIRUL 450 16/03/2012	Bacillus thuringiensis	Insekticid biologjik	Probelte SA	
30.	Bi - 58 02/10/2012	Dimethoat	Insekticid	BASF	54/1
31.	BLUESTONE- KANCHEVI 02/03/2013	Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Kanchevi Ltd	519
32.	BORDEAUX MIXTURE 08/10/2010	Cu metalik	Fungicid	Manica SpA.	250
33.	BORDO MICRO 11/11/2009	Cu metalik	Fungicid	Industrias Qiumicas del Valles SA	140
34.	BOXER 270 08/10/2010	Prosulfocarb	Herbicid	Syngenta	
35.	BRAVO 500 SC 14/11/2008	Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	Syngenta	154/1
36.	BRIK 24 EC 426 14/11/2011	Myclobutanil	Fungicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	
37.	CABRIO TOP 18/03/2011	Metiram+Pyraclostrobin	Fungicid	BASF	40/1
38.	CALIPSO SC 480 24/12/2003	Thiacloprid	Insekticid	BAYER AG	197
39.	CALLISTO 48 SC 156/2 14/11/2008	Mesotrione	Herbicid	Syngenta	
40.	CANTUS 12/02/2008	Boscalid	Fungicid	BASF	53
41.	CAPTAN 80 WG 26/05/2011	Captan	Fungicid	Arysta LifeScience	32/2
42.	CARAKOL 02/10/2012	Metaldehyde	Moluskicid	Kollant SRL	500
43.	CHAMP DP 02/10/2012	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Nufarm SAS	499
44.	CHAMPION 50 18/03/2011	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Nufarm SAS	239/1

45.	CHORUS 50 WG 14/11/2008	Cyprodinil	Fungicid	Syngenta	155
46.	CIKEYMAN 23/07/2012	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Industrial Química Key, S.A	470
47.	CLINIC 36 SL 16/07/2010	Glyphosate	Herbicid	Nufarm SAS	165
48.	COLLIS 29/12/2010	Boscalid+Kresoxim-methyl	Fungicid	BASF	358
49.	CONFIDOR WG 70 18/03/2011	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	BAYER AG	233/1
50.	COOPERBLAU-N 50 WP 02/03/2013	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Nitrofarm	525
51.	COPPER OXYCHLORIDE 50 WP 442 16/03/2012	Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	
52.	COPPER SULPHATE 26/02/2010 MANICA 25 SC	Cu metalik (Sulfat Cu)	Fungicid	Manica SpA.	200
53.	COPROXIDE 21/11/2007	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	VAPCO	322
54.	CORAGEN 20 SC 18/03/2011	Chloranthraniliprole	Insekticid	Du Pont	384
55.	COSAVET DF 18/03/2011	Squfur	Fungicid	Sulphur Mills Limited	221
56.	COTRAN MIX 420 14/11/2011	Cymoxanil+mancozeb+folpet	Fungicid	Tragusa	
57.	COTRAN PLUS 498 02/10/2012	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb+Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Tragusa	
58.	CRIPTAN 50 WP 21/11/2007	Captan	Fungicid	VAPCO	321
59.	CUPROFIX 30 DISPERS 14/11/2011	Mancozeb+Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Cerexagri	257/1

60.	CUPROSATE GOLD M 72 WP 446 16/03/2012	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Zenith CropSciences	Bulgaria	Ltd
61.	CUPROSULF 11/11/2009	Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Industrias Quimicas del Valles SA		110
62.	CURENOX 50 11/11/2009	Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Industrias Quimicas del Valles SA		103
63.	CURZATE R 29/12/2010	Oxiklorur Cu+Cymoxanil	Fungicid	Du Pont		139/1
64.	CURZATE M 258/1 23/07/2012	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Du Pont		
65.	CURZATE M 44 WP 08/01/2013	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Du Pont		514
66.	CURZATE R 29/12/2010	Cymoxanil+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Du Pont		139/1
67.	CURZATE R DF 14/11/2008	Cymoxanil+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Du Pont		203/1
68.	CYMOXANIL 45 % WG 16/03/2012	Cymoxanil	Fungicid	Globachem nv		456
69.	CYPERGAN 10 EC 472 23/07/2012	Cypermethrine	Insekticid		Phytorgan SA	
70.	CYPERMEX PLUS 550 EC 465 23/07/2012	Chlorpyriphos+Cypermethrine	Insekticid		MAC-GmbH	
71.	CYTHRIN 100 EC 140 16/07/2010	Cypermethrine	Insekticid		Agriphar	
72.	DACONIL 72 SC 08/10/2010	Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	Syngenta		33/2
73.	DACUS BAIT 100 23/07/2012	Proteina te hidrolizuara	Feromon	Nitrofarm		479
74.	DAMINE 500 SL 01/02/2006	2.4 D acid	Herbicid	Agriphar		227
75.	DANEEL 700 WDG 02/03/2013	Dithianon	Fungicid	BASF		259/1

76.	DANTOP 50 WG 21/11/2007	Clothianidin	Insekticid	Sumitomo Chemical	324
77.	DECIS 2.5 EC 01/02/2006	Deltamethrine	Insekticid	BAYER AG	49/1
78.	DELFO 5 G 504 08/01/2013	Chlorpyriphos	Insekticid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	
79.	DELTA - M 2.5 02/10/2012	Deltamethrine	Insekticid	MAC-GmbH	492
80.	DICARZOL 50 SP 02/03/2013	Formetanate hcl.	Insekticid-Acaricid	Gowan Comercio International e Servicos	528
81.	DIFCOR 250 EC 16/03/2012	Difenoconazole	Fungicid	Globachem nv	457
82.	DIFEND 08/01/2013	Difenoconazole	Fungicid dizifekt.	Globachem nv	517
83.	DIFO 25 EC 26/05/2011	Difenoconazole	Fungicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	414
84.	DIMETHON 23/07/2012	Dimethoat	Insekticid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	466
85.	DIREX 7.5 GR 02/10/2012	Chlorpyriphos	Insekticid	Kollant SRL	496
86.	DITHANE 75 WG 29/12/2010	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Efthymiadis SA	362
87.	DITHANE M-45 blue 72 WP 14/11/2011	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	422
88.	DIVIDEND 030 FS 08/01/2013	Difenoconazole	Fungicid dizifekt.	Syngenta	178/2
89.	DOMARK 4 EC 14/11/2008	Tetraconazole	Fungicid	ISAGRO S.p.A	180
90.	DOMINATOR 360 SL 29/12/2010	Glyphosate	Herbicid	Efthymiadis SA	363
91.	DURSBAN 480 EC 29/12/2010	Chlorpyriphos-ethyl	Insekticid	Efthymiadis SA	364

92.	ECHO-TRAP RB 25/05/2005	Feromon+Lambda cyhalothrin	Feromon	VIORYL S.A	223
93.	EFDACON 40 EC 21/11/2007	Dimethoat	Insekticid	Efthymiadis SA	162/1
94.	ELECTIS 75 WG 02/03/2013	Mancozeb+Zoxamide	Fungicid	Gowan Comercio International e Servicos	529
95.	ELUMIS 105 OD 08/01/2013	Mesotrione+Nicosulfuron	Herbicid	Syngenta	515
96.	ENOVIT METHYL 14/11/2008	Thiophanate methyl	Fungicid	SIPCAM	11/2
97.	ENVIDOR SC 240 18/03/2011	Spirodiclofen	Insekticid-akaricid	BAYER AG	240/1
98.	EQUATION CONTACT 14/11/2008	Famoxadone+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Du Pont	195/1
99.	EQUATION PRO 29/12/2010	Famoxadone+Cymoxanil	Fungicid	Du Pont	157/2
100.	EQUIP 26/04/2006	Foramsulfuron+Isoxadifen-ethyl	Herbicid	BAYER AG	241
101.	ESCARAT 23/07/2012	Bromadiolone	Rodenticid	CISAADRIATICA S.a.s.	478
102.	ESTERON 60 EC 29/12/2010	2.4 D acid	Herbicid	Efthymiadis SA	366
103.	FALCON EC 460 11/11/2009	Spiroxamine+Tebuconazole+Triadimenol	Fungicid	BAYER AG	209/1
104.	FANTIC F WG 21/11/2007	Benalaxil-M+Folpet	Fungicid	ISAGRO S.p.A	327
105.	FANTIC M WP 21/11/2007	Benalaxil-M+Mancozeb	Fungicid	ISAGRO S.p.A	328
106.	FASTAC 12/02/2008	Alphacypermethrin	Insekticid	BASF	28
107.	FLORAMITE 240 SC 08/10/2010	Bifenazate	Acaricid	Chemptura Netherlands B.V.	260

108. FOCUS ULTRA 08/01/2013	Cycloxydim	Herbicid	BASF	61/2
109. FOLICUR EW 250 18/03/2011	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	BAYER AG	242/1
110. FOLIO GOLD 537.5 SC 11/11/2009	Metalaxyl-M+Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	Syngenta	17/1
111. FOLIZOL 26/05/2011	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	Tragusa	402
112. FOLPAN 80 WDG 26/05/2011	Folpet	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	400
113. FORCE 0.5 G 08/01/2013	Tefluthrin	Insekticid	Syngenta	2/2
114. FORTIN 23/07/2012	Gliphosate	Herbicid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	469
115. FOSBEL 80 WG 16/03/2012	Fosetil aluminium	Fungicid	Probelte SA	451
116. FOSBEL PLUS 16/03/2012	Fosetil aluminium+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Probelte SA	452
117. FRUMIDOR 14/11/2008	Thiophanate methyl+Maneb	Fungicid	SIPCAM	12/2
118. FUNGURAN OH 50 WP 26/05/2011	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Spiess URANIA Chemicals GmbH	253/1
119. FURY 10 EC 21/2 18/03/2011	Zeta cypermethrine	Insekticid	FMC Corporation	
120. FUSILADE FORTE 15 EC 16/03/2012	Fluazifop-p-butyl	Herbicid	Syngenta	105/2
121. GALBEN C 4-33 14/11/2008	Benalaxil+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	FMC Corporation	187/1
122. GALBEN F 8-44 14/11/2008	Benalaxil+Folpet	Fungicid	FMC Corporation	188/1
123. GALBEN M 8-65 14/11/2008	Benalaxil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	FMC Corporation	189/1

124. GARANTEX 23/07/2012	Bromadiolone	Rodenticid.	DETIA DEGESCH	308/1
125. GIBB PLUS 02/10/2012	Gibberellin A ₄ /A ₇	Fitoregulator	Globachem nv	501
126. GLYPH UP 36 SL 26/05/2011	Glyphosate	Herbicid	Efthymiadis	408
127. GLYWEED 26/05/2011	Glyphosate	Herbicid	Sabero Europe BV	404
128. GRAND 48 SL 23/07/2012	Ethephon	Fitoregulator	Efthymiadis SA	292/1
129. GRANSTAR 75 WG 16/07/2010	Tribenuron methyl	Herbicid	Du Pont	123
130. GRISU 08/01/2013	Iprodione	Fungicid	SIPCAM	506
131. GUFOS 29/12/2010	Chlorpyrifos	Insekticid	Tragusa	350
132. GUFOS 5 G 26/05/2011	Chlorpyrifos	Insekticid	Tragusa	416
133. GYPSO GD 30/10/2006	Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Arysta LifeScience	263
134. HIDROXID CU 23/02/2007	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Willowood Limited	294
135. HUSSAR OD 18/03/2011	Iodosulfuron-methyl-sodium+	Herbicid	BAYER AG	243/1
136. IMIDAMEX 70 WG 23/07/2012	Mefenpyr-diethyl+Isoxadifen-ethyl Imidacloprid	Insekticid	MAC-GmbH	473
137. IMIDAN 50 WP 02/03/2013	Phosmet	Insekticid	Gowan Comercio International e Servicos	530
138. ICANOS 4 OD 02/03/2013	Nicosulfuron	Herbicid	Nufarm SAS	527

139.	INDAR 5 EW 26/05/2011	Fenbuconazole	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	409
140.	INFINITO 26/02/2010	Propam-hydrochl+Fluopicolide	Fungicid	BAYER AG	190
141.	IPIRON 45 SC 11/11/2009	Linuron	Herbicid	Novafitto IPC	102
142.	KAISO 23/07/2012	Lambda Cyhalothrin	Insekticid	Nufarm SAS	463
143.	KARATE ZEON 5 SC 14/11/2008	Lambda Cyhalothrin	Insekticid	Syngenta	87/1
144.	KARATHANE STAR 35 EC 18/03/2011	Mepthyl-dinocap	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	386
145.	KENTAN WG 23/02/2007	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	ISAGRO S.p.A	296
146.	KOCIDE 2000 23/02/2007	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Du Pont	297
147.	KOX 18/03/2011	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Tragusa	380
148.	KUMULUS WG 30/10/2006	Sqfur	Fungicid	BASF	55/1
149.	LANNATE 25 WP 26/02/2010	Methomyl	Insekticid	Du Pont	201
150.	LASER 480 EC 29/12/2010	Spinosad	Insekticid	Efthymiadis	367
151.	LEONE 36 SL 14/11/2011	Glyphosate	Herbicid	Ypsilon SA	430
152.	LINTUR 70 WG 08/10/2010	Triasulfuron+Dicamba	Herbicid	Syngenta	272
153.	LOGRAN 20 WG 08/10/2010	Triasulfuron	Herbicid	Syngenta	273
154.	LUMAX 537.5 SE 08/01/2013	Mesotrione+Terbuthylazin+S-metolachlor	Herbicid	Syngenta	516

155.	LYPHASE 36 SL 23/07/2012	Glyphosate	Herbucid	Phytorgan SA	471
156.	MAC-DIFENOCONAZOLE 250 EC 02/03/2013	Difenoconazole	Fungicid	MAC-GmbH	521
157.	MANFIL 75 WG 14/11/2011	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Indofil Chemicals	423
158.	MANFIL 80 WP 14/11/2011	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Indofil Chemicals	424
159.	MATCH 050 EC 08/01/2013	Lufenuron	Insekticid	Syngenta	163/2
160.	MAVRIK 2 F 02/10/2012	Tau-fluvalinate	Insekticid	Mahkteshim ChemicalsWorks LtD	487
161.	MELODY COMBI WG 65.3 03/04/2004	Iprovalicarb+Folpet	Fungicid	BAYER AG	64
162.	MERCURY 83 WP 14/11/2011	Captan	Fungicid	Ypsilon S.A	244/1
163.	MERPAN 80 WG 14/11/2008	Captan	Fungicid	Alfa Agricultural Supplies SA.	4/1
164.	MERPAN WDG 26/05/2011	Captan	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works	401
165.	MESUROL GRANULAT 14/11/2008	Methiocarb	Insekticid-moluskicid	BAYER AG	66/1
166.	METALDEHYDE 5 % GR 21/11/2007	Metaldehyde	Moluskic.	VAPCO	323
167.	METALIM 23/07/2012	Metaldehyde	Moluskicid	CISAADRIATICA S.a.s.	477
168.	METRIPHAR 70 WDG 12/02/2008	Metribuzine	Herbucid	Agriphar	287
169.	MEVAXIL 25 WP 16/03/2012	Metalaxyl	Fungicid	Industrias Qimicas del Valles SA	449
170.	MICROTHIOL DISPERS 14/11/2011	Sqfur	Fungicid	Cerexagri-UPL	245/1

171.	MIDAS 29/12/2010	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	Tragusa	351
172.	MIDO 20 SL 26/05/2011	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	Sharda Europe BVBA	405
173.	MIKAL FLASH 14/11/2008	Fosetil aluminium+Folpet	Fungicid	BAYER AG	200/1
174.	MIKAL PREMIUM 02/10/2012	Folpet+Fosetil aluminium+Iprovalicarb	Fungicid	BAYER AG	497
175.	MINUET GEO 08/01/2013	Zeta cypermethrin	Insekticid	FMC Chemical Spri	513
176.	MOSPILAN 20 SG 23/07/2012	Acetamiprid	Insekticid	Nisso Chemical Europe	176/1
177.	MOVENTO SC 100 08/01/2013	Spirotetramat	Insekticid	BAYER AG	518
178.	MOXIMATE 14/11/2011	Cymoxanil+mancozeb	Fungicid	Indofil Chemicals	428
179.	MYSTIC 25 WG 14/11/2011	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	Nufarm SAS	431
180.	NASA 16/03/2012	Gliphosate	Herbicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	444
181.	NATIVO 75 WG 26/02/2010	Tryfloxistrobin+Tebuconazole	Fungicid	BAYER AG	283
182.	NAUTILE DG 26/05/2011	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Cerexagri	246/1
183.	NEMACUR 40 LE 08/01/2013	Fenamiphos	Nematocid	Irvita Plant Protection N.V	509
184.	NEORAM WG 23/02/2007	Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	ISAGRO S.p.A	302
185.	NEOSTOP 1 % DP 16/07/2010	chlorpropham	Fitoregullator	Agriphar	110
186.	NEOTOPSIN 70 WG 26/05/2011	Thiophanate methyl	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	411

187.	NICOMEX PLUS WG 02/03/2013	Thifensulfuron-methyl+Nicosulfuron	Herbicid	MAC-GmbH	520
188.	NICOSH 4 SC 26/05/2011	Nicosulfuron	Herbicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	407
189.	NILBU 08/01/2013	Myclobutanil	Fungicid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	503
190.	NITROPOL S 16/03/2012	Vaj mineral	Insekticid-akaricid	Nitrofarm	454
191.	NOIDIO GOLD 10 EC 26/05/2011	Penconazole	Fungicid	AGRIMIX	2 55/1
192.	NUPRID SUPREME SC 16/03/2012	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	Nufarm SAS	461
193.	NURELLE D 26/05/2011	Chlorpyrifos+Cypermethrine	Insekticid	Agriphar	50/1
194.	OIL-GUR 29/12/2010	Vaj mineral	Insekticid	Tragusa	352
195.	ONIL 08/01/2013	Triadimenol	Fungicid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	502
196.	OPTIX R DISPERSS 18/03/2011	Fosetil aluminium+Cu metalik	Fungicid	United Phosphorus Limited	385
197.	ORIOUS 25 EW 08/01/2013	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	Irvita Plant Protection N.V	510
198.	ORIUUS 6 FS 02/10/2012	Tebuconazole	Fungicid dizifekt.	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	483
199.	ORTUS 23/07/2012	Fenpyroximate	Acaricid	Nyhon Nohyaku Co. Ltd	475
200.	OVIPRON TOP 14/11/2011	Vajra te parafinuara	Insekticid	Cerexagri-UPL	432
201.	PARASOL 21/11/2007	Hidroxiid Cu	Fungicid	Nufarm GmbH & Co KG	332
202.	PEAK 75 WG 08/10/2010	Prosulfuron	Herbicid	Syngenta	271

203.	PEN 10 EC 14/11/2011	Penconazole	Fungicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	425
204.	PENCOMEX 100 EC 02/03/2013	Penconazole	Fungicid	MAC-GmbH	522
205.	PENCONAZOLE NITROFARM 10 EC 18/03/2011	Penconazole	Fungicid	Nitrofarm	220
206.	PENCOZEB 75 DG 29/12/2010	Mancozeb	Fungicid	Cerexagri	360
207.	PENDIMEX 330 EC 23/07/2012	Pendimethalin	Herbicid	MAC-GmbH	474
208.	PHOSTOXIN TABLETS 23/07/2012	Aluminium phosphide	Insekticid fumigant	Detia Degesch	83/2
209.	PIRIMOR 50 WG 14/11/2008	Pirimicarb	Insekticid	Syngenta	89/1
210.	PISON 02/10/2012	Chlorpyrifos	Insekticid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	484
211.	POLECI 23/07/2012	Deltamethrine	Insekticid	Sharda Europe BVBA	476
212.	POLITHIOL 23/02/2007	Vaj mineral	Insekticid	Cerexagri	293
213.	POLTIGLIA BORDOLESE 30/10/2006	Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Industria Chimica,	265
214.	SCARAMAGNAN BLU POLTIGLIA BORDOLESE 26/05/2011	Sulfat Cu	Fungicid	Scaramagnan Alberto & Co. Cerexagri	249/1
215.	DISPERSS BLU POLYRAM WG 16/03/2012	Metiram	Fungicid	BASF	57/2
216.	PREVICUR ENERGY 26/02/2010	Propam-hydrochl+Fosetil alumin.	Fungicid	BAYER AG	276
217.	PROPAMEX 722 SL 08/01/2013	Propamocarb - hydrochlorid	Fungicid	MAC-GmbH	507

218.	PROPI SUPER 25 EC 26/05/2011	Propiconazole	Fungicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	406
219.	PROPLANT 26/02/2010	Propamocarb-hydrochloride	Fungicid	Agriphar	204/1
220.	PROXANIL 29/12/2010	Cymoxanil+Propam-hydrochl	Fungicid	Agriphar	361
221.	PYRINEX 48 EC 02/03/2013	Chlorpyriphos-ethyl	Insekticid	Mahkteshim ChemicalsWorks LtD	524
222.	PYRUS 400 SC 26/05/2011	Pyrimethanil	Fungicid	Agriphar	235/1
223.	QUADRIS 25 SC 16/03/2012	Azoxystrobine	Fungicid	Syngenta	108/2
224.	QUANTUM SC 02/10/2012	Dimetomorph	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works LtD	488
225.	QUICKPHOS 16/07/2010	Aluminium phosphide	Insekticid fumigant	United Phosphorus Limited	216
226.	RAMSIDE 20 WP 14/11/2011	Cu metalik	Fungicid	Nitrofarm SA	429
227.	RAXIL FS 060 14/11/2008	Tebuconazole	Fungicid dizifekt.	BAYER AG	199/1
228.	REGLONE 14/11/2008	Diquat	Herbicid	Syngenta	90/1
229.	REGLONE FORTE 21/11/2007	Diquat	Herbicid	Syngenta	76/1
230.	RELDAN 225 EC 29/12/2010	Chlorpyriphos-ethyl	Insekticid	Efthymiadis SA	365
231.	REVUS 250 SC 18/03/2011	Mandipropamid	Fungicid	Syngenta	10
232.	RIDOMIL Gold MZ 68 WG 30/10/2006	Metalaxyl-M+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Syngenta	151/1
233.	RIDOMIL GOLD PLUS 42.5 16/07/2010	Metalaxyl-M+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Syngenta	120/1

234.	RIDOMILGOLD COMBI 45WG 24/05/2004	Folpet+Metalaxyl-M	Fungicid	Syngenta	27
235.	RIZA 25 WG 16/03/2012	Tebuconazole	Fungicid	Cheminova A/S	462
236.	ROBAN WAX BLOCK 16/07/2010	Difenacoum	Rodenticid.	PelGar	119
237.	ROGOR L 40 14/11/2008	Dimethoat	Insekticid	ISAGRO S.p.A	186/1
238.	ROQUAT 16/03/2012	Diquat dibromide	Herbicid	Globachem nv	458
239.	ROUNDUP 26/02/2010	Glyphosate	Herbicid	MONSANTO	122/1
240.	SCORE 250 EC 14/11/2008	Difenoconazole	Fungicid	Syngenta	113/1
241.	SENCOR WG 70 14/11/2008	Metribuzine	Herbicid	BAYER AG	111/1
242.	SHARALPHOS 14/11/2011	Fosfid alumini	Insekticid	Sharda Europe BVBA	427
243.	SHARMET 16/03/2012	Metaldehyde	Moluskicid	Sharda Europe BVBA	445
244.	SHAVIT F 16/03/2012	Folpet+Triadimenol	Fungicid	Mahkteshim Chemicals Works Ltd	433
245.	SIGNUM 12/02/2008	Boscalid+Pyraclostrobin	Fungicid	BASF	141
246.	SLUG GILL GB 26/05/2011	Ferric phosphate	Moluskic.	Efthymiadis	413
247.	SOLUTION PRO 23/07/2012	Cymoxanil+Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	464
248.	SPARVIERO 08/01/2013	Lambda Cyhalothrin	Insekticid	SIPCAM	505
249.	SPIT 26/05/2011	Triadimenol	Fungicid	Tragusa	403

250.	SPRITZ-HORMIN 500 96/1 14/11/2008	2.4 D sodium	Herbicide	Nufarm GmbH & Co KG	
251.	STOMP 330 EC 12/02/2008	Pendimethalin	Herbicide	BASF	130
252.	STROBY WG 26/05/2011	Kresoxim-methyl	Fungicide	BASF	106/1
253.	SUCCESS TM 0.24 CB 29/12/2010	Spinosad	Insekticide	Efthymiadis SA	368
254.	SULFOLAC 80 WG 26/02/2010	Squfur	Fungicide	Agrostulln GmbH,	202
255.	SULPHUR 80 WG 23/02/2007	Squfur	Fungicide	Ypsilon S.A	304
256.	SUMI-ALPHA 5 EC 14/11/2011	Esfenvalerat	Insekticide	Sumitomo Chemical	29/2
257.	SUN OIL 7 E 26/05/2011	Vajra te parafinuara	Insekticide	Efthymiadis	412
258.	SWITCH 62.5 WG 08/10/2010	Fludioxonil+Cyprodinil	Fungicide	Syngenta	274
259.	SYLLIT 400 SC 14/11/2011	Dodine	Fungicide	Agriphar	35/1
260.	TAIFUN 08/01/2013	Glyphosate	Herbicide	Feinchemie Schwebda GmbH	511
261.	TALENDO 23/02/2007	Proquinazide	Fungicide	Du Pont	305
262.	TATTOO 14/11/2008	Propamocarb-hydrochlorid+Mancozeb	Fungicide	BAYER AG	201/1
263.	TEBUCONAZOLE 25 EW 26/05/2011	Tebuconazole	Fungicide	Sharda Europe BVBA	415
264.	TELDOR SC 500 24/12/2003	Fenhexamid	Fungicide	BAYER AG	196
265.	TERCEL 02/03/2013	Dithianon+Pyraclostrobin	Fungicide	BASF	211/1

266.	TERRAGUARD PLUS EC 02/03/2013	Chlorpyriphos+Cypermethrine	Insekticid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	523
267.	THIANOSAN 80 WG 02/03/2013	Thiram	Fungicid	Taminco Italia Srl	526
268.	THIOVIT JET 80 WG 14/11/2008	Squlfur	Fungicid	Syngenta	152/1
269.	TILT 250 EC 08/10/2010	Propiconazole	Fungicid	Syngenta	37/2
270.	TINA 23/07/2012	Abamectine	Insekticid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	468
271.	TINAMEX 29/12/2010	Abamectine	Insekticid-akaricid	Tragusa	353
272.	TITUS 25 WG 29/12/2010	Rimsulfuron	Herbicid	Du Pont	143/1
273.	TOPAS 100 EC 08/10/2010	Penconazole	Fungicid	Syngenta	36/2
274.	TORNADO 5 EC 16/03/2012	Quizalofop-P-ethyl	Herbicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	443
275.	TOUCHDOWN 177 23/04/2003	Gliphosate	Herbicid	Syngenta	
276.	TRAGLI 29/12/2010	Gliphosate	Herbicid	Tragusa	354
277.	TRAXI 18/03/2011	Oxiklorur Cu	Fungicid	Tragusa	381
278.	TRIMEXA 75 WG 08/01/2013	Tribenuron methyl	Herbicid	MAC-GmbH	508
279.	TRIOMAX 45 WP 16/03/2012	Cymoxanil+Oxiklorur Cu+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Zenith CropSciences Bulgaria Ltd	447
280.	TRISCABOL DG 21/11/2007	Ziram	Fungicid	Cerexagri-UPL	336
281.	TRISOL 40 29/12/2010	Dimethoat	Insekticid	Tragusa	355

282.	U 46 M FLUID 500 GL 63/2 23/07/2012	MCPA	Herbucid	Nufarm GmbH & Co KG	
283.	UARDIN 23/07/2012	Chlorpyrifos+Cypermethrine	Insekticid	Industrial Química Key, S.A.	467
284.	UNICORN DF 16/03/2012	Sqfur+Tebuconazole	Fungicid	Sulphur Mills Limited	453
285.	VAPCOMORE 20 % SP 21/11/2007	Acetamiprid	Insekticid	VAPCO	320
286.	VERITA 24/12/2003	Fenamidone+Fosetil aluminium	Fungicid	BAYER AG	198
287.	VERTIMEC 018 EC 14/11/2008	Abamectine	Insekticid	Syngenta	181/1
288.	VITENE ULTRA SC 02/10/2012	Cymoxanil	Fungicid	SIPCAM	494
289.	VITRA 40 WG 16/03/2012	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Industrias Qiumicas del Valles SA	448
290.	VIVANDO 29/12/2010	Metrafenone	Fungicid	BASF	359
291.	VYDATE 10 L 02/10/2012	Oxamil	Insekticid-akaricid	Du Pont	307/1
292.	YPER 50 WP 26/05/2011	Hidroxid Cu	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	410
293.	YUMP 14/11/2011	Alphacypermethrin	Insekticid	Tragusa	421
294.	ZATO 50 WG 28/10/2004	Trifloxystrobine	Fungicid	BAYER AG	210
295.	ZATO PLUS 16/07/2010	Trifloxystrobine+Captan	Fungicid	BAYER AG	190
296.	ZETANIL M 18/03/2011	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	SIPCAM	145
297.	ZIRAM 76 WG 25/05/2005	Ziram	Fungicid	Efthymiadis	217

298.	ZIRAM GU 76 WG	Ziram	Fungicid	Tragusa	382
	18/03/2011				
299.	ZOLFO VENTILATO SCOREVOLE	Squfur	Fungicid	Zolfindustria Srl	460
	16/03/2012				

Note: This list finishes with the Number 299 (two hundred and ninety nine)

List Nr. 2

List of Plant Protection Chemicals/Products NOT ALLOWED to be imported but only to be Traded and Used in Albania _ May 2013

	<u>NR</u>	<u>COMMERCIAL NAME</u>	<u>ACTIVE INGREDIENT</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>Nr.</u>	<u>&</u>
	<u>Date of Registration</u>						
1.	ABA-MEX	Abamectine	Acaricid	Willowood Limited		277	
	23/02/2007						
2.	ABAMEX 1.8 EC	Abamectine	Insekticid-akaricid	VAPCO		165	
	25/05/2005						
3.	ACARIDOIL 13 SL	Kripe kaliumi	Insekticid	VIORYL S.A		30	
	25/05/2005						
4.	AGROFOS 48 EC	Chlorpyriphos	Insekticid	Ypsilon S.A		236	
	26/04/2006						
5.	ANTRACOL 70 WP	Propineb	Fungicid	BAYER AG		73/1	
	23/02/2007						
6.	BRIK 24 EC	Myclobutanil	Fungicid	FARMA-CHEM S.A.		313	
	25/05/2007						
7.	CAZA 20 SL	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	FARMA-CHEM S.A.		6	
	25/05/2007						
8.	CHLORONIL 75 WP	Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	VAPCO		288	
	23/02/2007						
9.	CLORTOSIP WP	Chlorthalonil	Fungicid	SIPCAM		14/1	
	30/10/2006						

10. CONFIDOR SL 200 18/03/2011	Imidacloprid	Insekticid	BAYER AG	233/1
11. CURTINE V 23/02/2007	Mancozeb+Cymoxanil	Fungicid	VAPCO	172/1
12. DELTARIN 2.5 23/02/2007	Deltamethrine	Insekticid	VAPCO	173/1
13. DIMETHOATE 23/02/2007	Dimethoat	Insekticid	Ypsilon S.A	280
14. DURSBAN 5 GR 12/02/2008	Chlorpyriphos	Insekticid	Efthymiadis SA	161
15. ENO 70 26/04/2006	Thiophanate methyl	Fungicid	Willowood Limited	238
16. ESTEMIC 24 EC 25/05/2005	Myclobutanil	Fungicid	VIORYL S.A	224
17. FOSIM COMBI 26/04/2006	Fosetil aluminium+Folpet	Fungicid	AGRIMIX	256
18. GENOXONE ZX 12/02/2008	Trichlopyr+2.4 D acid	Herbicid	Agriphar	269
19. GROUND UP 23/02/2007	Gliphosate IPA	Herbicid	VAPCO	174
20. GUARDIAN EC 05/02/2001	Acetochlor	Herbicid	MONSANTO	147
21. HARNESS EC 05/02/2001	Acetochlor	Herbicid	MONSANTO	146
22. IMIDAN 50 WP 23/02/2007	Phosmet	Insekticid	GOWAN	295
23. IRAM 26/04/2006	Cu metalik	Fungicid	AGRIMIX	254
24. MELODY COMBI 43.5 WP 03/04/2004	Iprovalicarb+Folpet	Fungicid	BAYER AG	64
25. METRIPHAR 70 WDG 12/02/2008	Metribuzine	Herbicid	Agriphar	287

26. MOCAP 10 G 23/02/2007	Ethoprophos	Insekticid	BAYER AG	300
27. NEMAPHOS 400 EC 26/04/2006	Fenamiphos	Insekticid-nematocid	Shining Fine Chemical Co Ltd	247
28. OMITE 57 EW 21/11/2007	Propargite	Acaricid	Uniroyal Chemical	330
29. PREVICUR 607 SL 23/02/2007	Propamocarb-hydrochlorid	Fungicid	BAYER AG	78/1
30. PROMO 01/02/2006	Propamocarb-hydrochlorid	Fungicid	AGRIMIX	230
31. PYCHLOREX 480 EC 01/02/2006	Chlorpyriphos	Insekticid	Agriphar	232
32. RIDO 72 30/10/2006	Cymoxanil+Mancozeb	Fungicid	Willowood Limited	267
33. RONIN 25 WP 30/10/2006	Buprofezin	Insekticid	Shining Fine Chemical Co Ltd	268
34. SELECT SUPER 12/02/2008	Clethodim	Herbicid	Arysta LifeScience	97
35. SILIGOR 40 26/04/2006	Dimethoat	Insekticid	Willowood Limited	259
36. SNAIL GRANULES 26/04/2006	Metaldehyde	Moluskic.	DETIA DEGESCH	258
37. SYLLIT 65 25/05/2005	Dodine	Fungicid	Agriphar	34
38. TIOFANAT-METYL 70 WG 01/02/2006	Thiophanate methyl	Fungicid	Ypsilon S.A	41
39. TRIGARD 75 WP 30/10/2006	Cyromazine	Insekticid	Syngenta	52
40. VALETE 01/02/2006	Fosetil aluminium	Fungicid	VAPCO	226
41. VAPCOTOP 70 WP 25/05/2005	Thiophanate methyl	Fungicid	VAPCO	221

42. VYDATE 10 G 30/10/2006	Oxamil	Insekticid-nematocid	Du Pont	56
43. YPSITOXIN 23/02/2007	Aluminium Phosphide	Insekticid fumigant	Ypsilon S.A	281

Note: This list finishes with the Number 43 (forty three)

Report on Public Consultations

First Public Consultation Workshop for the Preparation of the Environmental Services Project

Venue: 31 July 2013, Tirana

Participants: Annex 1

Resources persons:

Dr Arsene Proko, Directorate of Forests and Pasture

Dr Nehat Collaku, PMT

Mr Tapani Ruotsalainen, Consultant Team Leader

Ms Gitte Andersen, Consultant Social Assessment Expert

Ms Laura Susani, Consultant Environmental Assessment Expert

Mr Zamir Dedej

Mr Thans Goga

Mr Genti Kromidha

Minutes of the Meeting

Compiled by Thanas Goga

The meeting was opened at 09:30 at Hotel “Doro City” Tirana.

A. – Welcome speech and opening remarks

by Mr. Arsen Proko, Director of the Forestry and Pastures Directorate

A welcome speech and opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Arsen Proko, Director of Forest and Pastures. Mr. Proko emphasized the importance of the project and the new concept it aims at introducing with regards to the environmental services payment (ESP), which is as he said that “*one is being paid to protect the forest and not to use it.*”

Mr. Proko went on to say that the project should be supported by all relevant institutions and stakeholders as it is the first project based on the newly-introduced principle and approach as above-mentioned, while it has to also be implemented in line with other reforms that have already been undertaken or are ongoing for the management of environment resources, and he believed, that this new project is going to considerably improve the situation of the forest sector in the country. For instance, the draft law, --- which is currently under consultation with relevant stakeholders that is expected to be approved and enacted by the coming Parliament, following the parliamentary elections of June 23, 2013, --- will have to clearly stipulate the system and mechanisms for the National Forestation Fund, which shall also be one of the important elements of the legal framework to be taken into consideration by this project.

Furthermore, Mr. Proko believed that the efficiency of the project needs to be evaluated by clearly-defined and measureable indicators and through transparent means. In this

view, Mr. Proko asked from the project implementation team to pay close attention to the following suggestions:

1. *First*, we need to make sure that we do the right identification of actors/stakeholders, such as:
 - (a) donors (those who pay for the services);
 - (b) institutions and entities that are causing pollution; as well as to rightly define
 - (c) the size of ES payments.
2. *Secondly*, we need to develop an operational scheme to provide for programe's management tools and activities (*there are concept notes, studies and other pieces of research conducted so far – that have laid the groundwork and have helped to establish a general idea on how to quantify and qualify payments for water and forest management services*);
3. *Thirdly*, we have to also pay attention to elements of the climatic change, – i.e., related to carbon sequestration (we already have some experience on this matter, and we know where the weak point lie in this direction);
4. And of course, we need to increase the efficiency of our action, and make sure that the monitoring and evaluation system that we have in place leaves no room for abuse.

There is a very important element related to the metrics to be used, due to the high variance related to the measurement of forests' productivity (design/modeling/evaluation – of instruments shall be very important elements of this project), said Mr. Proko. That is why, he believed the existing national inventory of forests shall serve as a good basis to provide with information related to important elements that will define the evaluation and monitoring tools (or the equations that will come up with accurate measurement of productivity).

With regards to the ESP paymet system, Mr. Proko stated also that the evaluation methodology for the multi-use of forests is also subject of discussion between experts, awaiting still appropriate final definitions.

Furthermore, Mr. Proko stressed that the role of the members of the scientific community and academia (university, forest experts, individual experts, etc.), as well as private environmental/forest experts is crucial in the implementation phase of the project. For example, Mr. Proko suggested that researchers can make better use of the University's Center for Forest Research and innovation.

Finally, Mr. Proko stated his office's commitment to help and assist the team with carrying out the study and implementing the project, and gave then the floor to Indufor's consultants to present the project and findings of their work so far.

B. – Presentation of the Team and the new Project Concept By Mr. Tapani Ruotsalainen, Indufor Oy Project Team Leader

Mr. Tapani Ruotsalainen, Consultant Team Leader, took the floor and presented the team of experts: Ms. Laura Susani – environmental management and social framework consultant, Ms. Gitte Andersen - international socio-economic consultant, Mr. Genti Kromidha - project coordinator, Mr. Thanas Goga - local socio-economic consultant, that are currently working with the preparation of the project document. Additionally,

Mr. Ruotsalainen explained that the team is tasked with the preparation of the project until the end of October 2013, while by the beginning of September, - as the next consultation meeting is scheduled to take place by mid-September, - it will be able to have more information on the project progress and plan.

He said that the process will go through a consultation process and today's workshop is the first step, as part of a wider consultation that has already started. He invited the participants to present their opinions, comments and suggestions, which will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the workshop, and will be distributed as widely as possible with all the participants in the workshop, as well as other stakeholders. The project will try to make an assessment of the previous project findings and identify the new mechanism for the ES payment scheme. He went on presenting the project's overall and specific objectives, and elaborating on the project's goals and key components. The three main components proposed are:

1. IPARD like Agro-environmental measures
2. Payment for the Environmental Services (PES)
3. Institutional support and project monitoring

Additionally, Mr. Ruotsalainen stated that the new project is expected to be a 5 year project and the estimated financial value of EUR 22 million – and in this view, we need to come up with supporting rationale to the government and the stakeholders on why should we spend this new amount of money. One of the main reasons is to help provide for making sustainable what we have achieved so far from previous projects, related to the improvement of:

- resource management and erosion control; as well as
- income for individuals and local government units.
-

Mr. Ruotsalainen stressed that financial sustainability is very important. The capacities have been strengthened for resource management but the question is on how to continue in the future with implementation.

The first component focuses in a grant program and the support to the management plans. The second one deals with building correct mechanism for supporting PES, carbon sequestration and the payment for watershed services schemes. While, the third component involves a capacity-building process, good-governance improvement measures, empowerment of beneficiaries, as well as the implementing forest management information systems and forest inventory.

Asking the participants of the workshop on who did they think shall be the responsible institution for the PES scheme, and who do you think is willing to participate in the implementation of this scheme, Mr. Ruotsalainen opened the floor to questions and comments from the participants.

C. - Question (Q) and Answers (A) Session

Mr. Ylli Hoxha – *Director of Forest Department, Agency of Environment and Forests*

Mr. Hoxa posed three questions, requesting further clarifications regarding the components of the project introduced by Mr. Ruotsalainen:

Q1 – Component 1/Point 3 – Drafting and implementation of micro-catchment management plans

In view of the implementation of micro-catchment management plans, will state forests be also included in the suggested management plans?

A1- Mr. Ruotsalainen answer: It is not practical to divide a micro-catchment area in a communal and state-owned one part. Therefore, in this view, we refer to management plans that will include all the area, and not some parts of it. However, this is something that we need to discuss amongst us on what shall be the best possible approach. For example, shall it be the identification of the areas according to the ownership classification and later on treating them according to this classification, or shall we use another approach. That of course, could be an area of land, where there are different activities taking part in different zones in plan, and so on, and so forth. But, we shall not exclude *a priori* state-owned forests from micro-catchment management plans, as it will depend much on the selection process and how good we all are in including in this process all the necessary elements.

Q2 – component 3/Point 1/Bullet point 4 – National forest inventory planning

Does this project plan to prepare or assist in developing a new complete national forest inventory, and if yes, how would it impact the situation and policies of the forestry sector, given that the experience with the first inventory that did not work?

A2- Mr. Ruotsalainen answer: I think that you are not alone with this problem, as it is the same in many, many countries. Additionally, there have been cases where the results of the inventory were modified to match newly-developed policies, but the question is how it can be done in a more transparent and extensive way. One of the effective ways could be to establish a *permanent working group* for the drafting policies, and further on extended group with a wider participation, which could discuss the implementation of these policies. For example, in Finland, we have a permanent working group that handles and supervises the implementation of these policies, and additionally, there is an extended *consultation group* of 80-100 persons, who get the possibility to comment and suggest amendments on the policies that they believe are better. However, we are taking note of your suggestion, and we will need to review which would be the best procedure and/or process to handle this issue.

Q3 – component 3/Point 1/Bullet point 5 – Information database for the forestry sector
With regards to strengthening of the role of institutions, I would like to know whether the new project will be providing a new forestry sector information database (as we keep getting the same answer from the Ministry that there is no information)?

A3- Mr. Ruotsalainen answer: Yes, the plan includes a Forest Management Information system. Of course there are difficulties, but what's important is the approach one is using to guarantee success in the design. Perhaps, previous efforts have failed because they did not manage to carry out a thorough analysis of what information is already available in the country's institutions. In my view, an information system about the forestry sector is not merely computer hardware and equipment, but the human resources that are going to use this kind of information. That is, in fact, about the structure that collects existing and old data, but uses them in a fairly new way, which is: (i) first, analyze what kind of system we have in place so far, what kind of information does it pro-

vide and how can we make best use of these data; and (ii) secondly, identify potential users of this information, so that the information collected becomes useful, and does go down the drain. These are in my view the key issues to be addressed.

Mr. Proko's intervention: On Q1, Mr. Proko stated that he agrees with Mr. Ruotsalainen, that the plan shall be viewed as an integrated approach, and clarified that he believes in the new changes to the concept of forestry governance;

With regards to Q2, Mr. Proko believed the old forest inventory is not something totally invaluable. It is useful as it can be used in several ways, as it serves the purpose of drafting new policies by providing better information related to the forestry sector situation. Furthermore, one should not forget that Albania has to abide by the responsibilities and requirements of several international agreements with regards to reporting standards to international forums, (i.e., Albania is expected to sign the European Forestry Convention by mid-October this year,) and making sure that there are no discrepancies. Previous reports have indicated that Albania's forest classification system does not match pan-European standards currently in use, therefore, this inventory serves as a good basis providing important information related to this matter.

Additionally, with regards to Q3, the inventory is closely connected with the information database system, but we shall be aware of the major divide that still exists within the experts community about what really constitutes a "forest". Additionally, we should also be aware that the new law that will be enacted shall also provide the basis for the new inventory and information database for the forestry sector in the country.

Mr. Leonidha Peri, - V/Dean of the Faculty of Forestry Sciences, Forest Engineer

Mr. Peri remarked that the presentation of the project as it is, provides for so many activities, which he isn't sure whether it is feasible for all of them to be implemented. Therefore, he believed that it would be better to get right a few things done, rather than promising a lot, but not managing anything tangible in place.

With regards to the 1st component, in view of ensuring the sustainability of the outcomes of previous projects carried out so far, we should bear in mind that we are now in a transition stage, with the a new government expected to take oath in September. This means, that there will be sectorial changes, while we are using the term rural, we are not sure yet who's going to take over rural management issues with the next government, as well as there is no need to come up with new unnecessary proposals and start everything from scratch. We shall make best use of the earlier experience built by previous projects and endeavors.

The 2nd component relates to new PES concept introduced by this project. In this view, Mr. Peri believes there shall be a narrower focus, and not encompass all potential environmental services, otherwise, we will get lost. For example, we will face a *(i) bundling problem* – that is, who is benefiting, who represents what, as well as other issues, such as *(ii) the problem with the classification of PES*, *(iii) capacity-building problem*, etc. Therefore, I suggest to concentrate at least on one of the components on not on all of the three of them, because their scope is really too wide (i.e., let's focus on watershed management plans, and not carbon sequestration, etc.).

In my view the study shall provide for a clear answer to the question of how has the project concept been drafted? What will be the PES scheme for the users, and how is the WB planning to intervene – will it be as a third party for the beneficiaries of this ser-

vices, or will it take another position in ensuring zero-transactions for the beneficiaries, in order to provide for a successful scheme? Therefore, what shall be the approach to be followed by the team of consultants?

As for the 3rd component, I believe that if the project manages to establish (i) an inventory of the forest sector and (b) information database system, this would be a very positive outcome. This is where I disagree with Mr. Proko, regarding the accuracy and usefulness of the current information system.

Proposals by Mr. Peri:

1. In this view, I strongly suggest that the users and beneficiaries of this inventory to become a key part of the consultation process (i.e., field specialists of the Albanian Forestry Service of the LGUs) – thus, those who really do the fieldwork.
2. With regards to the implementation of the new project, I believe that the consultants shall use a different approach, i.e., a specialized company can be contracted for the implementation of the new project – as previous experience with other USAID-sponsored projects has shown in the past.

Mr. Xhelal Shuti, - *Regional Federation of Forests Association, District of Kukës*

Mr. Shuti complained about the previous project failing to properly include the federation of forest association, as well as other local stakeholders, as key actors in the consultation process. In his view, the new project shall consider in including in the public consultations the following stakeholders that have not so far been included:

(1) Federation of Forests Assn – at commune level – Additionally, if the grant application procedures are different and more sophisticated as opposed to the old ones, new training and workshops shall be envisaged for the stakeholders to make best use of the information;

(2) Immovable Property Registration Office

(3) District Council Offices – at regional level – as they represent central government at local level, and bear a responsibility for forest management.

Mr. Pal Çoku, - *Head of Dajt Mountain National Park*

Mr. Çoku stressed that the forest inventory is a great achievement so far, and its information can also serve as a good basis for the new project. With regards to the PES system, it is true that nobody is paying so far for the benefits of these services, and this new project should elaborate a methodology for assessing this process and then assist in drafting a separate law to provide for a major role of the local authorities in implementing a payment scheme.

Z. Anesti Apostoli, - *Forest Engineer, Faculty of Forestry Sciences, University of Tirana*

For Mr. Apostoli, the registration, documentation and classification (ranking/division according to categories) of forests shall be the first step of the intervention. He finds room for confusion in mentioning three different categories for the preparation of the management plans (state, micro catchment, communal forest), therefore, it is necessary to clarify the state of forest ownership – particularly, state vs. communal-owned forests - that will help the process. In this view, the consultants shall pay attention to the issue of forest ownership documentation as something closely related to the national register of immovable properties, because communes cannot possibly register forest land.

Secondly, with regards to the inventory, Mr. Apostoli believes the team of consultants should make better use of the existing practices experiences and then, following up with designing a new inventory at both macro- and micro- level.

Ms. Ines Leskaj (Xhelili), - *Albanian Women Empowerment Network (AWEN)*

Ms. Leskaj (Xhelili) praised the fact that the team of consultants has extended invitations to organizations focusing on gender issues, and she believes participation of women in public consultations for the new ES project would be a valuable tool for further enhancing the role of women, especially in the country's rural areas.

Mr. Gjon Fierza, - *Forest Engineer, Directorate of Forestry Services in Tirana*

Mr. Fierza stated that these are not matters that are being discussed for the first time. I would ask from the consultants to review two earlier reports, in order to (a) understand what were the issues and problems dealt with earlier; and (b) what can be done better.

In this view, Mr. Fierza made the following suggestions:

1. The title of the project shall be changed from **“environmental”** to **“forestry”**, because in this form, it is wider in scope and does not necessarily mirror problems related only to forest and/or pasture management. In his view, there are so many environmental projects and organizations that can deal with this particular issue, and it encompasses a really wide subject, therefore, we need some other alternative;
2. Additionally, we shall also provide for a more accurate definition of the term **“micro-catchment”** – in view of well-establishing territorial units / duties and responsibilities / activities of stakeholders and actors, etc.
3. Furthermore, I believe, we are not very clear as to the fact that what is the project trying to achieve in the end – that is, we shall have well-defined objectives/goals in place (i.e., how much do we expect for the forest land to grow, how much is poverty going to be reduced, etc.), - that is **measurable, elaborated and detailed outcomes**.
4. With regards to the 1st Component/Point 1, Mr. Fierza stated that we need to have a clear definition of **responsibilities** and **actors** at local level;
5. Additionally, he believed that there is an overlap of objectives of the project, which need to be further elaborate and more precisely defined.
6. What do the consultants think of the old plans for six micro-catchments – were they successful, or not? – That is, shall we be using the same practices, or shall we suggest new ones with regards to the micro-catchment management?
7. A new model and scheme for the PES shall be introduced.
8. What shall be done with regards to the carbon sequestration plans – shall they be preserved or do they need to be improved?
9. How about the issue of capacity-building for the forestry service?
10. With regards to the issue of the inventory, shall we opt for improving the existing one, or go on for a new one?
11. What about the communication plan?

Prof. Mihallaq Kotro, - *Forest Engineer, Faculty of Forestry Sciences, University of Tirana*

Prof. Kotro stated that the project have a very ambitious objectives, despite the bill of 22 million USD, that might seem as an enormous financial bill. Additionally, he supported the view of changing the title of the project, from “environmental” to “forestry”.

Furthermore, Prof. Kotro stated that, in his view, the previous project did not have any clear impact on the forestry sector. The last inventory has been not very successful and

he support the need for the new inventory, but making clear the objective. The implementation of the management plan should be more clear as it have a budget implication. We should not forget that 10 million Euros have already been spent with no clear impact, and therefore, the team shall try the best possible for better use of the new project Prof. Kotro's proposals:

- a. The cost shall be divided according to the weight of each of the components
- b. The project shall come up with ideas on what shall a measurable impact be regarding the forestry sector (i.e., will it be financial gain, or anything else).
- c. The public consultation process shall be expanded and shall also include other stakeholders and local actors

Z. Fatmir Kurti, - *Chairman of Baz Commune, Mat District*

Mr. Kurti stressed that the team of consultants shall be careful with the effectiveness of the measures they will suggest with the study – in his view, it would be better to have less objectives, but more results. Secondly, he was also concerned with the structure of the costs of the project: how much shall the consultative component take, or how much for the human resources and/or capacity-building, and how much for the fieldwork. Finally, given his experience at local level, they would ask for further intervention regarding erosion issues.

Following coffee-break session, Mr. Proko asked the plenary about the distribution of the minutes. He proposed and agreed with the participants to establish an e-mail network for distributing the information, as well as reporting dates and deadlines, for the submission of each and everyone's comments before having a final draft.

D. – Presentation of the ESMF (Environmental Social and Management Framework)

By Ms. Laura Susani

Ms. Laura Susani took the floor presenting first the Environmental Management and Social Framework (ESMF), a WB tool used for the environmental screening and management of Projects whose activities are not identified at the moment of project appraisal, but during implementation and its main contents which include clear procedures and methodologies for environmental screening, planning, reviewing, approval and implementation of subprojects identified by the Communes. In order for the tool to be effective, it has to be simple and easy-to-use, said Ms. Susani. Some of you might have seen the forms and screening lists that were prepared for the NRDP and some of you might have used them in the previous projects – what would be very useful, would be to have your inputs in order to make the new tools more effective. She then presented the institutional framework that had been proposed for the NRDP and proposed the modifications to be made on the structure for the ESP, asking for the stakeholders input.

Definition of appropriate roles and responsibilities are important for effective ESMF implementation as is the outline of the necessary reporting procedures, for managing and monitoring environmental concerns related to subprojects

Given the transition moment of the post election period, it is not yet clear which Ministry will be responsible for the project as it may be that the Directorate of Forestry, now

part of the Ministry of the Environment, may be moved under the Ministry of Agriculture.

There will then be a steering committee (PSCs) whose members will be decided in cooperation by the WB and the Albanian government.

– Ms Susani indicated that it is very important that implementation of the environmental screening process begins at local level (*Grupet Lokale te Veprimit*) and works bottom up with the support of the relevant local institutions such as the environmental agencies and extension services.. –.

The ESMF structure which was proposed is still very fluid and needs to be further elaborated and properly defined. Ms Susani presented table indicating the various phases and activities of ESMF implementation including the responsibilities. In order to make the environmental screening process more efficient, she proposed that an environmental expert be included in the PMT. She also presented a list of potential stakeholders who should be part of the capacity building effort foreseen by the EMF. She then makes a brief presentation of the contents of the Environmental Assessment and the Environmental Management Plan which will be part of ESP preparation.

E. – Ms. Gitte Andersen – Social Assessment

Then Ms. Gitte Andersen, socio-economic expert, took the floor to deliver a presentation on the socio-economic component of the study for the new project. Mr. Andersen stated that the socio-economic exercise involves carrying out:

- (i) RRA – rapid rural appraisal in the commune of Zall-Bastar, District of Tirana;
- (ii) SA (social assessment) report, involving the design and implementation of (a) quantitative research study instruments --- a baseline household survey study, that will provide for baseline indicators to be monitored in the future activities and other survey research instruments; as well as a (b) qualitative research study component with focus group discussions, semi-structured in-depth interviews and stakeholder analysis, that will be carried out in four selected communes; as well as
- (iii) the design of a Process Framework and Participation Plan.

F. – Q&A Session

Mr. Mihallaq Qirjo, - Forest Engineer

With regards to the issue of the project's scope as suggested its title, Mr. Qirjo stated that it implies a project with two fields of activities: (a) Forestry; and (b) Other elements and activities within the environmental sector, which would extend beyond reason the scope of the project, and he personally favored version (a).

As for the ESMP, Mr. Qirjo stressed that the way it has been designed and judging from the elements included in the presentation, it looks like a development project that might fit very well different sectors other than environment, and not necessarily related to environmental development activities (i.e., mitigation measures, etc.). In this view, our project foresees activities that would improve the environmental situation, which means that we are not merely carrying out an environmental assessment report, but we are asked to list and analyze all possible positive impact that a project like this might have on the environment. As for the methodology approach and facilitating the work of the

local stakeholders, I believe that the group of activities shall be organized as it is the case for any other environmental development project, i.e.:

- a component of carbon sequestration, upon which we have developed quite an expertise;
- a group of activities with an impact on (a) underground waters; and (b) surface waters;
- a group of activities designed for soil enrichment;
- a group of activities designed for forest improvement;
- energy efficiency activities (use of timber for heating is considered as one of the main factors for the deterioration of forests, therefore, I believe, we need alternative energy sources and other policies in place for this matter);

As per the structure above, I believe this is something that can help the team of consultants both in terms of design and implementation of the new project.

A final remark by Mr. Qirjo regarded poverty rates indicated in the socio-economic component of the presentation, where he pointed out that the displayed figures might not accurately represent the current situation in the ground.

Mr. Leonidha Peri, - *V/Dean of the Faculty of Forestry Sciences, Forest Engineer*

Mr. Peri was concerned about the use of ESMF as a WB instrument, which should not necessarily include other Albanian institutions, whose activity is regulated according to Albanian legislation. Therefore, if there should be a role for the environment agencies, than this is something that is regulated by Albanian law, and it cannot overlap or get confused with what the WB is asking for. The consultants, Mr. Peri stressed, shall attentively review for potential discrepancies and/or incompatibilities between the EMSF as WB instrument and respective Albanian legislation.

Additionally, with regards to the SA (Social Assessment) component of the presentation, Mr. Peri asked from the consultants to review previous socio-economic assessment work carried out by different projects, and especially ACER's 2010 and 2012 studies.

Ms. Gitte Andersen answered to the above inquiry about previous studies, that the team of consultants has thoroughly reviewed them, and they ask very specific questions, while the present study (socio-economic component) is meant to feed in to the new project. Of course, there are certain items that might overlap with each other, Ms. Andersen added, but there are many newly-introduced topics and issues. Furthermore, Ms. Andersen, said that the team of consultants has been actively looking for the list of communes (73 of them) where the ACER 2012 study was conducted.

Mr. Nihat Çollaku intervened stressing that an official request has been extended to the ACER 2012 study authors to provide with the list of the 73 communes where their study took place.

Finally, Mr. Peri was happy to note and welcomed the approach taken by the socio-economic consultants in designing the dataset of the household survey findings, and especially the gender-based tabulation breakdown suggested in the presentation slides.

Mr. Rexhep Ndreu, – *Chairman of the Albanian Federation of Forest and Pasture Associations*

For Mr. Ndreu, the most important task of the project would be how to appropriately combine the political situation in place with the legal framework, with regards to the land rights that people are entitled to. In this view, Mr. Ndreu brought to the attention of

the participants, that there are currently three ongoing consultation processes in the country:

- i – institutional reform,
- ii – legal framework improvement, and
- iii – drafting of a new law

Therefore, Mr. Ndreu suggested that the team of consultants should necessarily collaborate with point (iii), in order to avoid what has been happening so far with the environment in Albania (i.e., massive logging, forest fires, destruction, erosion, etc.) – that is to say, we are not yet the “caretakers” of the forest, since we haven’t decided yet everyone’s duties and responsibilities. He called on the team of consultants to go in the field and talk to the real “caretakers” and discuss with them about issues related on how to evaluate these services.

Mr. Gjon Fierza, - *Forest Engineer, Directorate of Forestry Services in Tirana*

Mr. Fierza stressed that there is a need for a “functional” and “new” ESMF, with a limited number of actors and very well-defined responsibilities – therefore, committee with people that have a real connection with the services. Additionally, Mr. Fierza supported Prof. Mihallaq Qirjo’s comments about the ESMF and the socio-economic component of the project.

Answering to the participants inquiries related to the issue on how to measure income, **Ms. Andersen** acknowledged that it is a difficult task to measure income and find the right indicator. While, the poverty rates indicated in the presentation slides are based on INSTAT figures for 2009 and actually, they are not being used as a sampling criteria for the selection of the communes.

Additionally, **Ms. Susani**, answering to inquiries about the ESMF, stated that it is a tool required by the WB, but also provides for the requirements of the Albanian law. Of course, the team of experts is aware and shall pay close attention to proceed fully in accordance with both the requirements of the WB, as well as the Albanian legislation, also the requirements posed by the EU.

Mr. Ylli Hoxha – *Director of Forest Department, Agency of Environment and Forests*

Mr. Hoxha said that the structure and the scope of the project looks relatively large. Thus, he suggested that the team of consultants shall explore the possibilities of narrowing the scope of the project. Furthermore, in this view, Mr. Hoxha suggested that the duties and responsibilities of the inspectors of regional environmental agencies shall be included in the EMSF, despite their title change.

G. - Closing remarks

by Mr. Arsen Proko, Director of the Forestry and Pastures Directorate

In his closing remarks, Mr. Proko delivered a summary of the institutional situation in the country, lessons learned in the past and what is to be expected in the future.

Management situation of forestry sector in Albania

1. We are now undergoing a political transitional period in the country and we do not really know what is going to happen. Currently, we are working with an institutional and legal framework reform process, and following discussions and consultations with political representatives on both sides, we note that: (a) there is a general consensus on the concept that the forestry sector should be under rural management sys-

tems; (b) additionally, everybody seems to agree that the new system of the forestry sector shall be based on a well-defined division of responsibilities, which shall be undertaken primarily by the forest-owners, who have also the management rights; (c) additionally, we are working on drafting a structure for a better management and distribution scheme of services – in this view, draft-laws have been compiled, while there is a general support by all parties for the implementation philosophy of competitive grants – additionally, the extension service could be part of the agriculture service, based on experience and best practices around the globe – finally, it has been widely discussed and agreed in principle, that the projects shall be monitored no longer by the PMTs, but by the respective institutions.

2. There is full consensus by all parties for the forests to remain within the ministry of agriculture. Payments shall be processed through the Rural Development Payment Agencies (in the framework of the EU-commissioned IPARD certified project). Hence, in the conditions of rural development, the EU is asking for the implementation of the system of the payment agencies.

Procedures are already in place in for the following:

We select project applications, and after the selection process, payments are processed by the payment agency --- while, the regional project directors are being substituted by extension service regional inspectors, which undertake simultaneously the role of local managers and registration of cadastral titles.

With regards to the responsibilities of all the structure with a stake on the environmental assessment, all coordinators at regional level, are now part of the project assessment process ---- therefore, it is an agreement awaiting a final confirming decision.

H. – Closing remarks by Mr. Tapani Ruotsalainen, Indufor Oy Team Leader

Thank you for the lively discussions! We definitely got good ideas. We learned something new and we will confirm with you the key issues raised and discussed here. Time allowing, the consultant team, will try to meet with all the stakeholders and/or institutions represented here. To conclude this and all the rest of the projects cannot solve all the problems related to the forestry situation in the country. The governing structures to support the activities in all the sectors are needed, and especially the agriculture and forestry sectors. These two sectors produce sustainable income, as opposed to the education and/or public health system. In the next five years, forests cannot produce much, and there might be shortcomings regarding financing the situation of forests but in the long run there will be revenues from forestry. Therefore, users, communes, private users are welcomed to go and look also for other sources of financing apart from this project. In agricultural sector the crops can be changed frequently depending on the market demand. In forestry the crops cannot be changed within short periods of time even if the market for forest products change. Therefore, lets work with what we have now and improve both the forests and/or pastures management.

WORKSHOP MBI HARTIMIN E PROJEKTTIT TE SHERBIMEVE MJEDISORE

Nr.	Emer Mbiemer	Institucioni	Pozicioni	Adresa Email	Nr. i telefonit	Firma
1	Ashat Colloley	INRMP/MMPA4	Manaxher Projekti	ashatcolloley@gmail.com	0692222888	
2	TAPANI RUSTSARINIEW	consultant Team	TL	tapaninuwotso@gmail.com	0696719650	
3	Laura Susani	" ()	Env. Expert	laura.susani@libero.it		
4	Gitte Andersen	— " —	Soed Expert	gitte.mair@gitte-andersen.dk	0698147820	
5	Lamia Dabey	INCA		lamia.dabey@yahoo.com		
6	MARICAR KOTRO	F.S.H.P. (Pension)	—	w.lallopelche@spetna	0682057407	
7	Alfredi Postoli	UBT	Expert	alfridpostoli@yahoo.it	069218720	
8	Samir Senor	ITCA	Consultant	subof50m@gmail.com	068904432	
9	GENEVA ZENELI	UNB	EXPERT	GENEVA@UNB.COM	066608040	
10	Gjon Ficoce	DGHP. Tirane	Specialist	gjonficoce@yahoo.com	060211335	
11	Paol Soku	Part. non Dayt	Shef	paol.soku@gmail.com	0672015140	
12	Jilli Hoxha	Agjencia e Mjedditsh dhe Pajese	Dr. Pajor Pajese	jilli.hoxha@gmail.com	0672015140	
13	ILIDA STERJA	Agjencia e Mjedditsh dhe Pajese	Shef. S. Lunkut	ilida.sterja@gmail.com	0672015140	

Nr.	Emer Mbiemer	Institucioni	Pozicioni	Adresa Email	Nr. i telefonit	Firma
14	Fahmir Kurti	Komuna Buz	Kryetar Komuna	fat.kurti@buz.com	0672772588	
15	Edmir Novinski	INAMP/MMPAS	MFK	emirnovinski@inamp.com	0685628712	
16	Leonida Peri	Futbollit, Shkencave Pjone	Zv. Sekretar	leonida.peri@futbollit.com	0682097892	
17	Alma Cami	I.S.P.P. s.d.a	Specialiste	a.cami@bi-di.com	0682074200	
18	Udana Buzinski	INRHP	GIS-Expert	simonkin@buzinski.com	0692093310	
19	Faton Podvorni	PAPBX	Kordinator	fat.podvorni@papbx.com	0683056561	
20	Mihallog Grijp	Kopje, shqiptar	ekspert	m.grijp@kopje.com	068603689	
21	Egon Istrefi	PPABN	Specialist	egon.istrefi@ppabn.com	068403788	
22	Jondri Elezi	Jomunon Call-center	M.Kryetar	k.elezi@jomunon.com	0682157472	
23	Rexhep Ndreu	Federata Kuvshine	Kryetar Federata	rexhep.ndreu@kuvshine.com	0682077171	
24	Mahir Sheli	Federata P.K. Diles	X. Koordinator	m.sheli@federata.com	0682077171	
25	Miral Shuti	Federata Kulec	Kordinator	m.shuti@federata.com	0682077171	
26	Drita Paole	Banka Patenore	Konxhere	d.paole@patenore.com	0682077171	
27	Gjelshe Tepkaloj	Komuna Fing Sufitje	Kryetar Komuna	gjelshe.tepkaloj@komuna.com	0672081798	

Nr.	Emer Mbiemer	Institucioni	pozicioni	Adresa Email	Nr. i telefonit	Firma
28	Thes Les Raj	AWEN	Dirjt. Ekzekutiv	awenccp@noliviato.com th@awenccp.com	0682052458	
29	Beata Berdej	AWEN	koordinuesha	beata@awenccp.com	0682081214	
30	Gl'gor Berberi	D.H.P. Gjenerata	Konduktor	gligorberberi@psh.com	0672048766	
31						
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**Second Public Consultation Workshop
for the Preparation of the Environmental Services Project**

Venue: 26 September 2013, Tirana

Participants: See Annex 1

Resources persons:

Dr Arsen Proko,

Nehat Çollaku, PMT

Other PMT member

Mr Tapani Ruotsalainen, Consultant Team Leader

Ms Gitte Andersen, Consultant Social Assessment Expert

Mr Zamir Dedej, Consultant Local Partner Organization

Mr Genti Kromidha, Consultant Local Project Coordinator

Mr Thanas Goga, Consultant Local Social Assessment Expert

WB Representatives

Minutes of the Meeting
Compiled by Thanas Goga

-----**OPENING SESSION**-----

-----The meeting was opened at 09:30 at Hotel “Doro City” Tirana.

A. – Welcome speech and opening remarks by Mr. Nehat Çollaku, PMT

A welcome speech and opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Nehat Çollaku, PMT.

- Good evaluation of Indufor Oy-INCA performance by both the PMT and WB;
- Elaboration on the proceedings of the workshop and the timeline of the ESP preparation project.

B. – Welcome speech and opening remarks by Mr. Pëllumb Abeshi, General Secretary of the Ministry of Environment

- Welcoming remarks by the ME;
- ES is a new concept in our country, it’s not as easy as it looks, but it is an experience that we have to build on other countries’ experience.
- During these years, the whole development landscape in Albania has had an impact on the environment. It has mainly been a negative impact. That is why, we believe that this is a project that will help a lot, not only the environment, but also other sectors, related with the environment.

- We have to integrate measures and steps to be taken forward by this project.

1st Moment – How much shall be paid

- We believe that the project shall make sure that all those who benefit from natural ecosystems, shall be paid (there’s many elements with the natural resources) --- we h

2nd Moment – Where to deliver those payments;

3rd Moment – How they shall be distributed.

Aiming at sustainable development.

The whole SA shall identify the economic level, social problems, business structure and other elements related to the natural resources.

B. We have to analyze the impact of other actors, with an impact on the natural resources, such as agriculture, fishing, tourism, business enterprises, and other community actors. They should be integrated with the consultation process for the preparation of the project.

C. – Mr. Tapani Ruotsalainen, Indufor Oy-INCA Project Leader

Thank you Mr. Chairman! Thank you Mr. General Secretary of the Ministry of Environment!

I hope to have representatives from the ME and the payment agency --- because one of the main issues to be discussed today will be the grant scheme.

From the 1st public consultation meeting, we have made only two changes:

1. Timeline – 5 years;
2. We have also changed the currency from USD to Euros --- 17 mio Euros (22,88 mio USD)

What we have done, is that we have grouped the components, as follows:

- Component A
- Component B
- Component C

At the moment there will be 2 implementing agencies:

- a. Forest sector;
- b. ARDA – will implement A1 (grant allocation), while all the rest of the components will be implemented by the Forest sector;

As the ME Secretary General stated above, there are many agencies involved with the implementation of the project.

The Grant Scheme will be pretty similar to the IPARD, however, there are some problems related to the implementation:

- The IPARD instrument will become operational by the beginning of January 2013, it is only a draft for the time-being;
- The new element is the administration of all the forests shall be part of this instrument....
- Total grant fund is 4,5 mio Euro --- we believe, that there will be three calls for applications --- and all of them shall be implemented by ARDA;

The main element of the Grand Scheme is that the users of the land have better possibilities from the use of their land;

Ms. Gitte Andersen, Indufor Oy – Social Assessment Expert

Ms. Anderson provided a presentation on the main findings of the social assessment study focusing more on the gender issues and gender participation action plan. She noted that so far women participation in the project activities has been weak and that women need to be empowered to strengthen their

voice and participate in decision making about use of nature resources (see presentation attached in the annex)

Thanas Goga, INCA – Social Assessment Expert

Mr. Goga presented the results of the Household Survey conducted as part of the social assessment. With clear figures and graphs Mr. Goga highlighted that the economic situation in the rural areas is poor and rural farmers rely on agriculture and livestock for their survival. There are no investments in basic infrastructure and the marketing of produce is very difficult (see presentation in the annex).

Mr. Zamir Dedej, environmental assessment expert

Mr. Dedej presented the Environmental assessment and the Environmental Management framework prepared for the Environmental Services Project. He highlighted that most likely the project will have no negative environmental impacts since on the contrary the rehabilitation of forests and pasture and reversing of land degradation will positively affect nature and biodiversity. However, tools and measures are foreseen in the EMF to detect and avoid any negative impact resulting from the implementation of the project activities.

Mr. Genti Kromidha, INCA Representative

The World Bank does not invest in projects where there is unclear and/or unresolved issues related to property rights and land ownership. This is an important issue to be cleared out, so that Forest users and grant beneficiaries can benefit from this grant scheme.

Mr. Tapani Ruotsalainen:

The floor was taken by Mr. Ruotsalainen, team leader for Indufor Oy – INCA, who elaborated on the eligibility criteria for benefiting from the grant scheme; as well as the potential grant size amounting to EUR 4,000; the importance of management plans; and private/public partnerships.

Mr. Gent Çupi, Forest Specialist

I am not very clear about the changes in the Grant Scheme

1. Issues related to property registration; I think that the registration should take place immediately...but we are all aware that this is a process that needs a lot of time; first, there is a legal problem, and secondly, there is a time problem. Property issues are very difficult issues to be solved in Albania, because you need a lot of time, and secondly, there is almost no paperwork associated with land ownership

Pra zgjidhja: **“Titulli i pronësise të mos jetë kusht në dhenien e granteve”**

2. Therefore, the solution I propose is that: **“Land ownership title shall not be a precondition for benefiting from the grant scheme”**.

Mr. Bekim Imeri, WB

The WB is also responsible on the social side of the problem, that is the WB looks takes into consideration also the traditional right. That is, if the associations have an approved management plan, will be easier to apply. The issuing of ownership titles shall be the starting point for a period of 5-6 years of implementing the grants.

As far as the WB is concerned, where there is no formalization of ownership, the WB will also consider the traditional right...which is accepted from the village...the community...as an act of acceptance from all the members of the community.

Hence, we shall also be waiting the social assessment...in order to accurately define “the traditional right.”

Prof. Arsen Proko

1. How many agencies shall be included (the forest sector that takes care for the forest registration, the ministry of agriculture that takes care of the land registry; that is, there are many sectors that look after changes in land ownership...therefore, we need *one single coordination agency*; we need *centralization for these two activities*, and in this view, we need to answer the question, how many agencies shall be included;

2. Forest improvement shall include all other activities;

3. The *Gordian Knot* has always been the ownership issue. The debate upon this issue has always been a vicious circle. In this case, we shall also look at best practices around the world. There are countries like Albania, whose territory management fall within what is called “**traditional right.**” In such countries, there is a legal deadline on the user right, or what is called “**possession.**” In other countries, this might also be a right to be inherited, only if the owners live permanently in the very same village of community.

There is also a national experience, where all the owners (the state, the commune, private owners) have the right to give areas to users on a contractual basis, defined by a map and a previously agreed user tariff. With all this information, such a user can go to the registration agency in order to apply for the right to exercise his own activity. If the agency does not possess such paperwork, then it is not eligible to apply for a bank loan. Therefore, this could be solved through the user right form.

4. As for the management plans, I am in favor of micro-catchment management plans, but I have the following remarks:

- Management plans are a national problem, and as we know, the state budget does not provide funding for these plans...that is why we have asked for legal amendments to change this situation.

- Therefore, we need that “**the value of the management plan to be included in the project costs, so that we can reduce the level of informality.**” Part of the cost shall be covered by the production costs, therefore, in this way we demotivate informality.

Pal Çoku, Director of Dajti Mountain National Park

The certification from the communal cadaster could be accepted as a valuable document, where family ownership would be fair enough to be accepted from the association. This will give the opportunity to the individual, family to apply.

Jakov Boduri, Project Local Coordinator for Elbasan

Grant scheme – This is a model that has been implemented in the agriculture sector, but its application for the forests is not such an easy task. 5-10% of the communes have not formalized yet the ownership titles for the immovable properties, therefore we have not yet formalized the **traditional right**. How many farmers will be ready to register their area (i.e., they might be afraid to do so, because of the tax burden that they might be facing, etj.).

The grand size 4,000 – 75,000 EUR – It reduces the number of farmers benefiting from the scheme – will all forest right users/owners be eligible to apply for the grand scheme, or not?

Management plans – It is true that we have today micro-catchment plans, but in the consultation meetings we have had so far, we have seen that the area of a micro-catchment property might be equal to the commune total area.

Ariol Lila, National Forest Federation

The commune might issue ownership certification titles for community members with traditional ownership, in order to be eligible to benefit from the grant scheme.

Vasillaq Mine, Lecturer in the Forest Faculty

Regional Directorates can also be entitled to offer such right. They can cooperate with the communes and identify users using certain forest stands and providing them with a title recognizing their user right.

Genci Kacorri, Private Forest Consultant

Proposal – Long-term contracts shall be granted by the commune for the forests and pastures, regardless of the fact whether they are registered or not. In this case, the commune shall be a guarantee for the contracts – in this case, we need a legal framework to make it as efficient as possible.

Loenidha Peri, Vice Vean, Faculty of Forestry Sciences

The grant-holder could be the commune – this could be a solution.

Regarding the activities, these are all part of the management plan. I would like to add that, given also the title of the project, it should also be financed the infrastructure that really provides for the service offer for the environment (that is, not only traditional activities that are included in the management plan)

Ervin Toromani, Lecturer in the Forest Faculty

1. Erosion endangered areas – there is no measure in place against erosion;
2. Capacity building – CNVP has been providing some capacity building trainings and workshops, but I think, it is about time that we start so far talking about capacity empowerment, rather than capacity building.
3. Grant schemes – LGUs could compete for the grants, but I think it should be done under a precondition...that is these units, 10% of the budget shall be invested for the environment – where, this is a criteria that proves the commune is interested on environment protection.
4. Management plans – They could not be drafted so easily, therefore there should be a certain value defined.

5. What do we mean by wood processing – We need to promote companies that make use of all the wood remainings – that is, “**processing of alternative fuel**”.

Prof. Arsen Proko

All the hydro-power plants have deposited the ownership title paperwork (user right title) from the state, in order to apply for a business loan.

Haziz Porja, Private Consultant

Communes do not have the required specialists and staff to handle and process projects of this scope.

Nevret Jahollari, Private Consultant

a. Erosion and environmental problems are not in the registered lands, but in lands that are problematic. Therefore, I think, that – in coordination with the new government – **part of the funds shall be allocated to build up a national cadaster system**, which shall also defined how the communal forest are to be defined.

Therefore, I would like to ask – who is in charge of registering the inventory? I don't think we are therefore on the right track.

b. I would also like to add that the works are very fragmented, and therefore, they cannot provide for a comprehensive environmental impact.

Tapani Ruotsalainen, Indufor Oy-INCA Team Leader:

This was a very interesting discussion, but very few new things.

1. I fully agree that the registration problem is not merely an administrative one;
2. The user right transfer process to the communes is an administrative issue;
3. In many countries that I have worked with, I have said, that should I have been a dictator, I would have solved this issue by telling the ministers that the transfer of user rights to the communes is enough. Because, the document contains both the list of the communes, as well as the territory, - therefore they should be in charge for the registration.

And in my view, these data exist in a database, and therefore, the list does exist in the communes.

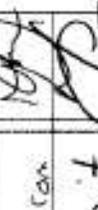
As for the management plan, I think we should be talking about major projects. You already have the numbers, and you do know which are the current micro-catchments, and therefore, you could make the proper arrangements with the required areas.

On the other hand, I also think that the **secondary legislation** needs also to be reviewed, in order to see what does it provide for the management plans. Hence, I suggest, we need to draft a **secondary legislation as flexible as possible**.

INDUFORe INCA WORKSHOP II

List marrja ne Workshop "Pergaditja e Projektit per Sherbime Mjedisore

Nr/No	Emer Mbiemer/First name	Institucioni/institution	Adresa imelit/Address Mail	Firma/siguri
1	DONIKA QESTA	PMT MINIJEDISIT	donikaqesta@gmail	
2	Shkollona Dux Xhuzi	FRET / MIN. Fydekstra	simixhuzi@fydekstra	
3	Festime Tomeraj	PMT / MIN. Mjedisit	ftomeraj@fydekstra	
4	Silvamina Alshabani	MH, Dytoria e Dytore	silvamina.alshabani@mac.com	
5	Nehat Colllay	PMT / Minihia Mjedisit	nehatcolllay@gmail.com	
6	Edmond Marku	14/14	bellabobalejoh	
7	Anxh Pado	UBT FSHP	anxh.pado@ubt.edu.al	
8	Bekim Imeri	Banku Botimes	BYKEM@WORLDWIDE.ORG	
9	Etion lotrefi	PPABN	etionlotrefi@yahoo.com	
10	Edmin Murrku	PPABN	emurrku@yahoo.com	
11	Genç Kacor		gkacor@gmail.com	
12	Leonida Peri	Fakulteti Shkencave Fjore	leonida.peri@ubt.edu.al	
13	Thanas Gropa	INCA	thanas.gropa@ubt.edu.al	

14	Jacov Bodurni	INEMP.	jacovb@yaho.com	
15	Genti Ceppi	INROU	genti-ceppi@yahoo.com	
16	Hervt Zahellari	-	hervet@hotmail.com	
17	Arjol Lila	Fed. Kambatare. PKK	arjol.lila@yahoo.com	
18	Mark Rupa	CNVP	mark.rupa@cnvp-eu.org	
19	Pal Cokcu	P.K. Dojt KONVENS ARDICOV TKAROTG	palcokcu65@gmail.com	
20	Hasan Suka		cua484@hotmail.com	
21	Zamir Dedy	INCA	zamir.dedy@yaho.com	
22	Genti Kromidha	INCA	gkromidha@yahoo.it	
23	Tomoko Unaki	WB	tunaki@worldbank.org	
24	Gitte Andersen	Indufuri	mail@gitte-andersen.dk	
25	Hazis Ronga	Comp. Sjaja, Sjaja KONVENS ARDICOV	hazis.ronga@kambatare.org	
26	Vasilina Vjere	F.S.H. Sjere	vasilina.vjere@gmail.com	
27	Arben Alla	F.S.H. Sjere	beni.alla@gmail.com	

