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United Nations Development Programme

Project Document

Project title: Implementing the Strategic Action Programme of the Drin Basin to Strengthen Transboundary Cooperation and Enable Integrated Natural Resources Management		
Countries and territories: Albania, Kosovo* , Montenegro, North Macedonia	**Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity):** Global Water Partnership	**Execution Modality**: Non-UN Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO)
Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): ***UNDP Country Programme Document for Albania 2022-2026: COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME:*** *By 2026 innovative and integrated policy solutions accelerate sustainable, productive, and inclusive economic development, enhancing climate adaptation and mitigation and transition to a green and blue economy.*		
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: *Moderate*	**UNDP Gender Marker:** 2	
Atlas Award ID: *00134934*	**Atlas Project/Output ID:** *00126392*	
UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: *6300*	**GEF Project ID number:** *10881*	
LPAC meeting date: (TBC-before expected CEO endorsement date) **10 June 2023**		
Last possible date to submit to GEF: 4 February 2023		
Latest possible CEO endorsement date: 10 June 2023		
Project duration in months: 60		
Planned start date: 30 November 2023	**Planned end date:** 30 November 2028	
Expected date of Mid-Term Review: 10 June 2026	**Expected date of Terminal evaluation:** 30 August 2028	
Brief project description - The project aims at providing the populations of the basin with improved water security, health conditions, more stable livelihoods, enhanced resilience to climatic change and variability while		

References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

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promoting gender equality. To do so, the project will support and accelerate the implementation of the Strategic Action Program developed during the foundational IW project and endorsed by the Drin Riparians at ministerial level on April 24, 2020. The SAP actions that the project will support include the development of technical tools; the filling of gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning; the establishment of effective transboundary cooperation mechanisms among Drin Riparians and socio-economic sectors and the development of critical transboundary policy instruments; the promotion of sustainable water use to ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience. In addition to the transboundary cooperation mechanisms to be established, the project will enable the enhancement of long-term sustainability of achievements through the implementation of mechanisms for stakeholder's participation, gender mainstreaming, dissemination, coordination and monitoring of progress and trends.

The Project responds to the aims and objectives of the Drin Coordinated Action, that is the framework set by the Drin Riparians for the implementation of the Drin Memorandum of Understanding (Tirana, 25 November 2011). Within this institutional context, the Drin Riparians requested the project to: develop a Drin River Basin Management Plan, and initiate actions for the establishment of a sustainable joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or an evolved one -a Drin Commission- that may be the result of the successful negotiation and signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin.

FINANCING PLAN	
GEF Trust Fund grant	USD 7,105,936
Confirmed cash co-financing to be administered by UNDP	N/A
(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP	**USD 7,105,936**
(2) Total confirmed co-financing to this project not administered by UNDP	**USD 41,379,641**
(3) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)	**USD 48,485,577**

SIGNATURES:		
Signature: print name below	**Agreed by UNDP**	**Date/Month/Year:**
Signature: print name below	**Agreed by Implementing Partner**	**Date/Month/Year:**

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II. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

The Drin Basin is located in the southwestern part of the Balkan Peninsula. It comprises the transboundary sub–basins of the Drin and Buna/Bojana Rivers and of the Prespa, Ohrid and Skadar/Shkoder Lakes. The Drin River is the "connecting body" of the "extended" Drin Basin, linking the lakes, wetlands, rivers and aquatic habitats in the coastal area as well as the marine habitats in the Adriatic Sea into a single, yet complex, ecosystem of major importance. The water bodies and their watersheds are spread in a geographical area that includes Albania, Greece, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Kosovo. The total geographical area of the Drin Basin is 20,361 km^2. The basin is characterized mainly by mountainous relief (the highest peaks reach 2,500m asl in the Dinaric Arc) with the exception of the basin's coastal area in Albania and Montenegro. With its important water resources (the third greatest river discharge into the European part of the Mediterranean, after the Po and Rhone rivers), this complex system provides a wealth of services to the Drin Riparians that share the basin: energy supply, recreation and tourism, fisheries, water supply for irrigation and domestic uses, sustenance of unique endemic biodiversity, and livelihoods. The basin is home to over 1.61 million people, living in over 1,450 settlements.

Water and natural resources management at the Drin Basin level was fragmented and uncoordinated until the development of the Shared Vision for the Sustainable Management of the Drin Basin and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (Drin MoU) on November 25th, 2011, in Tirana, by water and environment ministers and high-level officials of the Drin Riparians (Albania, Greece, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia). The MoU established an official cooperation process, the Drin Coordinated Action (Drin CORDA) process. The objective of the MoU is to deliver the agreed shared vision, to "*promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin*". Under the Drin CORDA process, GWP-Med with the cooperation of UNECE, implemented the Global Environment Facility (GEF; UNDP was the implementing agency) financed foundational International Waters projects "*Enabling transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Extended Drin River Basin*" (PIMS 4482; $ 4,5M; Albania, North Macedonia and Montenegro were the beneficiaries) and the associated medium-sized project entitled "*Enabling transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the White Drin and the extended Drin Basin*" (PIMS 5510; $ 1M; Kosovo was the beneficiary) aimed at facilitating the implementation of the MoU through the GEF recommended TDA/SAP process..

Based on the extensive assessments developed and the research conducted as part of the Drin Basin TDA[3], the following four key priority and crosscutting transboundary issues have been identified and confirmed/approved by the Drin Core Group (DCG) as well as through the endorsement of the Drin SAP (24.04.2020). The TDA's causal chain analysis is given in Annex A. The transboundary issues of concern are:

- Deterioration of water quality, which affects – at different levels – all parts of the Drin Basin (surface water, groundwater and coastal/marine water). Of particular concern is the presence of excess nutrients (and associated primary production) and BOD load (from poorly or untreated domestic wastewater and agriculture) as well as industrial and municipal solid waste pollution from mining and settlements. Within the basin there is evidence of high levels of nitrogen load in lake Ohrid, the White Drin River, tributaries of lake Skadar/ Shkodër and especially the Morača River. Phosphorus (a significant part of which derives from wastewater effluents) is considered a major issue across the basin. Coastal waters are considered to be at risk from receiving excess nutrients.

- Variability of the hydrological regime -as a result of climate variability and, in some sub-basins, of seasonal water over-abstraction and hydropower generation- jeopardizing the availability of water for the ecosystems and socio-economic development, and exacerbating naturally occurring extreme phenomena, such as floods and droughts. Increasing frequency of droughts can have an adverse effect during the summer period on agriculture and industry. Drought impacts can be worsened by additional impacts from hydro-morphological modifications (as a result of hydropower dams and flood defences) that can reduce groundwater recharge. The management of the dams to maximize energy

[3] https://www.gwp.org/globalassets/global/gwp-med-files/list-of-programmes/gef-drin-project/drin-docs/tda_final.pdf

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production as well as the uncoordinated management of the cascade of dams between countries and territories can further exacerbate extreme events (floods).

- Biodiversity degradation. The importance of biodiversity in the Drin Basin is significant at the European level, though it is under pressure due to multiple threats to the basin's ecosystems from pollution, changes in water quantity, alien species, loss of wetlands, illegal activities and climate variability and change, among others.

- Variability of the sediment transport regime, which is affected by natural events, climate variability and change and anthropogenic impacts from gravel extraction, deforestation, poor land-use management and hydropower generation, among others. The identified impacts and causes of excessive or deficient sediment transport are: decreased sediment loads and increased erosion downstream hydropower dams, Buna/Bojana River deposition and erosion processes and interaction with the sea.

Issues of transboundary concern	Underlying causes/ Barriers
Deterioration of water quality: Excess nutrients from diffuse sources, Excess nutrients (and BOD) from wastewater, Phosphates-containing detergents, Agrochemicals, Industrial wastewater discharges, Heavy metals from mining activities and (hazardous) wastes leakages.	1.Insufficient/inadequate policies for agriculture, Insufficient/inadequate policies for solid waste, Insufficient monitoring, Low level of enforcement, Low capacity, Low awareness of polluting activities.
Variability of the hydrological regime: Exacerbation of extreme climatic events (floods and droughts), Increased pressure on water resources at the local or sub-basin level, Hydropower plant operations of dams in the Drin River, cascade (aiming to maximize energy production).	2. Lack of integration among sectors/ministries, Lack of cooperation between hydropower plant operators, Low enforcement of existing polices, Low integration on water management, Low awareness/capacity, Low application of climate change adaptation measures, Low/lack of emergency planning.
Biodiversity degradation: Pollution, Gravel mining activities, Insufficient water quantity and variability in water level/flow as a result of hydropower plants operation, Deforestation /poorly managed forest resources, Overfishing and inappropriate fishing practices, Illegal hunting, Invasive and alien species.	3. Inadequate/insufficient policies and low enforcement of existing policies, Lack of natural resources management (including wetlands and forestry), Insufficient technical capacity, Insufficient coordination between sectors, Low awareness, Insufficient financial support.
Variability of the sediment transport regime: Unsustainable agricultural practices, Deforestation, Extreme weather events (floods and droughts), Hydro-morphological alterations, Hydropower plant operations, Gravel extraction.	4. Lack of enforcement, Lack of capacity (identify and assess problems) and mitigation measures (nature-based solutions), Lack of monitoring, Insufficient national and international coordination, Lack of awareness.

The TDA analysis of the issues related to the nexus between water and the energy, forestry, and agriculture sectors in the context of river basin management, revealed three conflicting water uses that jeopardize the sustainability and functioning of the basin ecosystems and affect the livelihoods of its inhabitants. These are:

- Water and Energy: the maximization of electricity production is typically at odds with flood mitigation requirements due to the key role of hydropower operators in flow regulation and floods management.
- Water and Forestry: extensive commercial logging and rampant illegal logging have resulted in forest degradation in recent years, hindering the role of forests in relation to water resources, basin management and erosion and sedimentation.
- Water and Agriculture: agriculture ranks first in terms of increasing water consumption in many of the sub-basins.

The natural resources -including water- and the water dependent ecosystems provide the basis for the economic activities as well as human livelihoods in the basin. Mitigating the impacts on these resources of the four major transboundary issues

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of concern – likely to be increasingly exacerbated by climate variability and change and compounded by the water use conflicts at the nexus with energy, forestry and agriculture – represents the development challenge that the project aims to address.

The Drin River Basin Strategic Action Program

Based on the findings of the TDA, the Drin Riparians reached common understanding on the complexity and magnitude of the issues of transboundary concern and consensus on a Strategic Action Program for the Drin basin thus providing the means for the operationalization of the Drin Coordinated Action, that is the framework set by Drin Riparians for the implementation of the Drin MoU. Further to the SAP, the foundational projects have been instrumental in enhancing cooperation among the Drin Riparians; the Drin Riparians requested (i) the development of Drin River Basin Management Plan whose ToRs were approved by the DCG, and (ii) to initiate actions for the establishment of a sustainable joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or an evolved one -a Drin Commission- that may be the result of the successful negotiation and signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin.

It is the purpose of the project to facilitate the (i) implementation of the priority SAP actions identified by the Drin Riparians as well as (ii) enhancement of the Riparian level capacities to support the joint efforts in line with the commitments undertaken through the SAP. Further, the project will facilitate strengthening the political and technical dimensions of cooperation among the Drin Riparians.

The SAP adopts three key methodological approaches:

- River Basin Management: The management of water systems as part of the broader natural environment and in relation to their socio-economic environment. Such an integration of socio-economic aspects into water management with a basin-wide approach opens the way for the implementation of IWRM.
- The Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus: These three (*plus one*) sectors are inextricably linked and actions in one area more often impact one or all the others. By perceiving and understanding these impacts, the 'nexus approach' seeks to manage trade-offs and to build synergies, allowing for more integrated and cost-effective planning, and decision-making.
- Source to Sea approach: It considers the entire social, ecological, and economic system, from the land area that is drained by a river system to the coastal area and even the open ocean (*sea*) it flows into *(GEF STAP Policy paper 2016)*. The Source to Sea approach seeks to prioritize key flows, and enhance/restore positive flows (e.g. biodiversity, ecosystem services and high-quality water) and reduce negative flows (e.g. pollution, sediments) across landscapes/seascapes.

The shared vision for the management of the Drin Basin -being also the objective of the Drin MoU- that is the restoration, to the extent possible, of the water dependent ecosystems of the Basin and of the services they provide, is at the core of the SAP. In order to achieve this shared vision, the SAP indicates 7 overarching Goals**,** and 14 objectives to meet the goals:

- Goal 1: Improving access to comprehensive data and adequate information to fully understand the current state of the environment and the water resources and the hydrologic system (including surface, underground and coastal waters) as well as ecosystems of the Drin Basin.
  - Objective 1: Establishment and implementation of monitoring programs (water quality, hydrological/hydrogeological, sediment transport, biodiversity) for coordinated action among Riparians for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030
  - Objective 2: Enhancement and development of Riparian and regional data and information systems (water quality, hydrological/hydrogeological, sediment transport, biodiversity) for coordinated action among Riparians for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030.

- Goal 2: Establish conditions for the sustainable use of water and its supported ecosystems.
  - Objective 1: Establishment of a knowledge base on water resources and ecosystems for informed decision-making by 2025
  - Objective 2: Strengthening mechanisms and policies to support management of water resources and ecosystems by 2030

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  - Objective 3: Implementation of local, Riparian and regional actions to promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience by 2030
  - Objective 4: Improvement of capacities and increased awareness to promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience by 2030

- Goal 3: Develop cooperation measures to minimize risks of disasters due to extreme natural phenomena and climate change by 2030.
  - Objective 1: Improved coordinated management among Riparians for flood risks by 2030
  - Objective 2: Improved coordinated management among Riparians for drought risks by 2030

- Goal 4: Improve management and appropriate disposal of solid wastes.
  - Objective 1: Reduction in and enhancement of the management of municipal solid wastes to achieve desired targets by 2030

- Goal 5: Decrease nutrient pollution deriving from untreated or poorly treated wastewater discharges and unsustainable agricultural practices.
  - Objective 1: Reduction of untreated wastewater discharge from urban areas by 2030
  - Objective 2: Reduction of nutrient pollution deriving from unsustainable agricultural practices by 2030

- Goal 6: Decrease pollution from hazardous substances such as heavy metals and pesticides.
  - Objective 1: Reduction of heavy metals and pesticides pollution from industry, mining and agriculture by 2030

- Goal 7: Minimize effects of hydro-morphologic interventions that alter the nature of the hydrologic system and the supported ecosystems, resulting in their deterioration.
  - Objective 1: Minimize the effects of hydro morphological interventions from HPP by 2030
  - Objective 2: Minimize the effects of other hydro morphological interventions including gravel extraction by 2030

The vision, breath and structure of the SAP are summarized in Annex B.

Consistency with riparian level priorities and plans

The proposed SAP implementation project is aligned with the relevant legislation and strategic documents of the Drin Riparians and responds to the priorities indicated therein. It will also promote (i) the full adherence with the EU Water Framework Directive and the Acquis Communautaire, (ii) compliance with the Convention on the Protection and use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia) and with the Protocol on Water and Health (Albania, Montenegro), (iii) the achievement of relevant SDG targets.

A short description of the water related legislation as well as the legal and governance frameworks for natural resources management and environmental protection in the Drin Riparians is provided in Annex C. Annex D includes a detailed list of strategic documents relevant for the project (policies, strategies, plans etc.), including the ones that are developed under conventions.

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III. STRATEGY

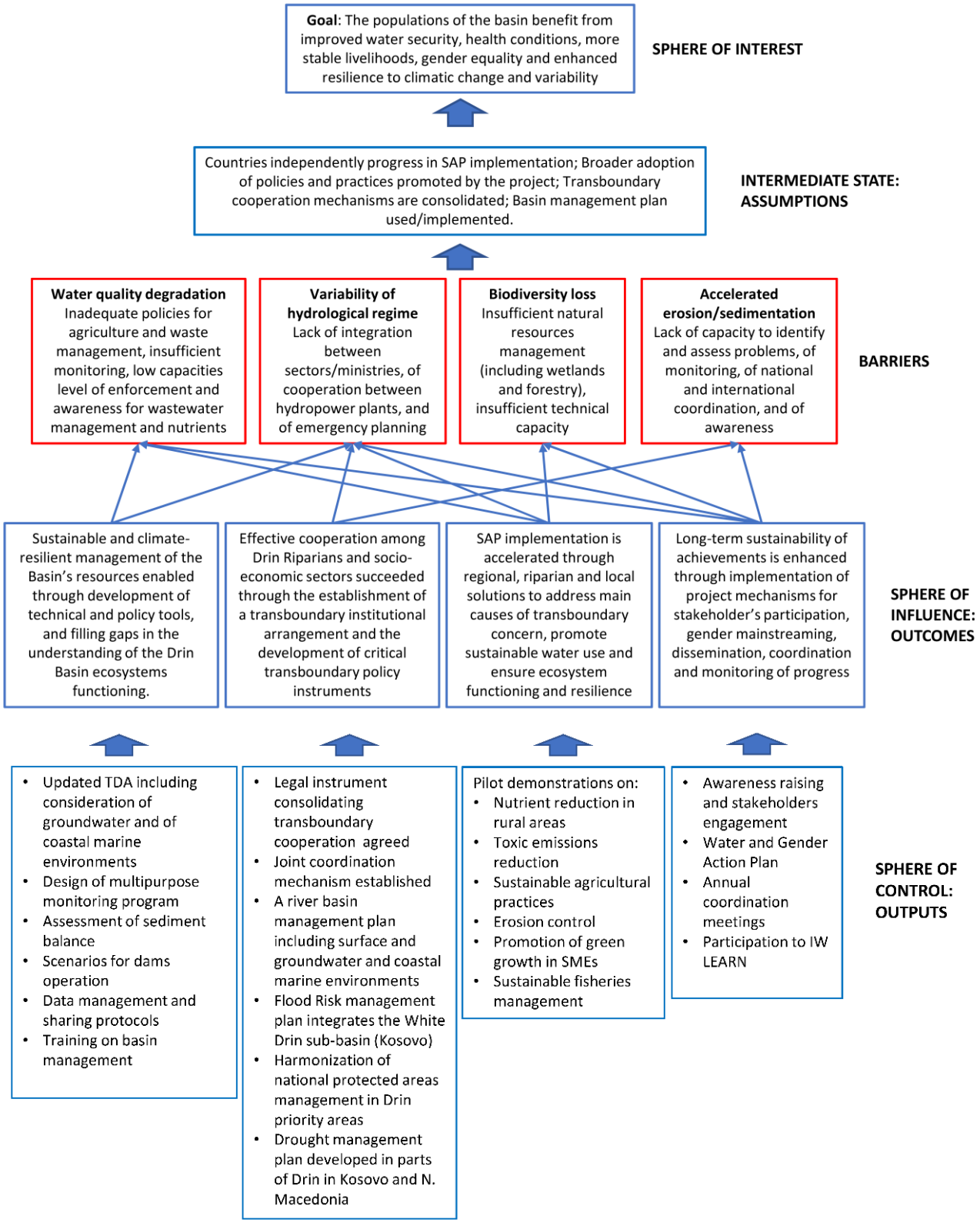
Theory of Change

The Theory of Change that is based on the SAP vision and informs the design of the project, builds on the notion that if:

- sustainable and climate-resilient management of the Basin's resources is enabled through development of technical and policy tools and the enhancement of the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning;
- effective cooperation among Drin Riparians and socio-economic sectors is consolidated through the establishment of a transboundary institutional arrangement and the development of critical transboundary policy instruments;
- SAP implementation is fostered and accelerated through the demonstration of regional and local solutions addressing main causes of transboundary concern, and promoting sustainable water use and ensuring ecosystem functioning and resilience;
- long-term sustainability of achievements is enhanced through implementation of project mechanisms for stakeholder's participation, gender mainstreaming, dissemination, coordination and monitoring progress,

Then, after project completion, Drin Riparians' authorities and major stakeholders will continue successfully the implementation of SAP actions, and the population of the basin will eventually benefit from improved water security, health conditions, more stable livelihoods, gender equality and enhanced resilience to climatic change and variability.

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The strategy is fully consistent with GEF-7 programming directions, in particular with objective 3 of International Waters Focal Area – Enhancing water security in freshwater ecosystems, and its three strategic actions:

- Component 1, by actions for improving knowledge of the basin functioning, promoting the implementation of modern monitoring networks, will advance information exchange and early warning;
- Component 2, by consolidating transboundary coordination mechanisms among all Riparians, will enhance regional and riparian level cooperation on shared freshwater surface and groundwater basins;
- Component 3, by addressing at the pilot scale TDA identified issues of transboundary concern such as nutrient pollution, accelerated erosion, industrial emissions, and agricultural pollutants, will promote investments in water, food, energy and environmental security.

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IV. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results

As the Drin Riparians and their economies recover and rebuild from the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, authorities have been making the choice to build back better and build back greener and design their economic recovery packages having environmental sustainability and resilience as the underlying principles. The EU Economic and Investment Plan to the Western Balkans has the same aims and principles. Overall, the project is aligned with the above, as it will work towards the sustainable management of the natural resources from the source to the sea. The project will result in enhanced -jointly acquired- scientific and technical knowledge, develop management tools and foster the establishment of institutional settings at the regional level in an effort to address the root causes of transboundary issues and environmental degradation, and support sustainable management of the water resources and the water-depended ecosystems. It will also contribute to increasing the resilience of more vulnerable populations to the effects of climate change. In doing so, the project will facilitate green growth in ecologically sensitive areas through activities that will foster economic development while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which human well-being relies. To this end, the Project will contribute to the transition of local economy towards sustainable approaches and activities through pilot interventions in partnership with industries, farmers, SMEs, fishermen. The Project will thus work with the private sector and the local authorities in these areas to empower both, to catalyse innovation and possibly investments, and give rise to new economic opportunities, through promotion of green entrepreneurship. Capacity building, small grants programmes and possibly small-scale soft loans through credit lines from development banks, will be means to be used/tested.

The Project design follows the logic of the Drin SAP and aligns with the priority actions agreed upon by the Drin Riparians. It is expected to produce the following results:

- Establishment of a sustainable joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or an evolved one -a Drin Commission- that may be created as a result of negotiations among the Drin Riparians and the signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and the UNECE Water Convention.
- Strengthened capacity of institutions for informed decision making for the management of the shared resources, servicing multiple socio-economic sectors and environmental management, by providing enhanced knowledge and understanding of the: (i) hydrological and hydrogeological conditions including interaction with the receiving sea, incorporating climate change projections; (ii) ecological flows; (iii) status and trends of biodiversity; (iv) sediment balance, the pressures that lead to its disturbance and its relation to riverbed and coastal erosion.
- Further enhancement of trust among Riparians and of their management capacities by supporting improved transboundary monitoring of surface, underground and coastal waters and of their dependent ecosystems, and information/data sharing.
- Adoption of harmonized policies and instruments for the sustainable management of shared resources such as lake's fisheries and protected areas that are adjacent.
- Development of a River Basin Management Plan at the Drin Basin level as well as management planning and measures for improved and coordinated management response among Riparians for floods (for Kosovo) and drought risk reduction.
- Implementation of regional, riparian level and local solutions to promote water security and ensure ecosystem functioning and climate resilience. This will include technical and policy tools to be tested on the field to: (i) decrease point and diffuse pollution pressures, address unsustainable management of liquid waste as well as unsustainable agricultural practices; (ii) address the issue of accelerated erosion and sedimentation processes. It is expected that these interventions will also alleviate pressures in the adjacent coastal marine environment.
- Green growth in ecologically sensitive areas enabled through activities that foster economic development while ensuring health of ecosystems, and of the services they provide.
- Effective stakeholders' engagement in the management of the Drin Basin, providing solid basis for promoting planning and action. Annual Conferences, focus groups meetings, policy dialogues backed up by awareness and communication and stakeholder's engagement strategies implemented throughout the project duration.

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- Improved gender equality and women participation in water management.

Component 1: Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to effectively implement integrated natural resources management in the transboundary Drin Basin.

This component is in line and assists in the implementation of the following goals and objectives of the Drin SAP: Goal 1, Objectives 1 and 2; Goal 2, Objective 1, Goal 7, Objective 1, and will address barriers 1 and 2.

Outcome 1: Sustainable and climate-resilient management of the Basin's resources enabled through development of technical and policy tools, and filling gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning.

The primary aim of this Component is the consolidation of the institutional capacity of the Riparians, and the provision of the knowledge necessary for decision making at riparian level and transboundary levels. The bulk of the effort will be on producing and submitting for adoption to the DCG two knowledge/management tools indispensable for managing the Basin's natural resources (i) an updated TDA of the Drin basin, from its sources in the Dinaric Arc mountain range to its mouth in the Adriatic Sea, incorporating: a definition of hydrological and hydrogeological conditions including interactions with the shallow marine environment and consideration of future climatic scenarios; marine environment management considerations (ii) the design of multi-purpose transboundary monitoring program(s). These tools will be complemented by targeted analyses of the natural and anthropogenic processes in the Basin aimed at -among others- addressing priority concerns such as: over-exploitation of freshwater fisheries; erosion and sedimentation; freshwater ecosystems health; water stress; etc. The combination of Component 1 products will have the effect of enabling Riparians to sustainably manage the Basin's natural resources.

Outputs

1.1 – An updated TDA presented for adoption by the DCG, including: (i) the conceptual model of the hydrology (surface water and groundwater) of the Basin, taking in consideration climate change scenarios, and interactions with the shallow marine environment and (ii) marine environment considerations.

The TDA developed through the foundational projects will be updated to take stock of newly developed data as well as to expand its coverage to the coastal zone and marine areas. As part of this work, the following information and documents will be produced:

- An updated Drin Basin hydrological map including the water bodies as per WFD and a hydrogeological map including transboundary aquifers. Further actions will focus on increasing precision of water balance prepared through the foundational project using additional data coming from the Adaptation Fund supported and UNDP implemented project entitled "Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans" making use of the newly developed therein hydrological model; effort will be made to cooperate in this regard with the Hydro Power (HP) Companies in the Drin Basin, for obtaining operational dams' data (e.g. outflow of water per day) to be used to increase the accuracy and precision of the mathematical models. This work will assist in updating/increasing the precision of another output of the foundational project regarding the stress to the basin's water resources under different socio-economic development scenarios.
- Water quality / pollution risk maps at the riparian level/sub-basin levels, and an inventory of hotspots (regarding hazardous substances, heavy metals, pesticides, etc.) indicating potential sites for transboundary early warning of accidental release monitoring/warning to guide necessary managerial action.
- Coverage of the shallow marine environment and adoption of the source-to-sea approach that will rely among others on the results and scientific information produced through the GEF/UNEP project "Implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Adriatic Sea through Marine Spatial Planning" focused on Albania and Montenegro – completed in June 2021.

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1.2 - A design of multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs (surface water and groundwater, sediment loads, water living resources, etc.) developed based on an assessment of monitoring capacities, gaps and needs across the Basin and presented for adoption by the DCG, along with enhanced capacities to implement these.

The design will be based on an assessment of: (i) existing monitoring programs and capacities at the Riparians' level and (ii) required needs and procedures for the Riparians to perform monitoring in the Drin Basin at the transboundary level, in accordance with EU directives and strategic guidance from the Water Convention. The assessment is expected to focus on the following aspects (the list is to be finalized during project implementation): Monitoring sites and parameters, including parameters to be monitored for accidental pollution; Frequency of monitoring; Methodologies and protocols; Equipment; Opportunities for shared analytical/laboratory capabilities across Riparians; Training requirements; Quality assurance and quality control procedures; Financing requirements; etc.

The design of the Drin transboundary monitoring program – including (the list is to be finalized during project implementation) locations of monitoring stations building on riparian level networks, possibly monitoring guidelines and standards for implementing monitoring protocols etc. – will be agreed upon by the responsible institutions of the Drin Riparians. The agreed design of the Drin transboundary monitoring program will be submitted for adoption by the DCG.

Aiming to increase the accuracy of monitoring and reduce costs, the project will explore opportunities to work with international and riparian level partners to set up a programme to assess levels of main pollutants as means to complement riparian level and transboundary monitoring programmes using: (i) remote sensing; (ii) pollution models /machine learning/Artificial Intelligence.

UNECE will implement this Output being responsible for the envisaged results as described in the respective parts of the Project's Results Framework Analysis and Monitoring & Evaluation Plan.

> – Analysis of the status of freshwater dependent ecosystems and fisheries and of the impacts on near shore marine ecosystems of freshwater flows (surface water and groundwater), as well as assessment of minimum ecosystem flows, to inform management planning in accordance with the EU WFD.

The status and trends of Drin Basin freshwater biodiversity -key habitats and species- for priority areas will be determined in terms of (the list is indicative and will be formulated on the basis of the locations to be selected by the DCG) among others fish stocks in lakes and rivers; condition of coastal/marine ecosystems and marine fisheries etc.

A coarse assessment of acceptable ecological flows across the Drin Basin was done during the foundational project. This will be updated and refined to inform the riparian level River Basin Management plans as well as the Drin River management plan to be developed under Component 2.

> – Assessment of sediment balance along the Drin Basin with focus on reservoirs siltation, land degradation hotspots and impacts on riverbed and coastal dynamics

Understanding sediment balance patterns is necessary to formulate action for ecosystem and coastal management. The Project will work for the identification of pressures along with their causes and impacts, on sediment balance/transport (including in relation to reservoirs siltation, land degradation hotspots and impacts on riverbed) by a review of existing data and using sediment transport model(s).

The results will be used to update understanding of sediment balance trends and its impacts on coastal erosion /deposition processes as means to develop key recommendations for policy making and management actions, relating amongst others -to the extent possible-to the identification of areas for the exploitation of riverbed material and the development of criteria and standards for extraction.

1.5 – Scenarios for the operation of dams to enable optimization of water and flood risk management, and energy production.

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Scenarios for the operation of dams to support sustainable basin management, contribute to the reduction of flood risk and maximise energy production, have been assessed during the foundational project with the use of hydrologic and energy models with the support of a project focusing on the Water-Food-Energy Nexus, financed by the Austrian Development Agency.

These results will be used for the establishment of a dialogue among the HPP companies, other relevant authorities, and the DCG /Joint Coordination Mechanism (see under Output 2.2) with regard to the management of water resources in the basin. It will be proposed that the dialogue discuss, inter alia, also impacts of different scenarios for the operation of dams on surface water and groundwater hydrology, sediment balance patterns, water quality and ecological status of water bodies, and freshwater dependent ecosystems and near-shore marine ecosystems and to define further specific environmental and climate-change related issues that should be considered in the future. A Feasibility study to assess the scope and level of cooperation among the companies will be developed.

1.6- Improved system for the management and sharing of information and data to support transboundary basin management established.

The foundational project has developed an information management system (IMS) that includes all data developed/acquired during its implementation. The data and information developed/acquired through the proposed project will be included in the IMS's database. Based on the notion that storage and exchange of data developed at riparian level or through the joint multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs is a prerequisite for regional level sustainable basin management as well as an element of trust to enhance transboundary cooperation, this project will invest on upgrading the existing IMS. The following will be realized during the project:

- Identification of the status of existing relevant Riparian Information Management Systems (IMS) and analysis of historical Drin data for incorporation in the IMS
- Definition of additional Drin data management requirements
- Agreement on data processing procedures and exchange formats at the regional level
- Preparation of functional and technical requirements to develop and test data exchange mechanisms/procedures among Riparians
- Digitization of historic monitoring data
- Development, implementation and testing of the updated Drin Basin Information Management System (Drin IMS v2)
- Training of staff of responsible institutions

1.7- Training of staff of institutions and other stakeholders on areas that are critical for the coordinated management of the Drin Basin.

The focus of the trainings is already defined in the Drin SAP and is given below; the final list of themes as well as the exact subject of each training will be defined during the project implementation following guidance by the DCG or by the body that will succeed the DCG, should the draft international agreement be signed and ratified:

- Water/environmental management for members of the DCG and its EWGs, local level authorities, local/regional water companies etc.
- Requirements for EIA and SEA processes and transboundary consultations between the riparians within these processes that arise from the Riparians' obligations under the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA (and their future EU accession requirements related to the implementation of the EU EIA and SEA Directives).
- Harmonized monitoring protocols and intercalibration exercises
- Best Agricultural Practices
- Fisheries management
- Environment, water and energy nexus for small HPP operators
- IED/SEVESO Directive permitting

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- Establishment of eco-friendly SME-business activities e.g. tourism nature related activities, bee keeping, sustainable forestry, non-conventional water resources management etc.Gender mainstreaming

Component 2*:* Consolidating the Drin Basin transboundary institutional, policy, and legal frameworks.

This component is in line and assists in the implementation of the following goals and objectives of the Drin SAP: Goal 2, Objective 2; Goal 3, Objectives 1 and 2, and will address barriers 2 and 4

Outcome 2: Effective cooperation among Drin Riparians and socio-economic sectors succeeded through the establishment of a transboundary institutional arrangement and the development of critical transboundary policy instruments.

The Component will provide support for the operation/establishment of a sustainable joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or an evolved one -a Drin Commission- that may be the result of the successful negotiation and signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin. The Project will support the negotiation of the draft international agreement text by the Drin Riparians -that was developed through the foundational project- and its submission for signature and ratification to the relevant authorities of all Drin Riparians, should negotiations be successful. This major effort to strengthen transboundary cooperation will be complemented by the preparation, through broad consultative processes, and submission for adoption, of several policy tools aligned with the EU acquis: among others, a River Management Plan for the Drin Basin to be used to coordinate the riparian level prepared management plans, and other ancillary plans covering critical aspects of basin management such as floods, droughts and biodiversity. A Flood management plan for the Drin Basin (Drin FMP) -not covering Kosovo is developed through the Adaptation Fund supported project "Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans". The proposed GEF Project will support actions aimed at including in the Drin FMP the results of on-going flood management planning in Kosovo.

Outputs

2.1 – A legal instrument consolidating official cooperation among the Drin Riparians considered for signing by the Riparians.

A draft legal instrument text for the management of the Drin Basin, will be finalized through a structured negotiation process among the Drin Riparians (including Greece) to be supported by the project[4]. The workplan for the negotiation of the legal instrument is included in Annex E. The work will be based on a related feasibility study developed through the foundational project. The final legal instrument text will be put forward -as appropriate and per its provisions- for signing and ratification by the Drin Riparians.

The legal instrument that the Drin Riparians may agree upon, will define the (the list may alter) form, nature, rules of operation, financing etc. of a joint coordination mechanism -in the form of a Drin Commission (DC)[5]- that will be responsible for the implementation of this legal instrument.

UNECE will be engaged in the implementation of this Output, providing support to the PMU for facilitating the negotiations among the Drin Riparians in reaching an agreement regarding the signing of a legal instrument text for the management of the Drin Basin.

2.2 – Operationalisation of a joint coordination mechanism.

[4] It could be in the form of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin to be signed and put forward for ratification by the parliaments of the Riparians or an evolution of the current Drin MoU to be signed at Ministerial level. In both cases it will be in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and the UNECE Water Convention.

[5] i.e. a joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or an evolved one that may be the result of the successful negotiation and signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin.

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The Project will provide support for the establishment/operation of the joint coordination mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or the DCG if the Drin Riparians don't reach an agreement for the signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin. The project will further support the Body to be defined under the legal instrument that will function as the secretariat of the joint coordination mechanism. Support will include development of the ToR for the staff of the Body and training, technical and administrative support, covering costs for purchasing part of the office equipment. During an adjustment period that will serve also as a capacity building period for the Body, it will be supported for the deliberation of its functions by GWP-Med that currently serves as the Secretariat of the DCG. The objective is that the Body be operational till the end of the Project.

UNECE will be engaged in the implementation of this Output, providing support to the PMU for the establishment/operation of the joint coordination mechanism; UNECE will be responsible for the operation of the EWG on Monitoring and Information Exchange or any body that the Drin Riparians may decide to substitute this EWG.

2.3 – A River Basin Management Plan for the Drin River prepared in accordance with the EU WFD, building on the findings of the Drin TDA, and on the enhanced knowledge achieved through Component 1 activities, including marine environment considerations and presented for adoption by the DCG.

All Riparians have developed or are in the course of developing River Basin Management Plans in accordance with the EU WFD and riparian level legislation, for most of the parts of the Drin Basin extending in their territory. Nevertheless, there hasn't been any coordination for their development. The project will support the development of a coordinated Drin River basin management plan following the Source-to-Sea approach. The updated TDA and the scientific knowledge generated through Component 1 will be used as basis for the development of the Plan.

The Plan will not substitute riparian level RBM plans rather it will be used for the coordination of the implementation of existing RBM plans and their programme of measures and be used as a "roof" document to enable the coordinated development of the next generation of the riparian level RBM plans in accordance with the EU WFD. The development of the Plan will undergo a stakeholder's consultation process and be adopted by the DCG.

The joint coordination mechanism -or the DCG if the Drin Riparians don't reach an agreement for the signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin- will be the body responsible to coordinate work for the implementation of the Plan in the future. The members of the DCG having also the responsibility of the implementation of the riparian level RBMPs will ensure coordination with riparian level activities as well as riparian level institutions in line with the Drin Riparian level legislative frameworks (Min of Planning, Finance, Agriculture, Water/sanitation).

2.4- Flood risk management actions for the White Drin sub-basin, integrated in the Drin Basin Flood Risk Management Plan.

Building on the results of the ongoing Adaptation Fund supported and UNDP implemented project entitled "Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans" that covers Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia, and the ongoing activities in Kosovo for the development of flood risk and hazard maps and the White Drin flood risk management plan[6], this activity will:

- Identify transboundary areas of concern in the White Drin basin / prepare related flood risk and hazard maps (using the same methodology of the Adaptation Fund supported project).
- Conduct an assessment to identify the applicable catalogue of measures for flood protection in transboundary areas of concern in the White Drin basin.
- Update the Integrated basin flood risk management Strategy and Plan for the Drin River Basin (IBFRMS&P; currently under development with the support of the Adaptation Fund) and submit these updated policy instruments to the DCG for adoption.
- Undertake a stakeholder consultation process.

[6] Supported by the EU.

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2.5- Harmonization of management planning for adjacent nationally established protected areas in Skadar/Shkoder, Ohrid and Prespa subbasins.

At present, there are transboundary water bodies, where the Riparians have established protected areas extending in their respective territory, examples being the three transboundary lakes and the Buna/Bojana basin. The management tools used by the Riparians are not coordinated jeopardizing the sustainability of protected ecosystems. This output will focus on Skadar/Shkoder Lake and Buna/Bojana River areas. Work will involve establishment of joint technical groups to discuss and reach an agreement for the harmonization of the zoning system and related regulations including on enforcement measures and monitoring of compliance.

2.6- A Drought Management Plan for the parts of Drin extending in Kosovo and North Macedonia developed in the context of the EU Water Framework Directive and presented for adoption.

Work done under the foundational projects revealed that water resources availability in 2050 under current climate change scenarios and with increased water consumption to satisfy socio-economic development needs will be such that water demands will be marginally satisfied or not be satisfied from June to August in dry years in the Lake Prespa and Black Drin River sub-basins. Under this scenario, needs in the White Drin River during July will be double the available resources (see Annex F Climate change effects on water balance and the coastal area). These areas extend into North Macedonia and Kosovo; following related request by both, the Project will prepare drought management plans for the part of the Drin Basin extending in their territory.

Component 3*:* Drin Riparians implement actions addressing transboundary issues of concern.

This component is in line and assists in the implementation of the following goals and objectives of the Drin SAP: Goal 4, Objective 1; Goal 5, Objectives 1 and 2; Goal 6, Objective 1; Goal 7, Objectives 1 and 2, and will address barriers 1,2 and 3.

Outcome 3: SAP implementation is accelerated through regional, riparian and local solutions to address main causes of transboundary concern, promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience.

This Component will assist in addressing main causes of water resources and environmental degradation in areas of the Basin identified as hot spots in the TDA and will focus among others on: the reduction of nutrient pollution from agriculture; the management of urban liquid wastes; the control of erosion and sedimentation processes; the reduction of toxic emissions and discharges from industries and increase of water efficiency and reuse; the introduction of best agricultural practices. To achieve this objective, the Component will adopt a blend of on the ground actions, including small scale interventions as well as policy instruments, designed and field tested. In the case of nature-based solutions for wastewater management, the project will seek to replicate the results of successful demonstration activities of the foundational project. The locations of the Component's interventions will reflect the TDA findings and will be agreed upon by all Drin Riparians. It is expected that the combined impact of all these actions and of the benefits derived from them, will set in motion a sustained and long-term commitment of all Riparians to the full-fledged implementation of the SAP. A description of the activities under each output along with the background against which are based as well as the geographical areas of implementation or criteria for the selection of geographical areas of implementation during the initial phase of the proposed project, are given in Annex G Description of activities under Component 3.

Outputs[7]

3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) – Support to the broader adoption of small-scale wastewater treatment plants for nutrient removal piloted in the foundational project, in small rural settlements not easily connected to main wastewater treatment systems.

[7] A description of the outputs is given in Annex G

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3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse – Reinforcement, also by promoting the TEST approach, of the capacity of industries and SMEs in the reduction of toxic substances emissions to waterbodies and land, as well as reinforcement of their capacity in water use efficiency and reuse, and assessment of action and/or investment needs for the rehabilitation of toxic pollution from mines and quires (White Drin, Skadar/Shkoder Lake, and Ohrid Lake sub-basins).

3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation – Promotion of: (i) Integrated Pest Management practices, (ii) the transition to tourism oriented organic farming, (iii) the use of Best Agricultural Practices (BAP, e.g. buffer strips, crop rotation, application of fertilizers, no-till, use of cover crops, IT solutions) to enhance soil conservation and reduce pollution, in selected areas of the sub-basins of White Drin, Prespa and Ohrid, Black Drin and Buna/ Bojana, and Zeta plain.

3.4- Erosion control – In priority areas (e.g.: the Debar Lake basin, the river Sateska sub- basin, the Adriatic coastal area) promoting reforestation, nature-based solutions, sustainable tillage and irrigation systems, etc.

3.5 – Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism), in transboundary areas of ecological importance (e.g. Prespa Ohrid transboundary biosphere reserve Skadar/Shoder, Buna/Bojana, and White Drin source in Radavc), to facilitate transition of local economy towards sustainable natural resources management practices and green growth.

3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management: (i) Capacity building and training for fish stock assessments to inform management (ii) promotion of best fishing practices among fishermen and their associations (iii) enhancement of illegal fishing monitoring and control capacities.

Component 4*:* Mechanisms for ensuring participation, gender consideration, coordination, and monitoring progress.

This component is in line and assists in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Drin SAP, in particular Goal 2, Objective 4, and will contribute to addressing all four identified barriers.

Outcome 4: Long-term sustainability of achievements is enhanced through implementation of project mechanisms for stakeholder's participation, gender mainstreaming, dissemination, coordination and monitoring progress.

The Component will support monitoring and evaluation related actions described in detail under the respective part of the Project Document.

Work will focus on putting in place mechanisms for systematic awareness raising, stakeholder's participation, gender mainstreaming, towards the attainment of Outcome 4.

Equally important to the linkages among the project activities e.g. the outcomes of the updated TDA that will feed the preparation of the River Basin Management Plan etc., is the multilevel non-linear linkages among the groups of stakeholders, including the institutions, and the Drin Riparians, that are by default engaged in the management of the Basin and that concern the project activities: who, how, when, at what level is engaged in partnership with whom. The former will define the success of the project in terms of implementation of the activities while the latter will define the success of the project in terms of creating the conditions for sustaining its outcomes and achievements.
The structured involvement of the appropriate stakeholders at the appropriate level and time in the different project activities using suitable means will secure the creation of these linkages. A range of stakeholders' engagement activities will run horizontally the Project, pursuing the strengthening of the commitment of politicians, decision makers, users and other stakeholders at all levels as well as the public for a sustained cooperative effort among the Drin Riparians sharing the Basin for its sustainable management. Stakeholders engagement activities are factored in Components 1-3; stakeholders engagement activities that will benefit all Outputs, are included in this Component[8].

[8] All stakeholder engagement activities, the means to be used and the related timeframe is described in the Stakeholders Engagement Strategy.

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Further, a range of information and strategic communications, consultation and involvement activities will be implemented in concert with and in support of the engagement activities in order to foster: increased awareness regarding the Project and the Drin Coordinated Action Process; advanced understanding of the causes of transboundary issues as well as their solutions; understanding of the need for coordinated/cooperative action at transboundary level; the enhancement of awareness at the political level and among decision makers.

Participation to IWLEARN peer learning and cross-fertilization actions, will benefit the project in integrating lessons learned though other GEF IW investments around the globe; the project in turn, will be contributing with its experience and lessons generated to similar endeavours.

A Stakeholders Analysis and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (see Annex 7) provide the basis for the activities under the Outputs of this Component.

Outputs

4.1- Awareness raising and participation actions held at local, national and regional levels to enable stakeholders engagement.

An Outreach and Communications Strategy/Plan will be developed during the initial phase of the Project to support the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). Such strategy/plan will provide the basis for the preparation of products and material to enhance the visibility of the project and ensure proper dissemination of results; a number of traditional storytelling means will be combined with creative approaches to increase dissemination and advocacy efforts.

By decision of the DCG, and since 2016, the Drin Day is celebrated each year on the 5th of May in all sub-basins of the Drin Basin under the auspices of the Drin CORDA and the Drin Core Group. The Drin Day celebration being an "institution" awareness raising event that is established under the foundational project, will be implemented under this project as well on annual basis.

The Annual Drin Stakeholder Conferences have become another "institution" being organized since 2011, allowing the stakeholders to be informed by and provide input to the DCG regarding the actions for the implementation of the Drin MoU and the SAP. The organization of the Conferences are in line with provisions of the Drin MoU and they comply with Article 5 Implementation and Monitoring, that indicates *"(…) understanding the need for the implementation of the Strategic Shared Vision to reflect the views of the stakeholders the Parties call for an annual meeting of stakeholders from the Drin Riparians (…)*". Five Annual Stakeholders Conferences (ASC) will be organized.

The project will participate and contribute to global and ECE events as experiences and lessons learned from the Drin Project will be of relevance for a number of processes shaping polices related to transboundary water resources management. In turn, such processes are important for the Drin Project to align with riparian level, regional and global priorities.

4.2- Water and Gender Action Plans, indicators and capacity building.

The Project is in line with the GEF's and UNDP's Policies on Gender Equality, and the GEF Gender Implementation Strategy. The project is also in line with SDG 5 on Gender Equality, and the empowerment of women and girls.

During the project's PPG phase, a Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAP; Annex 9) were prepared including indicators and a plan to monitor implementation, to ensure that gender considerations will inform project formulation through a gender-responsive approach, and through specific activities directed to strengthen women's participation in decision-making. All actions proposed under the GAP will be implemented by the PMU staff and a Gender Specialist.

The Project will identify and engage gender equality stakeholders and create formal/informal partnerships in the form of Gender Community of Practice (CoP), to contribute to a Gender Equality Agenda in transboundary cooperation and

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integrated natural resources management in line with the Stakeholders Engagement Strategy. The Gender CoP will be means to strengthen already existing women networks in decision making to promote "gender equality and women's empowerment" (GEWE) in all Drin Riparians. Opportunities will be sought for Gender Focal Points to be appointed by the Drin Riparians or other key gender institution to regularly participate in the project activities and/or Gender CoP.

Capacity building workshops will be organized to enhance gender capacities and/or knowledge of stakeholders/community groups including these of the PMU. Action will be taken to ensure Stakeholder Engagement and gender balanced participation in riparian level and regional dialogues/meetings and processes, as appropriate, at all levels and that gender is mainstreamed in the awareness raising annual events, awareness campaigns of the project.

Key documents will be reviewed such as reports, surveys etc., through gender lenses to ensure gender mainstreaming in all key interventions and the same will be done for key policy documents at riparian level and/or local level such as key strategies, plans or legal instruments. Sex disaggregated data and information will be collected to monitor the indicators of the Gender Action Plan.

4.3- Annual events for the coordination with other ongoing initiatives, and the monitoring of progress.

As a result of the work done under the foundational project, the DCG assumed the full range of responsibilities stemming from the Drin MoU being the responsible body to coordinate its implementation, and act as a (de facto) Joint Commission. In line with its mandate, the DCG has been the SC -in addition to the GEF Drin foundational Project- of projects that have been spin-offs of the Drin Project. The Project will continue supporting the role of the DCG -or the joint coordination mechanism that will be established should the draft international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin be signed and ratified by the Drin Riparians- providing a fertile hub for different partners to come together and synergize in addressing the causes of the transboundary management issues hence, in implementing the Drin SAP.

This will be addressed through the following activities implemented under this Output.

- Organization of Donors Conferences; should the donors response is positive, these could be held at annual basis: the Drin Riparians requested and publicly committed during the Partner's Conference in 2021 -the closing event of foundational project- to have at least one DCG/Donors coordination meeting organized per year to enable synergies and avoid overlaps among donors, and to keep them informed on the SAP related priorities. The DCG with the assistance of the Project will lead the preparations and the organization of this annual coordination event. The event will be organized back-to-back with the Annual Stakeholders Conference.

- Synergizing with projects that are linked to the management of the Drin basin: Projects and initiatives that contribute directly or indirectly to the sustainable management of the Drin Basin and its natural resources have been traditionally approached by the DCG to identify areas of cooperation and synergies. Such projects had been invited and participated in the DCG meetings. This practice will continue also during this project and furthermore, existing projects will be invited annually for a meeting to take place back-to-back with the May DCG meeting[9].

4.4- Full participation to GEF IW LEARN activities and creation of a project website.

The results produced by the Drin SAP Project will substantially contribute to the GEF knowledge base and to relevant GEF IW processes, events and activities. To this end, the Project will closely collaborate with the GEF International Waters Learning and Resource Exchange Network (IW:LEARN) Project[10] to facilitate uptake of lessons learned and knowledge exchange.

[9] As per the DCG ToR, DCG meetings take place twice per year the last Thursday of May and the fourth Thursday of November.
[10] More info at www.iwlearn.net

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Activities under this output include:

- Participation to the GEF International Waters Conferences[11] (landmark biannual events of the IW portfolio). Depending on the schedule decided by IW:LEARN, the Project will commit its contribution to at least two IW Conferences throughout the duration of the Project and will ensure the participation of representatives from the Riparians.
- Production of at least two Experience Notes to showcase worthy results to be disseminated through IW:LEARN channels and the Drin CORDA website.
- Participation to IW:LEARN Twinning with other GEF relevant projects and programs.
- Contribution to IW:LEARN.net with relevant content (i.e. multimedia material, data visualization, etc.), including to social media and newsletters;
- Participation to GEF Communities of Practice (CoPs), when relevant.

Moreover, the Project will continue to use the Drin CORDA website (http://drincorda.iwlearn.org/) hosted by the IW:LEARN platform to ensure continuity with the ongoing process as well as sustainability after project closure. At the same time, opportunities will be sought for the project website to undergo a relooking by adopting a modern content management system to upgrade in terms of user-friendliness its interface.

Partnerships

An important political driving force in the Drin Riparians is the European Union accession process. The incorporation and implementation of the EU acquis has led to in-principle harmonized policies and body of law that facilitate coordination for the management of transboundary water resources. Further, the EU acquis contributes positively -at legal and institutional levels- in environmental management as well as in the management of natural resources including water, that constitute the basis of economic development. The UNECE Water Convention provides the institutional framework and means for the enhancement of cooperation for the management of transboundary basins. The Project, coherently with SAP priorities, will align with and facilitate the implementation of the EU acquis and the Water Convention. This will in turn fosters the achievement of the Project's envisaged outcomes. The EU Water Framework Directive and the provided therein development of River Basin Management Plans and the provisions of the Water Convention regarding the institutionalization of transboundary basins management are important tools; the Project will be making use of these tools assisting also the Drin Riparians in responding to their legal obligations.

The table in Annex H presents the list of ongoing baseline projects and initiatives relevant to the objectives and activities of the proposed project. Coordination and experience exchange mechanisms will be put in place (see Component 4) to ensure optimization of efforts and capture possible synergies. Coordination will be achieved mainly through the Drin Core Group (or the body that will succeed the DCG should the international agreement be signed) and through donors meetings/conferences. Drin level projects and initiatives have been traditionally invited in the DCG meetings to inform the Drin Riparians on issues of importance and interest in line with the DCG agenda; this form of coordination will continue during the proposed project implementation.

Relevant GEF IW and CW and Adaptation Fund funded projects -completed and ongoing- are aimed at (i) addressing coastal zone management issues including reducing land-based sources of marine pollution, applying the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus approach, addressing coastal aquifers management issues (MedProgramme and its child projects in particular 2.1, 2.2 and 4.1), (ii) introducing marine spatial planning in the Adriatic Eastern shores (GEF/UNEP project "Implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Adriatic Sea through Marine Spatial Planning"), (iii) addressing karst groundwater management issues in an area that includes part of the Drin Basin (GEF/UDNP/UNESCO "Implementation of the SAP of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: improving groundwater governance and sustainability of related ecosystems"), and (iv) introducing transboundary flood management (Adaptation Fund/UNDP project "Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans"). The latter has the DCG as its SC. As such, exchanges of experiences and information with the ongoing projects have already been/will be established in order to coordinate actions in the coastal areas of Albania and Montenegro. Similarly, the experience gained as well as data and tools developed through the completed Adriatic project will be taken into full consideration.

[11] More info on GEF IW Conferences: https://iwlearn.net/events/conferences

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The Table given in Annex H. Ongoing baseline projects and initiatives relevant to the objectives and activities of the project, clearly shows how stakeholders, initiatives and projects address the development challenge explained in this project and issues identified in the TDA and reflected in the SAP. In fact, all of them implement SAP recommended actions, with emphasis on major infrastructural investments in nutrient reduction, waste disposal and irrigation reaching over USD 350 million, and on integrated water resources management. The GEF SAP implementation project complements with incremental funding these mostly riparian level actions by consolidating transboundary cooperation and providing essential tools for sustainable management of transboundary freshwater resources and ecosystems, like data sharing, harmonized basin-wide monitoring, mitigation of climatic hazards, and the introduction of nature-based solutions for nutrient reduction and drought mitigation, and of green economy approaches.

Planning and assessment activities related to infrastructural investments in the Drin Riparians will provide substantial contributions to the project in terms of improved knowledge and potential for broader adoption of beneficial practices in the region. Exchange mechanisms with these initiatives will be established.

Risks

The following key risks that could threaten the achievement of results have been identified:

1. Limited interest or involvement by target stakeholders, local communities and the inhabitants, leading to insufficient and/or less effective multi-stakeholder involvement from all Riparians (Low significance).
2. Lack of sustained political support to establishing transboundary cooperation frameworks (Moderate significance).
3. Riparian level processes -particularly approvals for plans and legal mechanisms- may be complex and lead to uneven progress among Drin Riparians that may undermine different Drin Riparians interest/ engagement (Low significance).
4. Covid-19 pandemic persists leading to -as experienced also during the foundational project- effects linked to COVID-19 containment measures including: Delays in authorities counterparts providing feedback for the preparation of studies (provision of information and data; input for the development of studies; approval of studies) due to home confinement; difficulty/inability in reaching out to stakeholders for the implementation of demonstration activities and to acquire information and data for the preparation of studies. The execution of the following types of project activities may be adversely affected: Meetings; Consultations; Studies; Field activities (demonstration activities, study visits, awareness activities etc.). Overall, project the implementation timeline may be affected (Low significance).
5. Marginalized and vulnerable groups, may not have the capacity to claim their rights or may be otherwise excluded from Component 3 activities that could benefit them (Moderate significance).
6. Component 3 activities may potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits (Low significance).
7. There is a risk of grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders during the implementation of Output 3 and measures proposed in plans for basin-, drought-, and flood- management (Substantial significance).
8. Plans for basin management, drought management and flood management proposed under Component 2 may have adverse cumulative impacts on biodiversity. These risks arise – albeit on smaller scale – also in demonstration projects in Component 3 (Substantial significance).
9. Interventions in relevant basin-, flood- and drought-management plans will be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change (Moderate significance).
10. Pilot projects under the Component 3 may have temporary adverse impacts on water quality (Moderate significance).
11. Project activities located in proximity of internationally protected cultural heritage sites may have potential adverse impacts on their conservation objectives (Moderate significance).
12. Some interventions for drought management and flood management proposed under Component 2 may lead to economic displacement. These risks arise – albeit on smaller scale – also in demonstration projects in Component 3 (Moderate significance).
13. Duty-bearers may not have the capacity to meet their environmental obligations (Moderate significance).

The ESMF identifies the actions that will be followed during the project for addressing the identified risks.

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The project will establish a project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) during its initiation phase when the full details of this GRM will be agreed upon; the process that will be overseen by the Project Manager in cooperation with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer.

Activities under Component 3 can't be initiated prior the respective mitigation actions listed in the ESMF take place. More details with regard to the risks and the actions taken/will be taken to mitigate these, are provided in the full risk register (Annex 5), the SESP (Annex 4) and ESMF (Annex 8).

Stakeholder engagement and south-south cooperation

A Stakeholders Engagement Plan was developed for the needs of the Project making use of a comprehensive Stakeholders Analysis (see Annex 7). The objective of the SEP is to create the conditions for structured and inclusive participation of relevant stakeholders at the appropriate level and time using suitable means throughout the project cycle. The SEP serves the following purposes:

- Identify, map and analyse stakeholders and their characteristics, including their priorities and needs, and ensure that the Project takes these into consideration in its design and implementation;
- Design and deploy stakeholder engagement modalities through inclusive consultations, targeted capacity reinforcement, effective knowledge management, information disclosure and communication, in meaningful and accessible ways throughout the project cycle;
- Provide enabling platforms for dialogue and decision-making on the sustainable management of the Drin Basin;
- Help mitigating identified risks related to possible marginalization of vulnerable groups, reproducing discrimination of women, and grievances from affected stakeholders;
- Describe resources, responsibilities, reporting and monitoring frameworks for the implementation of the SEP.

"Ownership" among the stakeholders of the project and the Drin CORDA process that the first supports, was established through the foundational project; it is envisaged that this "ownership" will be supported also through the current project and -to the extent possible- be broadened.

Replicating good practices established during the foundational project (see terminal evaluation), interaction of the PMU with representatives of institutions and key stakeholders will be continuous, as part of the Project implementation. The representatives of the Drin Riparians to the DCG being the politically and operationally responsible persons for the Drin CORDA, will be also the focal points of the Project. The PMU officers based in the project beneficiary Riparians, will consult them as means to deliver the project activities in each of the Riparians.

In addition to the engagement activities described under Component 4, Table 4 of the SEP (Annex 7) provides an overview of engagement activities under Components 1, 2 and 3.

Stakeholders will be extensively engaged through focus groups meetings in all beneficiary Drin Riparians for the needs of the development of the updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (Output 1.1). An additional consultation process will be used to validate the updated TDA and discuss the vision with regard to the management of the Basin as basis for the development of the River Basin Management (RBM; see activities under Component 2). Stakeholders will be also consulted on the RBM plan development including its Programme of Measures through the EWG meetings (see activities under Component 2) and Annual Drin Conferences (see activities under Component 4).

The scientific overview for the design of multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs (Output 1.2), on the status of ecosystems (Output 1.3) and the assessment of the sediment balance (Output 1.4) will be provided by the Expert Working Groups of the Drin Core Group. The Riparians' institutions responsible for monitoring will be involved in the work under these outputs being consulted and/or providing scientific support and input. The same is true with regard to the work for the improvement of the Information Management System (Output 1.6).

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A dialogue among the HPP companies, other relevant authorities, and the DCG with regard to operation rules of the dams to improve flow regulation and minimise negative effects will be established under Output 1.5. Output 1.7 focuses on training of staff of institutions and stakeholders on themes defined in the SAP.

The project will provide support for the operation/establishment of a sustainable joint coordination body in the form of the current institutional arrangement or in the form of a Drin Commission (Output 2.2) that may be the result of the successful negotiation and signing of an international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin (Output 2.1).

The development of the Flood risk management actions for the White Drin sub-basin and their integration in the Drin Basin Flood Risk Management Plan (Output 2.4) as well as the development of the Drought Management Plan for the parts of Drin extending in Kosovo and North Macedonia (Output 2.6) will be underpinned with stakeholders consultations. The responsible institutions will be guiding the process for the development of the plans hence the consultation process.

The harmonization of management planning for adjacent riparian level established protected areas (Output 2.5) will be done by joint technical groups comprising of appointed representatives of the protected areas authorities and the competent institutions of the Riparians concerned. Consultation workshops with stakeholders in the protected areas at riparian and transboundary levels will take place.

A stakeholder mapping/analysis in the selected sites will be done to inform the implementation of the demonstration activities under Component 3 and ensure appropriate engagement of local stakeholders (farmers, fisherpersons, private sector, local communities, industries/SMEs etc. depending on the nature and focus of each activity). Responsible ministries and local authorities will be involved in the selection of the sites that the demonstrations will focus on. Awareness raising among and consultation with local communities in areas of implementation will take place aiming to succeed commitment and ownership of the process towards sustainability of results. The project will work with donors and financing partners to investigate options and opportunities for scaling up solutions proven to be successful. Lessons learned will be captured and disseminated and advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments development will be developed should results be positive.

Overarching means and approaches under Component 4 will be used to serve all project activities and link the individual stakeholders engagement processes under the different Outputs. An Outreach and Communications Strategy will be developed to support the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and guide the development of key communications products and materials. Broad awareness raising and ownership will be fostered through the annual celebration of the Drin Day while the Annual Drin Stakeholder Conferences (ASC) will be used to report back to the stakeholders and foster their input regarding project implementation and results.

Synergies with relevant Donors, will be sought seeking their inputs on project implementation and advice on co-design approaches that jointly address causes of transboundary concern and their remedy actions. Annual meetings with the DCG / donors conferences will be held in this regard. Cooperation with projects and initiatives that contribute directly or indirectly to the sustainable management of the Drin Basin and its natural resources will be actively fostered.

Finally, there will be close collaboration with the GEF International Waters Learning and Resource Exchange Network (IW:LEARN) Project[12] to facilitate uptake of lessons learned and knowledge exchange.

Gender equality and Women's Empowerment

A Gender Analysis was undertaken during the PPG phase to gather and process information for the design of the strategies for stakeholder engagement and gender mainstreaming; the following means was used to collect information for this analysis:

- Web-based survey on stakeholder engagement and gender mainstreaming (July 2022).
- Gender Equality Survey (on the occasion of the 9th Drin Stakeholder Conference; 25-26 October 2022).

[12] More info at www.iwlearn.net

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The analysis of the surveys has shown that:

- While stakeholders tend to understand the importance of gender equality and although there is enough knowledge regarding gender issues and mainstreaming, they lack the resources and means to undertake the necessary steps to address related issues. Adequate human or financial resources, collection and analysis of sex disaggregated data and collaboration with gender knowledgeable partners often are missing.

- The two key areas that should receive more attention to ensure gender mainstreaming during project implementation is "sustainable use of water and its supported ecosystems" and "strengthening of the mechanisms to support management of water resources". Giving a relevant priority to good collaboration between men and women, and facilitating equal access is a positive entry point and will be taken into consideration when discussing gender equality in these sectors.

- Gender sensitive training and capacity building should be implemented; where possible and relevant, the project will keep in focus that especially men have an increased need in this regard, to understand gender issues and address inequalities. The areas and topics of interest for women would be economic empowerment and increased access and control on resources and budgets.

- The most effective approach towards gender equality is considered to be, women participation/role in decision making. In this regard, where relevant, women voices need to be taken in consideration during project implementation. Further, during project implementation some of the interventions should aim to contributing towards research or understanding of differences in access, control and benefit between women and men. In this respect the project should include actions for the identification, establishment and promotion of women network or women leaders' participation, and the collection of research data or other relevant disaggregated data.

The project will mainstream gender in all Components through revision of key 25ocumentts produced where'gender issues could be potentially introduced. Further, it is envisaged that the project will promote gender equality in the areas of management, governance, and policy development.

A Gender Action Plan (GAP) is prepared to offer a clear vision and actions on how to mainstream gender in a practical and strategic manner providing indicators and means of verification. It:

(1) Enables gender-responsive design, implementation, and monitoring of all project Components.
(2) Proposes gender sensitive actions to increase awareness, understanding, participation and empowerment of women in natural resources management.
(3) Provides gender sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data.

The GAP's overall aim is to accelerate progress on gender equality by supporting the empowerment of all women reducing inequalities and exclusion and leaving no one behind towards integrated natural resources management for sustainable development.

The GAP is designed to contribute towards improved water security, human and ecosystem health, and climate resilience in Drin Riparians for both women and men. It includes 5 envisaged outcomes:

1. Project key stakeholders have relevant knowledge on gender equality and promote gender equality effectively.
2. Gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) is a cornerstone of integrated natural resources management and governance.
3. Project implementation staff have relevant gender knowledge and promote gender equality effectively.
4. Key strategic documents, policies and plans integrate gender dimensions and are not gender blind.

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5. Collection of sex-disaggregated data and knowledge exchange contribute to the achievement of SDG5 and other related SDGs.

The GAP is aligned with the ESMF contributing to addressing risks related to gender and excluded social groups; it further contributes to the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scaling Up

Innovation

Under Component 3, the project will implement nature-based solutions, technologies, and agricultural practices novel to the region.

The Project will:

- Be one of few projects globally implementing the Source-to-Sea approach in a transboundary basin. As such, the environmental and socio-economic needs and challenges in the coastal and marine areas will be taken into consideration, in addition to those of the basin, for identifying and applying the appropriate freshwater related policy and management solutions. In line with this approach the project will (i) update the TDA of the basin and include consideration of the receiving marine waters and shallow marine ecosystems, and (ii) include in the River Basin Management Plan marine related considerations.
- Make efforts to Test Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for establishing a sustainable and effective system for environmental monitoring and improved decision making as well as enhanced trust among the Drin riparians.
- Work with the private sector to address challenges -especially- in ecologically sensitive areas and biodiversity hot spots enabling business to adopt sustainable approaches.
- Will work to catalyse innovation and possibly investment in an effort to underpin sustained growth and give rise to new economic opportunities and assist job creation.

Innovation within the Project will also derive from the:

- work for the identification of Nexus issues and related solutions towards Water, Food and Energy security; this will be based on the Nexus work during the foundational GEF IW project that focused on the interrelations of water, energy and flood damage. In this regard the Project will continue the efforts initiated during the foundational GEF IW project for engaging the hydropower (HPPs) generation companies in Albania and North Macedonia as the cascade of dams they operate is of key importance for the management of the water, sediment and energy flows in the basin. The Project will use work under Output 1.5 for the optimization of hydropower production to gain the interest of HPPs and succeed their engagement.
- Implementation of precision agriculture for the management of diffuse pollution and over abstraction coupled with the application of capacity building and a small grants scheme to achieve sustainability of introduced solutions

Sustainability

The project will strengthen cooperation frameworks involving all Riparians, and further build institutional capacity and expertise. The sustainability of these Project's results will be ensured through the operation of the Drin Commission, or through the continued operation of the Drin Core Group and its Expert Working Groups, should the negotiations among the Drin Riparians on the draft international agreement text not result in its signing. The long-term application of the EU Acquis -and the EU Water Framework Directive in particular- in the beneficiary Drin Riparians will contribute to sustaining the results.

The institutional and financial sustainability of the project achievements will relate to the strong commitment of the Riparians to the implementation of the strategic and priority actions enshrined in the SAP, and of the EU Acquis through the EU accession process related commitments linked to the project (see Annex H). The Drin basin will also benefit from the

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€9-billion EU Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans that seeks to stimulate the national economies, while bringing the region up to the levels of the EU's environmental standards and climate objectives.

Potential for scaling-up

Component 3 of the project is dedicated to the application and testing, among others, of on the ground solutions and practices -many of these aimed to be of high efficiency and low cost- to reduce pollution of surface and groundwater and degradation of freshwater and coastal ecosystems. Some of these will aim in parallel the creation of the conditions towards Green growth and green employability. The project will seek opportunities for partnerships with developmental and commercial banks to design soft loans for stakeholders that would like to invest in using novel practices introduced by the project. These are expected to increase the likelihood that authorities will seek to further replicate successful cases/results especially if those are accompanied by the creation of jobs. In the latter case the market will work as a mechanism of replication and up-scaling.

It is expected that the synergy with the Adaptation Fund/UNDP project "Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans" and building on the results of the ADA funded project "Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in South-eastern Europe, through the use of Nexus approach", will lead in increased awareness regarding the interlinkages among hydropower production, water resources and flood risk management thus leading to policy creation, scaling up the management from sectoral to coordinated, bringing closer hydro-energy, water resources and flood risk management "sectors".

The project is designed to formulate elements that will form the connecting agents for coordinated basin, aquifer, coastal and marine management, implementing the source-to-sea and conjunctive management approaches. Doing so the results of management actions applied in unique spatial domains of management (basin; aquifer; coastal; marine) will be up-scaled to the source-to-sea level.

Further, the dissemination of the results of these experiences and of the progress towards achieving the desired impacts, will foster the scaling up and broader adoption of the successful practices promoted by the project, beyond the Drin Basin.

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V. PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): *SDG 6 and 14*

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): ***UNDP Country Programme Document for Albania 2022-2026: COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME:*** *By 2026 innovative and integrated policy solutions accelerate sustainable, productive, and inclusive economic development, enhancing climate adaptation and mitigation and transition to a green and blue economy.*

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective:	Advance integrated natural resources management and sustainable development in the Drin River Basin and its coastal and marine areas by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP) agreed upon by the Riparians.			
	Indicator 1: # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)			Total: 300,000 Women: 150,300 Men: 149,700
	GEF Core Indicator: 7: Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management			1: Drin River Basin
	7.1: Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation 7.2: Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation 7.3: Level of riparian level /Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees 7.4: Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products	*2* *2* *1* *1*	*Na* *3* *2* *4*	4 4 3 4
	Indicator 2: Drin Riparians' level of engagement to, and agreement on reforms consolidating transboundary cooperation and enhancing institutions sustainability and their capacity to implement integrated natural resources management adopting the "source to sea approach"	At present, Drin Riparians lack a full understanding of the basin ecosystem functioning, harmonized policies and monitoring protocols, and a permanent transboundary institution based on an international agreement.	The Drin Core Group endorses technical tools needed for the management of the Drin Basin.	Drin Riparians consider signing a legal instrument consolidating transboundary cooperation and the DCG adopts the Drin River Basin Management Plan.

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Project Component 1	Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to effectively implement integrated natural resources management in the transboundary Drin Basin			
Outcome 1 Sustainable and climate- resilient management of the Basin's resources enabled through development of technical and policy tools, and filling gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning.	Indicator 3: An updated TDA, and a design of transboundary monitoring programme endorsed by the DCG.	Drin Riparians lack sufficient knowledge, and the policies and technical tools needed to implement sustainable and climate resilient management of the Basin and the adjacent marine area.	#1 tool: Status and trends of Drin Basin biodiversity for priority areas and sediment balance are being developed.	#2 tool: Updated TDA considering climatic scenarios and "source to sea" interdependencies endorsed by the DCG. #3 tool: System for the management and sharing of data and information among riparians, is improved. #4 tool: Design of Basin-wide transboundary monitoring programme endorsed by the DCG.
	Indicator 4: Staff of relevant institutions and selected stakeholder groups with improved basin management capacity.	Relevant institutions of beneficiary Drin Riparians not fully prepared to harness the potential of new methods and tools introduced by the project.	Gender responsive and inclusive training developed and rolled out at the appropriate scale leading to 50 staff successfully completing training.	Gender responsive and inclusive training developed and rolled out at the appropriate scale leading to 100 staff successfully completing training.
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1	1.1– An updated TDA presented for adoption by the DCG, including: (i) the conceptual model of the hydrology (surface water and groundwater) of the Basin, taking in consideration climate change scenarios, and interactions with the shallow marine environment and (ii) marine environment considerations. 1.2- A design of multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs (surface water and groundwater, sediment loads, water living resources, etc.) developed based on an assessment of monitoring capacities, gaps and needs across the Basin and presented for adoption by the DCG, along with enhanced capacities to implement these. 1.3- Analysis of the status of freshwater dependent ecosystems and fisheries and of the impacts on near shore marine ecosystems of freshwater flows (surface water and groundwater), as well as assessment of minimum ecosystem flows, to inform management planning in accordance with the EU WFD. 1.4- Assessment of sediment balance along the Drin Basin with focus on reservoirs siltation, land degradation hotspots and impacts on riverbed and coastal dynamics. 1.5- Scenarios for the operation of dams to enable optimization of water and flood risk management, and energy production. 1.6- Improved system for the management and sharing of information and data to support transboundary basin management established. 1.7- Training of staff of institutions and other stakeholders on areas that are critical for the coordinated management of the Drin Basin.			
Project Component 2	Consolidating the Drin Basin transboundary institutional, policy, and legal frameworks			

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Outcome 2 Effective cooperation among Drin Riparians and socio-economic sectors succeeded through the establishment of a transboundary institutional arrangement and the development of critical transboundary policy instruments.	Indicator 5: A Legal instrument for the management of the Drin Basin is negotiated and should agreement be reached, submitted for signature by the Drin Riparians.	Drin Riparians have decided to upscale and enhance the level of cooperation arrangements set through the Drin MoU (2011) that established the Drin Core Group, which acted as Steering Committee of the previous GEW IW project and will continue to do so during the present one.	Draft Legal Agreement negotiated by Drin Riparians.	Legal Agreement -should agreement be reached- submitted for signature of Drin Riparians' authorities.
	Indicator 6: A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other is operational.		A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other, is proposed.	A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other, made operational.
	Indicator 7: Drin Core Group (DCG)/Joint Coordination Mechanism adopts key transboundary policy instruments.	Transboundary cooperation in the basin lacks policy instruments for coordination, basin management planning, hazards mitigation and ecosystems protection.	Transboundary policy instruments under development.	Policy instruments developed and adopted by the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism.
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2	2.1- A legal instrument consolidating official cooperation among the Drin Riparians considered for signing by the Riparians. 2.2 Operationalization of a Joint Coordination Mechanism. 2.3- A River Basin Management Plan for the Drin River prepared in accordance with the EU WFD, building on the findings of the Drin TDA, and on the enhanced knowledge achieved through Component 1 activities, including marine environment considerations, presented for adoption by the DCG. 2.4- Flood risk management actions for the White Drin sub-basin, integrated into the Drin Basin Flood Risk Management Plan. 2.5- Harmonization of management planning for adjacent riparian level established protected areas in Skadar/Shkoder, Ohrid and Prespa sub- basins. 2.6- A Drought Management Plan for the parts of Drin extending in Kosovo and North Macedonia developed in the context of the EU Water Framework Directive and presented for adoption.			
Project Component 3	Drin Riparians implement agreed SAP actions addressing priority transboundary issues of concern			
Outcome 3 SAP implementation is accelerated through regional, riparian and local solutions to address main causes of	Indicator 8: Small rural communities in the four riparians test /are aware of the benefits and potentials for the ecosystems and health to be derived from the construction of small-scale wastewater treatment solutions.	The foundational IW project demonstrated the feasibility, replicability and cost-effectiveness of this method.	Demonstration activities implemented in the four Drin Riparians.	Two wastewater treatment solutions in rural communities are constructed leading to the reduction of 15 tons of BOD5 and 1 ton of nutrients annually.

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transboundary concern, promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience.				Lessons learned reach at least 25 communities in the four Drin Riparians.
	Indicator 9: Industries and SMEs in the Basin considering adoption of Environmentally Sound Technologies.	Industries and SMEs in the basin lack experience and capacity to reduce toxic discharges and improve water use efficiency.	Demonstration of/capacity building activities on the TEST approach conducted in the four Drin Riparians.	At least 20 industries and SMEs are capacitated on and at least 5 of these implement the TEST approach leading to at least 15 % reduction in material/resources use and/or reduction of at least 15 % of pollutant emissions in each industry/SME.
	Indicator 10: Sustainable agricultural practices are introduced in the Basin.	Best Agricultural practices including precision agriculture have limited application in the region.	Demonstration activities conducted in selected areas in the sub-basins.	At least 2 agricultural businesses and 5 small farms test sustainable agricultural practices leading to the reduction of 50 tons of fertilizer and 600kg of pesticides annually. Lessons learned reach at least 50 small farms and agricultural business.
	Indicator 11: Nature based solutions for erosion control applied in high priority areas.	Measures to combat erosion in critical areas are presently limited.	Demonstration activities conducted in selected affected areas in the four Drin Riparians.	At least two nature-based solutions for erosion control implemented in the basin. A total of 220 hectares are subject to erosion control measures.
	Indicator 12: Transition of local economy towards green growth fostered in areas of ecological importance.	Present socio-economic development trends exploiting valuable freshwater ecosystems are presently unsustainable.	Demonstration/capacity building events conducted in selected areas in the four Drin Riparians.	At least 5 local tourism businesses improve their business model using “green” approaches. Lessons learned reach at least 50 businesses.
	Indicator 13: Improved management capacities and monitoring of compliance for commercial fisheries in transboundary lakes.	The freshwater fisheries sector in the Drin Basin is poorly regulated, and institutional coordination and enforcement capacities are missing, as are effective monitoring of fish populations.	Gender responsive, inclusive and appropriately scaled capacity building and consultations with fisherpersons and relevant authorities on the introduction of best fishing practices and fishing monitoring and control.	At least 4 authorities with enhanced capacities for sustainable fishery management. At least 200 fisherpersons engaged in best fishing practices capacity building and awareness raising activities.

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Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) – Support to the broader adoption of small-scale wastewater treatment plants for nutrient removal piloted in the foundational project, in small rural settlements not easily connected to main wastewater treatment systems. 3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse – Reinforcement, also by promoting the TEST approach, of the capacity of industries and SMEs in the reduction of toxic substances emissions to waterbodies and land, as well as reinforcement of their capacity in water use efficiency and reuse, and assessment of action and/or investment needs for the rehabilitation of toxic pollution from mines and quires (White Drin, Skadar/Shkoder Lake, and Ohrid Lake sub-basins). 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation – Promotion of: (i) Integrated Pest Management practices, (ii) the transition to tourism oriented organic farming, (iii) the use of Best Agricultural Practices (BAP, e.g. buffer strips, crop rotation, application of fertilizers, no-till, use of cover crops, IT solutions) to enhance soil conservation and reduce pollution, in selected areas of the sub-basins of White Drin, Prespa and Ohrid, Black Drin and Buna/ Bojana, and Zeta plain. 3.4- Erosion control – In priority areas (e.g.: the Debar Lake basin, the river Sateska sub- basin, the Adriatic coastal area) promoting reforestation, nature-based solutions, sustainable tillage and irrigation systems, etc. 3.5 – Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism), in transboundary areas of ecological importance (e.g. Prespa, Ohrid, Skadar/Shkoder and Buna/Bojana), to facilitate transition of local economy towards sustainable natural resources management practices and green growth. 3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management: (i) Capacity building and training for fish stock assessments to inform management (ii) promotion of best fishing practices among fishermen and their associations (iii) enhancement of illegal fishing monitoring and control capacities.			
Project Component 4	Mechanisms for ensuring participation, gender consideration, coordination, and monitoring progress.			
Outcome 4 Long-term sustainability of achievements is enhanced through implementation of project mechanisms for stakeholder's participation, gender mainstreaming, dissemination, coordination and monitoring progress.	<u>Indicator 14</u>: Gender mainstreaming and promotion of gender equality implemented throughout project lifetime.	Principles of stakeholder involvement and gender equality, while recognized by the riparian level laws in all project beneficiary Drin Riparians, are not yet translated into daily practice and at all levels – the water sector being no exception.	*NA*	20 Women NGOs, networks, women led SME/ business, activists, experts, gender responsible institutions or alike are identified and informed about the project. A formal/informal partnership such as Gender Community of Practice is established. 40% of underrepresented gender participate in riparian level and regional dialogues.
	<u>Indicator 15:</u> Awareness among stakeholders raised through a Communications Strategy/Plan developed and implemented.	Awareness among stakeholders in the Drin Basin regarding the transboundary management issues is at acceptable level; this level needs to be sustained or even increased	Outreach and Communications Strategy/Plan.	4 communications media (brochure/publication or equivalent) developed.

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		especially among the decision makers, as means to trigger action towards sustainable basin management.	communications media (brochure/publication or equivalent) developed. 2 awareness raising activities are implemented.	4 awareness raising activities are implemented.
	Indicator 16: Number of Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized and delivered.	Annual stakeholders conferences are being organised since 2011 as a forum of participation and discussion regarding the Drin MoU implementation and addressing transboundary management issues and contributed in raising ownership of related action among stakeholders.	2 Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized, each one attended by at least 50 stakeholders.	At least 4 Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized each one attended by at least 50 stakeholders.
	Indicator 17: Donors' and other Projects active in the Drin Basin interest to participate in a dialogue and synergise for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin.	Strategies of donors that are active in the Drin Basin are not coordinated and the same is true for the projects and initiatives they support.	At least one Donors meeting organized attended by at least 5 Donors. Representatives of projects and initiatives active in the Drin Basin participate in ¼ of the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism meetings.	At least two Donors meetings organized each one attended by at least 5 Donors. Representatives of projects and initiatives active in the Drin Basin participate in ¼ of the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism meetings.
	Indicator 18: Number of IW:LEARN Experience Notes.		One Experience Note	Two experience Notes
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4	4.1- Awareness raising and participation actions held at local, national and regional levels to enable stakeholders' engagement. 4.2- Water and Gender Action Plans, indicators and capacity building. 4.3- Annual events for the coordination with other ongoing initiatives, and the monitoring of progress. 4.4- Full participation to GEF IW LEARN activities and creation of a project website.			

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VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLAN

Project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project target will be monitored and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure that the project achieves the expected results. Baseline data for some indicators that are not yet available will be collected during the first year of project implementation. The Monitoring Plan below details the roles, responsibilities, and frequency of monitoring project results.

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP (including guidance on GEF project revisions) and UNDP Evaluation Policy. The UNDP IRH as the Lead Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP M&E requirements, including project monitoring, UNDP quality assurance, quarterly risk management, and evaluation requirements.
Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF Monitoring Policy and the GEF Evaluation Policy and other relevant GEF policies[13]. The M&E plan and budget included below will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management may be agreed -including during the Project Inception Workshop- and will be detailed in the Inception Report. These activities may include UNDP guidance regarding adoption of remote monitoring approaches and M&E procedures should the COVID-19 pandemic continue throughout project implementation.

The pandemic might pose risks during project execution to project staff and beneficiary stakeholders. The project will take steps to (i) minimize these risks such as travel to or from areas where COVID-19 is prevalent, and training on pandemic-related guidance for project staff and stakeholders during the inception phase, and (ii) monitor project operations and ensure that they are in conformity with UNDP agency policies regarding travel, risk reduction, and other areas regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project Manager will report on compliance to the Project Board and take any necessary steps to protect the health of staff, consultants/contractors, and beneficiaries required by the situation.

Minimum project monitoring and reporting requirements as required by the GEF:

Inception Workshop and Report
A project inception workshop will be held within 2 months from the First disbursement date, with the aim to:

a. Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
b. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies and conflict resolution mechanisms.
c. Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
d. Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify riparian level /regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E.
e. Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log; SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework and other safeguard requirements; project grievance mechanisms; gender action plan; knowledge management plan, and other relevant management plans/strategies.
f. Review financial reporting procedures and budget monitoring and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
g. Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan. Finalize the TOR of the Project Board.
h. Formally launch the Project.

[13] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

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GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)
The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. UNDP will undertake quality assurance of the PIR before submission to the GEF. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. UNDP will conduct a quality review of the PIR, and this quality review and feedback will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent annual PIR.

GEF and/or LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators
The GEF Core indicators, included as Annex 11, will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the indicator status. The updated monitoring data should be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF website.

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)
An independent mid-term review process will begin after the second PIR has been submitted to the GEF, and the MTR report will be submitted to the GEF in the same year as the 3rd PIR.

The terms of reference, the review process and the final MTR report will follow the standard UNDP templates and UNDP guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center (ERC).

The evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The evaluators that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/NCE-VF Directorate.

The final MTR report and MTR TOR will be publicly available in English and will be posted on the UNDP ERC by 10 June 2026. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report's completion.

Terminal Evaluation (TE)
An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. TE should be completed 3 months before the estimated operational closure date, set from the signature of the ProDoc and according to the duration of the project. Provisions should be taken to complete the TE in due time to avoid delay in project closure. Therefore, TE must start no later than 6 months to the expected date of completion of the TE (or 9 months prior to the estimated operational closure date).

The evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The evaluators that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/NCE-VF Directorate.

The final TE report and TE TOR will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP ERC by August 30th, 2028. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report's completion.

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Final Report

The project's terminal GEF PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information

To accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy[14] and the GEF policy on public involvement[15].

Monitoring Plan: The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored by the Project Management Unit annually, and will be reported in the GEF PIR every year, and will be evaluated periodically during project implementation. If baseline data for some of the results indicators is not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of project implementation. Project risks, as outlined in the risk register, will be monitored quarterly.

[14] See http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

[15] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

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Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source / Collection Methods[16]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
Advance integrated natural resources management and sustainable development in the Drin River Basin and its coastal and marine areas by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP) agreed upon by the Riparians.	**Indicator 1** Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people).	End of Project: *Total: 300,000* *Women: 150,300* *Men: 149,700*	*The project will benefit all inhabitants of the Basin, by improving the sustainability of its water resources and dependent ecosystems*	*NA*	*Annually* *Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR*	*NA*	*Terminal Evaluation, assessing achievement of project outcomes*	*Project success will depend on sustained political support to establishing transboundary cooperation frameworks, and proceed to SAP implementation.*
	Indicator 2 Drin Riparians' level of engagement to, and agreement on reforms consolidating transboundary cooperation and enhancing institutions sustainability and their capacity to implement integrated natural resources management adopting the "source to sea approach".	Mid-term: *The Drin Core Group endorses technical tools needed for the management of the Drin Basin.* End of Project: *Drin Riparians consider signing a legal instrument consolidating transboundary cooperation and the DCG adopts the Drin River Basin Management Plan.*	*The indicator measures the level of achievement of the two most critical outcomes of the project*	*Project Management Unit*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Progress reports, Reports of outputs and documents of transmission of the Legal Agreement and Basin management Plan to the riparians authorities.*	*Improved knowledge of the functioning of the Basin* Ecosystem will convince Drin Riparians of the need for *cooperation in the management of the Basin's resources.*
Project Outcome 1	**Indicator 3**	Mid-Term:	*The indicator measures the*	*Project reports -*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*TDA report and scientific studies*	*Responsible institutions and*

[16] Data collection methods should outline specific tools used to collect data and additional information as necessary to support monitoring. The PIR cannot be used as a source of verification.

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Sustainable and climate-resilient management of the Basin's resources enabled through development of technical and policy tools, and filling gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning.	An updated TDA, and a design of transboundary monitoring programme endorsed by the DCG.	*#1 tool: Status and trends of Drin Basin biodiversity for priority areas and sediment balance are being developed.* End of Project: *#2 tool: Updated TDA considering climatic scenarios and "source to sea" interdependencies endorsed by the DCG.* *#3 tool: System for the management and sharing of data and information among riparians, is improved.* *#4 tool: Design of Basin-wide transboundary monitoring programme endorsed by the DCG.*	*delivery of critical project outputs*	*including evidence-from the PMU, DCG*			*reports, DGC meeting reports*	*organizations work cooperatively and provide the project with necessary information and data*
	Indicator 4 Staff of relevant institutions and selected stakeholder groups with improved basin management capacity.	Mid-term: *Gender responsive and inclusive training developed and rolled out at the appropriate scale leading to 50 staff successfully completing training.* End of Project: *Gender responsive and inclusive training developed and rolled out at the appropriate scale leading to 100 staff successfully completing training.*	*The indicator measures the level of participation to the capacity building program implemented by the project.*	*Project reports - including evidence-from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Reports of capacity building events*	*Technical staff of relevant Riparian's agencies willing to participate to the capacity building events*
Project Outcome 2 Effective cooperation among Drin Riparians and socio-economic sectors succeeded through the	**Indicator 5:** A Legal instrument for the management of the Drin Basin is negotiated and should agreement be reached, submitted for signature by the Drin Riparians.	Mid-Term: *Draft Legal Agreement negotiated by Drin Riparians.* End of Project: *Legal Agreement -should agreement be reached- submitted for signature of Drin Riparians' authorities.*	*The indicator measures the level of advancement towards a Legal Agreement for transboundary cooperation.*	*Project reports - including evidence-from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Reports on negotiations, and document of submission of the Agreement to the Drin Riparians' authorities for signature*	*Sustained commitment of all Riparians to the negotiation process*

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establishment of a transboundary institutional arrangement and the development of critical transboundary policy instruments.								
	Indicator 6: A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other is operational.	Mid-Term: *A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other, is proposed.* End of Project: *A Joint Coordination Mechanism in the form of a Drin Commission or other, made operational.*	*The indicator measures the progress in the consolidation of the mechanism for coordination in the basin.*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Proposal for the establishment of the Coordination Mechanism, DCG meeting report(s).* *New legal document for the management of the Drin Basin agreed by the Riparians OR letter of agreement of Riparians*	*Sustained commitment of all Riparians to the negotiation process*
	Indicator 7: Drin Core Group (DCG)/Joint Coordination Mechanism adopts key transboundary policy instruments.	Mid-Term: *Transboundary policy instruments under development.* End of Project: *Policy instruments developed and adopted by the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism.*	*The indicator measures the effectiveness of the project in terms of facilitating policy reforms*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*DCG meeting reports*	*Continuing commitment to SAP implementation.*
Project Outcome 3 SAP implementation is accelerated through regional, riparian and local solutions to address main causes of transboundary concern,	**Indicator 8:** Small rural communities in the four riparians test /are aware of the benefits and potentials for the ecosystems and health to be derived from the construction of small-scale wastewater treatment solutions.	Mid-Term: *Demonstration activities implemented in the four Drin Riparians.* End of Project: *Two wastewater treatment solutions in rural communities are constructed leading to the reduction of 15 tons of BOD5 and 1 ton of nutrients annually.* *Lessons learned reach at least 25 communities in the four Drin Riparians.*	*The indicator measures the success of the pilot demonstration.*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Evidence from implementation of demonstration activities, Annual reports, final Report*	*Institutions and authorities in each Riparian demonstrate through actions their support and stakeholders relevant for each pilot demonstration participate in their implementation.*

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promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience.	**Indicator 9:** Industries and SMEs in the Basin considering adoption of Environmentally Sound Technologies.	Mid-Term: *Demonstration of/capacity building activities on the TEST approach conducted in the four Drin Riparians.* End of Project: *At least 20 industries and SMEs are capacitated on and at least 5 of these implement the TEST approach leading to at least 15 % reduction in material/resources use and/or reduction of at least 15 % of pollutant emissions in each industry/SME.*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*
	Indicator 10: Sustainable agricultural practices are introduced in the Basin.	Mid-Term: *Demonstration activities conducted in selected areas in the sub-basins.* End of Project: *At least 2 agricultural businesses and 5 small farms test sustainable agricultural practices leading to the reduction of 50 tons of fertilizer and 600kg of pesticides annually.* *Lessons learned reach at least 50 small farms and agricultural business.*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*
	Indicator 11: Nature based solutions for erosion control applied in high priority areas.	Mid-Term: *Demonstration activities conducted in selected affected areas in the four Drin Riparians.* End of Project: *At least two nature-based solutions for erosion control implemented in the basin.* *A total of 220 hectares are subject to erosion control measures.*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*

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	Indicator 12: Transition of local economy towards green growth fostered in areas of ecological importance.	Mid-term: *Demonstration/capacity building events conducted in selected areas in the four Drin Riparians.* End of Project: *At least 5 local tourism businesses improve their business model using "green" approaches.* *Lessons learned reach at least 50 businesses.*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*
	Indicator 13: Improved management capacities and monitoring of compliance for commercial fisheries in transboundary lakes.	Mid-Term: *Gender responsive, inclusive and appropriately scaled capacity building and consultations with fisherpersons and relevant authorities on the introduction of best fishing practices and fishing monitoring and control.* End of Project: At least 4 authorities with enhanced capacities for sustainable fishery management. *At least 200 fisherpersons engaged in best fishing practices capacity building and awareness raising activities.*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*	*Same as above*
Project Outcome 4 Long-term sustainability of achievements is enhanced through implementation of project mechanisms for stakeholder's	**Indicator 14:** Gender mainstreaming and promotion of gender equality implemented throughout project lifetime.	Mid-Term: *NA* End of Project: *20 Women NGOs, networks, women led SME/ business, activists, experts, gender responsible institutions or alike are identified and informed about the project.* *A formal/informal partnership such as Gender Community of Practice is established.*	*The indicator measures the level of gender mainstreaming succeeded.*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Progress reports, Minutes of meetings and reports of project events*	*The commitment and convening power of the DCG support the PMU in the promotion of gender equality, and mainstreaming*

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participation, gender mainstreaming, dissemination, coordination and monitoring progress.		*40% of underrepresented gender participate in riparian level and regional dialogues.*						
	Indicator 15: Awareness among stakeholders raised through a Communications Strategy/Plan developed and implemented.	Mid-Term: *Outreach and Communications Strategy/Plan.* ***(X)*** *communications media (brochure/publication or equivalent) developed.* ***(XI)*** *awareness raising activities are implemented.* End of Project: *4 communications media (brochure/publication or equivalent) developed.* *4 awareness raising activities are implemented.*	*The indicator measures the level of awareness achieved*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Communications Strategy/Plan, communications media (brochure/publication or equivalent)*	*PMU successfully designs and implement the activities*
	Indicator 16: Number of Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized and delivered.	Mid-Term: ***(XII)*** *Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized, each one attended by at least 50 stakeholders.* End of Project: *At least 4 Annual Stakeholder Conferences organized each one attended by at least 50 stakeholders.*	*The indicator measures the level of participation and engagement achieved*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Annual Conferences' agendas and lists of participants*	*Stakeholders continue being interested in participating in the Drin CORDA process. PMU successfully designs and implement the activities*

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	Indicator 17: Donors' and other Projects active in the Drin Basin interest to participate in a dialogue and synergise for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin.	Mid-Term: *At least one Donors meeting organized attended by at least 5 Donors.* *Representatives of projects and initiatives active in the Drin Basin participate in ¼ of the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism meetings.* End of Project: *At least two Donors meetings organized each one attended by at least 5 Donors.* *Representatives of projects and initiatives active in the Drin Basin participate in ¼ of the DCG/Joint Coordination Mechanism meetings*.	*The indicator measures the level of awareness among donors and level of their engagement achieved*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU, DCG*	*Annually*	*PMU*	*Conferences' agendas and lists of participants, DCG meeting reports*	*The commitment and convening power of the DCG support the PMU in implementing the respective activities*
	Indicator 18: Number of IW:LEARN Experience Notes	Mid-Term: *One Experience Note.* End of Project: *Two experience Notes.*	*The indicator measures the level of collection and exchange of knowledge with the GEF IW community*	*Project reports - including evidence- from the PMU*	*End of project*	*PMU*	*Experience Notes*	*PMU successfully designs and implement the activities*

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Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

Table: GEF M&E requirements and M&E budget

Monitoring and Evaluation Budget for project execution:		
GEF M&E requirements to be undertaken by Project Management Unit (PMU)	**Indicative costs (US$)**	**Time frame**
Inception Workshop and Report	30,000	Inception Workshop within 2 months of the First Disbursement
M&E required to report on progress made in reaching GEF core indicators and project results included in the project results framework	*None*	Annually and at mid-point and closure.
Preparation of the annual GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	*None*	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework, SESP and ESMF	*None*	On-going.
Supervision missions	*None*	Annually
Learning missions	*None*	As needed
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):	15,000	Between 2nd and 3rd PIR, by 10 June 2026.
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE):	20,000	At least three months before operational closure, 30 August 2028.
Project Steering Committee meetings	50,000	As needed
TOTAL indicative COST	**USD 115,000**	

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VII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Oversight and monitoring responsibilities

Project Manager: The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks and of the staff and the team of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The Project Manager will inform the Project Steering Committee and the UNDP-GEF RTA of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The Project Manager will develop annual work plans to support the efficient implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF PIR, and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. gender strategy, knowledge management strategy etc.) occur on a regular basis.

Project Board / Project Steering Committee (PSC): The PSC will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The PSC will hold project reviews to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. In the project's final year, the PSC will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

Project Implementing Partner (Executing agency: GWP): The Implementing Partner is responsible for providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary and appropriate. The Implementing Partner will set annual targets, ensures they are on track and report them on regular basis in line with the M&E requirements for the project. GWP, as the Implementing Partner will regularly provide and retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project operational closure in order to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and/or the GEF IEO.

UNDP Albania: The Albania CO will provide oversight to the Project and ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment is undertaken in line with the Monitoring Policy of UNDP; that annual targets at the output level are developed and monitored and reported using UNDP corporate systems; the regular updating of the ATLAS risk log (in line with the risk management policy); and, the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress reported in the GEF PIR. Any quality concerns flagged during these M&E activities (e.g. annual GEF PIR quality assessment ratings) must be addressed by the UNDP Albania CO and the Project Manager. UNDP will retain all M&E records received from GWP for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure in order to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and/or the GEF IEO.

UNDP-BPPS/NCE-VF Unit: Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor.

Section 1: General roles and responsibilities in the projects' governance mechanism

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is Global Water Partnership.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

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- Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by riparians; institutes and is aligned with riparians' systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports riparian's systems.
- Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
- Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
- Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
- Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.
- Risk management as outlined in the Project Document;

Responsible Parties

UNECE will be a responsible party.

UNECE will:

(XIII) Be fully responsible for the implementation of Output 1.2 apart for the logistical organization of meetings under this Output;

(ii) Provide services for the implementation of Outputs 2.1.and 2.2. More specifically UNECE will provide technical support to the PMU for facilitating the negotiations among the Drin Riparians in reaching an agreement regarding the signing of a legal instrument text for the management of the Drin Basin. UNECE will participate in and assist in facilitating meetings, provide services for the development of the legal text etc. UNECE will also provide support to the PMU for the establishment/operation of the joint coordination mechanism; in this regard, UNECE will be responsible for the operation of the EWG on Monitoring and Information Exchange or any body that the Drin Riparians may decide to substitute this EWG. The project will take advantage of UNECE's specialized skills on transboundary monitoring and the establishment and operation of international agreements and joint bodies for the management of transboundary waters.

Responsible parties are directly accountable to the implementing partner in accordance with the terms of their agreement or contract with the implementing partner.

Given that responsible parties play an execution role and are directly accountable to the implementing partner, responsible parties should never serve on the Project Board to avoid a conflict of interest.

Project stakeholders and target groups: The officially appointed members of the Drin Core Group or the officially appointed members of a body that may succeed this should the draft international agreement text is signed and ratified by the parliaments of the Drin Riparians, will be participating in the Project Board/Steering Committee.

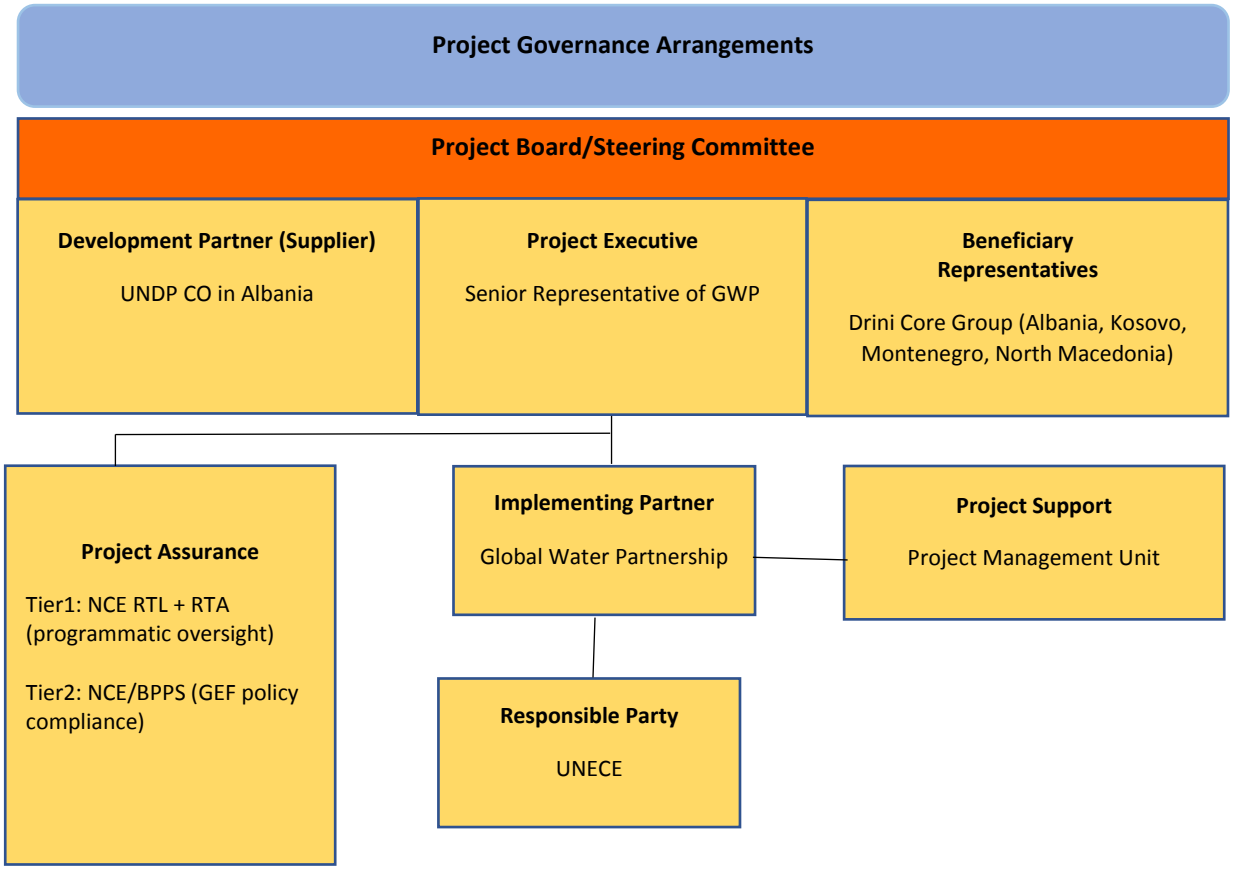
UNDP: UNDP will be responsible for overall project supervision and oversight through CSO execution modality with GWP. UNDP will be represented at the Project Board by Resident Representative or Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Albania. Project Quality Assurance from the Albania Country Office will be provided by the Senior Programme Coordinator.

UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

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Section 2: Project governance structure

The project governance structure is shown in Figure below.



GWP will supervise activities with the aim of achieving project outcomes and for the effective use of UNDP resources. It will have the responsibility to secure the establishment and supervision of the Project Management Unit (PMU).

Drini Core Group –DCG is a body with the mandate to coordinate actions for the implementation of the Shared Vision for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin and the related Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the ministries of the water and environment management of the Drin Riparians. DCG will ensure synergy with a broader sustainable transboundary water management work in the Drin River Basin. The Drini Core Group includes participation of UNDP COs, UNECE, GWP, Donors Representatives (observers).

UNDP BPPS NCE assumes technical oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A UNDP BPPS NCE representative will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Section 3: Segregation of duties and firewalls vis-à-vis UNDP representation on the project board

As noted in the Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agencies, in cases where a GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) carries out both implementation oversight and execution of a project, the GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) must separate its project implementation oversight and execution duties, and describe in the relevant project document a: 1) Satisfactory institutional arrangement for the separation of implementation oversight and executing functions in

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different departments of the GEF Partner Agency; and 2) Clear lines of responsibility, reporting and accountability within the GEF Partner Agency between the project implementation oversight and execution functions. In this case, UNDP is only performing an implementation oversight role in the project vis-à-vis UNDP's role in the project board and in the project assurance function and therefore a full separation of project implementation oversight and execution duties has been assured.

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of the Project Organization Structure

a) Project Board: All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The Project Board (also called the Project Steering Committee) is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a project.

The two main (mandatory) roles of the project board are as follows:

1) **High-level oversight of the execution of the project by the Implementing Partner** (as explained in the "Provide Oversight" section of the POPP). This is the primary function of the project board and includes annual (and as-needed) assessments of any major risks to the project, and decisions/agreements on any management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively. The Project Board reviews evidence of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, evaluations, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results.
2) **Approval of strategic project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner** with a view to assess and manage risks, monitor and ensure the overall achievement of projected results and impacts and ensure long term sustainability of project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner (as explained in the "Manage Change" section of the POPP).

Requirements to serve on the Project Board:

- ✓ Agree to the Terms of Reference of the Board and the rules on protocols, quorum and minuting.
- ✓ Meet annually; at least once.
- ✓ Disclose any conflict of interest in performing the functions of a Project Board member and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest. This disclosure must be documented and kept on record by UNDP.
- ✓ Discharge the functions of the Project Board in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures.
- ✓ Ensure highest levels of transparency and ensure Project Board meeting minutes are recorded and shared with project stakeholders.

Responsibilities of the Project Board:

- ✓ Consensus decision making:
  - The project board provides overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation.
  - Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report.
  - The project board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus.
  - In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition.
  - In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP representative on the board will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.
- ✓ Oversee project execution:
  - Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters outlined in the project document, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.
  - Appraise annual work plans prepared by the Implementing Partner for the Project.

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- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance.
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor and refer such proposed major and minor amendments to the UNDP BPPS Nature, Climate and Energy Executive Coordinator (and the GEF, as required by GEF policies).
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily and according to plans.
- Track and monitor co-financed activities and realisation of co-financing amounts of this project.
- Approve the Inception Report, GEF annual project implementation reports, mid-term review and terminal evaluation reports.
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.

✓ Risk Management:
- Provide guidance on evolving or materialized project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
- Review and update the project risk register and associated management plans based on the information prepared by the Implementing Partner. This includes risks related that can be directly managed by this project, as well as contextual risks that may affect project delivery or continued UNDP compliance and reputation but are outside of the control of the project. For example, social and environmental risks associated with co-financed activities or activities taking place in the project's area of influence that have implications for the project.
- Address project-level grievances.

✓ Coordination:
- Ensure coordination between various donor and authorities -funded projects and programmes.
- Ensure coordination with various authorities and their participation in project activities.

The composition of the Project Board must include the following three roles:

1. Project Executive (senior representative of the Implementing Partner): Individuals who represents ownership of the project and chairs/co-chairs the Project Board.
2. Beneficiary Representative(s) (Riparians' representatives on the PSC): Individuals or groups representing the interests of those groups of stakeholders who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries.
3. Development Partner(s) (UNDP Albania): Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: Resident Representative or Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Albania.

b) <u>Project Assurance</u>: Project assurance is the responsibility of each project board member; however, UNDP has a distinct assurance role for all UNDP projects in carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. UNDP performs quality assurance and supports the Project Board (and Project Management Unit) by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, including compliance with the risk management and social and environmental standards of UNDP. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution**.**

A designated representative of UNDP playing the project assurance role is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative. It should be noted that while in certain cases UNDP's project assurance role across the project may encompass activities happening at several levels (e.g. global, regional), at least one UNDP representative playing that function must, as part of their duties, specifically attend board meeting and provide board members with the required documentation required to perform their duties.

The Project assurance will be covered by UNDP, which will have 2 Tiers:

- - Tier 1 – substantive/programmatic oversight by NCE RTL+RTA
- - Tier 2 will have 2 components: NCE/BPPS (not RTA /RTL) i) Oversight of project compliance with the GEF policy ii) Compliance with the UNDP PPM

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c) **Project Management – Execution of the Project:** The Project Manager (PM) (also called project coordinator) is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU), will operate under the supervision of the Implementing Partner and is responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the project on behalf of the Implementing Partner, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The Project Manager typically presents key deliverables and documents to the board for their review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk registers.

A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be hosted by GWP. Drin Riparian Coordinators will be stationed in each one of the beneficiary Riparians. It is foreseen that an international recruitment will be launched by GWP Med to identify the most suitable experts to be part of the PMU unless existing staff qualifies for any of the PMU positions; in the latter case existing staff will be serving as part of the PMU. The Project Manager will operate under the supervision of GWP at the PMU and will coordinate with riparian level institutions, riparian level and regional consultants and take care of the project activities on a day-by-day basis.

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VIII. FINANCIAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The total cost of the project is USD 7,105,936. This is financed through a GEF grant of USD 7,105,936 administered by UNDP. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, is responsible for the oversight of the GEF resources transferred to UNDP bank account only.

Co-financing: The actual realization of project co-financing amounts will be monitored by UNDP and the PMU on an annual basis in the GEF PIF and will be reported to the GEF during the mid-term review and terminal evaluation process as follows:

Co-financing source	Co-financing type	Co-financing amount
Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, Kosovo	In-kind	5,503,086
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Directorate for Water, Montenegro	In-kind	2,468,621
Ministry of Environment, and Physical Planning, North Macedonia	In-kind	23,627,316
UNDP	In-kind	230,000
Austrian Development Agency	In-kind	720,165
Swiss Cooperation Office in Kosovo	In-kind	8,230,453
Global Water Partnership Mediterranean	In-kind	600,000
Total		41,379,641

Exchange Rate: 1USD/0.972EUR

Budget Revision and Tolerance: As per UNDP POPP, the project board may agree with the project manager on a tolerance level for each detailed plan under the overall multi-year workplan. The agreed tolerance should be written in the project document or approved project board meeting minutes. It should normally not exceed 10 percent of the agreed annual budget at the activity level, but within the overall approved multi-year workplan at the activity level. Within the agreed tolerances, the project manager can operate without intervention from the project board. Restrictions apply as follows:

Should the following deviations occur, the Project Manager/IP through UNDP Country Office will seek the approval of the BPPS/NCE-VF team to ensure accurate reporting to the GEF. It is strongly encouraged to maintain the expenditures within the approved budget at the budgetary account and at the component level:

a) Budget reallocations must prove that the suggested changes in the budget will not lead to material changes in the results to be achieved by the project. A strong justification is required and will be approved on an exceptional basis. Budget re-allocations among the components (including PMC) of the approved Total Budget and Work Plans (TBWP) that represent a value greater than 10% of the total GEF grant.
b) Introduction of new outputs/activities (i.e. budget items) that were not part of the agreed project document and TBWP that represent a value greater than 5% of the total GEF grant. The new budget items must be eligible as per the GEF and UNDP policies.
c) Project management cost (PMC): budget under PMC component is capped and cannot be increased.

Any over expenditure incurred beyond the available GEF grant amount must be absorbed by non-GEF resources (e.g. UNDP TRAC or cash co-financing).

Project extensions: The UNDP Resident Representative and the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator must approve all project extension requests. Note that all extensions incur costs and the GEF project budget cannot be increased. A single extension may be granted on an exceptional basis and subject to the conditions and maximum durations set out in the

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UNDP POPP; the project management costs during the extension period must remain within the originally approved amount, and any increase in PMC costs will be covered by non-GEF resources; the additional UNDP oversight costs during the extension period must be covered by non-GEF resources, in accordance with UNDP's guidance set out in UNDP POPP.

Audit: The project will be audited as per UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies. Audit cycle and process must be discussed during the Inception workshop.

Project Closure: Project closure will be conducted as per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP. All costs incurred to close the project must be included in the project closure budget and reported as final project commitments presented to the Project Board during the final project review. The only costs a project may incur following the final project review are those included in the project closure budget.

Operational completion: The project will be operationally completed when the last UNDP-financed inputs have been provided and the related activities have been completed. This includes the final clearance of the Terminal Evaluation Report (that will be available in English) and the corresponding management response, and the end-of-project review Project Board meeting. **Operational closure must happen at the end date calculated by the approved duration after the Project Document signature or at the revised operational closure date as approved in the project extension. Any expected activity after the operational date requires project extension approval.** The Implementing Partner through a Project Board decision will notify the UNDP Country Office when operational closure has been completed. At this time, the project should have completed the transfer or disposal of any equipment that is still the property of UNDP.

Transfer or disposal of assets: In consultation with the Implementing Partner and other parties of the project, UNDP is responsible for deciding on the transfer or other disposal of assets. Transfer or disposal of assets is recommended to be reviewed and endorsed by the project board following UNDP rules and regulations. Assets may be transferred to the authorities for project activities managed by a national institution at any time during the life of a project (it is strongly encouraged to be done before the operational closure date). In all cases of transfer, a transfer document must be prepared and kept on file[17]. The transfer should be done before Project Management Unit complete their assignments.

Financial completion (closure): The project will be financially closed when the following conditions have been met: a) the project is operationally completed or has been cancelled; b) the Implementing Partner has reported all financial transactions to UNDP; c) UNDP has closed the accounts for the project; d) UNDP and the Implementing Partner have certified a final Combined Delivery Report (which serves as final budget revision).

The project will be financially completed **within 6 months of operational closure or after the date of cancellation**. If Operational Closure is delayed for any justified and approved reason, the Country Office should do all efforts to Financially Close the project within 9 months after TE is completed. Between operational and financial closure, the implementing partner will identify and settle all financial obligations and prepare a final expenditure report. The UNDP Country Office will send the final signed closure documents including confirmation of final cumulative expenditure and unspent balance to the BPPS/NCE-VF Unit for confirmation before the project will be financially closed in Atlas by the UNDP Country Office.

Refund to GEF: Should a refund of unspent funds to the GEF be necessary, this will be managed directly by the BPPS/NCE-VF Directorate in New York. No action is required by the UNDP Country Office on the actual refund from UNDP project to the GEF Trustee.

[17] See https://popp.undp.org/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PPM_Project%20Management_Closing.docx&action=default.

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IX. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Atlas Award ID:	00134934	Atlas Output Project ID:	00126392
Atlas Proposal or Award Title:	Drin SAP		
Atlas Business Unit	ALB10		
Atlas Primary Output Project Title	Implementing the Strategic Action Programme of the Drin Basin to strengthen transboundary cooperation and enable integrated natural resources management		
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	*6300*		
Implementing Partner	*Global Water Partnership*		

Atlas Activity (GEF Component)	**Atlas Implementing Agent (Responsible Party/[1] , IP, or UNDP)**	**Atlas Fund ID**	**Donor Name**	**Atlas Budgetary Account Code**	**ATLAS Budget Account Description**	**Amount Year 2024 (USD)**	**Amount Year 2025 (USD)**	**Amount Year 2026 (USD)**	**Amount Year 2027 (USD)**	**Amount Year 2028 (USD)**	**Total (USD)**	**See Budget Note:**
COMPONENT 1 *(as per Table B of CEO endorsement request)*	**GWP/UNECE**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants	98.836	135.476	138.996	106.196	94.676	574.182	1, 3
				71300	Local Consultants	45.417	69.417	63.417	51.417	39.417	269.085	2, 4
				72100	Contractual services – Companies	160.000	488.500	217.000	118.500	0	984.000	5

				71600	Travel	4.750	10.250	7.000	6.000	1.500	29.500	6
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	14.500	59.000	49.000	36.500	14.500	173.500	7
					Total Outcome 1	**323.503**	**762.643**	**475.413**	**318.613**	**150.093**	**2.030.267**	
COMPONENT 2: *(as per Table B of CEO endorsement request)*	**GWP/UNECE**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants	170.044	193.844	115.044	129.044	85.744	693.719	1, 8
				71300	Local Consultants	39.514	39.514	56.314	56.314	39.514	231.171	2, 9
				72100	Contractual services – Companies	0	30.000	190.000	210.000	40.000	470.000	10
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	0	0	10.000	0	0	10.000	11
				72800	Information Technology Equipment	0	0	10.000	0	0	10.000	12
				74100	Professional Services	0	0	0	20.000	15.000	35.000	13
				71600	Travel	5.500	7.750	8.750	8.000	3.000	33.000	6
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	47.000	47.000	47.000	43.000	25.000	209.000	14
					Total Outcome 2	**262.058**	**318.108**	**437.108**	**466.358**	**208.258**	**1.691.890**	
COMPONENT 3: *(as per Table B of CEO*	**GWP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants	126.229	203.309	152.169	120.169	102.169	704.046	1, 15
				71300	Local Consultants	48.120	88.120	64.120	50.120	50.120	300.599	2, 16

endorsement request)												
				72100	Contractual Services-Companies	10.000	155.000	315.000	380.000	35.000	895.000	17
				72800	Information Technology Equipment	0	0	98.000	166.000	30.000	294.000	18
				71600	Travel	2.500	12.000	6.500	5.000	4.000	30.000	6
				74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	0	0	0	30.000	0	30.000	19
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	2.000	30.000	7.000	32.000	41.000	112.000	20
				74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	2.000	1.000	0	3.000	21
					Total Outcome 3	**188.849**	**488.429**	**644.789**	**784.289**	**262.289**	**2.368.645**	
COMPONENT 4 and M&E[2] *(as per Table B of CEO endorsement request)*	**GWP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants	8.544,00	8.544,00	18.546,00	8.546,00	33.546,00	77.726,00	*1*
				71300	Local Consultants	12.606,00	12.606,00	12.606,00	12.606,00	12.606,00	63.030,00	*2*
				72100	Contractual Services-Companies	15.000,00	26.000,00	26.000,00	16.000,00	26.000,00	109.000,00	*23*
				74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	30.000,00	-	-	30.000,00	60.000,00	*24*
				71600	Travel	18.000,00	3.000,00	19.000,00	3.000,00	19.000,00	62.000,00	*25*
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	10.000,00	45.000,00	45.000,00	45.000,00	45.000,00	190.000,00	*26*
					Total Outcome 4	**64.150,00**	**125.150,00**	**121.152,00**	**85.152,00**	**166.152,00**	**561.756,00**	

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M&E				74100	Professional Services	-	-	15.000,00	-	20.000,00	35.000,00	*22*
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	40.000,00	10.000,00	10.000,00	10.000,00	10.000,00	80.000,00	
					Total	**40.000,00**	**10.000,00**	**25.000,00**	**10.000,00**	**30.000,00**	**115.000,00**	
Project management COST[3] (This is not to appear as an Outcome in the Results Framework)	**GWP/UNDP**	**62000**	**GEF**	71200	International Consultants	42.000	42.000	42.000	42.000	42.000	210.000	*27*
				71300	Local Consultants	23.676	23.676	23.676	23.676	23.676	118.378	*28*
				74100[4]	Professional Services	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	10.000	*29*
					Total Management	**67.676**	**67.676**	**67.676**	**67.676**	**67.676**	**338.378**	
				PROJECT TOTAL		**906.238,00**	**1.762.006,00**	**1.746.138,00**	**1.722.087,00**	**854.467,00**	**7.105.936,00**	

Budget Notes

Budget Note No.	Project Output (Description)
1	- Chief technical advisor- providing substantive/technical inputs and support to project activities. - Communication expert to develop communication strategy, communication material and implement communication campaigns. - Gender expert to provide guidance on the implementation of the gender plan and indicators. - Finance Officer. - Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert. - Logistical arrangements and support for the implementation of activities. - In Component 4 Audits/spot ($25,000) – to be administered by UNDP.
2	- Project Officers/Drin Riparians Coordinators to support the CTA/PM in coordinating the work of the international and riparian level consultants engaged for project implementation and providing substantive/technical inputs and support to project activities.

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3	- International expert to develop updated TDA using also results of Outputs 1.3-1.5 (assume 40 days @ $600/day). - Pollution, hydrology and biodiversity experts to advise on quality assurance of products (assume 60 days each @ $600/day). - Hydrologist/hydrogeologist to advise on quality assurance of products (assume 18 days @ $600/day). - Hydrologist/hydrogeologist to advise on quality assurance of products (assume 18 days @ $600/day). - Hydrologist/hydrogeologist to calibrate the hydrologic model and couple it with the energy model and further: work for the identification of scenarios regarding different levels of cooperation/coordination among the HPP companies for the operation of the dams; testing these scenarios using the aforementioned hydrologic and energy models; develop recommendations regarding operation rules for each one of the dams under different scenario (assume 20 days @ $600/day). - Trainers for capacity building activities (Assume 7 events 6 days each @ $600/day).
4	- Local experts to provide input for the development of the transboundary monitoring program (assume 12 experts 20 days each @ $200/day). - Local experts to provide input for the: determination of the status and trends of Drin Basin biodiversity for priority areas; determination of minimum ecological flows for the Drin basin (assume 8 experts 15 days each @ $200/day). - Local consultants to digitize historic hydrometeorological data to be added in the Drin IMS database (assume 4 experts 10 days each @ $200/day).
5	- Update of socioeconomic /water uses, and water resources and basin governance parts of the TDA developed through the foundational Projects to include related information since their development and marine related information. - Update of Drin Basin hydrological map as per WFD and update of hydrogeological map including transboundary aquifers in the Drin Basin. - Review of existing climate change scenarios along with existing data on water uses/demand per sector including agriculture, industry, energy, domestic etc. to feed hydrologic models. Update and increase precision of: water balance prepared through the foundational project using additional data coming from other on-going projects and newly developed hydrological model; water stress under different climate change and developmental scenarios for the Drin sub-basins; interactions of freshwater with the shallow marine environment. - Develop riparian level/sub basin water quality pollution risk maps and inventory of hotspots (regarding hazardous substances, heavy metals, pesticides, etc.) and identify potential sites for early warning of accidental release monitoring/warning, to inform policy making/guide necessary managerial action. Develop recommendations of priority actions to be undertaken. Assess marine pollution and related pressures. Assess marine ecosystems. - Editing, developing of the layout of the report to be ready for printing. - Assess: (i) existing monitoring programs and capacities at the Riparians' level and (ii) required needs and procedures for the Riparian to perform monitoring in the Drin Basin at the transboundary level, in accordance with EU directives and strategic guidance from the Water Convention. - Development of an agreement on a Drin transboundary monitoring program, including (the list is to be finalized during project implementation) locations of monitoring stations building on riparian level networks, and joint monitoring guidelines for Riparians based on international guidance and standards for implementing monitoring protocols. - Determination of the status and trends of Drin Basin biodiversity -key habitats and species- for priority areas in terms of (the list is indicative) among others: fish stocks in lakes and rivers; condition of coastal/marine ecosystems and marine fisheries etc. - Determination of minimum ecological flows for the Drin basin. - Identification of pressures along with their causes and impacts, on sediment balance/transport (including in relation to reservoirs siltation, land degradation hotspots and impacts on riverbed) by a review of existing data and using sediment transport model(s). Further, update understanding of sediment balance trends and its impacts on

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	coastal erosion /deposition processes as means to develop key recommendations for policy making, law drafting and management actions, relating amongst others, the identification of areas for the exploitation of riverbed material and the development of criteria and standards for extraction. - Calibrate the energy model and couple it with the hydrology model and further: work for the identification of scenarios regarding different levels of cooperation/coordination among the HPP companies for the operation of the dams; testing these scenarios using the aforementioned hydrologic and energy models; develop recommendations regarding operation rules for each one of the dams under different scenario. - Identification of compensation schemes for HP companies to be used for utilizing the dams as floods mitigation mechanism and development of feasibility study to assess the scope and level of cooperation. - Consultancy to work for the following: Identification of the status of existing relevant Riparian Information Management Systems (IMS) and analysis of historical Drin data for incorporation in the IMS; Definition of additional Drin data management requirements; Agreement on data processing procedures and exchange formats at the regional level; Agreement on specifications of data exchange protocols; Preparation of functional and technical requirements to develop and test data exchange mechanisms/procedures among Riparians; Digitization of historic monitoring data; Development, implementation and testing of the updated Transboundary Drin Basin Information Management System (Drin IMS v2); Training of staff of responsible institutions. - Consultancy for the development, operation and maintenance of Transboundary Drin Basin Information Management System of the fully-fledged regional IMS. - Preparation of material for CB workshops and train stakeholders. - UNECE being responsible for the implementation of Output 1.2, and providing support for the implementation of Outputs 2.1. ($220,000)
6	- Travel of international and local consultants.
7	- 6 workshops (one in each of the Riparians apart from Albania where three will be implemented to geographically cover the area) to discuss the perceptions of stakeholders with regard to managerial issues and expectations from the project @ $2,000/workshop. - Meetings of the EWGs (assume 3 meetings at $10,000/meeting). - Meetings among the Energy responsible ministries the DCG and the HPPs from N. Macedonia and Albania to discuss dams operational rules and related cooperation scheme and agreement (assume 4 meetings @ $1,000 /meeting). - Meetings of the EWGs and officials to agree on the parameters of the IMS (assume 3 meetings in total @ $10,000 per meeting). - Capacity Building events, assume 7 CB events @ $12,500 each. - Participation of stakeholders in international CB events.

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8	- International waters management specialist to facilitate negotiation process and meetings and contribute to the development of the final legal agreement text (assuming 33 days @ $600/day). - International water law expert to facilitate discussion during negotiation meetings and prepare final legal agreement text (assuming 45 days @ $600/day). - International waters management specialists to provide support for the deliberation of the functions of the DCG or the Body to be defined under the legal instrument, that will function as the secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism providing technical and administrative support for the operation to the JCM. (assuming ~33 days per year @ $600/day). - International water law expert to provide training to the staff of the Body to be defined under the legal instrument, that will function as the secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism (assuming 8 days @ $600/day). - Development of the ToR for the preparation of a River Basin Management Plan in accordance with the WFD 5 days @ $1,000 /day. - International expert to prepare flood risk and hazard maps for the transboundary areas of white Drin (KS) and to guide on update of the IBFRMS&P (assume 60 days @ $600/day). - Review existing information and data, identify knowledge gaps, prepare the ToR for any additional research is necessary and guide the implementation of this research, review existing management plans, facilitate the work of the joint technical working groups that will elaborate and discuss harmonized management tools for the adjacent protected areas and prepare the documentation in relation to the harmonized management tools to be agreed by the Protected Areas Authorities (assuming days 90 @$600/day). - Hydrology expert to advise on quality assurance of products (assume 15 days @ $600/day).
9	- Water resources management specialists to provide support for the deliberation of the functions of the Expert Working Groups of the DCG and the DCG or the Body to be defined under the legal instrument, that will function as the secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism providing technical and administrative support for the operation to the JCM. (assuming 40 days per year @ $200/day). - Protected areas experts to participate in joint technical working groups that will elaborate and discuss harmonized management tools for the adjacent protected areas (assume 12 experts with 14 days @$200/day).
10	- Development of a River Basin Management Plan. - Company to draft the update of the IBFRMS&P including collection of the data for the hydrological model update, record existing flood protection measures, propose applicable new measures and assess their sustainability and potential socio-economic effects (including various experts, as per requirements). - Field research related to the ecosystems and biodiversity to fill in existing knowledge gaps. - Development of a Drought Management Plan for the parts of Drin extending in Kosovo and North Macedonia. - UNECE providing support for the implementation of Outputs 2.1 and 2.2. ($220,000) - Consultancy for Environmental and Social Safeguards activities ($200,000)
11	- Equipment for the office of the Body to be defined under the legal instrument, that will function as the secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism.
12	- IT equipment for the office of the Body to be defined under the legal instrument, that will function as the secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism.
13	- Editing, developing of the layout of the report to be ready for printing.

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14	- 4 meetings to negotiate the legal instrument @ $10,000 / meeting. - 4 consultation meetings between the facilitators and the Riparians with the aim to reach consensus on points of disagreement or concern @ 1000 / meeting. - One meeting of the Drin Core Group or the Joint Coordination Body to be established per year @ $10,000 / meeting. - One meeting of the 4 EWGs of the Drin Core Group or the Joint Coordination Body to be established per year @ $15,000 / meeting. - 6 workshops (one in each of the Riparians apart from Albania where three will be implemented to geographically cover the area) to discuss results of component 1 perceptions of stakeholders with regard to managerial issues under the light of updated TDA and vision with regard to the management of the Basin as basis for the development of the River Basin Management Plan / introduce the stakeholders in the RBM plan development process @ $2,000/workshop. - Two riparian level stakeholders workshops for consultation and presentation for the IBFRMS&P each @ $3,000 USD. - 7 meetings of the Joint Expert Working Groups @ $1,000 each. - One workshop to consult on the management measures in each of the Riparians @ $1,000 each. - One workshop to consult on the management measures at transboundary level @ $3,000 each. - Two multi-stakeholders consultation workshops in each of North Macedonia and Kosovo, the first to present the project and understand the needs and perceptions and the second to present and validate the analysis and consult on the program of measures @ $2,000 each.
15	- Wastewater treatment expert(s) (hydrologist, civil engineer or similar) for: (1) selection of the sites for the design/construction of wastewater treatment solutions including: finalization of the list of selection criteria; preliminary assessment of costs in each potential site etc. (2) Development of the technical documentation needed for preparing the feasibility/design studies; (3) prepare design of the solutions to be implemented (ready for tendering); (4) Monitoring and assessment of activity (5) prepare lessons learned report along with advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments (assume 45 days @ $600/day). - International expert for: Initial screening and assessment of status of selected mines and quarries (based on their level of pollution risk) with proposal of appropriate remediation actions; Capacity building on TEST methodology (for enterprises posing water pollution risks in the Basin); Selection of the enterprises to implement the TEST; Lead development of feasibility analysis and action plans; Monitoring and evaluation; Knowledge dissemination and lessons learned. Coordination of experts, quality assurance. (assume 65 days @ $600/day). - International expert on application of Precision agriculture to: Conduct awareness raising workshops; Support consultation with large agricultural businesses and farmers to explore interest in participating in the activity; Support discussions with banks and donors in upscaling activities; Finalize the selection criteria and support selection of the agricultural businesses/farmers to work with; Screen agricultural processes and development of recommendations reports; Develop of action plans/recommendation report for the implementation of activities; Develop ToR for equipment; Monitor and evaluation of results; Develop advice to the Drin Riparians for related policy and legal instruments (assume 65 days @ $600/day). - Erosion expert to: Support the work with donors and financing partners to investigate options and opportunities for scaling up successful solutions; Develop regional report/guidelines on applicability of erosion control measures; Develop advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments regarding erosion control (assume 40 days @ $600/day). - Tourism expert to: Develop an assessment of the touristic potential in the protected areas of focus; Finalize the list of criteria for the selection of the successful proposals of the “Greening the tourism innovation challenge” and develop the call; Provide advice to selected companies to implement the measures selected; Monitor and assess results; Do capacity building on sustainable tourism trends and opportunities for SMEs in tourism sector (assume 50 days @ $600/day). - One international fishery experts to: support establishment and operation of joint technical groups to work on fish stock data collection and assessment methods and fishing related law enforcement measures; undertake capacity building and training activities; organize and coordinate implementation of joint data collection, and development of

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	protocols or equivalent on fish stock data collection and assessment methods and fishing monitoring compliance and control practices in transboundary areas including protocols of action in case of illegal fishing ; do monitoring and evaluation of demonstration activity (assume 40 days @ $600/day). - Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert for SESA/ESMP.
16	- Wastewater treatment expert(s) (hydrologist, civil engineer or similar) for: (1) selection of the sites for the design/construction of wastewater treatment solutions including: finalization of the list of selection criteria; preliminary assessment of costs in each potential site etc. (2) Development of the technical documentation needed for preparing the feasibility/design studies; (3) prepare design of the solutions to be implemented (ready for tendering); (4) Monitoring and assessment of activity (5) prepare lessons learned report along with advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instrument (assume 4 experts 20 days @ $200/day). - Local consultants for various expertise (waste water and, chemical management, water use and irrigation , IT solutions) to provide support for international expert (assume 4 experts 30 days @ $200/day each). - 4 local consultants to support international consultant (assume 10 days each@ $200). - Local tourism experts (one per Riparian) to support the international expert (assume 20 days each@ $200). - 4 local experts (one per Riparian) to support work of international expert and conduction of limited targeted ecosystem surveys (assume 20 days each @ $200).
17	- Full design of the solutions to be implemented. Implementation (construction works or/and equipment installation). - a) awareness-raising of best environmental practices (BEP) for industry b) recommendation on applying BEP to specific industry/sectors and development of enterprise specific feasibility studies/technical documentation c) support implementation of BEP (Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (TEST) UNIDO in selected enterprises. - Provide advise/training to Agri businesses and farmers to implement the action plans; implementation of the Action Plans. - Prepare feasibility studies for a set of ecosystem-based measures for reducing erosion/sedimentation transport in upper parts of Sateska River and erosion control at Bojana/Buna Delta; Development of full design and preparation of the tender dossiers for implementing selected mitigation measures at the two locations; Oversee the implementation of measures in the two locations. - Implementation of erosion control and sedimentation transport measures and constructions in Sateska River and Buna/Bojana Delta. - Small grants – Implementation of selected actions on the basis of the “Greening of the tourism innovation challenge”. - Review available data on fish stock, vulnerable species, and ecosystems status characterization including: a. Analysis of baseline data related to fish stocks and identification of data gaps for efficient fish stocks transboundary management. B. Propose the areas and methods for additional data collection on targeted transboundary species c. Assess management and fishing practices to identify/understand the extent to which these have an adverse effect. - Consultancy for Environmental and Social Safeguards activities ($100,000)
18	- Equipment needed for implementation of the actions from action plans. - Small grants scheme – Equipment to be procured on the basis of the action plan. - Purchase of the equipment for monitoring by using rapid non-invasive techniques and enforcement of protection (i.e. drones, IC cameras, protective equipment, boas, motors, etc.).
19	- Audio-visual material.

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20	- 4 consultation meetings with local population @ $1000 each. - 4 trainings for enterprises each @ $1,000. - One regional capacity building workshop @ $10,000. - Two Riparian awareness raising workshops each four Riparians to promote and disseminate knowledge each @ 4000 USD. - 4 riparian level workshops each @ $1,000. - Awareness raising workshop on the negative effects of erosion related practices (agriculture and extractive practitioners) @15000 USD. - One regional workshops @ $25,000. - One regional training @ $10,000. - 8 meetings of the technical working groups @ $1,000 each.
21	- Petrol, small equipment and lunch for hands-on fishermen training.
22	- M&E budget (Professional Services: Mid-term and terminal evaluation ($35,000)), to be administered by UNDP. Inception meeting ($30,000) and steering committee meeting costs ($50,000) to be administered by GWP
23	- Drin Day – NGO Grants. - Awareness raising materials. - Revisiting the structure and content of the Drin CORDA site.
24	- Audio-visual material.
25	- Travel in the annual stakeholders conferences and Drin Day activities. - Travel costs to participate in global events. - Participation in IW biannual conferences.
26	- 4 Annual multi-stakeholders conferences and donors conferences/coordination events @ $45,000 each - Inception Workshop (part of the M&E) - One meeting of the Drin Core Group or the Joint Coordination Body to be established per year @ $10,000 / meeting – one meeting per year also under Output 1.2 (part of the M&E)
27	- PM/CTA Managing project and PMU
28	- Managing locally project activities, interaction with stakeholders and institutions
29	- Audit expenses for implementing agency

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X. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project forms part of an overall programmatic framework under which several separate associated country level activities will be implemented. When assistance and support services are provided from this Project to the associated country level activities, this document shall be the "Project Document" instrument referred to in: (i) the respective signed SBAAs for the specific countries and territories; or (ii) in the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document attached to the Project Document in cases where the recipient country or territory has not signed an SBAA with UNDP, attached hereto and forming an integral part hereof. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by Global Water Partnership ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply**.**

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations or UNDP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

XI. RISK MANAGEMENT

Option c. CSO/NGO/Non-UN or other IGO with no signed SBEAA with UNDP

1. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of the Implementing Partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the Implementing Partner's custody, rests with the Implementing Partner. To this end, the Implementing Partner shall:
   a) put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country/territory where the project is being carried;
   b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the Implementing Partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

2. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document and the Project Cooperation Agreement between UNDP and the Implementing Partner[18].

3. The Implementing Partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml.

4. The Implementing Partner acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the Implementing Partner, and each of its responsible parties, their respective sub-recipients and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.

[18] Use bracketed text only when IP is an NGO/IGO

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(a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").

(b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

5. a) In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, the Implementing Partner shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, the Implementing Partner will, and will require that such sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:

    i. Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;

    ii. Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4, have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, the Implementing Partner and such sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

    iii. Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;

    iv. Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and

    v. Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. The Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

    b) The Implementing Partner shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4, to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

6. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).

7. The Implementing Partner shall: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and

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complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

8. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

9. The Implementing Partner will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or using the UNDP funds. The Implementing Partner will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption and anti-fraud policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

10. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to the Implementing Partner: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. The Implementing Partner agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

11. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP has the obligation to conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects in accordance with UNDP regulations, rules, policies and procedures. The Implementing Partner shall provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to the Implementing Partner's (and its consultants', responsible parties', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with the Implementing Partner to find a solution.

12. The Implementing Partner will promptly inform UNDP in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

    Where the Implementing Partner becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, the Implementing Partner will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). The Implementing Partner shall provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

13. UNDP shall be entitled to a refund from the Implementing Partner of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the Implementing Partner under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail the Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document.

    Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the Implementing Partner agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to the Implementing Partner for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

    Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with the Implementing Partner, responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

14. Each contract issued by the Implementing Partner in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from the Implementing Partner shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

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15. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

16. The Implementing Partner shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are passed on to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management" are included, *mutatis mutandis*, in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

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XII. ANNEXES

Annex A: Priority transboundary issues of concern and their root causes

Priority problem 1: deterioration of water quality

Description of the transboundary problem

The deterioration of water quality (in all or part of the following in the case of each of the Riparians: rivers, lakes, groundwaters and coastal and transitional waters) is a problem that affects all Riparians in the Drin Basin. All kind of diffuse (agriculture and agglomerations) and point sources of pollution (towns and villages, industrial activities, etc.) exist in the Drin Basin. Different sources and pollution pressures of varying intensity are found in different sub-basins.
All Riparians are either meeting the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (as in the case of Greece) or are in the process of meeting these requirements through the development of RBMPs that will address the issues resulting in the failure to reach good ecological status (or potential).
The analysis (see Thematic Report on Pollution and Water Quality) highlighted the following water quality issues that are of transboundary concern:

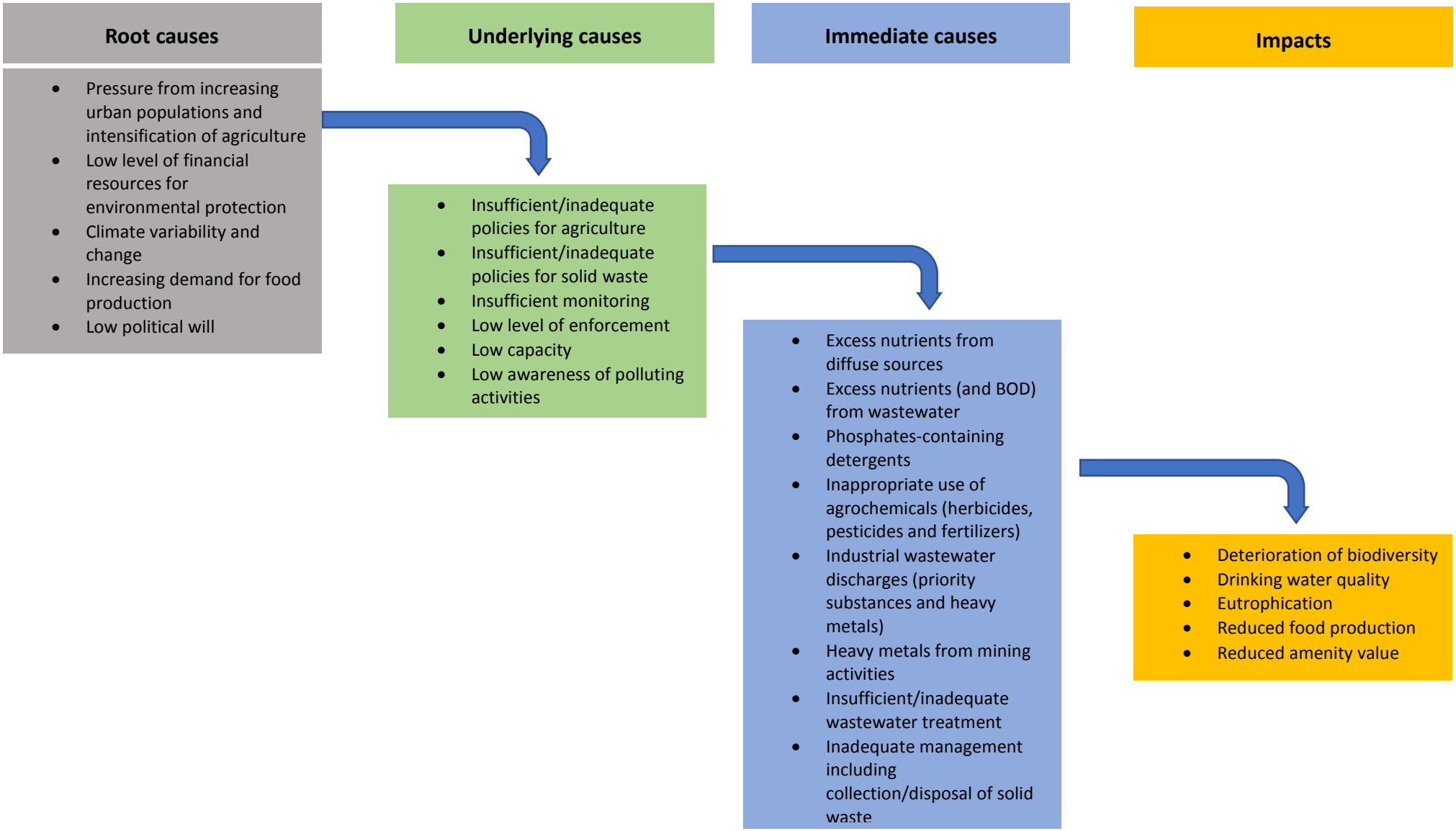
- Excess nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) are considered a problem across most of the Drin Basin. About 50 percent of the total nutrient load derives from agricultural diffuse sources, with 30 percent deriving from inadequate or insufficient wastewater treatment from domestic sources. Although nitrogen pollution is considered low compared with Europe, within the basin there is evidence of high levels in Lake Ohrid, the White Drin River, tributaries of Lake Skadar/Shkodër and especially the Morača River. Phosphorus (a significant part of which derives from wastewater effluents) was considered a major issue across the basin. Coastal waters are considered to be at risk from receiving excess nutrients.
- Excess biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) is an issue across the Drin Basin, particularly in the White Drin River and Lake Skadar/Shkodër sub-basins.
- Industrial, mining and solid waste sources are having detectable impacts in the form of chemical oxygen demand (COD), heavy metals (although there is a need to better understand anthropogenic and natural sources) and in some locations, priority substances. Heavy metals and priority substances are also an issue in groundwaters (for example, the White Drin River) and in sediments (for example, Lake Skadar/Shkodër).

Causal chain analysis for deterioration of water quality

The figure below indicates the main links between the causes of pollution for nutrients, BOD/COD and heavy metals/priority substances in the Drin Basin. This is further elaborated in the summary presented in Table 3, which shows the main goods and services at risk, the main ecosystem and socio-economic impacts, sectors causing and impacted by the problem of pollution and the immediate, underlying and root causes of the deterioration of the water quality.

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Causes and impacts of pollution on water quality



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Causal chain analysis for the deterioration of the water quality in the Drin Basin

Deterioration of water quality	
Goods and services at risk	• Drinking water supply • Ecological requirements/services • Tourism • Freshwater and marine fisheries • Agricultural/industrial water supply
Impacts (resulting from deterioration of water quality) on: ecosystems and socio-economics	• Deterioration of biodiversity • Drinking water quality • Eutrophication • Reduced food production (agriculture, fish) • Reduced amenity value

Sectors	• Agriculture
	• Urban
	  ○ urban development
	  ○ water supply
	  ○ solid waste management
	• Industry (including solid waste management)
	• Mining

Immediate causes	• Excess nutrients from diffuse sources • Excess nutrients (and BOD) from wastewater • Phosphates-containing detergents • Inappropriate use of agrochemicals (herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers) • Industrial wastewater discharges (priority substances and heavy metals) • Heavy metals from mining activities • Insufficient/inadequate wastewater treatment • Inadequate management including collection/disposal of solid waste
Underlying causes	• Insufficient/inadequate policies for agriculture • Insufficient/inadequate policies for solid waste • Insufficient monitoring • Low level of enforcement • Low capacity • Low awareness of polluting activities
Root causes	• Pressure from increasing urban populations and intensification of agriculture • Low level of financial resources for environmental protection • Climate variability and change • Increasing demand for food production • Low political will

Linkages with other key transboundary problems

Water quality is impacted by the variability of the hydrological and sediment transport regime (for example, increased rainfall can cause additional surface erosion of soils and the release of pollutants), including from the impacts of climate variability and change, which affect the water quantity or concentration of dissolved oxygen in water. Pollution also has significant effects on the key problem of biodiversity degradation.

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Priority problem 2: natural and regulated variability of the hydrological regime

Description of the transboundary problem

The TDA has identified several issues that either result in or are influenced by the variability of the hydrological regime as a key transboundary problem, including:

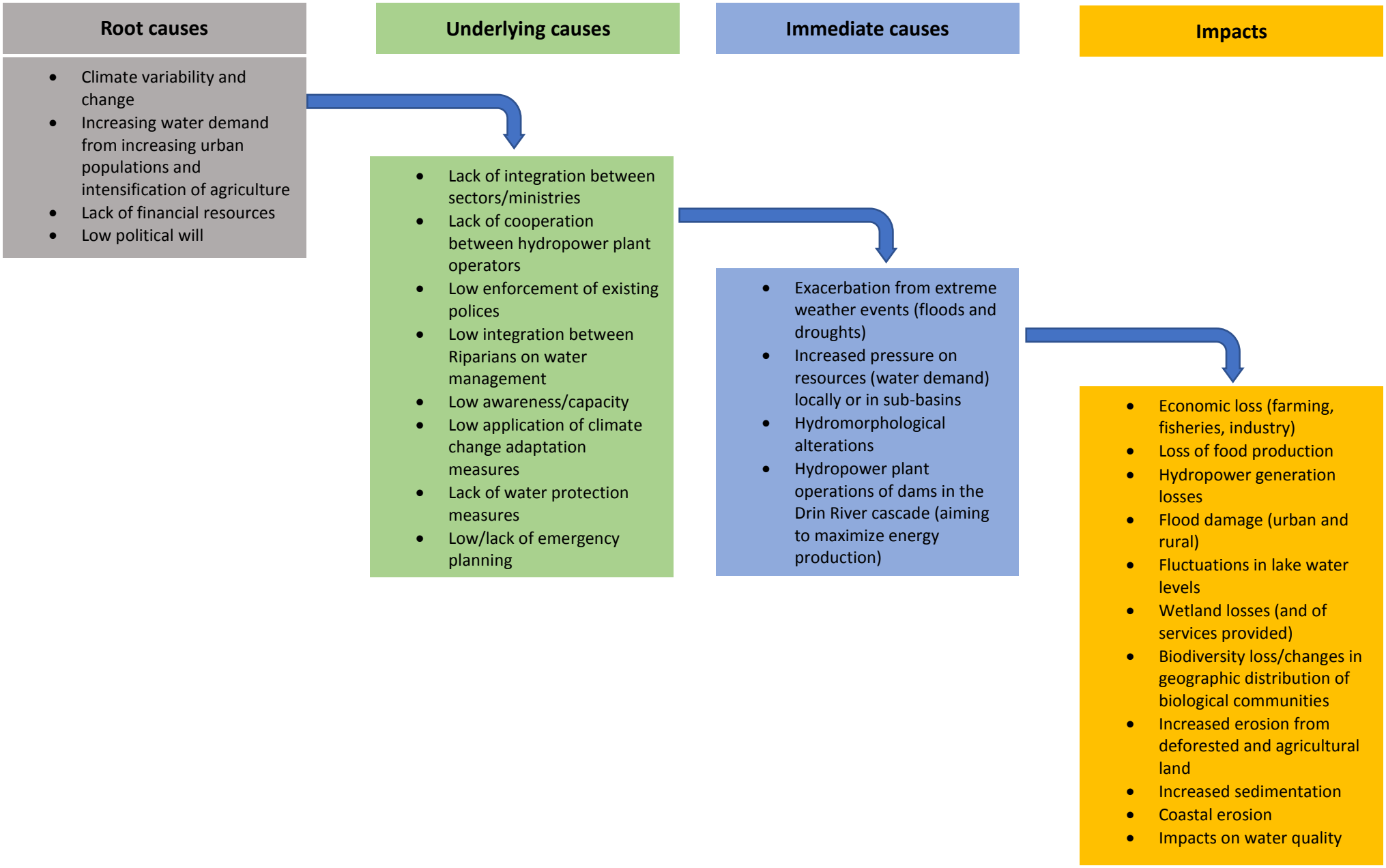
- Increasing frequency of droughts, as a result of climate variability/change or extreme weather events, can have an adverse effect during the summer period in agriculture and industry. Drought impacts can be worsened by additional impacts from hydromorphological modifications (as a result of hydropower dams and flood defences) that can, for example, reduce groundwater recharge.
- The variability of the hydrological regime is affected by the management of the dams to maximize energy production as well as the uncoordinated management of the cascade of dams between the Drin Riparians; this can further exacerbate extreme events (floods).
- Water level fluctuations in the Lake Prespa sub-basin are of concern regarding the ecosystems.
- Linkages between surface water and groundwater are significant, especially between the Prespa and Ohrid lakes via karst structures – the karstic connections within the basin need further investigation.
- The White Drin River and Drin River sub-basins are characterized as having relatively high-water stress (consumption is more than 70 percent of the available water) during the summer months of dry years.
- Preliminary modelling indicated that the water resources in the main sub-basins and entire Drin Basin are adequate to cover the current water demands for anthropogenic purposes, though further modelling is required to improve understanding of the water demand under various development and climate change scenarios and to assess possible water stress.
- Mitigation measures are necessary to minimize water losses and apply water-saving measures (especially in agriculture).
- A lack of adequate hydrological monitoring and data management at the Riparian and regional levels prevent the Riparians from identifying and applying management solutions.

Causal chain analysis for the variability of the hydrological regime

The figure below presents the main links between the causes of the variability of the hydrological regime. This is further elaborated in the summary presented in Table 4, which shows the main goods and services at risk, the main ecosystem and socio-economic impacts, sectors causing and impacted by the problem and the immediate, underlying and root causes of the variability of the hydrological regime.

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Causes and impacts of the variability of the hydrological regime



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Causal chain analysis for the variability of the hydrological regime

Natural and regulated variability of the hydrological regime	
Goods and services at risk	• Aquatic and land-based ecosystems and associated services • Groundwater recharge • Water supply (drinking, irrigation, industrial, hydropower) • Tourism • Freshwater fisheries • Marine fisheries
Impacts (resulting from variability of the hydrological regime) on: ecosystems and socio-economics	• Economic loss (farming, fisheries, industry) • Loss of food production • Hydropower generation losses • Flood damage (urban and rural) • Fluctuations in lake water levels • Wetlands losses (and of services provided) • Biodiversity loss/changes in geographic distribution of biological communities • Increased erosion from deforested and agricultural land • Increased sedimentation • Coastal erosion • Impacts on water quality
Sectors	• Agriculture • Industry/power • Urban planning • Tourism
Immediate causes	• Exacerbation from extreme weather events (floods and droughts) • Increased pressure on resources (water demand) locally or in sub-basins • Hydromorphological alterations • Hydropower plant operations of dams in the Drin River cascade (aiming to maximize energy production)
Underlying causes	• Lack of integration between sectors/ministries • Lack of cooperation between hydropower plant operators • Low enforcement of existing polices • Low integration between Riparians on water management • Low awareness/capacity • Low application of climate change adaptation measures • Lack of water protection measures • Low/lack of emergency planning
Root causes	• Climate variability and change • Increasing water demand from increasing urban populations and intensification of agriculture • Lack of financial resources • Low political will

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Linkages with other key transboundary problems

Variability of the hydrological regime is most closely aligned with climate variability and change, especially with the likely increase in extreme events, and also to socio-economic activity demand, such as for irrigation. While hydropower generation is a non-consumptive use of water, it influences water flows (leading to hydropeaking, among others) and sediment transport, which have consequential impacts on the state of ecosystems and the services they provide. The retaining dams for hydropower generation can also lead to sedimentation in the dams themselves, which in the absence of adequate maintenance will eventually lead to reduced generation capacity and changes in sediment transport. Changes in the hydrological regime can influence pollutant concentrations throughout the Drin Basin, particularly in karstic regions (for example, the Prespa and Ohrid lakes).

Priority problem 3: biodiversity degradation

Description of the transboundary problem

Biodiversity in the Drin Basin is of significant importance at the European level. The Thematic Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystems identified multiple threats to the ecosystems as well as issues that impede their sustainable management. These include:

- use of agrochemicals
- pollution, gravel activities, intensification of agriculture and urbanization leading to habitat degradation in rivers
- fluctuations of lake water levels impacting or resulting in the shifting of habitats in littoral zones
- hydromorphological alterations from flood and hydropower constructions resulting in lateral and longitudinal disruptions as well as the loss of wetlands
- deforestation and inappropriate use of and/or poorly managed forest resources
- inappropriate cultivation practices leading to destruction of soil structures or exposing soil to excessive erosion
- overfishing and inappropriate fishing practices
- illegal hunting
- invasive and alien species[19] putting pressure on local species
- a lack of recent information on fish stocks and other aquatic taxa
- unmapped or unidentified marine habitats.

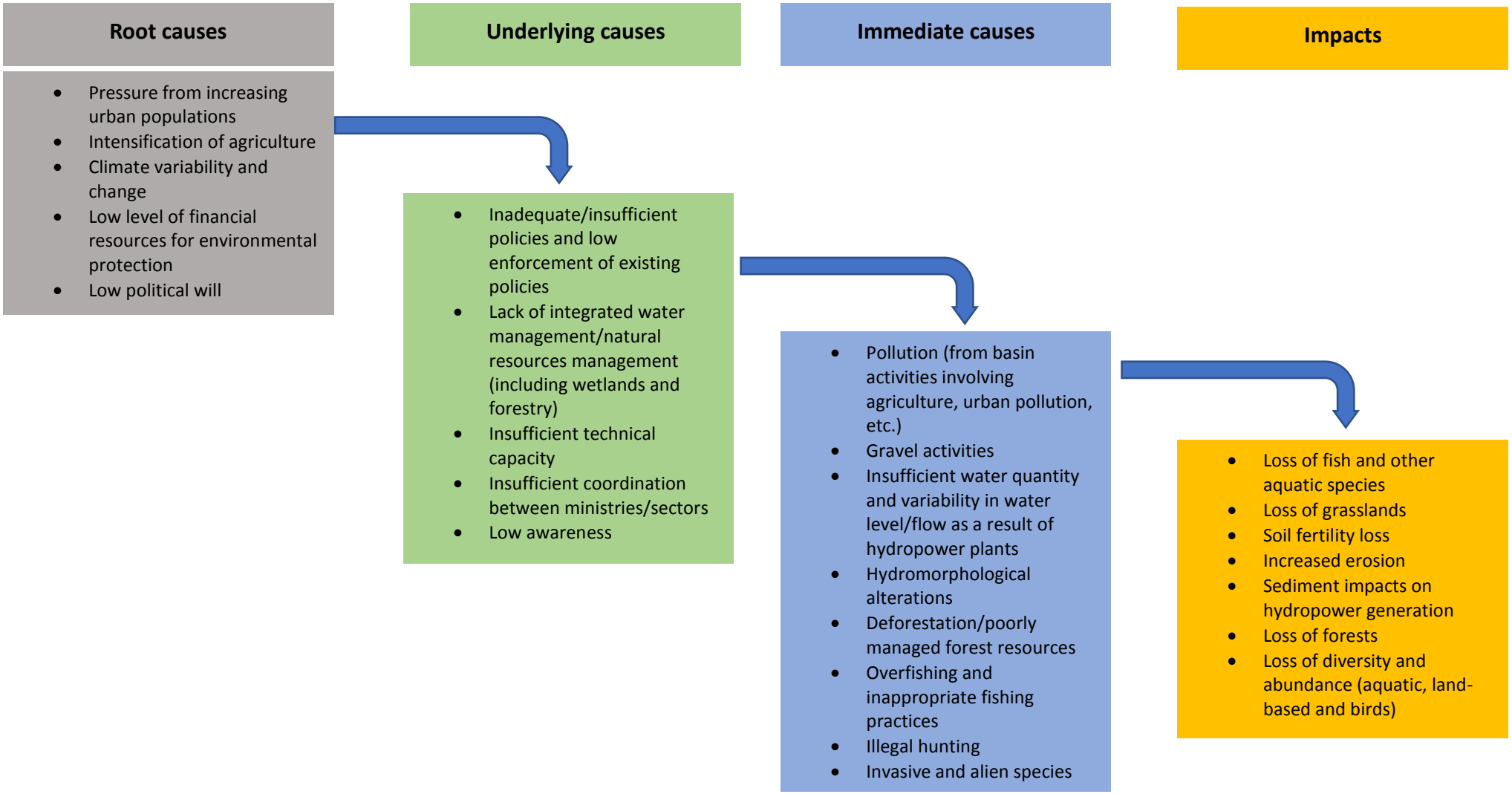
Causal chain analysis for biodiversity degradation

The Figure below indicates the main links between the causes of biodiversity degradation. This is further elaborated in the summary presented in Table 5, which shows the main goods and services at risk, the main ecosystem and socio-economic impacts, sectors causing and impacted by the problem and the immediate, underlying and root causes of biodiversity degradation.

[19] Including 12 fish species in Lake Prespa, 7 fish species in Lake Ohrid, 13 fish species in Lake Skadar/Shkodër.

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Causes and impacts of biodiversity degradation



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Causal chain analysis for biodiversity degradation

Biodiversity degradation	
Goods and services at risk	• Food from fishing and agriculture • Wild foods/herbs • Tourism (including hunting and fishing)
Impacts (resulting from biodiversity degradation) on: ecosystems and socio-economics	• Loss of fish and other aquatic species • Loss of grasslands • Soil fertility loss • Increased erosion • Sediment impacts on hydropower generation • Loss of forests • Loss of diversity and abundance (aquatic, land-based and birds)
Sectors	• Agriculture • Fisheries • Forestry • Tourism • Industry (power generation) • Cultural activities (hunting, wild foods, etc.)
Immediate causes	• Pollution (from basin activities involving agriculture, urban pollution, etc.) • Gravel activities • Insufficient water quantity and variability in water level/flow as a result of hydropower plants • Hydromorphological alterations • Deforestation/poorly managed forest resources • Overfishing and inappropriate fishing practices • Illegal hunting • Invasive and alien species
Underlying causes	• Inadequate/insufficient policies and low enforcement of existing policies • Lack of integrated water management/natural resources management (including wetlands and forestry) • Insufficient technical capacity • Insufficient coordination between ministries/sectors • Low awareness
Root causes	• Pressure from increasing urban populations • Intensification of agriculture • Climate variability and change • Low level of financial resources for environmental protection • Low political will

Linkages with other key transboundary problems

Biodiversity is subject to impacts from the other three key transboundary problems and the crosscutting problem of climate variability and change.

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Priority problem 4: variability of the sediment transport regime

Description of the transboundary problem

Sediment transport is affected by both natural events, climate variability and change (such as extreme weather events) and anthropogenic impacts (such as gravel extraction, deforestation, poor land use, dams and other hydro-morphological alterations), resulting in sediment transport variability – both excess and reduced sediment transport – with consequential impacts on ecosystems and coastal environments. The Thematic Report on Hydrology and Hydrogeology identified the impacts and causes of excessive and insufficient sediment transport as:

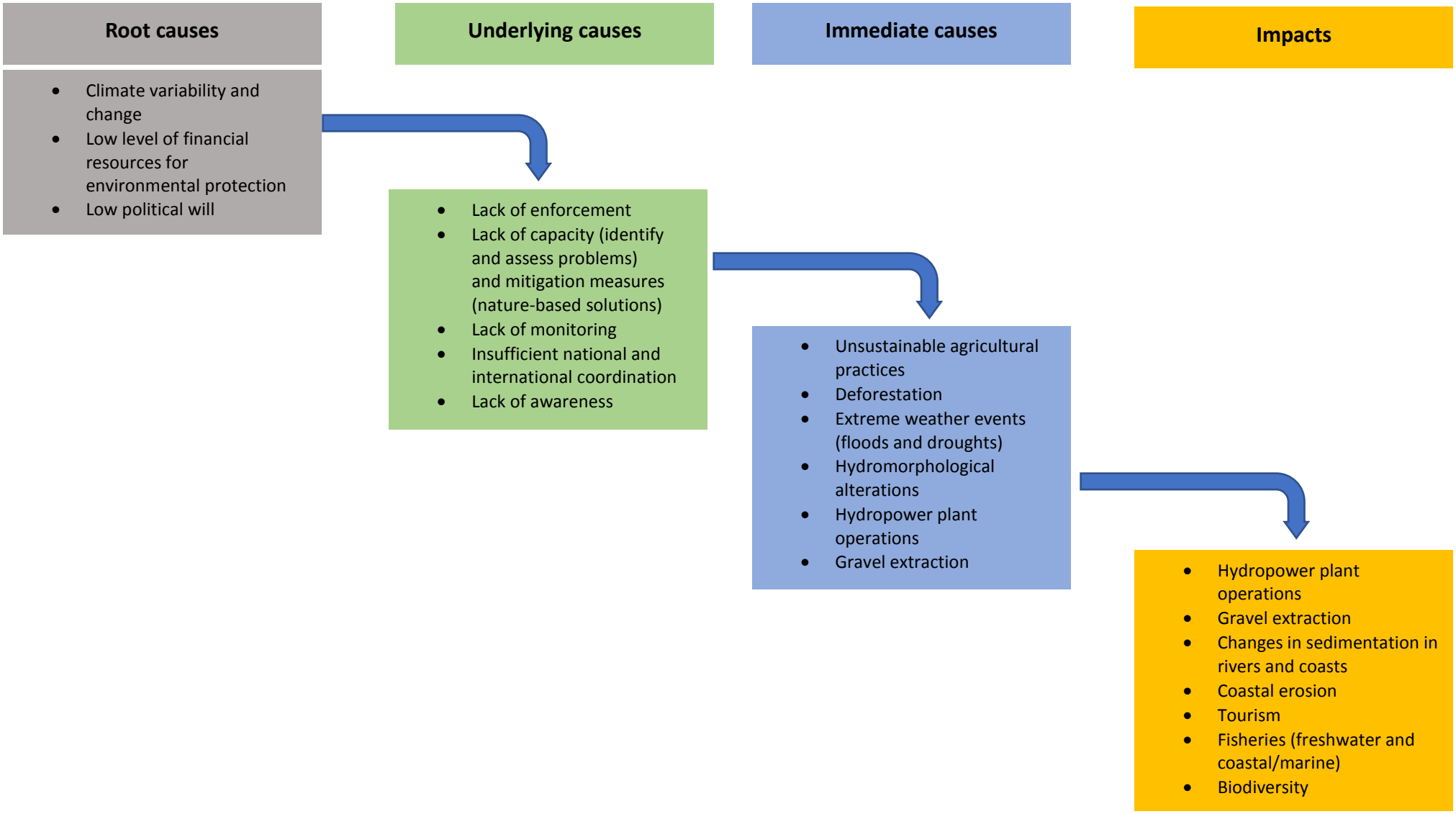
- Hydro-morphological alterations
- reduced hydrostatic head for hydropower production due to the sedimentation in the dams
- decreased sediment loads and increased erosion from the operation of hydropower plants downstream of discharge locations
- Buna/Bojana River deposition and erosion
- coastal changes from changing sediment processes and interaction with the sea
- loss of habitats from changes of sediment deposition.

Causal chain analysis for the variability of sediment transport

The figure below indicates the main linkages between the causes and impacts of the variability of sediment transport. This is further elaborated in the summary presented in Table 6, which shows the main goods and services at risk, the main ecosystem and socio-economic impacts, sectors causing and impacted by the problem and the immediate, underlying and root causes of changes to sediment transport.

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Impacts and causes of the variability of sediment transport



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Causal chain analysis for the variability of sediment transport

Variability of sediment transport	
Goods and services at risk	• Hydropower plant generation • Flood protection • Navigation/tourism (Buna/Bojana River) • Tourism • Fisheries (freshwater and coastal/marine) • Biodiversity in lakes, rivers, coastal waters
Impacts (resulting from variability of the sediment transport regime) on: ecosystems and socio-economics	• Hydropower plant operations • Gravel extraction • Changes in sedimentation in rivers and coasts • Coastal erosion • Tourism • Fisheries (freshwater and coastal/marine) • Biodiversity
Sectors	• Forestry • Agriculture • Tourism • Industry (power production, gravel extraction)
Immediate causes	• Unsustainable agricultural practices • Deforestation • Extreme weather events (floods and droughts) • Hydromorphological alterations • Hydropower plant operations • Gravel extraction
Underlying causes	• Lack of enforcement • Lack of capacity (identify and assess problems) and mitigation measures (nature-based solutions) • Lack of monitoring • Insufficient riparian level and international coordination • Lack of awareness
Root causes	• Climate variability and change • Low level of financial resources for environmental protection • Low political will

Linkages with other key transboundary problems

Changes in sediment transport are linked to the variability of the hydrological regime as well as climate variability and change. Changes in the water flow as a result of socio-economic activities (such as hydropower production) also impact this problem. Sediment transport variability has an effect on habitats and therefore ecosystems.

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Annex B: The Drin Basin Strategic Action Program

The Drin Basin TDA approach

The Drin TDA followed GEF best practice advice on TDA[20] development. The development and drafting process of the Drin River Basin TDA was carried out between July 2016 and December 2018. A list of workshops and activities undertaken during its development are presented in the Table below.

Time	Location	Meeting	Topic
Project life	All Drin Riparians	DCG and EWG meetings / twice per year	The TDA table of contents was adopted. At each consecutive meeting, TDA development progress was discussed, specific thematic reports were presented to the DCG/EWG members, and the reports reviewed/approved.
Project life	All Drin Riparians	Individual meetings with representatives of the relevant Institutions: Ministers, Directors of Departments, Heads of Agencies etc.	Introduction of the project (the TDA was part of introduction), investigation of opportunities for cooperation; presentation of developments; receiving guidance on issues related to the development of the TDA ensuring compatibility with riparian level priorities, especially the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive.
Oct-Nov 2016	Six Cities covering all Drin sub-basins	Focus Group Meetings	Amongst others: identified the perceived key management issues and problems at sub-basin and basin level as well as their causes and impacts from the stakeholders' perspective
Mar 2017	Tirana	Meeting with Riparian experts from all Drin Riparians	Coordination and the preparation of the Thematic Reports
Nov 2017	Podgorica	Stakeholders Conference	The stakeholders were presented with key findings from the process of developing the Thematic Reports on the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and provided input. Focus was placed on Socio-economic, Biodiversity and Institutional and Legal setting Thematic Reports as well as the main findings of the TDA and the Casual Chain Analysis
Nov 2018	Ohrid	Stakeholders Conference	The stakeholders were presented with key findings from the process of developing the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and provided input. Focus was placed on Pollution and Hydrology Thematic Reports as well as the main findings of the TDA and the Casual Chain Analysis.
Dec 2018	Athens	CCA-SAP Workshop	Local and International experts participated in the preparation of the Thematic Reports reviewed the CCA analysis and prepared a first set of interventions to address the transboundary issues identified.

To analyse the system, the Source-to-Sea approach[21] has been adopted, to the extent allowed by the information available on transitional waters and the marine area. The boundaries of the Drin Basin area are defined considering the natural characteristics of the area and the local conditions; the area consists of the natural elements comprising the catchment, aquifers, transitional waters, coastal waters, and the coastal zone.

The TDA provided necessary information that enabled Drin Riparians to discuss and identify priority transboundary problems and their causes that inform the formulation of the actions included in the SAP. In addition, the TDA assists in enhancing the knowledge basis of the Drin Riparians regarding the state of the natural and anthropogenic environment in the basin, developing the building blocks of a Drin Basin Management Plan in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) should the Riparians decide to develop such a plan in the future.

[20] As detailed in the GEF/ IW:LEARN TDA/SAP Manual https://iwlearn.net/manuals/tda-sap-methodology

[21] A Source to Sea approach consolidates analysis, planning, policy-making, and decision-making across sectors and scales. It considers the entire social, ecological, and economic system, from the land area that is drained by a river system to the coastal area and even the open ocean it flows into (Source: http://stapgef.org/sites/default/files/publications/S2SBrief.pdf). A Source to Sea system includes the land area that is drained by a river system or systems, its lakes and tributaries (the river basin), connected aquifers and downstream recipients including deltas and estuaries, coastlines and near-shore waters, the adjoining sea and continental shelf as well as the open ocean. Water, sediment, pollutants, biota, materials, and ecosystem services key flows connect the sub-systems in the source-to-sea continuum and their geographies.

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The "Situation Analysis: Management of the Extended Drin Basin" (Drin Situation Analysis) served as a starting point for the Drin TDA.

The TDA is the core document, that synthesize the findings of basin-wide Thematic Reports, undertaken at three levels: Sub-basin level; Riparian level within each sub-basin; and the extended Drin basin:

- Thematic Report on Socio-Economics
- Thematic Report on Institutional and Legal setting
- Thematic Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystems
- Thematic Report on the Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- Thematic Report on Pollution and Water Quality
- Thematic Report on the Nexus[22].

In addition, a Stakeholders Analysis was used to map the stakeholders, analyse their characteristics and capture their views regarding the issues impacting the basin. The TDA document and the associated Thematic Reports are 'living documents' that will be periodically revised and are intended to serve as a baseline against which future progress is measured.

The Drin Basin SAP approach

The SAP was developed through a series of inputs from experts from the Drin Riparians, International experts, the PMU and ultimately, representatives of key stakeholder groups.

The draft SAP was prepared using the following as input:

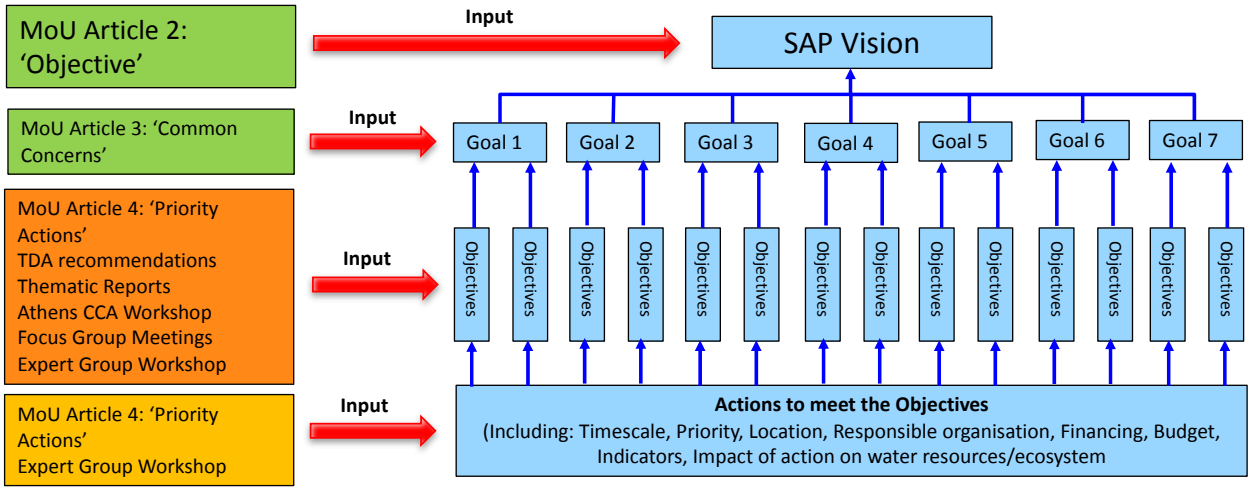
- The **TDA** and the extensive details provided in the **Thematic reports**;
- A meeting with the experts from the Riparians that have been involved in the preparation of the TDA thematic reports (4-5 December 2018, Athens) that developed an initial list of management actions to meet objectives that respond to the identified transboundary problems
- Six **focus group** meetings, engaging in total 173 (77 women and 96 men) representatives of stakeholders that: Reviewed, commented, and validated the list of provided interventions; Proposed additional Riparian/sub-basin specific interventions/measures; Prioritized the issues/interventions. Meetings were held in:
    - 12 March 2019, Tirana, Albania
    - 13 March 2019, Shkodra, Albania
    - 14 March 2019, Podgorica, Montenegro
    - 19 March 2019, Peja, Kosovo
    - 20 March 2019, Skopje, North Macedonia
    - 21 March 2019, Pogradec, Albania
- Meetings with representatives of line Ministries in each beneficiary Riparian State:
    - 12 March, Tirana, Albania, Director of Agency for Management of Water Resources;
    - 15 March, Podgorica, Montenegro, General Director in Directorate for Water, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development;
    - 18 March, Pristina, Kosovo, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning;
    - 18 March, Pristina, Kosovo, Acting Director of River Basin Authority;
    - 19 March, Peja, Kosovo, Secretariat of the Inter-Ministerial Water Council of Kosovo;
    - 21 March, Skopje, North Macedonia, Deputy Minister of Environment and Physical Planning;
    - 21 March, Skopje, North Macedonia, Head of Water sector, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning;
    - 21 March, Skopje, North Macedonia, Advisor of the Prime Minister and the Advisor of the Deputy Prime Minister's Cabinet.
- A second technical meeting with experts from the Riparians involved in the preparation of the TDA thematic reports (Tirana, 23-24 April 2019) to assist with refining SAP objectives to meet the goals and further elaboration of the management actions.

[22] The Nexus assessment/approach looks into the interlinkages and trade-offs among the sectors of water, land, energy and environment aiming to identify solutions that will foster not only water and environment security, but also energy and food security. In other words, the nexus assessment has no bias towards a specific sector and is multi-centric by definition.

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- The meeting of the Expert Working Groups of the Drin Core Group (Pristina, 29 May 2019).
- The meeting of the Drin Core Group (Pristina, 30 May 2019).
- Expert work and knowledge inputs of the two International SAP consultants and the GWP-Med team.

The Drin Basin SAP draws on the Drin MoU. The Drin MoU presented a clear vision (titled 'Objective') and identified seven 'common concerns' within the basins which are reaffirmed in the SAP as '**Goals'** to be achieved through the implementation of specific **Objectives**. For each Objective, a series of **Management Actions** are detailed which includes: Timescale; Priority; Location; Responsible organisation; Financing; Budget; Indicators; Impact of action on water resources/ecosystem. The key components of the SAP are shown in the diagram below:



Key Management Principles for the Implementation of the SAP

The Riparians of the Drin Basin share a common desire for cooperation including transboundary coordinated actions in the Drin Basin for the benefit of present and future generations clearly described in the Drin MoU. They recognise their roles and responsibilities in conserving the global value of the resources in the Drin Basin.

The DCG decided in its 17th ordinary meeting (May 2019, Pristina) to initiate actions to enable the Riparians to agree on the form and mandate of an institutional setting to succeed the Drin MoU and DCG responding to the advanced level of coordination necessary for the implementation of the SAP.

Through the EU Accession process and the adoption of the EU acquis, the Riparians have committed to the management of water bodies in accordance with the principles provided by the EU Water Framework Directive, the EU Flood Risks Directive and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The implementation of these directives will also benefit the Riparians implementing and reporting of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets.

Greece intends to implement the Strategic Action Program in a way that this is compatible with the EU acquis and the Agreement on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park Area. Greece is willing to facilitate the other Riparians by providing advice and knowhow regarding the implementation of the European Directives as necessary for the implementation of the SAP.

By implementing climate change resilient actions, it will be ensured that people and ecosystems best adapt to climate changing conditions. The Riparians that are Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) are committed to sustainable management of shared waters and cooperation in managing the extended Drin Basin.

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The Strategic Action Programme

The Transboundary Problems

The TDA identified four key transboundary problems each exacerbated by the impacts from climate variability and change. The key transboundary problems are:

- Deterioration of **Water Quality**
- Natural and Regulated Variability of **Hydrological Regime**
- **Biodiversity** Degradation
- Disturbance of the natural **Sediment Transport** regime

The TDA undertook a Causal Chain Analysis that identified causes related to the inadequacy of infrastructure, policies and enforcement. The conclusions have directed the process of identifying management actions in the SAP that will address the causes of the transboundary problems.

Long-term vision

The Riparians reaffirm the objective of the 2011 MoU for the Drin River Basin, as the long-term over-arching vision being a clear representation of the characteristics desired for the future environment. The long-term vision is a political objective to be achieved within a 10 -15 years' timeframe and aspires to inspire the peoples of the Drin River basin and their leaders.

The Vision of the Drin River Basins:

The Drin Riparians, through their Ministers and their representatives, commit to promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin.

Goals to achieve the long-term vision

The Riparians have reaffirmed the "Common Concerns for sustainable development of the Drin Basin" as seven High Level Long-term Goals to achieve the vision and reduce the impact of each transboundary problem. The Goals are based on the 'Common Concerns' outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Transboundary Drin Basin.

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These are:

Goal 1: Improving access to comprehensive data and adequate information to fully understand the current state of the environment and the water resources and the hydrologic system (including surface, underground and coastal waters) as well as ecosystems of the Drin Basin.

Goal 2: Establish conditions for the sustainable use of water and its supported ecosystems.

Goal 3: Develop cooperation measures to minimise risks of disasters due to extreme natural phenomena and climate change by 2030.

Goal 4: Improve management and appropriate disposal of solid wastes.

Goal 5: Decrease nutrient pollution deriving from untreated or poorly treated wastewater discharges and unsustainable agricultural practices.

Goal 6: Decrease pollution from hazardous substances such as heavy metals and pesticides.

Goal 7: Minimise effects of hydro-morphologic interventions that alter the nature of the hydrologic system and the supported ecosystems, resulting in their deterioration.

Objectives to meet the goals

A number of Specific, Measurable, Time delineated Objectives have been developed under each Goals. These are presented below. Management Actions responding to these Objectives are presented in detailed action SAP tables (Annex 1 of the SAP) to facilitate future SAP implementation.

Goal 1: Improving access to comprehensive data and adequate information to fully understand the current state of the environment and the water resources and the hydrologic system (including surface, underground and coastal waters) as well as ecosystems of the Drin Basin.

Objective 1: Establishment and implementation of monitoring programmes (water quality, hydrological/hydrogeological, sediment transport, biodiversity) for coordinated action among Riparians for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030

Sub-Objective 1.1: Preparation and development of monitoring programmes for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2025

Sub-Objective 1.2: Implementation of monitoring programmes for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030

Sub-Objective 1.3: Delivery of a Joint monitoring protocol for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030

Objective 2: Enhancement and development of Riparian and regional data and information systems (water quality, hydrological/hydrogeological, sediment transport, biodiversity) for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2030

Sub-Objective 2.1: Preparation and development of an information management system for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin by 2025

Sub-Objective 2.2: Implementation of an information management system for coordinated action for the management of the Extended Drin Basin 2030

Goal 2: Establish conditions for the sustainable use of water and its supported ecosystems.

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Objective 1: Establishment of a knowledge base on water resources and ecosystems for informed decision-making by 2025

Sub Objective 1.1: Establish knowledge base on water quality for informed decision-making by 2025.

Sub-Objective 1.2: Establish knowledge base on the hydrological/hydrogeological regime for informed decision-making by 2025

Sub-Objective 1.3: Establish knowledge base on biodiversity for informed decision-making by 2025

Sub-Objective 1.4: Establish knowledge base on sediment transport for informed decision-making by 2025

Sub-Objective 1.5: Establish knowledge base on sectoral developments and intersectoral impacts by 2025

Sub-Objective 1.6: Establish knowledge base on economic instruments by 2025

Objective 2: Strengthening mechanisms and policies to support management of water resources and ecosystems by 2030

Sub-Objective 2.1: Strengthening regional governance and policies in the Extended Drin Basin by 2025

Sub-Objective 2.2: Strengthening governance and policies on water quality management by 2025

Sub-Objective 2.3: Strengthening governance and policies on hydrological/hydrogeological management by 2025

Sub-Objective 2.4: Strengthening governance and policies on biodiversity management by 2025

Sub-Objective 2.5: Strengthening governance and policies on sediment management by 2025

Sub Objective 2.6: Strengthening intersectoral governance and policy coherence by 2025

Objective 3: Implementation of local, Riparian and regional actions to promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience by 2030

Objective 4: Improvement of capacities and increased awareness to promote sustainable water use and ensure ecosystem functioning and resilience by 2030

Goal 3: Develop cooperation measures to minimise risks of disasters due to extreme natural phenomena and climate change by 2030.

Objective 1: Improved coordinated management among Riparians for flood risks by 2030

Objective 2: Improved coordinated management among Riparians for drought risks by 2030

Goal 4: Improve management and appropriate disposal of solid wastes.

Objective 1: Reduction in and enhancement of the management of municipal solid wastes to achieve desired targets by 2030

Goal 5: Decrease nutrient pollution deriving from untreated or poorly treated wastewater discharges and unsustainable agricultural practices.

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Objective 1: Reduction of untreated wastewater discharge from urban areas by 2030

Objective 2: Reduction of nutrient pollution deriving from unsustainable agricultural practices by 2030

Goal 6: Decrease pollution from hazardous substances such as heavy metals and pesticides.

Objective 1: Reduction of heavy metal and pesticide pollution from industry, mining and agriculture by 2030

Goal 7: Minimise effects of hydro-morphologic interventions that alter the nature of the hydrologic system and the supported ecosystems, resulting in their deterioration.

Objective 1: Minimise the effects of hydromorphological interventions from HPP by 2030

Objective 2: Minimise the effects of other hydromorphological interventions including gravel extraction by 2030

Management Actions responding to these **Objectives**, **Goals** and the causes of the **transboundary problems** to deliver the **Vision** are presented in detailed action tables (Annex 1 of the Drin SAP) to facilitate future SAP implementation. To monitor the progress towards the achievement of Goals and Objectives, all proposed management actions presented in Annex 1 of the SAP include process indicators and time related targets -the latter should be updated at the start of action implementation. Environmental Quality Indicators and Stress Reduction Indicators will be also developed -adopted by the DCG- and used in this regard (see also section 5 Monitoring and Evaluation).

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Annex C: Water related legal and governance frameworks

Water related legislation in the Drin Riparians

Albania - Primary legislation regarding Albania's waters has been regulated since 15.11.2012 by Law No. 111/2012 on Integrated Water Resources Management, which was amended in 2018 by Law 6/2018. The Law enables: Protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, surface waters, temporary or permanent, sea/territorial waters, exclusive economic zones, continental shelf, transboundary waters, groundwater, and their status; Security, preservation, development and sustainable and rational use of water resources, necessary for life and for the social and economic development of the country; Equitable distribution of water resources, as intended by their effective management; Protection of water resources from pollution and overuse, and promotion of consumption based on actual needs; Establishment of the institutional framework, at Riparian (central) and local level, required for the implementation of a national policy for the administration and management of water resources to the benefit of communities and according to the country's social and economic interests. Water related priorities are included in the National Strategy for Integrated Water Resource Management (2018).

Kosovo – The primary water legislation is Law No. 04/L-147 On water. Among others, the Law provides for the development of River Basin Management Plans and the establishment of basin authorities that would need to work towards maintaining or restoring good ecological and chemical quality of water bodies, to ensure an adequate supply of drinking and process water, both in terms of quality and quantity, and to secure for the long term all other water uses that serve the public interest. Water related priorities are included in the 2017 Water Strategy.

Montenegro – The Law on Water (2007, amended 2015 and 2017) is the basic law for water related issues. The Law applies for all types of waters and regulates: the legal status and the method of integrated management of waters; conditions and methods of performing water related activities; coastal land and water facilities and systems used to carry out the water related activities and other related issues of importance. It defines the measures and activities for protection of water against pollution, protection of human health, fauna and flora and environmental protection. It provides conditions for the preservation and maintenance of natural and artificial water bodies, the prevention of the deterioration of the water regime and protection from the adverse effects of water. Also, it sets out the main objectives for water protection for groundwaters. It stipulates that water, being a natural resource and an asset of common interest, is property of the state. Economic valuation of waters towards full cost recovery and public participation are among its provisions. The Water related priorities are included in the Water Management Strategy.

North Macedonia - The Law on Waters, transposes the EU WFD and daughter directives. It is a framework law regulating issues concerning both surface and underground waters and defining management and control of water use, protection and prevention of water contamination, protection against floods, as well as financing of water management activities. The adopted bylaws regulate among others: the conditions under which deviations from aquatic environment quality targets will be allowed; specific conditions for direct and indirect discharging of wastewaters; identification of water bodies with water intended for human consumption etc. Water related priorities are included in the National Strategy for Waters (NWS).

Legal and institutional frameworks for natural resources management and environmental protection in the Drin Riparians.

The environment related strategic documents of the Drin Riparians highlight the need to strengthen water management and infrastructure, improve waste management, expand protected areas, rehabilitate polluted areas, promote sustainable land use planning and sustainable use of natural resources, strengthen environmental institutions and increase public participation in environmental decision making.

In Albania, the National Strategy for Development and European Integration 2015-2020 (NSDI II) serves as the guiding document for sustainable development and is closely aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) principles. In Kosovo, no strategic documents have been adopted to set sustainability goals and serve as a framework for sustainable development; nevertheless, the development of Sustainable Development Strategy has started. The Kosovo Environmental Strategy 2013-2022, an updated review of the Strategy of Environment (2005-2015), provides the framework for enhancing sustainable management of natural resources. In North Macedonia, a number of strategic documents govern sustainable development and set sustainability objectives including the National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2009-2030 (adopted in 2010), the Second National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP 2), and

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the National Strategy for Environmental Investment (2009-2013). In Montenegro, the framework documents governing sustainable development and setting related framework objectives are the National Strategy for Sustainable Development by 2030 (prepared in 2016) and the National Strategy and Action Plan for transposition, implementation and enforcement of the EU acquis on Environment and Climate Change, which fulfil the opening benchmark for Chapter 27.

All of the Drin Riparians aspire to join the EU. This objective is clearly articulated in their development policies and strategies. The Drin Riparians have made significant efforts to harmonize their legislation with relevant EU Directives. However, much work still needs to be done to enact subsidiary legislation that both meets EU standards considering Riparian specifics and is compatible with existing institutional roles and responsibilities. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directives are of special importance because they affect all economic sectors and proactively integrate and mitigate key environmental concerns at an early stage of planning or development. Implementation of EIA and SEA including meaningful involvement of the public and civil society needs to be strengthened considerably for plans, programs and projects in all industrial sectors with significant effects on the environment. Montenegro's laws on EIA and SEA are to a large extent aligned to the relevant EU Directives. In Albania, the law governing EIA is fully in line with Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, and specific rules and procedures govern transboundary EIA. In both Albania and Kosovo, the application of SEA requirements in the relevant sectors is at an early stage. In Albania, since the adoption of the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment, there has been an increase in the number of SEAs. However, no consolidated database or register of SEAs exists.

The Water Framework and Bathing Water Directives are largely transposed, and responsibilities are partly clarified in the respective laws. However, legislation in the Riparians is poorly aligned with the acquis on water quality and administrative capacity for water management remains weak. Water quality is a cause for serious concern and improving water services is a major challenge. In particular, the alignment with the Urban Waste Water Treatment, Drinking Water and Groundwater Directives is insufficient and regulations to strengthen implementation are lacking. All Riparians are either meeting the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (as in the case of Greece) or are working towards this end through the development of River Basin Management Plans (RBM plans) that will address the issues resulting in the failure to reach good ecological status (or potential). In cases that RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in their territories are developed -in Albania- or development is ongoing -in Kosovo and Montenegro- these are not coordinated. A transboundary RBM plan in accordance with the EU WFD was prepared for the Lake Ohrid in the framework of the GEF Drin Project.

In terms of institutional aspects, responsibilities for water management are shared by several institutions. The institutional setting for water resources management in Albania is rather centralized and undergoes regular reform but includes nonetheless overlapping responsibilities between central and local level institutions, resulting in a fragmented water sector with inefficient operations. In Kosovo the division of responsibilities among different institutions in the water sector needs to be clarified and the same is true for North Macedonia. In the latter, environmental objectives are inadequately defined, subsidiary legislation is missing, and the legislation is deficient in setting an adequate and clear permitting, pricing and inspection system. In Montenegro, responsibilities are shared between the two ministries responsible for agriculture and nature/water quality; the full implementation and compliance with the EU water acquis is estimated to cost more than 1 billion EUR over the period to 2035, representing more than 50% of the total cost of full compliance with the entire environmental acquis. The institutional capacity of and cooperation between institutions for monitoring and data management need to be strengthened.

For waste management the main challenges are related to poorly defined roles and responsibilities at various levels of authorities, weak enforcement of laws, low level of administrative and institutional capacity to implement existing legislation, inadequate and uncontrolled disposal of waste, and lack of policies and measures for recycling or processing of waste. The legal frameworks of the Drin Riparians are partially aligned with the EU acquis in this field. Considerable efforts are needed to develop and implement strategies and laws on waste management with special attention to clarifying the roles and responsibilities of various institutions, implementation of local waste management plans, strengthening of financial and administrative capacities at the municipal/local level, improving systems of separation of waste collection, increasing the effectiveness of waste management planning, and addressing the management of hazardous waste.

On nature protection, priorities include establishment of the Natura 2000 network, strengthening the capacities of protected area authorities, and implementation of regulations concerning the obligations of hydropower investments to protect nature. Administrative capacities will have to be significantly strengthened, in particular in relation to

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application of the Habitats and Birds Directives, with respect to assessment, compensatory measures and other specifics with regards to establishment of the Natura 2000 network.

Concerning forest management, despite the fact that the Drin Riparians are rich in forest resources, the increased use of firewood for energy purposes, extensive commercial logging and rampant illegal logging have resulted in forest degradation in recent years. An overly restrictive legal framework limiting the rights of forest owners and users has hampered the application of sustainable forest management practices. There is a need to strengthen capacities in the field of municipal forest management by involving local communities, owner associations and other stakeholders in the preparation of forest management plans.

Overall, through the EU Accession process and the adoption of the EU acquis, the Riparians have committed to the management of water bodies in accordance with the principles provided by -among others- the EU Water Framework Directive, the EU Flood Risks Directive and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The implementation of these directives will also benefit the Riparians implementing and reporting of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets.

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Annex D: Strategic Documents

Albania					
Strategic document name	***Strategic document name in English***	***Linkages of strategic document with project outputs***	***Description of the linkages***	***What priority from the strategic document the GEF Drin II addresses?***	***Conventions with which the strategic documents are linked***
VKM 59 date 26.01.2022 Për miratimin e ndryshimit të statusit dhe të sipërfaqes së ekosistemeve natyrore park kombëtar (kategoria II) të zonave të mbrojtura mjedisore	DCM 59 date 26.01.2022 on the approval of status and surface change of nature ecosystem national parks (Category II) of environmental protected areas	3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation 1.6 Management and sharing of the information	This new legal act declared the Albanian Alps and Korab Koritnik as Protected Area (Cat. II) which will limit the agricultural use of soil within the Protected Area	Biodiversity and nature resources conservation and protection	The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Studim per rivleresimin e sistemit te rrjetit te zonave te mbrojtura mjedisore ne Shqiperi (2009-2019)	Study on reassessing the system of protected environmental areas network in Albania (2009-2019)	3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	The document was the main technical study for the government to approve the new status and boundaries of the protected areas in Albania. It describes all Protected areas, their environmental status, biodiversity, main threats and negative impacts for natural resources.		
Strategjia Kombetare per Menaxhimin e Integruar te Burimeve Ujore	National Strategy of the Integrated Management of Water resources	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 2.3 TB River basin management plan	The strategy objectives and respective results contain the sustainable use of the water resources for people, economy, and nature (ref. Obj. 1-5) regarding the quantity and quality of water, and its management	River basin management plan in transboundary context	The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)
Projekt-ligj per Burimet Ujore	(Draft) Law on Water Resources	3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) 2.1. Legal instrument for TB cooperation	The environmental quality of the water bodies is one of the primary objectives of the draft-Law. It is linked directly to nutrients and other	The Law on Water Resources considers as a priority the transboundary cooperation for the management of water resources	

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			pollution discharge, as well as to the fisheries resources.		
Strategjia Kombetare e Bujqesise, Zhvillimit Rural dhe Peshkimit 2021-2027	National Strategy on Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (2021-2027)	3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management	The Strategy specifies as Policy Objective 2 the Sustainable Fisheries for freshwater resources. Furthermore, Climate Change impacts are listed among the priorities to be addressed by the strategy		
Strategjia Kombetare e Bujqesise, Zhvillimit Rural dhe Peshkimit 2021-2027	National Strategy on Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (2021-2027)	3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural)	The strategy provides a number of measures for nutrients reduction not specified to given region (but a nationwide measure) through management of the manure and organic matter use in agriculture		
Strategjia Kombetare e Ndryshimeve Klimatike dhe Planet e Veprimit 2020-2030	National Strategy on Climate Change and Action Plan 2020-3020	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 1.6 Management and sharing of the information	The Strategy draws direct linkages with water and agriculture sector through impacts they have in emissions and climate impacts. It does not refer to regions specifically but considered it national wide. Specific measures are defined in the action plan such as irrigation scheme, etc.	Adaptation measures (sustainable/resilient practices. Irrigation and water use)	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Kontributi Kombetar i Pikesynuar, Dokument i rishikuar 2021	Albania National Determined Contribution 2021	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 1.3 Freshwater dependent ecosystems and ecosystem flows	The mitigation measures considered in Agriculture allow an improvement of fertilization, pasture, and animal feeding practices. Improving nitrogen fertilization by applying the right source.	Mitigation and adaptation measures in agriculture sector (agriculture, forestry, and nature ecosystems)	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Plani Kombetar per Energjine dhe Klimen (Miratuar Dhjetor 2021)	National Plan for Energy and Climate (Approved Dec. 2021)	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 1.6 Management and sharing of the information	The National Plan makes links to water resources use for energy production (related to hydro resource for energy production) and links to climate change impacts	Water resource use for energy production (hydro)	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

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Dokumenti i Politikave Strategjike per Mbrojtjen e Biodiversitetit	Strategic Policy Document for Biodiversity Protection	3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation 1.2. Multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programme	This document translates the objectives on the National Strategy for Integration and Development 2015-2020, by tackling elements of biodiversity protection. It identifies biodiversity values in protected areas, agricultural biodiversity, water and terrestrial ecosystems, including the transboundary ecosystems	Biodiversity conservation	The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Kosovo						
Strategic document name	***Strategic document name in English***	***Linkages of strategic document with project outputs***	***Description of the linkages***	***What priority from the strategic document the GEF Drin II addresses?***	***Conventions with which the strategic documents are linked***	***Notes***
Strategjia Kombetare per Zhvillim (2016 - 2021)	Development Strategy (2016 - 2021)	1.5 Dams operation optimization 3.4- Erosion control	Measure: Rational Use and Increase of Capacities of Water Resources. Concrete Activity #6: Renovate and construct protective infrastructure along rivers Sitnica, Drini i Bardhe and Morava e Binces.	Environment and Climate Change are not prioritized in the document. The fourth pillar of the Strategy covers infrastructure. One of the planed measures is: Rational Use and Increase of Capacities of Water Resources.	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	New Development Strategy 2021 – 2030 is being developed, and is expected to have a stronger emphasize on environmental protection, sustainable use of natural resources and circular economy.
Strategjia per Ndryshime Klimatike 2019-2028 dhe Plani i Veprimit 2019 – 2021	Climate Change Strategy 2019-2028 and Action Plan 2019-2021	1.6 Management and sharing of the information 3.4- Erosion control	The Climate Change Strategy foresees afforestation and reforestation of degraded areas around riverbanks, as an adaptation measure under the Specific Objective: Improving water balance through	Climate Change Adaptation Component/Specific Objective 1: Capacity building for production of information, information use and communication.	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	

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			landscape improvement measures.			
Strategjia per Zvogelim te Rrezikut nga Fatkeqesite 2016 – 2020	Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy 2016-2020	1.6 Management and sharing of the information 3.4- Erosion control	Measure 2.1.2. plans approval of new technical solutions for protection against floods and erosion, while the Measure 2.5.2. the development of the risk maps for floods, earthquakes, and fires.	Strategic Objective 4: Awareness raising and urging of institutions and entities on natural and other disaster risk management	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	
Strategjia per Ujera 2017 - 2036	Water Strategy 2017 – 2036	2.4 Flood risk management plan for Kosovo 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	Under the Action for Protection of water, for all river basins in Kosovo measures for protection of diffusive pollution from agriculture are listed, including guidance to agricultural producers for the use of fertilizers and manure, as well as biocides.	Strategic Objective - Protection from Water: "Achieve acceptable levels of protection of population and property for the adverse effects of water including floods, torrent and erosion, in the economically balanced and cost-effective manner".	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	One of the Strategy goals is approximation with EU Water Framework Directive (page 20).
Strategjia per Ujera 2017 - 2036	Water Strategy 2017 – 2036	2.6 Drought management plan for Kosovo		Strategic Objective - Water Use: "Sustainably allocate and oversee the right to exploit the water resources of Kosovoamong water users so as to guarantee access to healthy drinking water for all and maximize the economic benefits from other water uses whilst taking into account changing hydrologic regimes, eliminating water scarcity and respecting the principles	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	One of the Strategy goals is approximation with EU Water Framework Directive (page 20).

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				of sustainable management".		
Strategjia per Menaxhimin e Integruar te Mbeturinave 2021- 2030 dhe Plani i Veprimit 2020 – 2023	Strategy on Integrated Waste Management 2021 - 2030 and Action Plan 2020 – 2023	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse	Under the Specific Objective 4.2. that deals with innovation in waste prevention, establishment of a grant scheme is foreseen for stimulation of innovative solutions for waste prevention.			
Strategjia per Bidiversitet 2011 - 2020 dhe Plani i Veprimit 2016 – 2020	Strategy for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 and Action Plan 2016-2020	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	Action 3.2.2. plans development and application of incentive measures to promote biodiversity conservation in agriculture.	Measure/sub–Strategic Objective 3.2. Issue of spatial and management plans for all protected areas	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	The strategy is reflecting how Kosovo intends to fulfil the objectives of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) in light of specific circumstances, and the related action plans constitute the sequence of steps to be taken to meet these goals.
Master Plani i Ujitjes per Kosove 2020	Kosovo Irrigation Master Plan (KIMP) 2020	3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	The overall objective of the KIMP is the sustainable development and management of the irrigation sector to allow economic growth of the agriculture sector in a context of climate change. Subcomponent 2.3. focuses on assistance to the farmers, more specifically, for efficient on-farm water management; and implementation of agri-environmental practices.			

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Plani i menaxhimit te Parkut Kombetar Sharr 2014 – 2023	Park Management Plan for Sharr 2030 – 2023	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	The Plan contains a separate program for promotion of sustainable tourism in the Park with a strong emphasis on environmental protection, and protection of water resources.	Program 1: Biodiversity, Environment and Landscape		
Strategjia per Bujqesi dhe Zhvillim Rural 2022 – 2028	Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development 2022 – 2028	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	The newly approved Strategy for Agriculture has a specific objective on promotion of sustainable and efficient management of natural resources, emphasizing the reduction of pollution, agri-environmental measures in the region of Prizren, as well as grants for waste and manure management.	Biodiversity protection, improvement of ecosystem services and preserving habitats and landscapes.	Due to status-related issues, Kosovo is not party to any Conventions, Protocols, or other International Environmental Agreements.	As stated in page 32 of the strategy, Kosovo is not a signatory party to any convention nor agreement in the field of nature protection.

Montenegro					
Strategic document name	***Strategic document name in English***	***Linkages of strategic document with project outputs***	***Description of the linkages***	***What priority from the strategic document the GEF Drin II addresses?***	***Conventions with which the strategic documents are linked***
Plan upravljanja komunalnim otpadnim vodama Crne Gore (2020-2035)	Wastewater management plan for Montenegro (2020-2035)	3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural)	In the Drin Basin two suitable rural agglomerations are foreseen to be a priority for WWT: Bar 3 Dobra Voda (Nišice), Pečurice, Bištine i Dubrava 1.721 pop 3.000.P.E. projected and Bar 4 Kunje (Bušat, Komina) 441 pop. 3000 P.E projected. For	4.4. measure for expanding sewage systems especially in sensitive areas to prevent groundwater contamination	

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			Bar 4 the estimated investment is 2.9 mil		
Plan upravljanja Jadranskim slivom	Water management plan for Adriatic watershed	2.3 TB River basin management plan 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	In the Program of Actions of the plan action AB MNE 02 is highly relevant (full description is provided in documentation): Lower down the nutrient and pesticide pollution from Ulcinj field.	Matches key strategic principles provided for Adriatic watershed	
Plan upravljanja Jadranskim slivom	Water management plan for Adriatic watershed	2.2. Operationalization of joint coordination mechanism 3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management	In the Program of Actions of the plan highly relevant (full description is provided in documentation) action AB MNE 02: Control of the negative effects of the recreation and fishery practices on the Bojana River	foresees mechanism for transboundary cooperation as 5 of 17 delineated water bodies have transboundary character	The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)
Plan upravljanja Nacionalnim parkom Skadarsko Jezero	Management plan of National Park Skadar Lake	1.2. Multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programme 3.5 Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism)	Activity 4.1.3. is removal of the vegetation from most prominent touristic spots including fortresses (Besac, Grmozur and Lesenro)	Strategic goal 2: Physical protection and preservation of ecosystem, their processes, habitats and species	
Strategija bidoveriteta Crne Gore (2015-2020)	National Biodiversity strategy of Montenegro (2015-2020)	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas		Strategic goal E: Conditions are made, and targeted protection measures are implemented	The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Nacionalna strategija odrzivog razvoja do 2030	National sustainable development strategy until 2030	2.3 TB River basin management plan		Strategic goal 4.3: Preservation of natural capital; goal 4.3.2 Efficient management of natural resources: Implementation measure 3.2.4: Enabling resource efficient management of water resources	
Nacionalna strategija odrzivog razvoja do 2030	National sustainable development strategy until 2030	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas		Strategic goal 4.5 Improvement of management system for sustainable development; 4.5.1 Straightening of the management system in the sustainable development	

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				framework: Implementation measure 3.1.1 Enabling efficient protection of protected areas, ecologically important habitats and species	
Nacionalna strategija odrzivog razvoja do 2030	National sustainable development strategy until 2030	1.2. Multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programme		Implementation measure 3.2.1: Enhancement of the monitoring of biodiversity, sea, air and soil	
Strategija upravljanja vodama Crne Gore	Water Management Strategy for Montenegro	1.6 Management and sharing of information		6.5.1 Improvement of monitoring systems for implementation of operational monitoring	
Strategija upravljanja vodama Crne Gore	Water Management Strategy for Montenegro	1.2. Multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programme		6.5.1 Improvement of monitoring systems for implementation of operational monitoring	
Strategija upravljanja vodama Crne Gore	Water Management Strategy for Montenegro	1.1 An updated TDA includes enhanced Conceptual model of hydrology (with cc, marine and ground components) 3.4-Erosion control	matching actions for reaching the goal with mitigation measures	6.4.4 protection from erosion and torrents	
Strategija upravljanja vodama Crne Gore	Water Management Strategy for Montenegro	1.3 Freshwater dependent ecosystems and ecosystems flows 3.3-Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation	implementation of BAP foreseen	6.3.4 Protection of water from diffuse pollution sources	
Strategija upravljanja vodama Crne Gore	Water Management Strategy for Montenegro	1.5 Dams operation optimization		6.2.4 foresees measures for preservation of flow to match EU WFD requirements	
Nacionalna strategija u oblasti klimatskih promjena do 2030 godine	National strategy for climate change until 2030	1.1 An updated TDA includes enhanced Conceptual model of hydrology (with cc, marine and ground components)		Long term measure 11: development of the National adaptation plan for climate change	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Nacionalna strategija integralnog upravljanja obalnim podrucjem Crne Gore (do 2030)	National strategy for integrated management of the coastal area of Montenegro until 2030	3.5 Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism),	Support for improvement of the product quality for SME in coastal areas	Strategic goal 4.2. Support to greening of the coastal area	The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention)

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Nacionalna strategija integralnog upravljanja obalnim podrucjem Crne Gore (do 2030)	National strategy for integrated management of the coastal area of Montenegro until 2030	2.3 TB River basin management plan 3.4- Erosion control	protection of coastal infrastructure from erosion	Strategic goal 3.3. support to green mobility and development of green infrastructure	The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention)
Nacionalna strategija integralnog upravljanja obalnim podrucjem Crne Gore (do 2030)	National strategy for integrated management of the coastal area of Montenegro until 2030	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas 3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management	For protected areas of Old Ulcinj and Ulcinj saline	Strategic goal 1.2: Significant improvement of the efficiency for management system of protected areas, ecological valuable ecosystems, and coastal ecosystems	The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention)
Ncionalni program prioritetnih aktivnosti u oblasti ublazavanja I prilagodjavanja na klimatske promjene u okviru saradnje sa zelenim klimatskim fondom (2021-2023)	National programme of priority actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the framework of the cooperation with Green Climate Fund (2021-2023)	1.1 An updated TDA includes enhanced Conceptual model of hydrology (with cc, marine and ground components)		project included in the programme no 7 is related to climate change adaptation measures for water sector in Montenegro	

North Macedonia					
Strategic document name	***Strategic document name in English***	***Linkages of strategic document with project outputs***	***Description of the linkages***	***What priority from the strategic document the GEF Drin II addresses?***	***Conventions with which the strategic documents are linked***
Физибилити студија за рехабилитација и комплетирање на колекторскиот систем околу Охридско Езеро (JICA 2016)	Feasibility study on rehabilitation and completion of the sewage water system around Ohrid lake (JICA 2016)	3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) 1.3 Freshwater dependent ecosystems and ecosystem flows	In the upper Black Drin Basin villages of Draslajca and Tateshi are considered as a priority for establishment of the Wastewater treatment plan due to pollution of the Black Drin River	Building and rehabilitation of the sewage water system to ensure management of wastewater	The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)
План за управување со сливот на Охридско Езеро	Lake Ohrid Watershed management Plan	3.4- Erosion control 2.3 TB River basin management plan	Tributaries (e.g. Sateska river) are the mail contributors in pollution from erosion and sediments. Nature based solutions should be solutions for erosion control in the sub-watershed	Management of the basin, control of the erosion and sedimentation, proper work of the treatment plants, measures for protection of the biodiversity, protection if the protected areas.	Lake Ohrid Bilateral Agreement

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Закон за води 18/03/2016	Law on Waters	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 1.6 Management and sharing of the information		Art.66-76 Management plans of the river basins, transboundary river basins and assessment of the river basins.	Convention on access to information, public participation in environmental matters (Aarhus)
Закон за животна средина 2015	Law on Environment	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 1.6 Management and sharing of the information		Stakeholders' involvement in the processes Art.17; Art. 70-71	Convention on access to information, public participation in environmental matters (Aarhus)
Закон за заштита на природата 2016	Law on Nature protection				
Национална стратегија за заштита на природата 2017-2027	National strategy for Nature protection	2.5 Harmonization of management planning for protected areas		Management of the protected areas page 75-82	
Национална стратегија за биолошка разновидност со акциски план 2018-2023	National biodiversity strategy and Action Plan	3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management 1.3 Freshwater dependent ecosystems and ecosystem flows	Fishery management in the Lake Ohrid watershed is crucial for biodiversity restoration and economic activities in the region with attention to the transboundary fishery management, joint protocols and agreements.	Strategic goal B .5 Establishing management practices in fishery for protection of biodiversity and maintaining the ecosystem services	The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Национална Стратегија за Води	National Water strategy (2012-2042)	3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse 2.4 Flood risk management plan for Kosovo		Art.3.1 .2 Flood protection and protection from other dangerous water impacts (page 107)	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Национална Стратегија за одржлив развој во Република Македонија (2009-2030)	National strategy for sustainable development	3.5 Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism) 2.1. Legal instrument for TB cooperation	Branding the local products from the Ohrid Prespa Transboundary Biosphere reserve as a support of tourism development	Strategic recommendation 3.7 ------SME as a basis for development and ensuring the sustainability (focus on tourism sector)	The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)

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Стратегија за животна средина и климатски промени 2014-2020	Strategy for environment and climate changes	3.5 Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism) 1.3 Freshwater dependent ecosystems and ecosystem flows		3.5 Management od waters, (condition, identification and objectives (page 36-41)	The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)
Национален план за опустинување	National action plan for desertification	3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation 1.1 An updated TDA include enhanced Conceptual model of hydrology (with cc, marine and ground components)		8.7.7. Erosion and sedimentation + Strategic aims 1 and 2 (page 105)	UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

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Annex E: RoadMap Drin Commission

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex F: Climate change effects on water balance and the coastal area

1. Water Stress

Medium-Long Term Climate change scenario: future climate, present water demands.

This scenario assumes that hydrological conditions affecting water availability reflect changes in the climate that may be expected by the year 2050. Climate changes are estimated using global and regional climate models, as reported in the riparian level communications to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It is assumed that there will be no change in the water demand and that it will remain the same as the current demand, except in the irrigation sector, where consumptive water use requirements are assumed to change due to rainfall and evaporation changes as a result of climate change.

Water stress is estimated by calculating the rate of theoretical water use as part of the available water under the climate change scenario. Water stress in the White Drin River significantly increases under this scenario, with theoretical consumption reaching 81 percent of available water resources during July when irrigation needs are at the highest level. The Black Drin River sub-basin ranks second, with theoretical consumption reaching around 43 percent of available water resources also during July, again when irrigation needs are at the highest level. For the rest of the basins, no significant stress is projected. The estimated water consumption, under the climate change scenario, is indicated in the table below.

This implies that water resources will undergo significant stress in parts of the basin in the next 30 years, especially during June to August. Moreover, in the case of dry years, it is likely that available water resources in large parts of the basin will not be adequate to satisfy the demand.

Mitigation measures should be designed to overcome this eventual problem by implementing water-saving measures and managing the demand through economic and other tools.

Table 1. Water stress in 2050 with climate change impacts on water availability

Sub-basins	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Lake Prespa	3.21%	0.91%	0.83%	0.86%	0.94%	6.98%	11.66 %	20.00 %	38.05 %	44.81 %	24.00 %	12.23 %	15.89 %
Lake Ohrid	1.20%	0.95%	0.96%	0.81%	0.87%	2.84%	3.70%	8.49%	24.82 %	35.31 %	19.08 %	7.48%	8.89%
Black Drin River	1.37%	0.78%	0.59%	0.64%	0.67%	0.80%	1.83%	5.48%	22.60 %	42.98 %	34.30 %	7.49%	6.42%
White Drin River	1.46%	0.97%	0.69%	0.71%	0.74%	5.79%	13.72 %	30.87 %	62.55 %	80.27 %	50.11 %	10.87 %	20.24 %
Drin River	0.15%	0.11%	0.08%	0.09%	0.09%	0.09%	0.28%	2.32%	7.83%	18.06 %	7.94%	0.60%	1.69%
Lake Skadar/ Shkodër	0.50%	0.28%	0.17%	0.18%	0.23%	0.21%	0.25%	2.67%	9.29%	22.98 %	31.77 %	3.46%	2.61%
Buna/Bojana River	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.70%	2.04%	4.66%	1.17%	0.07%	0.37%

Full development scenario: future climate, future water demands.

This scenario assumes that climate change will affect hydrological conditions and that consumptive water demands (water supply, industry, agriculture) will also change in the future.

This scenario assesses the level of water stress in each basin throughout a year as a result of the development of economic activities and expansion of water supply networks. Temporal changes in water availability in different parts of the basin as a result of non-consumptive uses (of which the most important sector is energy) and possible subsequent transboundary issues are not assessed in this TDA, as data that would enable the use and coupling of water and energy models were not available.

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An increase in domestic consumption is expected in the coming years, though there are no reliable data to make projections. According to some planning documents, consumption will likely increase by approximately 64 percent. A more conservative figure of 50 percent of current consumption was used in this scenario.

Major increases in water use are expected in the agriculture/irrigation sector due to the development of irrigation schemes. For the purposes of the TDA and using the best available information from sectoral planning documents, the figures used for the projected increase in irrigation by 2050 were 30 percent of current consumption for Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia, and 50 percent for Kosovo. This amounts to an increase of around 610 M m^3 per year on average.

Based on water resources availability in 2050 under the climate change scenario and the increased consumption, water stress in the study area will further increase. It is likely that water demands will be marginally satisfied or not be satisfied from June to August in dry years in the Lake Prespa and Black Drin River sub-basins. Under this scenario, needs in the White Drin River during July will be double the available resources. The estimated water stress under the full development scenario is indicated in the table below.

Table 2. Water stress in 2050 with climate change and water demand impacts on water availability

Sub-basins	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Lake Prespa	4.90%	1.37%	1.24%	1.30%	1.42%	10.86 %	18.57 %	33.34 %	70.48%	86.63%	40.91%	19.53 %	25.89 %
Lake Ohrid	1.80%	1.43%	1.44%	1.23%	1.31%	4.31%	5.66%	13.30 %	42.51%	64.32%	31.64%	11.66 %	13.96 %
Black Drin River	2.07%	1.17%	0.89%	0.97%	1.01%	1.21%	2.76%	8.46%	38.21%	82.13%	62.10%	11.68 %	9.94%
White Drin River	2.21%	1.46%	1.04%	1.07%	1.11%	8.94%	22.10 %	54.75 %	136.53 %	201.13%	100.30%	17.24 %	33.77 %
Drin River	0.22%	0.16%	0.12%	0.13%	0.14%	0.14%	0.42%	3.52%	12.22%	29.78%	12.40%	0.91%	2.56%
Lake Skadar/ Shkodër	0.76%	0.42%	0.25%	0.28%	0.35%	0.31%	0.38%	4.07%	14.62%	38.94%	56.66%	5.29%	3.97%
Buna/Bojana River	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	1.05%	3.10%	7.15%	1.76%	0.10%	0.56%

2. Climate change effects on the coast

Global warming will result in sea-level rise, and as oceans expand, storm patterns will become more extreme. This will affect most of the world's coastlines through inundation and increased erosion. Sound predictions of the development of these hazards over the next century are needed in order to manage the resulting risks. In addition to submergence, seawater intrusion into freshwater aquifers in deltaic areas is an increasing problem associated with rising sea levels.
In the last century, the Adriatic Sea experienced an increase in average sea level of about 15 cm. Assuming the hypothesis of Bruun (1962), indicating a backward movement, from 0.5 m to 1.0 m of shoreline for each centimetre of average sea-level rise, the shoreline drawback in a century would be between 7.5 and 15 m. Using a GIS software and a digital elevation model, the areas that will be most exposed from this phenomenon in the future can be analyzed. Knowing the effects of the wave dynamics and the past erosion line in the Buna/Bojana area, this trend can be projected into the future.

An analysis[23] to evaluate potential shoreline changes in the future, using data from different time periods from maps and satellite images, was applied to the Buna/Bojana delta; the results are shown in the Figure. The retreat in the shoreline over the next 40 and 100 years is obvious and significant. The magnitude of change reaches several tenths of metres.

[23] Historical trend extrapolation is a commonly used approach to evaluate potential shoreline changes using data from different time periods from maps and satellite images. The historical shorelines are used to estimate rates of change over time. From the change in position with time, an average rate of retreat can be calculated. The shoreline change rates can then be used to extrapolate future changes in the shoreline by multiplying the observed change rate by a specific amount of time, typically in terms of years.

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Figure 1. Possible coastline positions into the future for the scenarios in 2050, 2080, and 2100

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Annex G: Description of activities under Component 3

3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) – Support to the broader adoption of small-scale wastewater treatment plants for nutrient removal piloted in the foundational project, in small rural settlements not easily connected to main wastewater treatment systems.

The deterioration of water quality is a problem that affects all Drin Riparians. Excess nutrients concentrations are considered as a major issue in most parts of the Drin Basin. Inadequate or insufficient wastewater treatment from domestic sources contributes about 30 percent of the total nutrient load in the Basin (Drin TDA, 2020). More than half of this load comes from insufficiently treated or untreated sewage water from centralized collection systems of the large cities (particularly in the White Drin River and Lake Skadar/Shkodra sub-basins) and almost 40 % from diffuse pollution in areas where no collection system exists[24]. The first is subject of long-term efforts and significant investments made by the Drin Riparians while the latter has not received yet the required attention. Wastewater pollution from rural areas is particularly important (regardless the magnitude of pollution) as in many cases it directly affects and endangers sensitive areas such as water supply sources, protected areas, sensitive ecosystems etc. The latter is obvious in figure 1; the highest levels of generated phosphorous and nitrogen comes from septic tanks in the area of transboundary lakes and the delta of the river in the Adriatic.

This activity aims to promoting affordable wastewater treatment in sensitive rural areas of the Drin Basin. It will pilot the design, establishment, operation and test of the cost-efficiency of a limited number of nature-based solutions in areas of high sensitivity in the Drin Basin (such as Lumi i Shales and Koman lake in Albania, Buna/Bojana river mouth, Delogozdi village, Struga in North Macedonia, Shtiqen in Albania and Raushiq in[25] Kosovo etc.).

Establishing cost-effective wastewater treatment systems is site specific and its technology/structure/components involves different investment and operation/maintenance costs, depends on the geographical location (elevation of villages, geographical position being near rivers or the sea), affordability to locals in terms of investment and maintenance, the existence or not of basic infrastructure (e.g., collection systems) etc. Moreover, the characteristics and (ecological among others) sensitivity of the effluents' recipient body should be considered along with associated risks/hazards.

In this regard, the exact locations and technology of the pilot system(s) to be tested will be decided during the initial phase of the project implementation by the Drin Core Group.

Two pre-feasibility studies for nature-based solutions in rural areas of the Drin basin were developed in the framework of the project "Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in South-eastern Europe, Through the Use of the Nexus Approach" (ADA, GWP-Med, UNECE, 2022). Those two locations (Shtiqen in Albania and Raushiq in Kosovo) had been selected in consultation with the Riparian authorities. Further, two locations were identified after consultation with the Drin Riparians as additional potential areas for the implementation of this activity. These four preliminary identified locations (see Map 1 bellow) will be considered with priority along with other locations that may be proposed by the Drin Riparians -preferably with advanced technical documentation developed- based on a set of criteria (see the list below) to select those where the demonstration activities will take place.

Consultation and awareness raising of local communities in areas of implementation will take place aiming to succeed commitment and ownership of the process towards sustainability of results. Technical documentation will be developed to procure the activities. After the establishment of the wastewater treatment nature-based solutions, their efficiency and effectiveness will be monitored (including cost-efficiency / level of reduction of pollution); the results will be presented as lessons learned to foster replication. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments development will be developed should results be positive. The Project will work with developmental partners to identify options and opportunities for scaling up the successful solutions.

Activities to be performed are as follows:

1. Consultation with Drin Riparians for the final selection of the sites; selection criteria (to be finalised during the initial phase of project implementation) will include among others:

[24] In the Drin basin there are 1320 settlements <2000 p.e. mainly in rural areas that generate 37 % of total pollution load to the Basin. None of them had -as of 2019- any form of wastewater treatment

[25] If not subject of connection to newly constructed WWTP Peja

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   a. Whether the area that receives the effluent is a sensitive area (i.e., as water supply source, protected areas, sensitive ecosystem etc).
   b. The level of vulnerability of the natural and socio-economic components of the area that receives the effluents.
   c. Maturity of the case / existence of related technical documentation.
   d. Provision of land from local authorities/users for the installation of the wastewater treatment units.
   e. Level of applicability of existing technologies taking into consideration: technical feasibility, costs, quality of treated effluents in relation to the ecological characteristics of the receiving body.
   f. Affordability of initial investment by the Project and capacity of the end user to maintain/operate the wastewater treatment unit.
   g. etc.
2. Development of technical documentation needed for preparing the feasibility/design studies for the selected sites (i.e. preliminary technical drawings, geotechnical investigation, geodetic and affordability surveys, environmental impact assessment etc).
3. Full design of the nature-based solutions to be implemented (ready for tendering).
4. Implementation (construction works or/and equipment installation).
5. Capacity building, awareness raising and gender sensitive consultation process with local populations in selected sites.
6. Monitoring and evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of solutions implemented.
7. Regional report/guidelines related to on-site solutions for wastewater treatment in rural areas of the Drin Basin and dissemination of demonstration of results (lessons learned).
8. Working with donors and financing partners including banks to investigate options and opportunities for scaling up successful solutions.
9. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments will be developed should results be positive.

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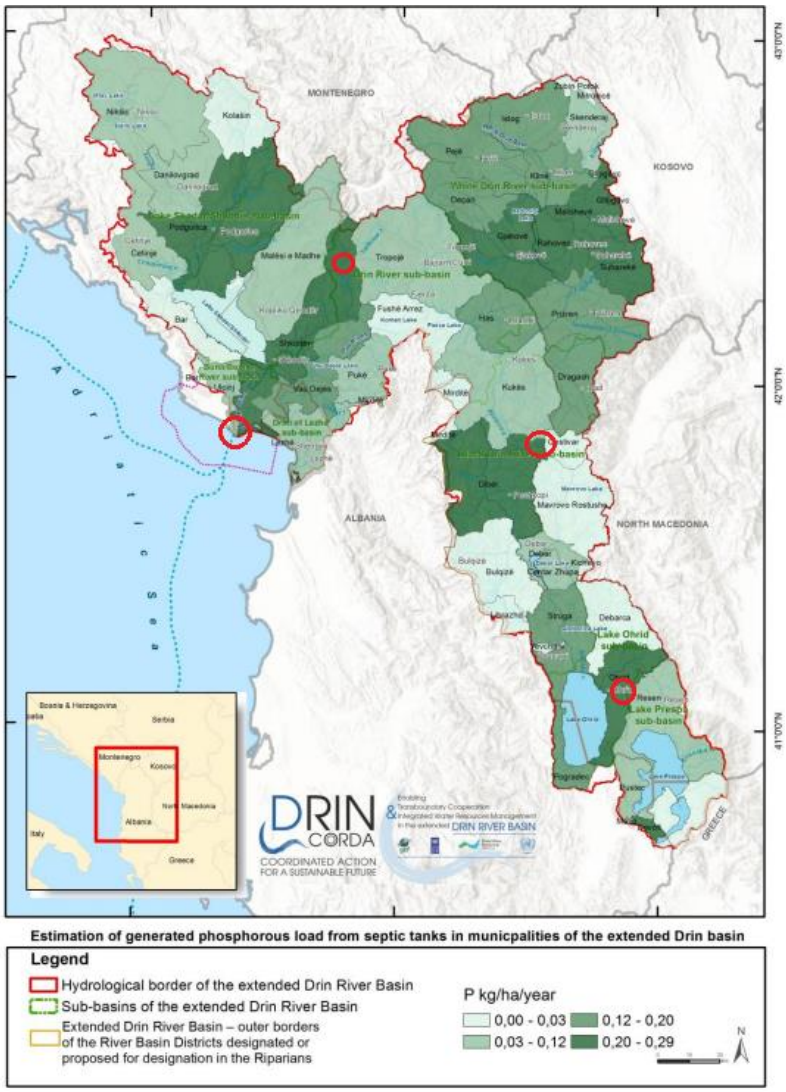


Figure 3: Estimation of the generated phosphorus load from septic tanks in Municipalities of the Drin basin, (green) and preliminary selected pilot locations (red circles)

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3.2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse – Reinforcement, also by promoting the TEST approach, of the capacity of industries and SMEs in the reduction of toxic substances emissions to waterbodies and land, as well as reinforcement of their capacity in water use efficiency and reuse, and assessment of action and/or investment needs for the rehabilitation of toxic pollution from mines and quires (White Drin, Skadar/Shkoder Lake, and Ohrid Lake sub-basins).

Preliminary work for the identification of the level of pollution coming from industries and SMEs in the Drin Basin[26] revealed that, although the industrial is not the most significant economic sector, industries can be associated with significant pollution load. Industries that are largely using old technologies, coupled with low capacities in terms of environmental law enforcement leads to significant pollution risk. This is particularly important in areas of the Basin with increased ecological sensitivity or for water bodies that constitute sources of drinking water. At the same time, industries are associated with increased water usage that results in the creation of additional environmental issues e.g., lowering of the groundwater table etc.

In the Drin basin[27] apart from the "historical" industrial pollution sites (i.e., Aluminium plant dump site in Podgorica, Montenegro, ex auto spare parts factory in Peje, Kosovo, etc.), food production, metallurgy and mining industries are identified as the ones having the higher risk to pollute. Registered increase of the Chemical oxygen demand (COD), heavy metals and in some locations priority substance pollution, can be considered as impacts of industrial activity. Heavy metals and priority substances are also an issue in groundwaters (for example, in the White Drin River) and in sediments (for example, in Lake Skadar/Shkodër), (TDA, 2020). Water use, although it varies from facility to facility, it can be generally assessed as inefficient (as most enterprises use unregulated/unlicenced groundwater sources for own supply).

The current economic status of the large enterprises and the specific socio-economic conditions and institutional capacities in the Drin Riparians minimizes the chances in the short/medium term that industries would be able to align with environmental standards (in line with the EU requirements[28]); in many cases, full enforcement of the environmental standards would mean investments for changing the technology used, production process etc. making it very challenging from the financial standpoint. When it comes to smaller enterprises, further to the obsolete technologies used, it is the low awareness and knowledge of related legislation and/or good practices that would reduce pollution risk. The EU accession process is expected to contribute to altering in a positive way the institutional capacities in environmental law enforcement and providing the incentives (including financial ones) to the industrial sector to align with the environmental legislation. In the short/medium term there should be action taken though.

This activity aims to create the conditions for the decrease of the pollution loads and increase of the water use efficiency as well as to enable long-term planning of actions towards environmental compliance.

Action will be taken so as enterprises that will participate in this pilot are able to:

a) understand the legal requirements for full environmental compliance
b) understand the adverse effects to the environment and society created along with the associated mitigation costs
c) understand how the adoption and implementation of specific measures/changes in the production process can not only lead to increased environmental performance but also to reduction of overall production costs
d) select appropriate mitigation measures (related to reduction of pollution and efficient water use) and prepare a tailored-made implementation plan
e) be able to monitor, evaluate and replicate good practices/results in their business process as part of the wider long-term efforts for reaching environmental compliance and greening their business

The above would be achieved through the implementation of the TEST[29] methodology and related set of tools developed by UNIDO to help businesses improve their competitive advantage while adopting resource efficiency strategies and solutions. It is a systematic way of identifying and exploring the most feasible potentials for resource efficiency and continuous improvement of the use of materials, water, and energy within a company, building on its

[26] 137 industries and SME that can impact water quality in the Drin Basin are identified though the TDA/Thematic report on pollution (GEF Drin project, TDA 2020). More data and map available at dringis.org

[27] Although potential polluters are preliminary registered in all Drin Riparians, for Kosovo and Albania data where not sufficient to conduct preliminary analyses

[28] i.e., environmental emission limits and IPPC licensing requirements

[29] The TEST toolkit web interface was designed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) more information: https://www.test-toolkit.eu

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specific needs and internal capacities. It is implemented through predefined four steps (planning, support and operation, performance evaluation, and improvement) that would be modified to bring more focus on the resources linked to pollution or water use.

This activity will be implemented in the most industrialized parts of the Drin Basin (i.e., Niksic and Podgorica areas in Montenegro, Shkoder in Albania, Peja and Suhareka in Kosovo and Ohrid in North Macedonia, see Figure 2 bellow) targeting the main water pollution sectors and will be based on the modified UNIDO TEST approach.

In addition to the above the activity will assess of action and/or investment needs for the rehabilitation of toxic pollution from mines and quires.

The following actions will be implemented:

1. Initial screening (conducting a survey among potential partner enterprises) and assessment of status of selected mines and quarries (based on their level of pollution risk) with proposal of appropriate remediation actions.
2. Capacity building on TEST methodology (for enterprises posing water pollution risk in the Basin)
3. Selection of the enterprises to implement the TEST approach and MoUs signing.
4. Setting up focus areas within the management system and team set-up (in selected enterprises)
5. Options for improving the environmental management system is generated and feasibility analysis are developed; action plans are developed.
6. Targeted trainings on solutions to improve the environmental management systems.
7. Development of detailed technical documentation to implement resources efficiency measures.
8. Monitoring and evaluation.
9. Knowledge dissemination and lessons learned (for all enterprises with water pollution potential in the Basin).

A survey will be done among enterprises that pose a high-water pollution risk. The data with regard to the latter were collected and a preliminary cadastre was developed during the foundational Project (Drin TDA, 2020)[30]. Capacity building activities for the implementation of the TEST methodology will take place in each of the Drin riparians. The results of the initial survey and additionally collected background data will be used to formulate the list of enterprises to participate as well as the content of the capacity building activities. Additional criteria for the selection of enterprises to implement the TEST approach will be:

- level of interest and commitment shown during capacity building activities under 2
- their impact to the environment.

Actions 1-3 will be implemented during the initial phase of the pilot activity implementation.

In each of the selected enterprises there is going to be: additional training; selection of the management system focus areas to be improved; analysis of the options for the improvement of the targeted processes; formulation of the implementation team and plan. It is very important to establish effective working teams -aiming full ownership towards sustainability of achieved results- as implementation of step 7 (see the list above) is to be designed as internal process. Guidance, technical and consultative support to the team would be provided by the Project.

Performance and improvements resulting from the implementation of TEST approach actions would be compared to the initial baseline (identified and quantified during the planning step), allowing for internal management assessment and decision on necessary corrective actions.

Results of this activity and lessons learned would be prepared and disseminated to as many enterprises as possible in the Drin basin as means of continuation of the capacity building process.

[30] 137 existing enterprises with high potential for water pollution have been mapped across the Drin basin as part of the TDA development process: GIS map available at: dringis.org

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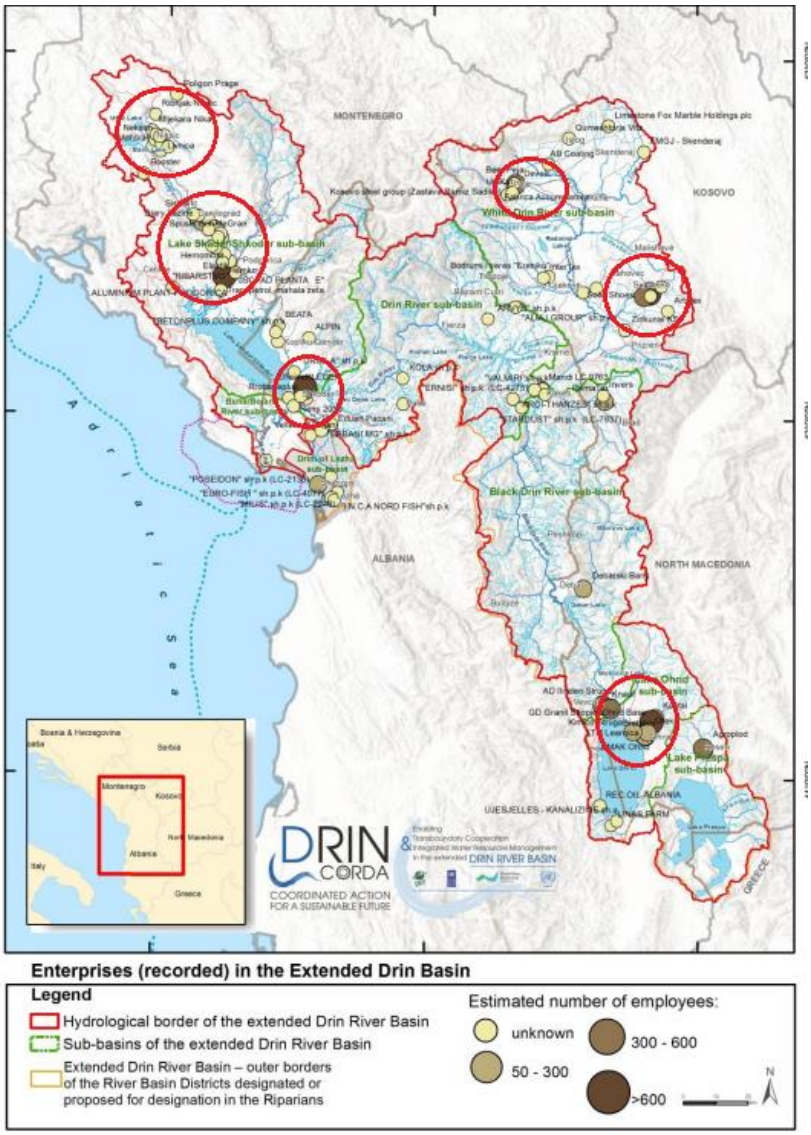


Figure 4 Potential polluters (industries and SME) recorded in the Drin basin (grey dots) and preliminary selected pilot locations (red circles)

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3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation – Promotion of: (i) Integrated Pest Management practices, (ii) the transition to tourism oriented organic farming, (iii) the use of Best Agricultural Practices (BAP, e.g. buffer strips, crop rotation, application of fertilizers, no-till, use of cover crops, IT solutions) to enhance soil conservation and reduce pollution, in selected areas of the sub-basins of White Drin, Prespa and Ohrid, Black Drin and Buna/ Bojana, and Zeta plain.

Agriculture is a key livelihood for the basin's largely rural population. The agricultural sector has a quite similar structure in the Riparians, characterized by the existence of predominantly small farms and small numbers of large ex-socialist holdings, that are now privatized, and transformed into large companies. Agricultural sector is shrinking and even subsistence farms are lacking the resources for economically viable production due to the inability to compete successfully on domestic or/and international food markets.

Overall, the areas with orchards and vineyards are very limited and exist in certain locations, especially in lake areas and along riverbanks. Significant portions of land are used for intensive vegetable production in Skadar/Shkodër and Librazd and for intensive fruit cultivation in Prespa and Ohrid regions and Peshkopi. The main irrigation techniques applied in the basin are drip, furrow, and sprinklers - in their majority they could benefit by better management and maintenance. Although there is a perception (by end users) of water abundance, the agricultural sector is highly vulnerable to droughts. If current water management practices continue, under current climate change scenarios, water availability related risks to the agricultural production will significantly increase (TDA, 2020- Thematic Report on Hydrology and Hydrogeology).

In addition to inefficient water management there is overuse of pesticides and fertilizers etc.; arable land is identified as main source of nutrient load (53.3 percent of total load) in the Drin Basin (Drin TDA, 2020). The areas in the Drin Basin with the highest agriculture related nutrient emissions are depicted in Figure 3 below.

This reality compromises the sustainability and profitability of the agricultural sector as well as its attractiveness for young people, entrepreneurs, and innovators, at a time that the re-framing of agricultural development in the broader context of rural development stands out as a goal in all Riparian's sectoral strategies. It also compromises the sustainability of both freshwaters supported and marine ecosystems.

Sustainable agriculture practices need to be introduced/promoted and scaled up.

This activity is designed to facilitate introduction of precision agriculture in key areas of the Drin basin as means to addressing excessive pollution -including from pesticides- and water use and soil deterioration.

Work will be done at two levels: level of small-farms and large agricultural producers.

The following activities will be implemented:

1. Two sets of awareness raising workshops (for large agricultural businesses /cooperatives and farmers) among others focusing on precision agriculture to improve efficiency and environmental footprint. The workshops will be implemented in the areas with the highest level of TN and TP diffuse emissions (see figure 3).
2. Consultation with large agricultural businesses /cooperatives and farmers to explore interest in undertaking an in-depth screening of their current management practices with the aim of improving these using precision agriculture. Potential areas of focus for Albania are described and preliminary identification of the technical solution for installing Precision Agriculture technologies in these areas are done in a study prepared in the framework of the Nexus Project supported by ADA (ADA, GWP-Med, UNECE, 2022).
3. Identify options for establishing cooperation with developmental and commercial banks for the development of micro-credit options/soft loans OR creation of donor scheme[31] to supplement the small-grant scheme for the purchase of precision agriculture related equipment (see below).
4. Selection of agricultural businesses / cooperatives and farmers to participate in the demonstration activity; these will receive a grant from the Project covering a percentage of the investment to be made. To ensure a fair distribution of available resources among large agricultural business and small farms, for what concerns the large agricultural businesses /cooperatives the pilot actions will cover a part of the area they cultivate. An initial set of selection criteria is given below; the criteria will be finalised during the project implementation period in cooperation with Ministries responsible for agriculture:
    - number of ha

[31] In cooperation with the existing riparian level subsidies schemes in existence (i.e. EU IPARD)

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- subsidies already received
- intended related investment size and own available funds or funds secured through other sources
- existing agricultural practices
- available market for products cultivated and existing synergies with other local businesses (i.e. being part of local tourism food supply chain)
- type of production in terms of scaling up potential (promoting organic production)
- pollution vulnerability in the areas where the cultivations are
- women lead agriculture businesses
- etc.

5. In-depth screening of agricultural processes and development of recommendations reports; the reports will among others quantify the economic and environmental aspects associated with the implementation of recommended precision agriculture activities (focusing on efficient use of water, fertilizers, and pesticides).
6. Development of an Action plan for the implementation of precision agriculture by selected partners. The Action plan would describe, as appropriate, technology to be used, activities, timeline, etc. for the implementation of innovative solutions such as smart irrigation systems, precision, and smart farming.
7. Implementation of pilot actions including:
    a. Procurement of the equipment and services needed
    b. Installation and training
    c. Cultivation using precision agriculture
8. Monitoring and evaluation of the results of the output, in terms of reduction of use of water, fertilizers and pesticides.
9. Identify options for establishing cooperation with developmental and commercial banks for the development of micro-credit options/soft loans OR targeted donors to upscale implementation of successful solutions.
10. Organisation of workshops to promote and disseminate knowledge and experience regarding implementation of precision agriculture techniques that proved to be most effective
11. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments will be developed should results be positive.

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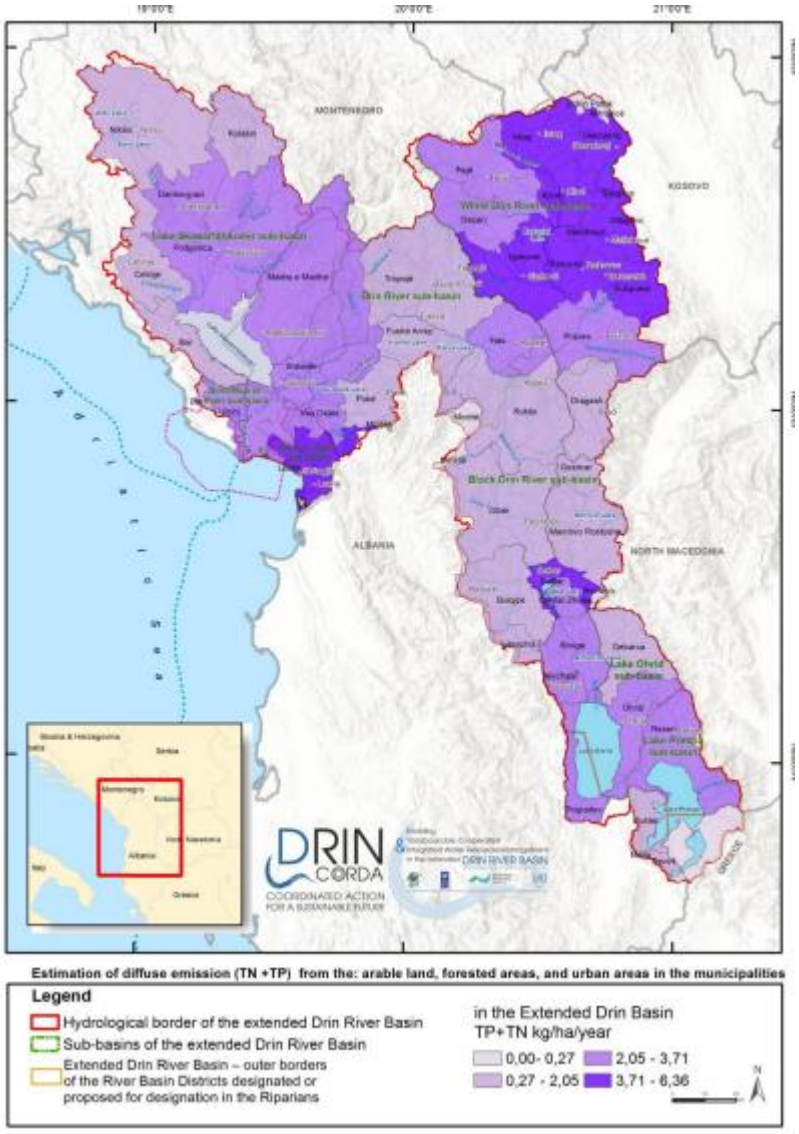


Figure 5: Estimation of the nitrogen emission loads (TN and TP) from arable land, forested areas, and urban areas in the municipalities of the Drin basin

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3.4- Erosion control – In priority areas (e.g.: the Debar Lake basin, the Sateska basin, the Adriatic coastal area) promoting reforestation, nature-based solutions, sustainable tillage and irrigation systems, etc

As a result of specific relief and climatic conditions in the Drin Basin, soils are very prone to erosion (soils of the lake terraces and hilly relief forms represents 2/3 of the total, while the rest are mainly soils of the mountainous regions). This, coupled with socio-economic conditions (i.e. lack of appropriate mitigation measures or even exacerbation of the erosion process through extensive gravel extraction and inappropriate land use and farming practices[32]) result in intensified soil degradation processes and complex sedimentation patterns. In all Drin Riparians soil degradation is accelerating and is estimated that currently near half of the basin territory experiences medium to severe erosion.

This has an impact to the economies of the Drin Riparians in the sectors of electricity production (dam siltation), agriculture (fertility and soil loss), tourism (coastal changes) as well as in the reliability of the drinking water supply sources (in terms of quality and quantity) and loss of ecosystems (impacting riparian ecosystems with extensive gravel extraction). Sateska and Buna/Bojana rivers within the Drin Basin are characteristic cases.

The Sateska river in North Macedonia was diverted from its confluence to the Black Drin, to Lake Ohrid to prevent river sediment deposition to the HPP accumulations in the Black Drin River. Running through agricultural and urban landscapes, it has since become a major source of pollution (brings 30 % of total phosphorus load ending up in the lake), solid waste, and sediment to Lake Ohrid bringing up to 129 tons of suspended material daily. After more than 5 decades, sediments from the Sateska are now slowly creating an artificial delta. Due to the devastating impact, the Government of North Macedonia with the assistance of UNDP implements the Sateska river restoration project[33] with the aim to bring the stream back into its original bed. Targeted sediment transfer prevention measures (construction of sediment traps) are being implemented in parallel. However, the project focus on the lower part of the Sateska river; erosion mitigation measures are necessary in the upper parts of the rivers' catchment area as well.

The Delta of Bojana River and "big beach" in Montenegro along with the Buna River Velipojë Protected Landscape in Albania created by extensive sediment transport (from the Drin River system), are marine resorts and significant touristic spots. The Buna/Bojana Delta was growing in area before the dams' construction on the Drin River upstream in Albania, with the most intense deposition occurring in the 1940s, with an average rate of about 45 m/yr. Human interventions in the basin (hydropower infrastructure) leading to the decrease of sediment reaching the coast, in synergy with other factors (coastal dynamics and climate change) caused a reversal of this trend and erosion phenomena. An effort was made to assess the erosion/sediment deposition trends in this area in the period 1950–2016. A comparison of the coastline in 1950 with that of 1984, indicates accumulation of sediment. However, if we compare the coastline in 1984 with that in 2016, erosion is obvious (Figure 4 & 5 below; Drin TDA[34] 2020). At present, the delta area is under intensive erosion.

While long term effects -including climate change impacts, dams operation, excessive/illegal quarrying in many of the rivers in the Drin Basin- are still being studied, it is evident that erosion mitigation measures should be implemented in the short term.

Activities under this Output will focus on the upper parts of the Sateska river (North Macedonia) and Bojana/Buna delta (Albania and Montenegro). Work will capitalize and build on the improved knowledge on erosion processes to be gained through the implementation of the activities under Output 1.4- ("*Assessment of sediment balance along the Drin Basin with focus on reservoirs siltation, land degradation hotspots and impacts on riverbed and coastal dynamics*") and results of other projects[35].

With regard to the first, work will include assessment of sediment balance, reservoirs siltation, coastal bed dynamics etc. Knowledge on those interconnected topics and this to be gained through targeted assessments or/and feasibility studies for Buna/Bojana and upper Sateska rivers will be used to identify proposed measures to address gravel extraction and erosion in these two areas. This will be the basis for the development of tender dossiers for mitigation measures, implementation of these measures and assessment of their effectiveness. Two practitioners and

[32] Including: overgrazing, use of monocultures, limited application of organic materials, ploughing of steep slopes, lack of soil conservation tillage techniques

[33] Integrated Climate-Resilient Transboundary Flood RM

[34] Thematic Report on Hydrology-Hydrogeology

[35] E.g. Conservation and revitalization of Ada Bojana Review of the Study Final Report (COWI, 2022) and results of the project Integrated Climate-Resilient Transboundary Flood RM (UNDP- ongoing).

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stakeholders' workshops will be held as means to disseminate knowledge on the design of erosion mitigation measures and share related lessons learned. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy instruments development will be prepared should results be positive.

The mitigation measures to be implemented should be of magnitude and scope that aligns with the available resources and with the Project's timeframe and timeline of activities.

Activities under this activity are listed below:

1. Feasibility study for a set of ecosystem-based measures for reducing erosion/sedimentation transport in upper parts of Sateska River (e.g. by reforestation, creation natural sediment traps etc.) and erosion control at Bojana/Buna Delta (e.g. restoration and consolidation through vegetation and/or creation and protection dunes, creating temporary embankments etc.).
2. Development of the full design and preparation of the tender dossiers for implementing selected mitigation measures at the two locations.
3. Implementation of measures.
4. Monitoring and evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of measures implemented.
5. Gender inclusive workshops on selecting and implementing appropriate erosion control measures for practitioners and the decision makers and on the negative effects of current practices.
6. Working with donors and financing partners to investigate options and opportunities for scaling up successful solutions.
7. Guidelines on applicability of erosion control measures based on lessons learned in the two areas of focus.
8. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy instruments will be developed should results be positive.

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Figure 6: Coastal erosion and accumulation in the period 1984–2016 - Ada Bojana/Buna

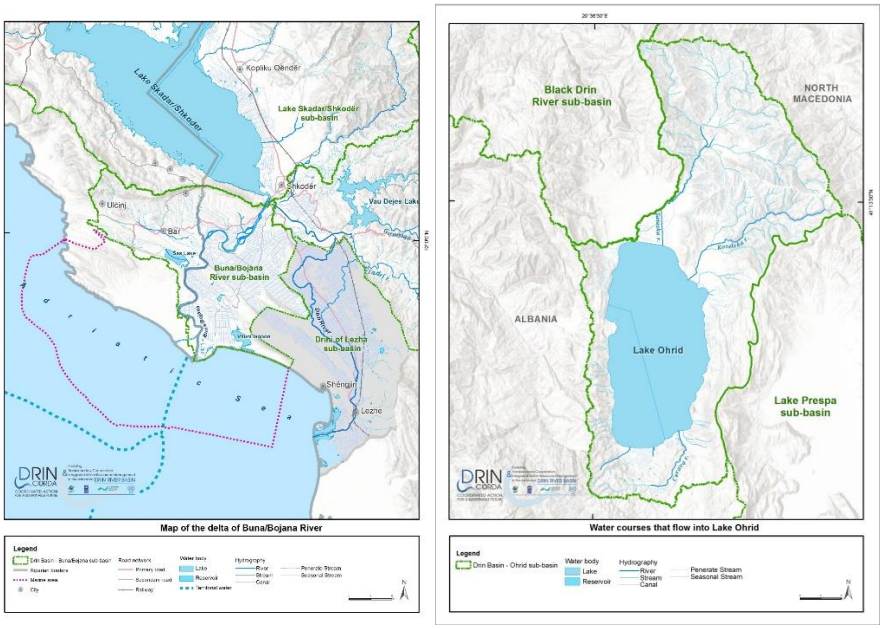


Figure 7: Map of the delta of Buna/Bojana river (left) and watercourses that flow into Lake Ohrid (right)

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3.5 – Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism), in transboundary areas of ecological importance (e.g. Prespa, Ohrid, Skadar/Shoder and Buna/Bojana, White Drin source in Radavc), to facilitate transition of local economy towards sustainable natural resources management practices and green growth.

The strategic documents of the Drin Riparians[36] recognize the need for a transition to a green economy -to foster economic development while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which human well-being relies on- offering opportunities for green investments by including new market-based incentives and mechanisms.

Overall, the project supports the green recovery efforts by enabling strengthened resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods as well as by conserving the natural capital and diverse waters and ecosystems in the Drin Riparians.

There are transboundary areas of ecological importance where touristic products have been already developed and that already attract significant share of the tourists arriving in the Drin Basin. The number of visitors in the parts of the Drin Basin extending in three Riparians (Montenegro, Albania and Nort Macedonia) has increased from 385,000 in 2012 to nearly 500,000 in 2016 (~30% increase), while the number of registered overnights has increased from 1.48 million to nearly 1.6 million over the same period (8% increase).

The basin has a very high potential for further development of tourism, given the current global tourism trends and taking into consideration the geography and variety of natural assets in the basin's territory as well as the abundance of cultural and historical sites. The basin attracts -still- a low number of tourists and has largely undisturbed natural characteristics that can support a high-value alternative (adventure) touristic product that extends in transboundary areas, in more than one Riparian.

This activity aims to facilitate greening the local economy in areas of ecological value and sensitivity, promoting touristic green business approaches, hence contributing to a transition to a -high value- local scale sustainable natural resources management. To this end, the Project will work with the private sector and the authorities in these areas. A green innovation challenge coupled with small grants program and possibly small-scale soft loans through credit lines from development banks will be used. This should catalyse innovation and possibly investment and have a positive effect also in terms of creation of green/blue jobs adding value to the local and riparian level economy.

Greening the tourism in protected areas of the Drin basin (Figure 6 indicates the protected areas in the Drin Basin) should be gender sensitive and be done through the involvement of the local community in the tourism value chain.

The following actions will be implemented:

1. Selection of transboundary protected areas of focus.
2. Capacity building on sustainable tourism for SMEs and managers of protected areas of focus.
3. Organising a "Greening the tourism innovation challenge". A call for the submission of ideas for new business concepts or greening of existing businesses that will receive a small grant covering up to 50% of the investment to be made. Eligible costs may include (the list will be finalised during project implementation in cooperation with local authorities, tourism champers and protected areas authorities – and possibly donors/banks) purchase of specific services or equipment such as environmental certification, electric motors for boats, etc. Preparation of the call including the criteria for the selection of proposals. The criteria -that will be in line with the SES prerequisites[37]- will be finalised during the project implementation period in cooperation with local authorities, tourism champers and protected areas authorities (possibly banks/donors); an initial list is provided below:
    a. Level of innovation
    b. Extent to which the proposal is aligned with a set of "green economy" criteria; these are related to the sustainable use of natural resources and as such should be specific to the geographical area of focus (to be decided during the project implementation).
    c. Level of investment
    d. Own funds or funds secured through other sources

[36] E.g. Development Strategy of Albania and National sustainable development strategy of Montenegro

[37] UNDP will provide related technical expertise using experience from similar activities in other basins/geographical areas

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   e. Sustainability potential of the business idea based on financial analysis
   f. Number of jobs to be created and number of years that these hob positions will be retained by the beneficiary
   g. etc.
4. Submission of the proposals by candidates and selection of ideas/businesses. Local authorities, tourism champers and protected areas authorities (possibly banks/donors) will participate along with the PMU in the selection of proposals.
5. Identify options for establishing cooperation with developmental and commercial banks for the development of micro-credit options/soft loans OR donors to participate in the effort, by supplementing the small grant scheme.
6. Implementation of selected actions.
7. Monitoring and evaluation of results.
8. Working with donors and financing partners including banks to investigate options and opportunities for scaling up successful solutions.
9. Promote successful cases and support replication in other parts of the basin and other SMEs in the tourism sector.
10. Advice to the Drin Riparians for policy and legal instruments will be developed should results be positive.

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Figure 8: Protected areas in the Drin basin (Drin TDA, 2020)

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3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management: (i) Capacity building and training for fish stock assessments to inform management (ii) promotion of best fishing practices among fishermen and their associations (iii) enhancement of illegal fishing monitoring and control capacities

Fisheries is an important socio-economic sector in the Drin Basin generating income of local population; there are more than 1,500 registered fisherpersons in the Drin basin. Commercial fishery is present in all big freshwater lakes and in coastal parts of the Drin Basin and is almost exclusively artisanal fishery. Small part of the catch also comes from recreational fishery that is widespread, also on rivers.

The fishery sector related management framework at riparian level is complex and is coupled with week law enforcement leading to -the existing- unsatisfactory management practices. The proclamation of total moratorium on fishing activities in specific areas has been used as a last resort measure to prevent the collapse of ichthyofauna[38]. In the case of transboundary lakes and rivers any management measure -including fishing bans - should be harmonised between/among the riparian states.

The activity will focus on the transboundary protected lakes, the White Drin, the Buna/Bojana river and the adjacent marine area. The Project will work with i) management authorities and ii) local fishermen.

The aim will be to facilitate action towards sustainable transboundary fishery management in the Drin River Basin by improving and harmonizing across the Riparians:

- knowledge and data generation/usage.
- management practices i.e. usage of artisan fishing tools.
- monitoring and control of illegal fishing in transboundary areas.

Activities will support the implementation of existing bilateral agreements[39].

The following activities will be implemented:

1. Review of available data on fish stock status and trends, focusing on vulnerable commercial species in transboundary areas, (using the results from Output 1.3):
    a. Analysis of baseline data related to fish stocks and identification of data gaps for efficient fish stocks transboundary management. The project will also compare different methods applied in Drin Riparians for fish stocks related data collection and status assessments in the transboundary lakes/adjacent marine areas.
    b. Propose the areas and methods for additional data collection on targeted (vulnerable) transboundary species (if necessary, focusing on non-invasive rapid techniques).
    c. Assess management and fishing practices to identify/understand the extent to which these have an adverse effect and contribute to the deterioration of fish stocks in transboundary areas of focus; the assessment will identify threats and develop recommendations for sustainable management practices.
2. Capacity building / trainings for protected areas managers and local fisherman on fish stock data collection and assessment methods in transboundary areas. The trainings will include theoretical and hands-on activities on the implementation of small scale and targeted surveys (including targeted fish stock assessments, by e.g., using rapid non-invasive techniques[40]). The activity will be used to do limited scale data collection to cover some of the identified gaps identified under 1b and to assess impact to the fisheries from harmful fishing practices.
3. Establishment of joint technical groups comprising of experts appointed by the Drin Riparians to meet, discuss and agree on (i) fish stock data collection and assessment methods (ii) fishing related law enforcement measures that promotes best fishing practices and monitoring of compliance.
4. Riparians use the outputs of the work of the joint technical groups to develop joint protocols or equivalent on:
    a. fish stock data collection and assessment methods
    b. fishing monitoring compliance and control practices in transboundary areas including protocols of action in case of illegal fishing

[38] During the period 2006 - 2013 total moratorium on fishing was implemented at Lake Prespa, both for commercial and recreational fishing, as well as during the period April 2004 – September 2012 at Lake Ohrid.

[39] i.e. Fisheries management agreement on Lake Ohrid and Great Prespa between North Macedonia and Albania (2020) or Fisheries management agreement on Lake Skadar/Shkodra (in process of adoption)

[40] i.e., Fish abundance estimation with imaging sonar

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5. Purchasing of necessary equipment (i.e. drones, IC cameras, protective equipment, boas, motors, etc.) and operational training for the managers based on the protocols adopted.
6. Monitoring and evaluation of the new monitoring and control schemes established and dissemination of results.
7. Promotional campaign of best fishing practices in transboundary areas among fishermen and their associations.

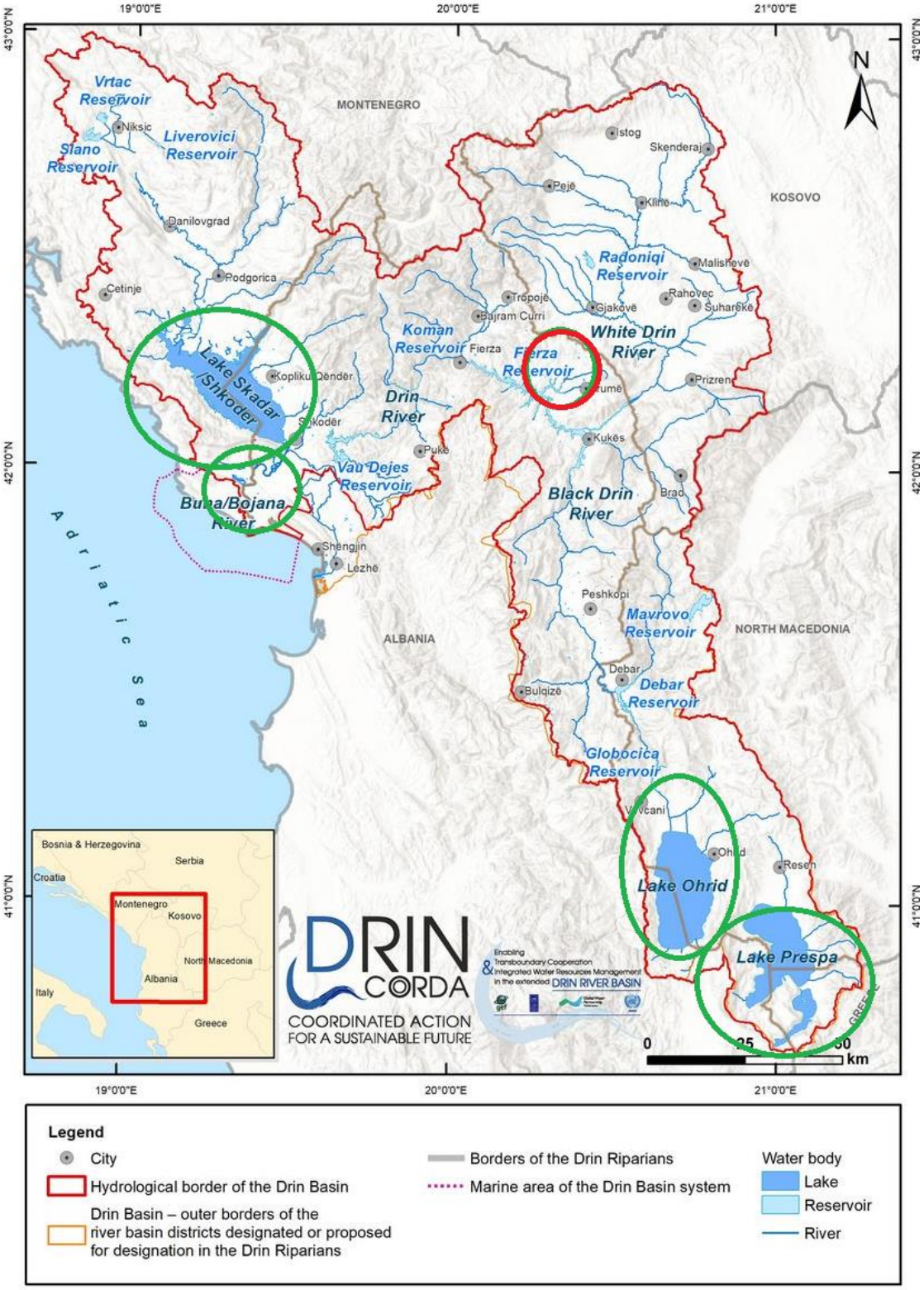


Figure 9: Transboundary protected areas and important fish habitats: Skadar/Shkodra lake, Prespa lake, Ohrid lake, Buna/Bojana delta (green circles) and transboundary Fierza Reservoir (red circle)

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Annex H: Ongoing baseline projects and initiatives relevant to the objectives and activities of the project

Project/Initiative	Objective	Linkages to the Project
Regional Projects involving all or some of the Drin Riparians		
Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans *(UNDP, 2019-2023, Adaptation Fund – 9,9m euros; Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro)*	The objective of the project is to assist the Drin riparians in the implementation of an integrated climate-resilient river basin flood risk management approach to improve their existing capacity to manage flood risk at regional, national and local levels and to enhance resilience of vulnerable communities in the Drin River basin to climate-induced floods.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. This project directly feeds in with data Outputs 1.1-1.6; the Project will use the newly developed hydrological model. Also, Output 2.3 on the Drin River Basin Management Plan and Output 2.4 on Food risk management in Kosovo.
SEE Nexus Project *(Austrian Development Agency, 1,5m, executed by GWP-Med in partnership with UNECE; focus on Albania and Drin Basin – ended in August 2022)*	The project aimed to introduce the Nexus approach and catalyse action for its adoption and implementation at the riparian level and transboundary basin levels. Nexus Policy Dialogues were implemented in the Transboundary basins of the Drin and Drina rivers, as well as at the national level in Albania, including the preparation of technical Nexus Assessments.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. It will be used in advancing overall cooperation for the management of the Drin Basin and the implementation of the SAP. This project directly feeds in with data Output 1.1 on the updated TDA and 1.5 on the scenarios for the operation of the dams to enable optimization of water and flood risk.
Nature-based solutions for resilient societies in the Western Balkans (ADAPT) *(SIDA, 2019-2022, 2,5m euros)*	The objective of this Project was to increase ecosystem and community resilience to climate change and environmental degradation in the Western Balkans.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System (US AID, 2020-2022, $2,4m)	The objective of this Project was to improve early warning for communities under threat from climate related natural hazards as well as increase preparedness and resilience.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
Generating momentum on water and forests in the Balkans – Balkans *(DBU 2019-2021, 125 k euro)*	The objective of this Project was to bring together expertise (practitioners, politicians and other stakeholders) from forestry, agriculture and water management and economics around pilot areas to improve the effectiveness of forest ecosystem services for water and monetization of ecosystem services.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust *(2017 - open ended, KfW Germany, and other donors)*	The Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust – PONT is a transboundary conservation trust fund dedicated to conserving the rich natural heritage of the Prespa-Ohrid area. It provides effective long-term funding support to the parks and conservation organisations in the region.	The initiative contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. It provides up-to 10 years long support through Granting scheme mechanism to Protected Areas Management as well as to Environmental Actors (NGOs) in implementing actions of the management Plans for the Protected Areas.
Adaptation to Climate Change through Transboundary Flood Risk Management in the Western Balkans *(GIZ 2012 -2022)*	Transboundary flood risk management was strengthened with regard to climate change - Flood Hazard and Risk Mapping: The project supports partner institutions with technical and methodological expertise for the participatory development of Flood Hazard and Risk Maps in accordance with the EU Floods Directive. - Early Warning: The project works with national and local authorities in selected pilot areas on building capacities for delivering effective and timely "end to end" early warnings. It provides technical and organisational advice to national Hydro-meteorological Services to improve their capacities for forecasting and warning. - Institutional development: The project supports actors at national and local levels in strengthening their strategic capacities to better coordinate Flood	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. This project directly feeds in with data Outputs 1.1-1.6, Output 2.3 on the Drin River Basin Management Plan and Output 2.4 on Food risk management in Kosovo.

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	Risk Management. In the risk areas on the local level, selected measures of flood risk management are implemented.	
Disasters do not know borders *(EU, 2018-2020, 483.5 k euros)*	The objective of this Project was to increase capacity building of people and institutions in the cross-border area between Montenegro and Albania for disaster risk reduction.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
GEF funded projects		
IW/CW Regional (completed): Implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Adriatic Sea through Marine Spatial Planning (UNEP MAP, 2017-2020, $1.8m; Albania, Montenegro; ended)	The objective of this Project was to restore the ecological balance of the Adriatic Sea through implementation of the Ecosystem Approach and improve sub-regional management capacity through Marine Spatial Planning	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project and enables it to follow the Source-to-Sea approach. This project directly feeds in with data Output 1.1 on the updated TDA.
IW Regional: Mediterranean Sea Programme (ongoing): Enhancing Environmental Security (UNEP, EBRD, 2020-2024, $42.3m; Albania, Montenegro are the beneficiary Drin Riparians)	To accelerate the implementation of agreed upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project and enables it to follow the Source-to-Sea approach. This project directly feeds in with data Output 1.1 on the updated TDA.
LD North Macedonia (ongoing): Promoting Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Through Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework, Capacity Building and Restoration of Most Vulnerable Mountain Landscapes (UNEP 2021-2025, $3.6m)	To develop and strengthen national policy and institutional capacity for sustainable land management (SLM) and to contribute to achieving the national land degradation neutrality target with integrated landscape management in north-western mountainous ecosystems of North Macedonia.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project in general and specifically in North Macedonia.
Fourth National Communication and Third Biennial Update Report on Climate Change under the UNFCCC (UNDP $ 1,1 m)	To assist Government of North Macedonia in the preparation and submission of its Fourth National Communication and its First Biennial Transparency Report for the fulfilment of the obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project in general and specifically in North Macedonia. This project directly feeds in Component 1 with climate change related information for North Macedonia.
IW Regional (on-going): Implementation of the SAP of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: improving groundwater governance and sustainability of related ecosystems (UNDP, UNECSO IHP, 2017-2022, US$ 5,145,000; Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro)	The project intended to support the implementation of the Strategic Action Program for the DIKTAS. The Project Objective is to catalyse effective multi-country cooperation for the sustainable management of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System and its ecological resources by strengthening national and regional groundwater governance frameworks and institutional capacity.	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. This project directly will feed in Component 1 with information and data related to karstic groundwater management. The implementation of the two projects should be coordinated as the geographical area of implementation overlaps.
Montenegro: "Biodiversity Mainstreaming into Sectoral Policies and Practices in Montenegro" (UNDP, US$ 3,278,995)	To ensure strengthened capacities for protection of the internationally recognized biodiversity hot spots of Montenegro and mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives into the land use planning framework and sectoral practices around the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project. Ulcinj Saline and Skadar lake are one of the KBAs in the Drin Basin in Montenegro. The project will create synergies to foster best management practice particular through knowledge sharing on freshwater dependent ecosystems (output 1.3) sediment balance (output 1.3) and information sharing (output 1.6) relevant for particular KBAs. Outcome 3 of the BD mainstreaming project results (Outputs 3.1 - 3.3: nature based BD friendly

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		tourism) should enable input for the Project output 3.5 while 5.1 and 5.2 (BD conservation incentives for "green" small scale farming and agro-environmental measures) to the Project output 3.3
Montenegro: Strengthening Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and Adaptation Activities Transparency Framework (UNDP, US$ 1,100,000)	To strengthen Montenegro's national capacities through an improved MRV system to meet transparency related requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
Montenegro: Development of the Fourth National Communication and the First Biennial Transparency Report of Montenegro to the UNFCCC (UNDP, US$ 517,000)	To assist Government of Montenegro in the preparation and submission of its Fourth National Communication and its First Biennial Transparency Report for the fulfilment of the obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).	The project contributes to attaining the results of the Drin SAP Project.
Albania		
EUSIWM / EU support to integrated water management – EC funds *(Austrian Dev. Agency – 2018-2023 1,6m euros)*	The overall objective is to accelerate the implementation of the national water reform and the progress of Albania towards meeting EU water legislation requirements through integrated water resource management by strengthening capacities for managing the sector in line with EU policies.	This project is directly linked with the project, more specifically through its Component 2 – Implementation of the River Basin Management Plan Outcome 2 - Legislation, Institutions and Knowledge, deals with institutional and organizational capacity development for water resource management
Transboundary Biosphere Reserve Prespa *(Germany, 2018-2021, 2m euros)*	The main objective of the project was the funding of measures aimed to protecting and conserving biodiversity and to improving the living conditions of the population in the Prespa National Park and in selected areas of the Prespa Biosphere Reserve.	This initiative is linked with the project, more specifically through its Component 1: Enhancing capacities of central and local institutions on monitoring and monitoring (with focus on protected Areas)
Promotion of the rural areas in Albania as regions to live and do business *(GIZ 2019 -2022)*	Sustainable Rural Development / SRD aimed at improving the conditions for sustainable income opportunities in rural areas of Albania. The focus region is North of Albania. The programme aims to improve the performance of the relevant rural development stakeholders. To achieve this, it develops needs-based strategies and policies for EU-compliant, environmentally sound rural development. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Tourism and Environment receive assistance in setting up efficient working mechanisms, improving cross-sectoral and interdepartmental planning, and implementing strategies and support programmes. The project also improved the performance of selected value chains (fruit and nuts, vegetables, medicinal and aromatic herbs and small ruminants). Based on successful examples from previous projects, the project supports small farmers and small and micro enterprises in the pilot regions in modernising agriculture, expanding rural tourism and using Albania's great (agro-)biodiversity in order to secure income.	Providing assistance and support to rural regions, development of ecotourism and foreseen pilot projects is linked with Component 3 of the Project, more specifically, Output 3.5 for supporting SMEs and economic sectors towards green growth.
Integrated Solid Waste Management and Marine Litter Prevention, Western Balkan (GIZ 2018-2022, 2.5 MEUR)	The project's objective was: The capacity of local and national actors in the solid waste and circular economy of South-Eastern Europe to reduce waste discharges into the Mediterranean Sea and rivers flowing into the sea are improved.	The results of this project are lined to Component 1 on building monitoring capacities for reducing plastic pollution in Drin and Buna River, focused mainly in the lower part of Drin River (Shkodra area)

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	The political partners of the project are the Ministry of Tourism and Environment – ALB, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations – BiH, and the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism – MNE. They are responsible for waste management at national level and, thus, are implementing partners and the direct target group of the project at national level (called meso level in the project context). Further implementing partners and the indirect target group of the project are the municipalities, namely the local government units (LGUs), of Finiq, Lezhe and Shkodra in ALB, Neum and Trebinje in BiH, and Ulcinj in MNE, as well as businesses, namely hotels, restaurants and cafés, in these municipalities. The LGUs are responsible for waste management at local (micro) level. Hotels, restaurants and cafés are considered as important entry point to reduce plastic waste at municipal (micro) level. Final beneficiary at the impact level is the population of the three countries and territories involved	There are plans for starting and follow up project.
Achieving biodiversity conservation through effective management and enhanced resilience to climate change in the existing protected area of the North Albanian Mountainous Region (UNEP 2023-2026, 1.4 m euro, 780 k euro co-financing)	This GEF funded project and implemented by UNEP for 48 months is expected to start on 2023. The project objective is to strengthen the management effectiveness and sustainability of the Albanian Alps protected areas system and increase resilience to climate change. It has three main components: Component 1: Establishing an Enabling environment for effective management of the Albanian Alps National Park. Component 2. Strengthening the practical experience and "know-how" of the Albanian Alps NP stakeholders to address threats. Component 3. Support to national level adoption and upscaling of sustainable PAs Management best practices	This project is linked directly to the project for the Northern geographical area (Albanian Alps), more specifically with Component 1, enhancing capacities of central and local institutions on biodiversity monitoring; as well as Component 2 – on harmonizing legal instruments for resource management in the whole Drin basin river
Kosovo		
KosovoEnvironmental Program – KEP *(SIDA, 9m euros; 2016 – 2022; FCG Sweden in consortium with EPTISA)*	The KEP aims was supporting the development of the capacity of the Ministry of Environment Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, the Inter-Ministerial Water Council (IMWC), municipalities and other stakeholders in environmental monitoring and management. Main outputs in the water sector are the establishment of Ground Water Monitoring Network, a Groundwater Investigation, River Basin Management Plan for Drini i Bardhe (White Drin); Strengthening monitoring capacities, management of nature transboundary areas.	This initiative is greatly linked with the project, more specifically with Component 1, enhancing capacities of central and local institutions on monitoring and monitoring; as well as Component 2 – development of the River Basin Management Plan.
Integrated water Resources Management in Kosovo*(SDC, 20m CHF; 2020 – 2032; Skat Consulting Ltd and Environment Agency Austria)*	The overall goal of the IWRM-K over its three phases (12 years perspective) is the establishment of an integrated functional framework for the protection, sustainable use and equitable allocation of water resources in Kosovo. The Program aims to build long-lasting water resources management capacities at all levels in line with Kosovo's socio-economic and political priorities, as well as with the needs of future sustainable development. It helps to replace the fragmented approach with a more comprehensive, and highly participatory approach of managing water resources at river basin scale, aligned with the principles of IWRM and the EU WFD.	All three Outcomes of this Program for phase 1 (2020 – 2024) are significantly linked with the work of the project. Outcome 1- Plans and Measures focuses on development of River Basin Management Plans (three basins except Drini); and Grant schemes to support practical solutions that will help reduce pollution and water use in farming and industry. (Links to component 2 and Component 3 of the project). Outcome 2 - Legislation, Institutions and Knowledge, deals with institutional and organizational capacity development for water resource management; design of

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		top water science courses in universities; upgrade of water monitoring and Water Information systems. (Links to Component 1 of the project). Outcome 3 - Stakeholder participation, Civil Society Organizations and Awareness Raising, establishes stakeholder participation mechanisms to ensure democratization of water resource management; empowers CSOs through targeted training and grants; and implements a series of communication and awareness raising activities on water resource management. (Links to Component 4 of the project).
Wastewater treatment *(KfW, authorities, municipalities, 80m euros, in implementation)*	The following are the envisaged main results and outputs: Rehabilitation of sewers in Peja, Gjakova, Prizren, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Collector, network rehabilitation, Wastewater Treatment Plant in Gjakova, Wastewater Treatment Plant in Peja. These investments will mitigate environmental pollution both in Kosovo and downstream.	This initiative directly contributes to the Goal 5/Objective 1 "Reduction of untreated wastewater discharge from urban areas by 2030" of the SAP; and Component 3 of the Project.
Kosovo Irrigation Master Plan – KIMP and Investment Framework for Kosovo *(World Bank, 20,8m euros, completed)*	The Irrigation master plan provides a Strategic Direction Setting, Situation Analysis, Knowledge base, Investment planning framework development. The major results include: The identification of the investment opportunities and their priority ranking; The estimation of the overall cost for the realization of these investment opportunities; The delineation of a master plan for investment in the irrigation sector.	The Irrigation Master Plan contributes to the Goal 2 "Establish Conditions for Sustainable Use of Water and its Supported Ecosystem" of the SAP; and Component 3 of the Project.
Strengthening Local Climate Action (*Austrian Development Agency (ADA); 1,15m euros; 2021-2024; UNDP*)	The project supports Kosovo municipalities in their transition towards zero emission development pathways by building on the results of the successful project "Urban NAMAs" in Prizren and extending it to sustainable rural development and the Municipality of Suharekë/Suva Reka.	By strengthened local capacities to set GHG reduction targets; and effective implementation of cross-sectoral and gender-responsive mitigation actions in the rural and urban areas of the municipalities of Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka, it contributes to the component 1 of the project. Both municipalities, Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka, are in the white Drini river basin.
Accelerating Green Recovery in Kosovo through Ecotourism and Inclusive Governance (UNDP*; 350k euros; 2020 – 2022; UNDP)*	The project aimed to bounce forward from the COVID-19 pandemic through greener recovery. This proposed intervention provides an opportunity for Kosovo to build back greener through nature-based solutions for tourism that will have a direct impact in preservation of its rich environmental and cultural heritage. The focus of the project will be on greening Kosovo's tourism sector through public-private partnerships, coherent policy and a resilient and agile tourism strategy based on the principles of environmental, social and economic sustainability, and through a green accelerator programme for training the tourism MSMEs and implementing pilot projects in the short-term.	Training of MSMEs, development of ecotourism and foreseen pilot projects is linked with Component 3 of the Project, more specifically, tourisms in transboundary areas.
Sustainable and inclusive rural economic development - SIRED *(ADA, 2.5m euros, 2020 – 2023, Caritas Switzerland (CACH)*	The programme aims at changing the performance and behavior of existing system actors (public and private) in order to make the market system more advantageous for the beneficiaries. Using a facilitative approach, the project activities target	By promoting sustainable agricultural practices, reducing pollution from agriculture and sustainable water use, SIRED contributes to the Component 3 of the project.

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	systemic changes along three dimensions: agro-ecological, socio-political and economical. The direct beneficiaries include at least 1,000 small-holder farmers (producers), among them 20% of persons belonging to ethnic minority groups; overall 50% of direct beneficiaries are women.	
Flood Risk Maps and Flood Hazard Maps (EU (WBIF) 2.5 m euros)	Approved	
Rehabilitation and construction of flood protection infrastructure - Drini i Bardhë & Sitnica (10m euros EIB and CEB)	In the process of application	
Water Supply Improvement and Water Resources Protection for Gjakova RWC EU (WBIF) 0.9 m euros	In process: Feasibility Study, ESIA, Detailed Design, Tender Dossier	
Improving Climate Resilience of RWCs in Kosovo (support to climate change adaptation) (SCO (SECO) 5m euros)	Project design ready In pipeline (SCO seeking co-financing by donor or IFI loan, or by authorities so as to start with the project)	
Wastewater Treatment Plant – PP Kosova B (EU 8 m euros)	Applied to IPA 2021	
FLOWS 2 - Construction of a multipurpose dam in water scarce eastern part of Kosovo including development of water supply networks for domestic, industry, and irrigation water delivery services (World Bank loan 50.9 m euros)	In preparation	
Montenegro		
Enhancing Montenegro's capacity to integrate climate change risks into planning – National Adaptation Plan (NAP) project *(UNDP, $450k)*	The following are the envisaged main results and outputs: strengthen institutional coordination framework, expanding the technical capacities of those responsible and involved in climate change adaptation planning, enhance the evidence base required for effective decision making, and define a resource mobilization strategy.	Updated TDA (the project output 1.1) will result in a conceptual model of the hydrology in the basin, taking into consideration climate change scenarios that will inform design of the adaptation measures in water sector to be embedded into the NAP
Support to Implementation and Monitoring of Water Management *(EU, 2,4m euros)*	The following are the envisaged main results and outputs: strengthen the institutional, administrative and monitoring capacities of the Montenegrin water management sector institutions in order to improve environmental protection.	The results will serve as input for the development of the Project output: 2.3- Development of the River Basin Management Plan for the Drin River prepared in accordance with the EU WFD.
Strengthening the Capacities for Implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Montenegro *(EU, 1,399,700 eur)*	This project aimed to contribute to the implementation of the WFD in Montenegro and all other water-related directives through the provision of an operational and efficient monitoring network and development of the River Basin Management Plans for the Adriatic and Danube River basins.	The results will serve as input for the development of the Project output: 2.3- Development of the River Basin Management Plan for the Drin River prepared in accordance with the EU WFD
Rehabilitation and Construction of Municipal Water and Sanitation Infrastructure *(EU, EIB, EBRD, 141m euros)*	This project concerns the construction of water and wastewater systems in six medium municipalities in Montenegro - Bijelo Polje, Cetinje, Berane, Plav, Ulcinj, and Andrijevica. The investments will benefit approximately 200,000 people, who will have access to better water supply and wastewater facilities.	The results of the project will inform design of the project output: 3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural)

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Industrial Waste Management and Clean-up Project *(World Bank, 50m euros)*	This project will safely remove or contain industrial waste from three locations and transform them into areas safe for environment and public health. Through this, Montenegro will put in place measures to ensure that industrial waste is properly managed so that similar risks are avoided in the future.	The project will develop designs for the remediation of KAP site (aluminum plant) dump site and red mud tailing pond in the transboundary-Skadar-Shkoder basin. The project will address pollution from the KAP, as main polluter under the project output 2- Toxic emissions reduction, and water use efficiency and reuse – Reinforcement, also by promoting the TEST approach,
Enhanced Control and Management of Fisheries (*EU, 550,000 euros)*	This project helped to improve control and management of the marine fisheries in Montenegro, by further aligning electronic data collection in fisheries with EU requirements and standards. Thanks to its activities, the following subsystems of the Fishery Information System (FIS) have been established	The project would use the results as input for development of the Project output 3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management
Programme for the development of agriculture and rural areas in Montenegro under IPARD III (EU, 63m euros available)	Co-financing of projects aims to increase productivity and competitiveness, harmonization with EU veterinary, sanitary and ecological standards, sustainable land management and organic production and the strengthening of infrastructure in rural areas	The project will liaise with the IPARD programme structure to define model and beneficiaries for the project output 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation
Montenegro Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening" (MIDAS Project) (World Bank, 30 mil. euros loan)	Aimed at preparing Montenegrin agriculture and its institutions for the future membership of the EU with financing suitable agriculture projects	The project will liaise with the MIDAS Project to possibly build for development of the output 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices for nutrient and toxic pollution reduction, and soil conservation
Lake Skadar withOut chemicaL pollUTION – SOLUTION (EU, 467,855 euros)	This project will identify pollution hotspots in Lake Skadar and provide an assessment of chemicals present in the water ecosystem. It aims to provide support to joint and coordinated research on hazardous chemical substances in the cross-border area of Lake Skadar, as well as to joint measures on either side of the border.	Result of the project will be used for further development of the Project output: 1.2- A design of multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs (surface water and groundwater, sediment loads, water living resources, etc.) developed based on an assessment of monitoring capacities, gaps and needs across the Basin
Child-friendly tourism in the cross-border region (EU, 257, 848 eur)	This project is aimed at boosting child-friendly tourism in Montenegro and Albania, countries with traditional lifestyles and abundant natural resources. An improved child-friendly tourism offer will attract a greater number of visitors and thus improve the living standard and employment opportunities in the cross-border region. The project targeted the municipalities of Ulcinj, Bar, Podgorica and Rožaje in Montenegro and the districts of Shkodër and Lezhë in Albania.	The project will assess suitability of the new child-friendly offer as an innovative tourism product in the cross-border area developed for scaling up through the Component 3 of the project: particular 3.5 – Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism), in transboundary areas of ecological importance
"Norway for You - Montenegro" Project (Kingdom of Norway, UNOPS, 2,4 mil. euros)	Through the second phase of the project, which will last from August 2021 until September 2023, the support will aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of support for the development and transformation of the micro, small and medium enterprises sector, as well as to improve the innovation ecosystem and strengthen institutions in charge of innovation development in Montenegro in line with the strategic framework and best European practices.	Linkages to existing grants scheme of the SME under the Norway for the project to be assessed for the complementarity of the actions envisaged in the project output 3.5 – Support to SMEs and economic sectors (e.g.: tourism), in transboundary areas of ecological importance
North Macedonia		
Preparation and revision of the National Waste Planning documents (*EU, 0,4m euros) 2022-2025*	The following is the envisaged main results: strengthening capacities for implementation of the legislation for waste management through development of the national documentation plans.	Component 3, Output 3.2- Identification and piloting of high-priority interventions in solid waste management (with particular focus on collection and disposal of plastics) in accordance with EU acquis

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		related commitments of the project beneficiaries.
Improved Implementation of the EU Floods Directive through Harmonization of National Legislation and Preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans (*EU, 2,5m euros) 2021-2025*	The project will work to strengthen the riparians' capacities to implement the EU floods directive and will bring together the expertise to prepare Flood Risk management plans as well as plans for responding to possible disasters and early warning.	Component 1: Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to effectively implement integrated natural resources management in the transboundary Drin Basin
Development and Implementation of River Basin Management Plans for all River Basins (River Vardar, Crn Drim, Strumica) under the Water Framework Directive with Implementation of Measures (*EU, 1,6m eur*) 2022	The project will work on developing management plans and/or on the implementation of the measures planned according to the River basin management plans in the country.	Component 1: Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to effectively implement integrated natural resources management in the transboundary Drin Basin
Improving capacities for NATURA 2000 and CITES (*EU, 2,7m eur*) 2021-2024	The aim of the project is to strengthen and improve administrative capacities of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning/Administration of Environment for implementation of the EU nature protection acquis, through the development of implementing legislation, provision of training and implementation of EU Nature Protection legislation such as the Birds and Habitat Directives and Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora.	Component 1. Enhancing the capacity of key institutions and stakeholders to effectively implement integrated natural resources management Component 2, Output 2.4 2.4- Harmonization of management planning for adjacent nationally established protected areas in Skadar/Shkoder, Ohrid and Prespa sub-basins.
Building capacity towards sustainable human capital development in North Macedonia (GCF, 0,8m USD, GIZ) 2022-	The project supports building the capacities and creating an evidence-based and enabling environment in the health, education, and labor & social protection sectors, which deal with the socially vulnerable and marginalized groups that are often overlooked in climate change agenda	Component 1, Outcome 1. Providing technical and policy tools, and filling gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning, enables the sustainable and climate-resilient management of the Basin's resources at regional, national and local levels Component 4 Output 4.1 Participation and awareness raising actions held at local, national and regional levels to ensure stakeholders engagement.
Strengthening country's capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia (GCF, 0,6m.USD, FAO) 2019-2022	Strengthening the capacities of different national stakeholders on issues related to the climate change adaptation with a particular attention on increasing the private sector engagement in innovation and investments for climate action in the country's priority sectors.	Component 1, Outcome 1. Providing technical and policy tools, and filling gaps in the understanding of the Drin Basin ecosystems functioning, enables the sustainable and climate-resilient management of the Basin's resources at regional, national and local levels Component 4 Output 4.1 Participation and awareness raising actions held at local, national and regional levels to ensure stakeholders engagement.

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XIII. MANDATORY ANNEXES

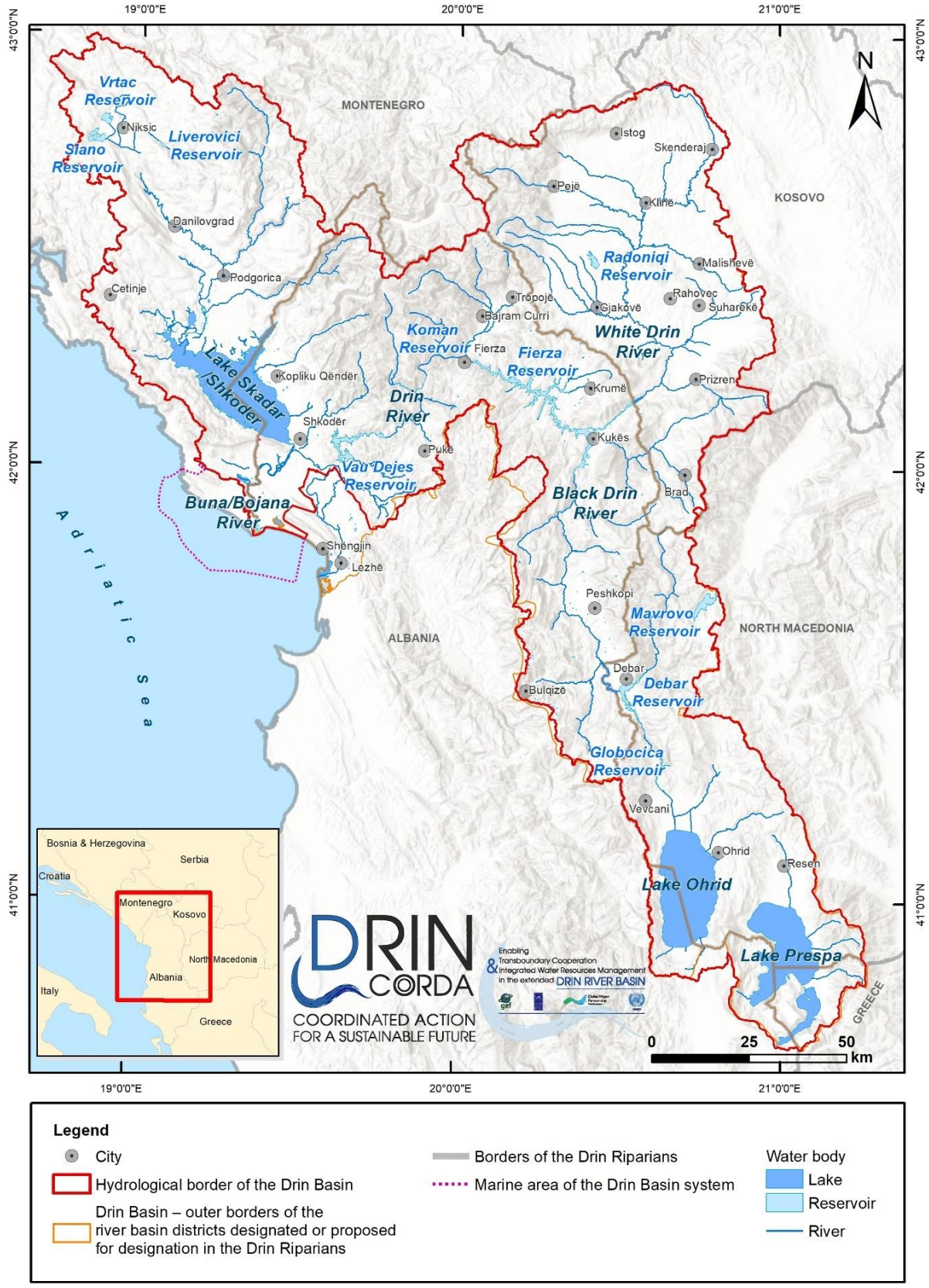
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Annex 1: GEF Budget Template

Provided separately.

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Annex 2: Project map and Geospatial Coordinates of project sites



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Annex 3: Multi Year Work Plan

	Outcomes	Outputs	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Component 1	**Outcome 1**	**Output 1.1** Updated TDA		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■										
		Output 1.2 Multi-purpose transboundary monitoring programs					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■						
		Output 1.3 Analysis of the status of freshwater dependent ecosystems			■	■	■	■														
		Output 1.4 Assessment of sediment balance			■	■	■	■														
		Output 1.5 Scenarios for the operation of dams							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
		Output 1.6 Information management system											■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
		Output 1.7 Training of staff of institutions			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Component 2	**Outcome 2**	**Output 2.1** A legal instrument consolidating official cooperation	■	■	■	■	■	■														
		Output 2.2 Operationalization of a joint coordination mechanism.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
		Output 2.3 Drin River Basin Management Plan											■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
		Output 2.4 Flood risk management actions for the White Drin					■	■	■	■	■	■										
		Output 2.5 Protected areas Harmonization of management planning									■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
		Output 2.6 Drought Management Plan for Kosovo and North Macedonia									■	■	■	■	■	■						
Component 3	**Outcome 3**	**Output 3.1** Nutrient reduction (rural) –wastewater treatment plants			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
		Output 3.2 Toxic emissions reduction					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
		Output3.3 Sustainable agricultural practices					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
		Output3.4 Erosion control – In priority areas			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
		Output 3.5 Support to SMEs and economic sectors					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
		Output 3.6 Sustainable transboundary fisheries management		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■								

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	Outcomes	Outputs	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Component 4	**Outcome 4**	**Output 4.1** Stakeholders engagement.																				
		Output 4.2 Water and Gender Action Plans																				
		Output 4.3 Coordination Annual events																				
		Output 4.4 Full participation to GEF IW LEARN - creation of a project website.																				

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Annex 4: UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex 5: UNDP Risk Register

#	Description	Risk Category	Impact & Probability	Risk Treatment / Management Measures	Risk Owner
1.	Limited interest or involvement by target stakeholders, local communities and the inhabitants, leading to insufficient and/or less effective multi-stakeholder involvement from all Drin Riparians.	Strategic, Operational	Low L = 1 I = 3	Stakeholders engagement and awareness raising were among the successes of the foundational GEF project. This provides the basis on which the proposed project will operate. The low related risk will be addressed throughout project implementation through systematic communication activities to ensure further awareness raising, high levels of information and that knowledge is being shared among different stakeholders as well as through the use of engagement tools such as annual coordination events, roundtables, task forces, meetings of officers with stakeholders etc. to enable views of different groups being taken into consideration.	PMU
2.	Lack of sustained political support to establishing transboundary cooperation frameworks.	Strategic, Political	Moderate L = 1 I = 5	The proposed project will continue the step-by-step progressive approach adopted through the foundational project, to further strengthening mutual trust based on joint fact finding, enhancing scientific understanding about the basin and the transboundary problems, and consultative processes. The DCG and its Expert working Groups will ensure effective communication with the political leadership of the responsible Ministries in the Riparians.	PMU, DCG
3.	Riparian level processes – particularly approvals for plans and legal mechanisms – may be complex and lead to uneven progress among the Drin Riparians that may undermine different Rirarian's interest/ engagement.	Strategic	Low L = 3 I = 1	While the project will facilitate institutional capacity building as well as knowledge sharing and provide guidance based on lessons learned and other similar experiences, it is possible that Riparians will move at difference paces on the basis of riparian level interests. When necessary, direct discussions with the political leadership and informal discussion forums (e.g. regional workshops) will be used as means to alleviate related risks.	PMU, DCG
4.	Covid-19 pandemic persists leading to -as experienced also during the foundational project- effects linked to COVID-19 containment measures including: Delays in authorities counterparts providing feedback for the preparation of studies (provision of information and data; input for the development of studies; approval of studies) due to home confinement; Difficulty/inability in reaching out to stakeholders for the implementation of demonstration activities and to acquire information and data for the preparation of studies. The execution of the following types of project	Operational	Low L = 2 I = 2	According to current projections the COVID-19 pandemic will persist till at least end-2022 – mid-2023 while it is still not certain when life is expected to gradually return to a normal COVID-free pace. In the scenario that COVID-19 pandemic persists the project will use the "know-how" developed and same means used during the foundational project: on-line meetings of the steering committee, conferences etc. using, overall, virtual, modes of interaction with stakeholders. The project implementation arrangements will include one project officer/ riparian coordinator based in each of the project beneficiaries allowing "in-situ" interaction with Drin Riparian counterparts and stakeholders for the implementation of all activities and especially the pilot interventions. The above-mentioned means assisted in the successful implementation of the foundational project during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following elements established through the foundational project will enable using such "alternative" means for carrying out the project activities: the existence of the Drin CORDA process -that is owned by the Drin Riparians- as the overarching framework under which the project will be implemented; institutional continuity in terms of membership in the Drin Core Group (or the body that will	PMU

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	activities may be adversely affected: Meetings; Consultations; Studies; Field activities (demonstration activities, study visits, awareness activities etc.). Overall, project the implementation timeline may be affected.			succeed this should the international agreement be signed by the Drin Riparians) that will be the steering committee of the project; partnerships with all groups of stakeholders established during the foundational project and the subsequent riparian level ownership. Depending on the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project timeline of actions/planning will incorporate provisions that will allow response to the effects of the pandemic mitigation measures; timeline adjustments that may become necessary during project implementation, will be discussed by the Steering Committee.	
5.	Marginalized and vulnerable groups, may not have the capacity to claim their rights or may be otherwise excluded from Component 3 activities that could benefit them. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I = 3 L = 3	A comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement plan prepared during the PPG phase based on a thorough Stakeholders Analysis, include specific mitigation measures to address such exclusion risks that may arise both during the capacity building activities, relevant planning processes and the implementation of pilot projects under Component 3. These consultation processes have been designed with the aim to facilitate the engagement of decision-makers and stakeholders, including these with the potential of being marginalized, to ensure a common understanding and secure broad support for their implementation as well as to enable sustainability of project results. Comprehensive stakeholder consultations will be also supported through Activity 4.1 (Awareness raising and participation actions at local, riparian level and regional levels to enable stakeholders' engagement). For specific risks and arrangements related to the meaningful and equitable participation of women and men and gender-responsive delivery of this project please see Risk 2 below. Risk 3 addresses potential grievances from project affected stakeholders. *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	PMU, DCG
6.	Component 3 activities may potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	Low L = 2 I = 2	To mitigate this risk, an updated Gender Analysis and Action Plan have been prepared during the PPG phase. The Gender Action Plan is designed to ensure that the implemented activities address both women's and men's needs, interests and concerns and do not discriminate against women or girls or reinforce gender-based discrimination. Risk mitigation has also been fully integrated into project design under Output 4.1, which focuses on creating Water and Gender Actions Plans, and supporting related gender-responsive indicators, as well as capacity building. Gender disaggregated targets (based on the GAP) will be incorporated into the project's M&E framework during the project inception phase. These activities will be monitored with progress reported annually in the PIR. *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	PMU, DCG

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7.	There is a risk of grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders during the implementation of Output 3 and measures proposed in plans for basin-, drought-, and flood-management. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Substantial** I = 3 L = 4	To mitigate any risk, a Stakeholder analysis and accompanying Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared to understand the characteristics of the stakeholders (stakes, importance, awareness/knowledge, influence etc.) and includes activities to ensure the timely and meaningful engagement of stakeholders in the different stages of strategic/management documents development to enable that the latter will reflect at the best possible way the views and concerns of stakeholders. The project has also designed to ensure through the Drin Core Group (that will be the SC of the project) that the riparian level legislation in relation to the development of policy/strategic/management documents is implemented and especially the provisions related to public participation. Also, a Grievance Resolution Mechanism (GRM) is provided for in the ESMF (prepared during the PPG) and will be established during the initiation phase of the project. Furthermore, stakeholders will have access to the UNDP Stakeholder Response Mechanism, and the Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU). *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	PMU, DCG
8.	Plans for basin management, drought management and flood management proposed under Component 2 may have adverse cumulative impacts on biodiversity. These risks arise – albeit on smaller scale – also in demonstration projects in Component 3. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Substantial** I = 4 L = 4	Most of these risks are context-specific – i.e. they depend on the nature of the interventions proposed that will be known only during the development of the basin- flood- and drought plans and the selection of the geographical areas for and the implementation of the demonstration projects under component 3. The preparation of the following outputs will therefore involve SESA processes that will be an integral part of the relevant planning exercises: • Output 2.3- A River Basin Management Plan for the Drin River • Output 2.6- A Drought Management Plan for the parts of Drin extending in Kosovo and North Macedonia Each of these SESA processes will meet the combined requirements of applicable riparian level regulatory frameworks, the UNDP SES Policy - specifically, the UNDP SES Policy requirements related to SESA process management, stakeholder consultations and accountability, as well as specific Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8. In addition, the preparation of the Output 2.4. Flood risk management actions for the White Drin sub-basin will involve targeted assessment of the cumulative and synergistic risks and impacts associated of proposed flood management actions and identify measures that may be taken in order to avoid, minimize or offset any adverse impacts.	PMU, DCG
9.	Interventions in relevant basin-, flood- and drought-management plans will be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I=3 L=3		
10.	Pilot projects under the Component 3 may have temporary adverse impacts on water quality.	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I=3 L=3		

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	Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF			In addition, the dialogue on operation of dams to enable optimization of water and flood risk management (Output 1.5) will propose to the participating stakeholders to address discussion topics related to the potential impacts of the operation of the dams in the cascade on ecological flows, fish passage, sediment transport, floods and droughts and other climate-change concerns. Last, pilot projects implemented within the following outputs will be screened for their potential impacts on UNDP SES Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8: • Output 3.1- Nutrient reduction (rural) • Output 3.3- Sustainable agricultural practices • Output 3.4- Erosion control • Output 3.6 – Sustainable transboundary fisheries management Any activity that will be screened to have potential substantial or high risk or that will require EIA or targeted assessments under the riparian level legislation (e.g. Natura 2000 assessment regime for interventions that may have impacts on Emerald network sites), will be subject to relevant assessment processes. The implementing entity will also ensure that all project outputs fully adhere to the relevant UNDP SES Standards from the outset of their design to their completion and will notify UNDP of detailed implementation modalities taken in this regard. The implementing entity will also provide adequate support for the above-described assessments and will perform the quality assurance function during their implementation. The implementing entity will also update UNDP on the progress made in the application of these arrangements during the project implementation (through annual PIR, MTR and TE, and also project M&E system as well as on an ad hoc basis depending on project developments). *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	
11.	Project activities located in proximity of internationally protected cultural heritage sites may have potential adverse impacts on their conservation objectives. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I=3 L=2		
12.	Some interventions for drought management and flood management proposed under Component 2 may lead to economic displacement. These risks arise – albeit on smaller scale – also in demonstration projects in Component 3. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I=3 L=2	All these risks are site-specific and currently unknown. To this end, specific actions proposed in Outputs 2.3, 2.4, 2,5, 2.6, and also in Outputs 3.1, 3.4, and 3.6 will be screeded for potential physical and economic displacement risks. Any action proposed within these outputs posing moderate, substantial, or high displacement risks will be subject to further assessment to examine the specific risks and determine locally appropriate options for avoiding, and where avoidance is not possible, minimizing and mitigating them as per the UNDP SES Policy Standard 5.	

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				The implementing entity shall ensure that GEF resources will not be used for any activities that will cause the physical displacement. If any economic displacement would need to take place, the design of the relevant actions will include Livelihoods Action Plans that will stipulate the measures for restoring livelihoods of any displaced persons through compensation at full replacement costs and other assistance. *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	
13.	Duty-bearers may not have the capacity to meet their environmental obligations. *Note: Risk as per SESP and ESMF*	Social and Environmental	**Moderate** I = 2 L = 5	The project will conduct prior examination for activities for which initial screening indicates that further action should be taken, to check the applicable UNDP SES standards and determine the appropriate arrangements for the integration of relevant SES concerns into the formal EIA and SEA processes (during their screening/scoping phase) and/or into the relevant assessment and documentation prepared for applicable permits. To this end, Output 2.2: Operationalization of a Joint Coordination Mechanism will create opportunities for suitably engaging the riparian level EIA/SEA focal points to facilitate the applicable environmental assessments and streamline any related consultations that may need to be conducted within the basin. In addition, Output 1.7: Training of staff of institutions shall include basic introduction to requirements for EIA and SEA processes and transboundary consultations between the riparians within these processes that arise from the riparians' obligations under the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA (and their future EU accession requirements related to the implementation of the EU EIA and SEA Directives). *Note: Risk Treatment / Management Measures as per SESP and ESMF*	

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Annex 6: Overview of Project Staff and Technical Consultancies

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
For Project Management / Monitoring & Evaluation		
Local / riparian level contracting		
Drin Riparian Coordinators (NO/DRC) *(4 Drin Riparians; 16% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 37.433/year/Officer*	*34.8 weeks / over 5 years / officer*	*The four Officers /Drin Riparian Coordinators (NO/DRC) will report and work closely to the CTA/PM. They will be responsible for day-to-day project operations in their respective Drin Riparian as well as in the Drin Basin, and liaison work in each of their respective Drin Riparians.* *See the full TOR below for details.* *Note: 16 % of the time of the NO/DRC will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 84 % will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.*
International / Regional and global contracting		
Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager *(26% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 114.038/year*	*57.9 weeks / over 5 years*	*The CTA/PM will be responsible for the overall management of the project, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors and reporting.* *In this role, the CTA/PM will also fulfill the responsibilities of a chief technical advisor in terms of providing substantive inputs and support to project activities (see description below under "For Technical Assistance").* *Note: 26 % of the time of the CTA/PM will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 74 % will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Project Financial Officer *(23% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 52.737,00/year*	*50.1 weeks / over 5 years*	*The Project Financial Officer (FO) will be responsible for the day-to-day financial aspects of the project, including financial reporting, procurement paperwork, and maintenance of the project's administrative and financial records.* *Note: 23% of the time of the FO will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 77% will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Project Financial Audit (Int company) *Lump sum of USD 10,000.00 (2,000.00 per year)*	*Lump sum*	*Annual financial audit*
International Consultant / Evaluator *Lump sum of USD 70,000.00 (MTR + TE)*	*Lump sum*	*Lead the MTR and / or the TE.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
For Technical Assistance		
Local / riparian level contracting		
Officers /Drin Riparian Coordinators *(4 Drin Riparians; 84% of yearly salary)*	*185.2 weeks / over 5 years / Officer*	*Four Officers / Drin Riparian Coordinators (NO/DRCs) -one per Drin Riparian- under the direct supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager (CTA/PM) will support the CTA/PM in coordinating the work of the international and riparian level consultants engaged for project implementation and providing substantive/technical inputs and support to project activities.*

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Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
Rate: USD 37.433/year/Officer		*The NO/DRCs will provide technical input to the following: drafting of technical reports and parts of studies; collection and synthesis of background information; contribution in stakeholders analysis, institutional mapping and analysis; contribution in the development -as per NO/DRC's scientific background and professional experience-: under Component 1 of the updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, the design of monitoring programs, analysis of status of freshwater depended ecosystems and fisheries, assessment of sediment balance, information management system; under Component 2 of the River Basin Management Plan, flood risk management plan in the White Drin Basin, harmonized management planning in protected areas, drought management plan in Kosovo and North Macedonia; demonstration projects under Component 3 etc. Each of the NO/DRC will ensure -in cooperation with and using advice by the PC/CTA- that the outputs is of the optimum possible quality. The NO/DRC will also coordinate activities in each of the Drin Riparians, towards the development and signing of the international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin.* *See the full TOR below for details.* *Note: 84 % of the time of the NO/DRC will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 16 % will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.*
Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer (See Officers /Drin Riparian Coordinators)		*One of the Officers /Drin Riparian Coordinators will undertake the role of the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer.* *Under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM, and in coordination with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer will have the responsibility for the implementation of the environmental and social management plan/framework.* *The Safeguards Specialist will:* • *Monitor progress in development/implementation of the project ESMP/ESMF ensuring that UNDP's SES policy is fully met, and the reporting requirements are fulfilled.* • *Oversee/ coordinate implementation of all safeguard related activities.* • *Ensure social and environmental grievances are managed effectively and transparently.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
International / Regional and global contracting		
Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager (CTA/PM) *(74% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 114.038/year*	*162.1 weeks / over 5 years*	*The CTA/PM will be responsible for the overall management of the project, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors and reporting.* *In this role, the CTA/PM will also fulfill the responsibilities of a chief technical advisor in terms of providing substantive/technical inputs and support to project activities.* *The CTA/PM will oversee the implementation of activities coordinating the work of all consultants engaged in the implementation of activities and providing technical inputs and feedback as needed:* • *under Component 1: the development of the updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, the design of monitoring programs, analysis of status of freshwater depended ecosystems and fisheries, assessment of sediment balance, information management system.* • *under Component 2: the development of the River Basin Management Plan, flood risk management plan in the White Drin Basin, harmonized management planning in protected areas, drought management plan in Kosovo and North Macedonia; activities towards the development and*

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Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		signing of the international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin. • *under Component 3: the development of the project fiches for the demonstration projects and provide expert support on technical documentation for the related Call for Proposals.* • *under Component 4: the implementation of the stakeholders engagement and communications activities.* *Note: 26 % of the time of the CTA/PM will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 74 % will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Project Assistant *(100% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 32.686,51/year*	*220 weeks / over 5 years*	*The Project Assistant (PA) will be responsible for overall support to the project implementation, including on administrative aspects: report, project documentation drafting, logistical aspects of the project, travel arrangements, workshop logistics, human resources paperwork, liasing with partners, secretarial assistance provision etc.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Project Financial Officer *(77% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 52.737,50/year*	*169.9 weeks / over 5 years*	*The Project Financial Officer will be responsible for the day-to-day financial aspects of the project, including financial reporting, procurement paperwork, and maintenance of the project's administrative and financial records.* *Note: 23% of the time of the FO will be spent on tasks related to project management, while 77% will be spent in a technical advisory role in support to project activities.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Communications and Knowledge Management Officer (CKMO) *(100% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 31.878/year*	*220 weeks / over 5 years*	*The Communications Officer/Knowledge Management Officer (CKMO) will be responsible for developing the project Communications Strategy and coordinating its implementation. The CKMO will be also responsible for implementing the knowledge management strategy and providing suggestions on specific knowledge products and on the hardware, software, and interfaces that will comprise the KM system.* *See the full TOR below for details.*
Gender Specialist *(10% of yearly salary)* *Rate: USD 59.950/year*	*22 weeks / over 5 years*	*The Gender Specialist (GS), under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM, will have the responsibility for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. The GS will work closely with the Officers/Drin Riparians Coordinators, the Communications and Knowledge Management Officer and the Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert ensuring that gender considerations are mainstreamed into all aspects of the project, including equitable participation in project activities. The Gender Expert will have the lead role in gender-related monitoring and knowledge management, including liaison work with the demo project contractor(s).* *The Gender Expert will among others:* - *under Components 1 and 2 will provide technical review of the outputs from a gender perspective and will provide recommendations on the collection and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data.* - *under Component 3 will provide advice for gender mainstreaming during the implementation of demonstration projects.* - *under Component 4 will provide recommendations on the collection and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data.*

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Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert *Rate: USD 600.00/week*	*13.4 weeks*	*Under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM and in cooperation with the NO/DRCS and the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer, the Safeguards Expert will:* • *Provide initial training to the project staff regarding the enforcement of environmental and social principles throughout project implementation.* • *Oversee the development of Environmental Social Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments as provided for in the Project's SESP.* • *Conduct a screening of the final demonstration projects proposed for Project Board approval and provide feedback to the board on their adherence to UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES).* • *Screen in cooperation with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer the demonstration project fiches and provide a monitoring plan.*

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Terms of Reference for Key Project Staff

Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager (CTA/PM)

The Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager (CTA/PM) will be appointed by the project implementing partner. The CTA/PM will be responsible for the overall management of the Project, including the mobilisation of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors. The CTA/PM will also be responsible for providing technical advisory support in the role of a Chief Technical Advisor to the project in the area of integrated water resources management. The CTA/PM will work under the overall supervision of the Regional Coordinator / Executive Secretary of GWP-Med and Regional Coordinator of GWP Tranboundary Water cooperation.

Duties and Responsibilities

Manage overall implementation of the project (20% time)

- Plan the activities of the project and ensure adherence to the approved annual workplans.
- Prepare revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans as required. The work plans will provide guidance on the day-to-day implementation of the project noting the need for overall coordination with other projects and the various donor funded parallel initiatives.
- Catalyze the adaptive management of the project by actively monitoring progress towards achievement of project outputs and outcomes vis-a-vis the agreed progress indicators, watch for plan deviations and make course corrections when needed within project board-agreed tolerances to achieve results.
- Ensure that changes are controlled, and problems addressed.
- Ensure project's M&E meets the requirements of the authorities, the UNDP Country Office, and UNDP-GEF; develop project-specific M&E tools as necessary.
- Oversee and ensure the implementation of the project's M&E plan, including periodic appraisal of the Project's Theory of Change and Results Framework with reference to actual and potential project progress and results.
- Visit project sites as and when required to appraise project progress on the ground and validate written progress reports.
- Arrange for the timely recruitment and procurement of quality services and equipment and for implementation of project activities in accord with applicable rules, regulation and standards.
- Ensure in meeting the financial delivery targets set out in the approved project annual work plans and contribute to the reporting on project funds and related record keeping.
- Manage requests for the provision of financial resources from UNDP through funding advances, direct payments or reimbursement using the FACE form.
- Perform regular progress reporting to the project board as agreed with the board, including measures to address challenges, including measures to protect the health and well-being of project staff, consultants/contractors, and beneficiaries in the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- Monitor and manage the project risks -including social and environmental risks- initially identified and submit newly identified risks to the Project Board for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log.
- Prepare annual reports and any other reports as required by UNDP-GEF and GWP.
- Ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the GEF PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the GEF PIR. Prepare the GEF PIR. Monitor and track progress against the GEF Core indicators.
- Assess the need for amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF and make proposals to the Project Board for consideration and decision.
- Monitor implementation plans including the gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, and any environmental and social management plans.
- Support the Mid-term review and Terminal Evaluation process; prepare management responses.
- Liaise with project partners to ensure their co-financing contributions are provided within the agreed terms.
- Ensure adequate information flow, discussions and feedback among the various stakeholders of the project.
- Provide support for completion of assessments required by UNDP including spot checks and audits.

Perform technical advisory work in the area of integrated water resources management (80% time)

- Provide critical and significant basin management and water resources-related technical input to project implementation based upon professional background and experience.

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- Oversee the implementation of activities, coordinate the work of all consultants engaged in the implementation of activities and provided technical inputs and feedback as needed for:
  - under Component 1: the development of the updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, the design of monitoring programs, analysis of status of freshwater dependent ecosystems and fisheries, assessment of sediment balance, information management system.
  - under Component 2: the development of the River Basin Management Plan, flood risk management plan in the White Drin Basin, harmonized management planning in protected areas, drought management plan in Kosovo and North Macedonia; implementing activities towards the development and signing of the international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin.
  - under Component 3: the development of the project fiches for the demonstration activities and provision of expert support on technical documentation for the related Call for Proposals; the implementation of the demonstration activities.
  - under Component 4: the implementation of the stakeholders engagement and communications activities.
- Be responsible for the development of Terms of Reference for consultants and contractors.
- Provide specific technical input on the implementation and documentation of project activities directly within her/his technical area including editing and/or drafting and/or proof reading of technical reports and studies and provide oversight and guidance to international and riparian level consultants recruited to undertake/support the implementation of project activities.
- Engage in a constructive dialogue with the beneficiary Drin Riparians and project partners to maximize consistency and synergy between the various project components.

Required skills and experience

- Advanced university degree (MSc or PhD) in a subject related to natural resource management or environmental sciences.
- At least 10 years of demonstrable project/programme management experience acquired at international level.
- Experience with large-scale development assistance and / or environmental finance projects, preferable GEF projects.

Competencies

- Strong leadership, managerial and coordination skills, with a demonstrated ability to effectively coordinate the implementation of large multi-stakeholder projects, including financial and technical aspects.
- Ability to effectively manage technical and administrative teams, work with a wide range of stakeholders across various sectors and at all levels, to develop durable partnerships with collaborating agencies.
- Ability to administer budgets, train and work effectively with counterpart staff at all levels and with all groups involved in the project.
- Strong drafting, presentation and reporting skills.
- Strong communication skills.
- Strong computer skills, in particular mastery of all applications of the MS Office package and internet search.
- Strong knowledge about the political and socio-economic context related to Southeast Europe.
- Excellent command of English.

Project Financial Officer

Under the guidance and supervision of the CTA/PM and the Head of Finance of GWP, the Project Financial Officer will carry out the following tasks:

- Assist the CTA/PM and the SE&C Expert in matters related to M&E.
- Prepare and submit to the CTA/PM financial reports to be submitted to UNDP as and when needed.
- Keep records of project funds and expenditures, and ensure all project-related financial documentation are well maintained and readily available when required by the CTA/PM.
- Review project expenditures and ensure that project funds are used in compliance with the Project Document, GWP and UNDP financial rules and procedures.
- Prepare FACE forms and expenditure reports before submission to UNDP.
- Prepare budget reallocation reports with close collaboration with the Program Manager before submission to UNDP.
- Provide necessary financial information as and when required for project management decisions.
- Provide necessary financial information during project audit(s).

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- Assist the PM/CTA in preparing annual budgets and project expenditure reports and notify the PM/CTA if there are any discrepancies or issues.
- Consolidate financial progress reports submitted by the responsible parties for implementation of project activities.
- Liaise and follow up with the responsible parties for implementation of project activities in matters related to project funds and financial progress reports.
- Support developing, updating, and implementing adequate and efficient financial processes to ensure operational efficiency.
- Monitor the timely implementation of Project-Budget and follow up of expenditure in close collaboration with the Program Manager.
- Prepare Quarterly forecasts in close collaboration with the Program Manager.
- Monitor staff timesheet keeping, and allocation of salary costs to Project.
- Update the project management and accounting software regularly.
- Produce monthly Liquidity report and monthly payment obligations.
- Assist with preparations of monthly, quarterly and annual financial reports, plan and carry out timely monthly/annual reconciliations of the overall and project accounts, cashflows, forecasts and other ad hoc reports.
- Prepare, implement, and monitor procurement procedures and contracts with experts and providers. Ensures that the procurement process satisfies Donor's, Riparians' and GWP laws, rules and regulations.
- Monitor contracts between GWP and staff members as well as with external contractors for outsourced services. Monitor the contractors' invoices against the goods and services provided by the contractor and approved by assigned PM. Prepare and process all related GWP forms and requirements.
- Respond to enquiries and provide information and advice to project staff regarding their entitlements, administrative procedures, processes and practices, conditions of service, duties and responsibilities, ensuring consistency in the application of GWP rules and procedures.

Required skills and experience

- A Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification, preferably including accounting/financial management.
- At least three years of work experience preferably in a project involving climate change, water management, or sustainable development more generally. Previous experience with UN projects and/or GEF-funded projects will be a definite asset.
- Very good inter-personal skills.
- Proficiency in the use of computer software applications especially MS Word and MS Excel.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading) and in local languages.

Project Assistant (PA)

Under the guidance and supervision of the CTA/PM the PA will provide technical, organizational and administrative support for the implementation of the project.

Duties and Responsibilities

The PA will carry out the following tasks:

- Assist in documentation and reporting: research, locate, compile, review and update information and data used in the development of project related documents, work plans, reports and budgets; report on project delivery, statistics and/or projections for use and scrutiny by the supervisor.
- Assist in the preparation of quarterly/annual progress reports by acquiring and assembling the necessary information from project officers using reporting templates.
- Draft project documentation including for the procurement -and contracting of- services and goods. Support the processes for the procurement of goods and services. In liaison with the GWP Finance & Administration Department, when need be, initiate administrative procedures and ensure follow-up.
- Facilitate contacts and liaise with partners and GWP teams/divisions as needed for the implementation of the project. In this regard draft routine official correspondence/documents as per project needs.
- Manage the contact lists of project and thematic activities stakeholders.
- Assist in providing inputs for publications, presentations, briefings, speeches and missions, including news and outreach materials, as needed.

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- Support the organization and set up meetings, events, workshops organized in the framework of the project, including the preparation and dissemination of information, and their follow-up communications. Follow up of travel arrangements and DSA payments for participants of events organized.
- Prepare all related background materials for discussions, correspondence and briefing sessions.
- Take minutes of meetings.
- Assist in the organization of field visits and staff missions as required by the project and thematic activities.
- Cooperate with the Communications Department for related tasks, including related to updating projects' website.
- Prepare and maintains in cooperation with the GWP Finance & Administration Department, the Project's service providers payment log file and ensures that contract files including procurement, deliverables, reports etc. are effectively stored.
- Assist in the procurement of needed supplies, including office equipment and furniture (including communication and audio equipment, supplies etc.).
- Ensure flow of information and dissemination of materials with all concerned.
- Undertake any other tasks or assignments necessary for the successful implementation of the project.

Required skills and experience:

- Bachelor's degree in the field of management or business administration or natural resources management or other relevant academic discipline.
- At least 5 years of work experience in administrative and management support of office operating preferably within international or foreign projects or organizations.
- Strong computer skills, in particular mastery of all applications of the MS Office package and internet search.
- Experience in handling web-based management systems.
- Very good inter-personal skills.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading).

Officers / Drin Riparian Coordinators (NO/DRCs)

Four Officers / Drin Riparian Coordinators (NO/DRCs) -one per Drin Riparian- under the direct supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager (CTA/PM) will manage the day-to-day project operations in each of the Drin Riparians and provide technical input for the implementation of the project. The NO/DRCs will support the CTA/PM in coordinating the work of the international and riparian level consultants engaged for project implementation. The NO/DRCs will ensure effective communication with the authorities of the Drin Riparian that is based at.

Duties and Responsibilities

The NO/DRCs will have the following specific duties:

Management (80% time)

- Day-to-day management of activities in the Drin Riparians contributing to the achievement of the Project's outcomes and outputs.
- Assist/contribute as necessary in line with their level of responsibility the CTA/PM in the following tasks:
  - Catalyze the adaptive management of the project by actively monitoring progress towards achievement of project outputs and outcomes vis-a-vis the agreed progress indicators, watch for plan deviations and make course corrections when needed within project board-agreed tolerances to achieve results.
  - Ensure in meeting the financial delivery targets set out in the approved project annual work plans and contribute to the reporting on project funds and related record keeping.
  - Monitor and manage the project risks -including social and environmental risks- initially identified and submit newly identified risks to the Project Board for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log.
  - Monitor implementation plans including the gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, and any environmental and social management plans.
- Ensure close cooperation/coordination and good working relations with Drin Riparians institutions, organizations and developmental partners for implementing the Project. Serve as a project liaison to authorities, Drin Riparian-level civil society organizations, and other Drin Riparian-level stakeholders.
- Provide guidance on Drin Riparian stakeholders to the CTA/PM.
- Support the preparation of project work-plans as well as the operational and financial planning processes including project budget revisions as required by the needs of the project implementation.

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- Ensure that Drin Riparian project activities/the activities they are responsible for are implemented according to the agreed project workplan.
- Provide inputs to narrative and financial reports (work progress and budgets) as agreed with the CTA/PM.
- Support the CTA/PM in the preparation for/organization and follow-up of the project board meetings.
- Contribute to administrative processes for the recruitment and procurement of quality services and equipment.
- Collect and report national information on co-financing to the project board.
- Prepare agendas and arrange field visits, appointments and meetings both internal and external related to the project activities and prepare minutes from the meetings.
- Co-ordinate all project-related travel and accommodation in the respective Drin Riparian of responsibility.
- Assist in logistical organization of meetings, training and workshops.
- Ensure the proper day-to-day functioning of -an eventual- PMU office that is based at, by advertising riparian level and international procurement related to the Project, with support of the financial officer in GWP; supervising the provision and acquisition of all necessary supplies and services including maintenance contracts, office supplies and communications; arranging for customs clearance if required. The NO/DRCs shall be responsible for the proper running and upkeep of the PMU hardware including the computers, copiers, etc. Maintain records over project equipment inventory.
- Monitor the implementation of project activities and assist the CTA/PM in monitoring budgets and financial expenditures and prepare draft budget revisions and working budgets.
- Oversee the work of Administrative Assistants (should these are recruited in the course of the project).
- Advise all project counterparts on applicable administrative procedures and ensure their proper implementation.
- Assist all PMU staff and international and riparian level experts in the Drin Riparian they are stationed with personnel matters relevant to the performance of official duties.
- Ensure coordination with the Project Partners towards successful implementation of the Project activities.
- Cooperate with the Communications Team of GWP, including by providing input/feedback related to her/his work agenda.
- Perform other duties as required.

Technical Input (80% time)

- Coordinate and provide technical input -directly within her/his technical expertise- for the implementation and documentation of project activities, including demonstration activities implemented in the Drin Riparian that the NO/DRC is based at, in a way that it is ensured that objectives are met, and envisaged outcomes and outputs are delivered as described in the Project Document and the activities' ToR. In this regard the NO/DRC will among others collect and synthesize background information and draft technical reports and parts of studies.
- Activities for which technical input will be necessary include:
    - under Component 1: the development of the updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, the design of monitoring programs, analysis of status of freshwater dependent ecosystems and fisheries, assessment of sediment balance, information management system.
    - under Component 2: the development of the River Basin Management Plan, flood risk management plan in the White Drin Basin, harmonized management planning in protected areas, drought management plan in Kosovo and North Macedonia.
    - under Component 3: the development of the project fiches for the demonstration activities and provision of expert support on technical documentation for the related Call for Proposals; the implementation of the demonstration activities.
    - under Component 4: the implementation of the stakeholders engagement and communications activities.
- Coordinate activities in each of the Drin Riparians, towards the development and signing of the international agreement for the management of the Drin Basin. In this regard work and coordinate with the Project Team to enable the success of negotiations among the Drin Riparians.
- Each of the NO/DRC will ensure -in cooperation with and using advice by the PC/CTA- that the outputs are of the higher possible quality.
- Coordinate and facilitate, for the activities the NO/DRC coordinates, inputs of authorities, partner organizations, scientific and research institutes, subcontractors, and riparian level and international experts in a timely and effective manner.
- Contribute to the recruitment / mobilization of qualified riparian level and international external experts and organizations as needed to provide specific consultancy services; in this regard contribute to defining the

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technical responsibilities and deliverables expected from riparian level and international consultants and service providers and to elaborate them in comprehensive Terms of Reference.
- Provide oversight and guidance to international consultants recruited to support specific areas of project implementation.
- Ensure, for the activities she/he coordinates, that riparian level and international consultants prepare adequate work plans, prepare their deliverables in accordance with the ToR.
- Prepare reports for the respective activities as requested by the PC/CTA.
- Assist the CTA/PM in the review of reports of riparian level and international consultants.
- Provide technical input to maintain and develop the project website.
- Prepare inputs regarding 'lessons' in the GEF Experience Notes format or for IW:LEARN as directed by the CTA/PM.
- Contribute to the work of the Communications and Knowledge Management Officer as necessary.

Required skills and experience
- University degree in water resources, natural resources management, environmental policy, ecology, geology, or other relevant field of study.
- Minimum 5 years of experience in project management related to international or bilateral projects with relevance to water, climate change and environmental issues.
- Ability to support the work of multidisciplinary groups of experts.
- Good communication, problem solving and planning skills.
- Strong computer skills, in particular mastery of all applications of the MS Office package and internet search.
- Advanced proficiency in English and excellent knowledge of relevant Riparians' languages.

Communications and Knowledge Management Officer (CKMO)

Under the guidance and supervision of the CTA/PM and overall supervision of the GWP's Head of Communications, the CKMO will be responsible for developing the project communications strategy and coordinating its implementation. The CKMO will identify, implement and use related communication tactics, tools and activities, contributing to the achievement and sustaining of the projects' results. The CKMO will be also responsible for implementing the knowledge management strategy and providing suggestions on specific knowledge products and on the hardware, software, and interfaces that will comprise the KM system.

Duties and Responsibilities
Specific responsibilities will include:
- Develop a project communications strategy / plan, update it annually and incorporate it in the annual work plans; coordinate its implementation.
- Develop a plan for dissemination of project results, lessons learned, case studies and replication tools in line with the project's Knowledge Management strategy.
- Coordinate and oversee the implementation of public awareness activities.
- Provide inputs for publications, presentations, briefings, speeches and missions, including news and outreach materials, as needed.
- Prepare summaries of technical reports and layman's reports, to promote the results of the project, its demonstration activities, etc., with the aim to communicate these to the stakeholders and the broader public.
- From brief to production, coordinate the development of various communication materials in different formats e.g. milestone reports, brochures, fact sheets, newsletters, summaries, videos, animations, etc.
- Manage all supplier relationships in the above process, including graphic designers, videographers, printing companies, etc.
- Develop and update annually a list of media in each of the Riparians. Identify media opportunities and develop appropriate media releases; organize press conferences.
- Create rich and compelling content for website, microsites and social media.
- Facilitate the design and maintenance of the project website/webpages and ensure it is up-to-date and dynamic.
- Facilitate learning and sharing of knowledge and experiences relevant to the project.
- Monitor project progress covering communication aspects and participate in the preparation of related parts of progress reports and PIRs.
- Work for the documents to comply with GEF branding requirements, UNDP writing manuals and publication QA process.

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- Develop and provide a communication training for project staff and consultants, covering communications, media relations and strategy development in line with project objectives.
- Provide knowledge management recommendations and communications advice for the project's exit strategy.
- Ensure that communications remain neutral with regard to the geo-political/political and security related sensitivities of the beneficiary Drin Riparians; in this respect, ensure that communication material and content are aligned with the respective rules and regulations of GWP and the UN system.

Required skills and experience

- A university degree, preferably in communications, environment or a related field. Additional qualifications in the field of sustainable development, environment, political science, social science and international affairs would be an advantage.
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in communications, preferably including experience in communications related to sustainable development, development cooperation, environment, international affairs, corporate social responsibility or related fields.
- Previous experience in developing and implementing communications strategies for organizations or projects.
- Editing skills and experience in the production process of publications, materials, videos, etc.
- Demonstrated experience in creating and managing digital content (website/microsite, social media) and developing communications material (branding, brochures, factsheets, videos, animations, social media content, etc.).
- Proven knowledge of working effectively across a range of media platforms, with emphasis on social media.
- Computer literacy. Proficient use of photo and graphics editing software (e.g. Photoshop, Illustrator) and video editing software will be considered an asset.
- Professional working capacity to use information and communications technology, specifically including website design and desk top publishing software would be an asset.
- Very good inter-personal skills.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading).

Gender Specialist

Under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM, the Gender Specialist will have the responsibility for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. The Gender Specialist will work closely with the Officers/Drin Riparians Coordinators, the Communications and Knowledge Management Officer and the Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert ensuring that gender considerations are mainstreamed into all aspects of the project.

Duties and Responsibilities

Specific responsibilities will include:

- Design and assist with training for project staff during the project inception phase on gender equity and women's meaningful participation in project activities.
- Assist with the development and/or adaptation of relevant training materials for project stakeholders.
- Monitor implementation of the project Gender Action Plan.
- Oversee/develop/coordinate implementation of all gender-related work.
- Contribute to the promotion of gender equality by reaching, involving and benefiting both women and men in project activities (gender mainstreaming) ensuring gender disaggregated data are available.
- Encourage awareness and promotion of gender equality among project staff and partners.
- Review the Gender Action Plan annually, and update and revise corresponding management plans as necessary.
- Work with the Officers/Drin Riparians Coordinators and the Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project.

Competencies

- Culturally sensitive, friendly, and effective communication skills that are conducive to effective presentations and networking, and building trust required to complete tasks.
- Able to build strong relationships with stakeholders, focuses on impact and result for the stakeholders and responds positively to feedback; consensus oriented.
- Highly developed inter-personal, negotiation and teamwork skills, ability to work in multi-cultural environment.

Required skills and experience

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- Master's degree in Gender, Social Science, Environmental Studies, Political Science, Geography, Anthropology or another relevant field.
- At least 5 years of relevant experience of gender assessment and mainstreaming in projects related to environmental / public sector initiatives.
- Knowledgeable about environmental issues, climate change impacts, water vulnerability challenges and resilience building opportunities.
- Experience in gender-responsive capacity building.
- Excellent analytical, writing, advocacy, presentation, and communications skills.
- Fluency in English (oral and written) is a requirement, with sound written and presentation skills using plain English; knowledge of one of local languages would be an asset.

Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM and in cooperation with the NO/DRCS the Safeguards Expert will have the responsibility for the following tasks:

- Provide initial training to the project staff regarding the enforcement of environmental and social principles throughout project implementation.
- Oversee the development of Environmental Social Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments as provided for in the Project's SESP.
- Conduct a screening of the final demonstration projects proposed for Project Board approval and provide feedback to the board on their adherence to UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES).
- Screen in cooperation with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer the demonstration project fiches and provide a monitoring plan.

Required skills and experience

- University degree in water resources, natural resources management, environmental studies, environmental engineering, ecology, geology, or other relevant field of study.
- Previous experience in developing and implementing environmental and social safeguard strategies for organizations or projects.
- At least seven years of relevant work experience, ideally involving international donors. Previous experience with UN and / or GEF projects will be an asset.
- An environmental and safeguards qualification will be an asset.
- Proficiency in computer application and information technology.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading).
- Very good inter-personal skills.

Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer

Under the overall supervision and guidance of the CTA/PM, and in coordination with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer will have the responsibility for the implementation of the environmental and social management plan/framework.

Duties and Responsibilities

Specific responsibilities will include:

- Monitor progress in development/implementation of the project ESMP/ESMF ensuring that UNDP's SES policy is fully met, and the reporting requirements are fulfilled.
- Oversee/ coordinate implementation of all safeguard related activities.
- Ensure social and environmental grievances are managed effectively and transparently.
- Review the SESP annually, and update and revise corresponding risk log; mitigation/management plans as necessary.
- Ensure full disclosure with concerned stakeholders.
- Ensure environmental and social risks are identified, avoided, mitigated and managed throughout project implementation.

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- Work with the CTA/PM to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the safeguard issues of the project.

Required skills and experience

- University degree in water resources, natural resources management, environmental policy, ecology, geology, or other relevant field of study.
- At least three years of experience on implementation of demonstration activities in the framework of developmental projects. Previous experience with UN projects will be a definite asset.
- Very good inter-personal skills.
- Proficiency in computer application and information technology.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading) and in one of the local languages.

Evaluator

The mid-term review (MTR) and terminal evaluation (TE) will be conducted according to the guidance, rules and procedures established by UNDP and GEF as reflected in the UNDP Evaluation Guidance for GEF Financed Projects. The mid-term review will assess progress towards the achievement of project results and will provide specific recommendations for the implementation of the remainder of the project. The Terminal Evaluation will assess the achievement of project results, and it will draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming.

An overall approach and method for conducting project terminal evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed projects has developed over time. The evaluator is expected to frame the evaluation effort using the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact, as defined and explained in the UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects. The evaluator is expected to amend, complete and submit these criteria as part of an evaluation inception report, and shall include it as an annex to the final report. The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with authorities' counterparts, in particular the UNDP responsible office, project team, UNDP GEF Technical Adviser based in the region, and key stakeholders.

Scope of Work / Duties and Responsibilities

Under the guidance and supervision of the CTA/PM, the Evaluator for the mid-term and /or terminal evaluation will carry out the following tasks:

- Conduct the evaluation.
- Work with the project team in order to assess the project progress, achievement of results and impacts including:
  - Identify strengths and weaknesses in the Project design and implementation, implementation arrangements and its impacts on efficiency and effectiveness of converting resources (money, time) into results and impacts.
  - Ascertain achievements and impacts to date; to what extent the Project has moved towards achievement of the objectives and outputs under the four outcomes in the results framework.
  - Assess of likelihood of sustainability of results and determine the key elements of the exit strategy that would increase the likelihood of sustaining critical results.
  - Examine the significance of un-expected effects, whether beneficial or detrimental in character.
  - Assess the extent to which the Project has contributed to building capacity in the areas of focus.
  - Assess the validity of assumptions used in the development of the project.
- Identify and assess lessons learnt and best practices in relation to achievement of the project objectives and outputs.
- Disaggregate findings by gender, to the extent possible, and include quantitative and qualitative data regarding the project activities.
- Develop and present a draft evaluation report, discuss it with the project team, authorities and UNDP, and submit a final report.

Required skills and experience

- At least Master's degree in water resources management, applied water resources evaluation, environmental science or management, or other closely related field.
- Relevant experience with results-based management evaluation methodologies.
- Experience applying SMART indicators and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios.

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- Competence in adaptive management, as applied to International Waters transboundary fresh water systems.
- Experience working with the project evaluations.
- Experience working in Southeast Europe.
- Work experience in resources management and international waters for at least 10 years.
- Demonstrated experience with International Waters projects.
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and International Waters is an asset.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Demonstrable analytical skills.
- Project evaluation/review experience within United Nations system will be considered an asset.
- Experience with implementing evaluations remotely will be considered an asset.
- Writing and verbal skills in English.

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Annex 7: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex 8: Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF)

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex 9: Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex 10: Procurement Plan

Provided in a separate file that accompanies the Project Document

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Annex 11: GEF Core indicators

Core Indicator 1	**Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use**						***(Hectares)***
			Hectares (1.1+1.2)				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		(select)					
		(select)					
		Sum					
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)					
		(select)					
		Sum					
Core Indicator 2	**Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use**						***(Hectares)***
			Hectares (2.1+2.2)				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	*TE*	
Indicator 2.1	Marine protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		(select)					
		(select)					
		Sum					
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)					
		(select)					
		Sum					
Core Indicator 3	**Area of land restored**						***(Hectares)***
			Hectares (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 3.1	Area of degraded agricultural land restored						
			Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 3.2	Area of forest and forest land restored						
			Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	

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Indicator 3.3	Area of natural grass and shrublands restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.4	Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 4	**Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**					***(Hectares)***
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
Include documentation that justifies HCVF			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 5	**Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity**					***(Hectares)***
Indicator 5.1	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 5.2	Number of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollution and hypoxial					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 5.3	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	

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			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 6	**Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**					***(Metric tons of CO_2e)***
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e (6.1+6.2)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)					
	Expected CO2e (indirect)					
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector					
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)					
	Expected CO2e (indirect)					
	Anticipated start year of accounting					
	Duration of accounting					
Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided Outside AFOLU					
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)					
	Expected CO2e (indirect)					
	Anticipated start year of accounting					
	Duration of accounting					
Indicator 6.3	Energy saved					
			MJ			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology					
		Technology	Capacity (MW)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)				
		(select)				
Core Indicator 7	**Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management**					***1***
Indicator 7.1	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Drin River Basin	*2*	*2*	*na*	*4*
Indicator 7.2	Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Drin River Basin	*2*	*2*	*3*	*4*
Indicator 7.3	Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Drin River Basin	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*
Indicator 7.4	Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			Rating		Rating	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Drin River Basin	*1*	*1*	*4*	*4*

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Core Indicator 8	**Globally over-exploited fisheries Moved to more sustainable levels**					***(Metric Tons)***
Fishery Details			Metric Tons			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 9	**Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products**					***(Metric Tons)***
			Metric Tons (9.1+9.2+9.3)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	PIF stage	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.1	Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)					
POPs type			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				
Indicator 9.2	Quantity of mercury reduced					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.3	Hydrochloroflurocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.4	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.5	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities					
		Technology	Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.6	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	PIF stage	Endorsement
Core Indicator 10	**Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources**					***(grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)***
Indicator 10.1	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 10.2	Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented					
			Number			

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			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**					***(Number)***
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	*5.500*	*150,300*	*na*	*150,300*
		Male	*6.500*	*149,700*	*na*	*149,700*
		Total	*12.000*	*300.000*		*300.000*

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Annex 12: GEF 7 Taxonomy

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
☒ **Influencing models**			
	☐ **Transform policy and regulatory environments**		
	☒ **Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making**		
	☒ **Convene multi-stakeholder alliances**		
	☒ **Demonstrate innovative approaches**		
	☐ **Deploy innovative financial instruments**		
☒ **Stakeholders**			
	☐ **Indigenous Peoples**		
	☒ **Private Sector**		
		☐ Capital providers	
		☐ Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		☐ Large corporations	
		☒ SMEs	
		☒ Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		☐ Non-Grant Pilot	
		☐ Project Reflow	
	☒ **Beneficiaries**		
	☒ **Local Communities**		
	☒ **Civil Society**		
		☒ Community Based Organization	
		☒ Non-Governmental Organization	
		☒ Academia	
		☐ Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
	☒ **Type of Engagement**		
		☒ Information Dissemination	
		☒ Partnership	
		☒ Consultation	
		☒ Participation	
	☒ **Communications**		
		☒ Awareness Raising	
		☐ Education	
		☒ Public Campaigns	
		☐ Behavior Change	
☒ **Capacity, Knowledge and Research**			
	☐ **Enabling Activities**		
	☒ **Capacity Development**		
	☒ **Knowledge Generation and Exchange**		
	☐ **Targeted Research**		
	☐ **Learning**		
		☐ Theory of Change	
		☐ Adaptive Management	
		☐ Indicators to Measure Change	
	☐ **Innovation**		
	☒ **Knowledge and Learning**		
		☒ Knowledge Management	
		☐ Innovation	
		☐ Capacity Development	
		☒ Learning	
	☒ **Stakeholder Engagement Plan**		
☒ **Gender Equality**			
	☒ **Gender Mainstreaming**		
		☒ Beneficiaries	
		☒ Women groups	
		☒ Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		☒ Gender-sensitive indicators	

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	☒**Gender results areas**		
		☒Access and control over natural resources	
		☒Participation and leadership	
		☒Access to benefits and services	
		☒Capacity development	
		☒Awareness raising	
		☒Knowledge generation	
☐**Focal Areas/Theme**			
	☐**Integrated Programs**		
		☐Commodity Supply Chains (Good Growth Partnership)	
			☐Sustainable Commodities Production
			☐Deforestation-free Sourcing
			☐Financial Screening Tools
			☐High Conservation Value Forests
			☐High Carbon Stocks Forests
			☐Soybean Supply Chain
			☐Oil Palm Supply Chain
			☐Beef Supply Chain
			☐Smallholder Farmers
			☐Adaptive Management
		☐Food Security in Sub-Sahara Africa	
			☐Resilience (climate and shocks)
			☐Sustainable Production Systems
			☐Agroecosystems
			☐Land and Soil Health
			☐Diversified Farming
			☐Integrated Land and Water Management
			☐Smallholder Farming
			☐Small and Medium Enterprises
			☐Crop Genetic Diversity
			☐Food Value Chains
			☐Gender Dimensions
			☐Multi-stakeholder Platforms
		☐Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration	
			☐Sustainable Food Systems
			☐Landscape Restoration
			☐Sustainable Commodity Production
			☐Comprehensive Land Use Planning
			☐Integrated Landscapes
			☐Food Value Chains
			☐Deforestation-free Sourcing
			☐Smallholder Farmers
		☐Sustainable Cities	
			☐Integrated urban planning
			☐Urban sustainability framework
			☐Transport and Mobility
			☐Buildings
			☐Municipal waste management
			☐Green space
			☐Urban Biodiversity
			☐Urban Food Systems
			☐Energy efficiency
			☐Municipal Financing
			☐Global Platform for Sustainable Cities
			☐Urban Resilience
	☐**Biodiversity**		
		☐Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			☐Terrestrial Protected Areas
			☐Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			☐Productive Landscapes

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			☐ Productive Seascapes
			☐ Community Based Natural Resource Management
		☐ Mainstreaming	
			☐ Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)
			☐ Forestry (Including HCVF and REDD+)
			☐ Tourism
			☐ Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			☐ Fisheries
			☐ Infrastructure
			☐ Certification (National Standards)
			☐ Certification (International Standards)
		☐ Species	
			☐ Illegal Wildlife Trade
			☐ Threatened Species
			☐ Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			☐ Crop Wild Relatives
			☐ Plant Genetic Resources
			☐ Animal Genetic Resources
			☐ Livestock Wild Relatives
			☐ Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
		☐ Biomes	
			☐ Mangroves
			☐ Coral Reefs
			☐ Sea Grasses
			☐ Wetlands
			☐ Rivers
			☐ Lakes
			☐ Tropical Rain Forests
			☐ Tropical Dry Forests
			☐ Temperate Forests
			☐ Grasslands
			☐ Paramo
			☐ Desert
		☐ Financial and Accounting	
			☐ Payment for Ecosystem Services
			☐ Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
			☐ Conservation Trust Funds
			☐ Conservation Finance
		☐ Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			☐ Biosafety
			☐ Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
	☐ **Forests**		
		☐ Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			☐ REDD/REDD+
		☐ Forest	
			☐ Amazon
			☐ Congo
			☐ Drylands
	☐ **Land Degradation**		
		☐ Sustainable Land Management	
			☐ Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			☐ Ecosystem Approach
			☐ Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			☐ Community-Based NRM
			☐ Sustainable Livelihoods
			☐ Income Generating Activities
			☐ Sustainable Agriculture
			☐ Sustainable Pasture Management

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			☐Sustainable Forest/Woodland Management
			☐Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			☐Sustainable Fire Management
			☐Drought Mitigation/Early Warning
		☐Land Degradation Neutrality	
			☐Land Productivity
			☐Land Cover and Land cover change
			☐Carbon stocks above or below ground
		☐Food Security	
	☒**International Waters**		
		☐Ship	
		☒Coastal	
		☒Freshwater	
			☒Aquifer
			☒River Basin
			☒Lake Basin
		☐Learning	
		☐Fisheries	
		☐Persistent toxic substances	
		☐SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		☐Targeted Research	
		☒Pollution	
			☐Persistent toxic substances
			☐Plastics
			☒Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater
			☒Nutrient pollution from Wastewater
		☐Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	
		☒Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		☐Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		☐Large Marine Ecosystems	
		☐Private Sector	
		☐Aquaculture	
		☐Marine Protected Area	
		☐Biomes	
			☐Mangrove
			☐Coral Reefs
			☐Seagrasses
			☐Polar Ecosystems
			☐Constructed Wetlands
	☐**Chemicals and Waste**		
		☐Mercury	
		☐Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining	
		☐Coal Fired Power Plants	
		☐Coal Fired Industrial Boilers	
		☐Cement	
		☐Non-Ferrous Metals Production	
		☐Ozone	
		☐Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		☐Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		☐Sound Management of chemicals and Waste	
		☐Waste Management	
			☐Hazardous Waste Management
			☐Industrial Waste
			☐e-Waste
		☐Emissions	
		☐Disposal	
		☐New Persistent Organic Pollutants	

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		☐ Polychlorinated Biphenyls	
		☐ Plastics	
		☐ Eco-Efficiency	
		☐ Pesticides	
		☐ DDT - Vector Management	
		☐ DDT - Other	
		☐ Industrial Emissions	
		☐ Open Burning	
		☐ Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices	
		☐ Green Chemistry	
	☐ **Climate Change**		
		☐ **Climate Change Adaptation**	
			☐ Climate Finance
			☐ Least Developed Countries
			☐ Small Island Developing States
			☐ Disaster Risk Management
			☐ Sea-level rise
			☐ Climate Resilience
			☐ Climate information
			☐ Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			☐ Adaptation Tech Transfer
			☐ National Adaptation Programme of Action
			☐ National Adaptation Plan
			☐ Mainstreaming Adaptation
			☐ Private Sector
			☐ Innovation
			☐ Complementarity
			☐ Community-based Adaptation
			☐ Livelihoods
		☐ **Climate Change Mitigation**	
			☐ Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
			☐ Energy Efficiency
			☐ Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			☐ Technology Transfer
			☐ Renewable Energy
			☐ Financing
			☐ Enabling Activities
		☐ **Technology Transfer**	
			☐ Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer
			☐ Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN)
			☐ Endogenous technology
			☐ Technology Needs Assessment
			☐ Adaptation Tech Transfer
		☐ **United Nations Framework on Climate Change**	☐ Nationally Determined Contribution
	☒ **Rio Markers**		
		☐ Paris Agreement	
		☒ Sustainable Development Goals	
		☐ Climate Change Mitigation 0	
		☒ Climate Change Mitigation 1	
		☐ Climate Change Mitigation 2	
		☐ Climate Change Adaptation 0	
		☒ Climate Change Adaptation 1	
		☐ Climate Change Adaptation 2	