

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRIE
MINISTRIA E TURIZMIT
DHE MJEDISIT



Albania's National Adaptation Plan

First progress report

March 2023

Ministry of Tourism and Environment



© Government of Albania, 2023

Albania's National Adaptation Plan First Progress Report

Photo: iStock

Acknowledgments

This report represents the first review of Albania's progress in implementing its National Adaptation Plan (NAP). This report has been coordinated by Mrs. Eneida Rabdishta, Climate Change Expert at the Ministry of Tourism and Environment in close cooperation with the UNDP project Advancing Albania's Planning for Medium- and Long-Term Adaptation, with the financial support of the NAP Global Network.



This project is undertaken with the financial support of:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :

Secretariat hosted by:
Secrétariat hébergé par :



Executive Summary

This report represents the first review of Albania's progress in implementing its National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The primary intent is to aid policy-makers in understanding Albania's ongoing climate change adaptation efforts. This includes an analysis of achievements, insights gained, and the challenges encountered during the first 4 years of the NAP's implementation (2019–2023), thereby providing valuable inputs for its future revision. The overall aim of this progress report is to contribute to the vision of an Albania resilient to climate change.

The NAP is the adaptation component of the National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS), which was approved by the Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 466 on July 3, 2019. The NAP comprises 15 priority actions (see Box 1) containing 118 adaptation measures and 23 goals to be implemented until 2035. The main objectives of this First Progress Report are to:

- monitor the implementation status of the NAP priority actions,
- track progress in mainstreaming climate change into sectoral policy documents,
- evaluate the NAP process,
- learn about the NAP process, and
- fulfill the reporting requirements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement.

Status of NAP Implementation

Over the span of 4 years, from 2019 to 2023, Albania's NAP implementation recorded low overall completion rates across all priority actions (PAs). Out of 118 planned adaptation measures, only 15% were completed within this period. Furthermore, 22% of all measures had yet to be initiated. This lack of implementation was primarily reported in PAs 4, 7, and 9.

On an encouraging note, about 69% of all measures saw some advancement during the implementation period. Only PA 15 was reported as fully completed.

It's noteworthy that active implementation primarily occurred from late 2021 onward. This delay was largely due to the 2019 earthquake, which diverted funds toward reconstruction efforts, and the COVID-19 pandemic's significant disruptions in 2020 and 2021.

Box ES1. NAP - Albania, 15 PAs

PA 1: Steering of the adaptation process in Albania

PA 2: Overarching mainstreaming initiative

PA 3: Climate finance readiness

PA 4: Implementation monitoring system

PA 5: Public information and involvement initiative

PA 6: Initiative for capacity building on climate change adaptation

PA 7: Climate resilient irrigation, drainage, and flood protection

PA 8: Integrated water resources management

PA 9: Adaptation in agriculture sector

PA 10: Promote implementation of adaptation strategy for health sector

PA 11: Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast (ICPC)

PA 12: Initiative for municipal adaptation

PA 13: Adaptation in tourism

PA 14: Upgrading civil defence prepare redness and disaster risk reduction

PA 15: Building the resilience of the Kune-Vaini lagoon system (KVLS) through the ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA).

Complexity of Measures

The evaluation of measures considered three factors: the complexity¹ of the measures outlined in the NAP, the financial resources required for their implementation, and their impacts.

There was a varying degree of complexity across the NAP measures. Around 40% of the measures were rated as medium in complexity, while 33.7% were classified as highly complex. The remaining 26.3% were found to be of low complexity.

PAs with the most measures rated as low complexity include PA 1, PA 5, and PA 6. Their activities primarily include capacity building, climate conferences, and awareness-raising initiatives. The majority of measures in the remaining PAs were evaluated as medium in complexity, while the most complex measures were identified in PA 7, PA 9, and PA 14.

¹ Complexity refers to the challenges and intricacies of executing a measure. It is assessed by considering factors such as the specialized knowledge required, its availability within Albania, the novelty of the practices involved, and the extent of coordination needed among various actors.

Required Financial Resources

Regarding the financial investment required for the implementation, the NAP is estimated to cost around ALL 11 billion, equivalent to approximately EUR 80 million. The evaluation revealed that 47% of measures required a low level of resources (below ALL 240 million). In contrast, 29.46% required a medium level of investment (between ALL 240 million and ALL 1 billion), with the remaining 23.48% requiring a high level of financial resources for implementation (above ALL 1 billion).

Lower-cost PAs include PA 1, PA 3, and PA 6. PAs requiring significant financial resources include PA 9, PA 12, PA 13, and PA 14.

Impact of Measures

When examining the impact of these measures on climate risk reduction, 40% of measures had a low impact. These primarily consisted of actions such as conducting workshops and meetings, building capacity, strengthening governance structures, producing promotional materials, and initiating awareness campaigns and educational events. In contrast, only 27% of the measures had the potential to directly contribute to climate risk reduction. This was noticed in the PAs that foresee building resilient infrastructure or ecosystems.

PAs 7, 9, 14, and 15 have the highest direct impact on risk reduction, with scores from 7 to 10. PAs with the lowest potential contribution to climate risk reduction include PA 1, PA 2, PA 3, PA 4, and PA 6.

Contribution of Additional Adaptation Interventions

Quite notably, several additional adaptation interventions not included in the NAP have made direct positive contributions. A list of 35 projects undertaken by government entities, the private sector, and the non-governmental organization community includes nine regional dimension projects, 11 cross-border dimension projects, 10 national dimension projects, and five non-governmental organization-driven projects/ activities. The projects cover areas such as adaptation policy, strategy alignment, vulnerability assessment, local implementation, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and management, extreme weather event protection, capacity building, and awareness-raising.

Awareness and Knowledge of the NAP

A good 83% of stakeholders reported being aware of the NAP document and the PAs that their institution/agency is responsible for. Only 37% reported knowing the 15 PAs included in the NAP document, while 16% had never heard about the NAP. This could be attributed to the recruitment of new officials not involved in the NAP development and/or limited follow-up communication after the document's adoption.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges

Notable successes of the NAP implementation included revitalizing the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Climate Change, mainstreaming climate change into other strategic documents, and improving access to climate finance. Challenges encompassed climate change adaptation capacity

and knowledge gaps, budgetary constraints and resource limitations, the impact of the earthquake and COVID-19 pandemic, and the integration of a social-inclusion agenda.

Recommendations

The report concludes with priority recommendations for the next NAP. These include:

1. **Climate change adaptation policy, planning, and implementation.** Establish a well-structured and resourced governance and institutional *strengthening* for NAP implementation.
2. **Financing for the NAP.** Elaborate and implement an effective plan for financial, human, and technological resource mobilization to underpin the roll-out of the NAP.
3. **Monitoring and evaluation.** Develop and implement an effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation framework for the new NAP.
4. **Awareness raising.** Develop and execute appropriate adaptation education and communication to support NAP implementation.
5. **Stakeholder engagement.** Increase support for private sector-led adaptation action.

Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Albania's NAP Process.....	1
1.2 Policy Context	2
1.3 Progress Reporting Context	3
2.0 Objectives of the Progress Report	5
3.0 Methodology for Preparing the First Progress Report	6
3.1 Literature Review	6
3.2. Stakeholder Engagement Approach	6
3.3 Data Collection	7
3.4 Criteria for the Implementation Status of NAP Measures.....	7
3.5 Criteria for the Evaluation of NAP Measures.....	8
3.6 Criteria for the Assessment of the Effectiveness of NAP Implementation.....	8
4.0 Results.....	9
4.1 Status of Implementation of Albania's 15 NAP PAs and 118 Adaptation Measures	9
4.2 Evaluation of Adaptation Measures in the NAP	12
4.3 Progress in Achieving the NAP Goals, Objectives, and Indicators	16
4.4 Other Climate Change Adaptation Measures Implemented	17
5.0 Adaptive Management, Learning, and Main Findings	24
5.1 General and Sectoral Knowledge of the NAP	24
5.2 Effectiveness of NAP Implementation	26
5.3 Highlights During NAP Implementation.....	27
5.4 Challenges	28
6.0 Mainstreaming of Climate Change Adaptation into Policies/Plans/Strategies	30
7.0 Contribution of the NAP to Reducing Vulnerability and Building Adaptive Capacity.....	33
8.0 Conclusion and Recommendations.....	34
9.0 Annexes.....	38
A. List of Institutions and Individuals Interviewed.....	38
B. List of the 15 Albanian NAP PAs and 31 Goals.....	39
C. National, Regional, and Sectoral Documents Reviewed for This Progress Report.....	43
D. Questionnaire for Stakeholders.....	45
E. Implementation Status of the NAP's Adaptation Measures by PA.....	46

F. List of Other Adaptation Projects.....	50
G. Methodology for Tracking the Mainstreaming of CCA Into Policies/Plans/Strategies	58

List of Tables

Table 1. Criteria for the implementation status of NAP measures.....	7
Table 2. Criteria for the Evaluation of NAP measures	8
Table F1. Regional dimension projects	50
Table F2. Cross-border dimension projects	52
Table F3. National dimension projects	54
Table F4. NGO-driven projects.....	57

List of Figures

Figure 1. Implementation status of all 118 adaptation measures in Albania's NAP	11
Figure 2. Status of implementation (%) for the 15 PAs of Albania's NAP, 2019 to 2023.....	12
Figure 3. Categorization of measures' complexity, resource intensity, and impact.....	13
Figure 4. Evaluation of measures' complexity disaggregated by PAs – Albania NAP 2019-2023.....	14
Figure 5. Evaluation of measures financial resources disaggregated by PAs – Albania NAP 2019-2023	15
Figure 6. Categorization of PAs linkage/impact to risk reduction, disaggregated by PAs in Albania's NAP 2019–2023	16
Figure 7. Stakeholders and participation in NAP development.....	24
Figure 8. Responses to the question "How well do you know the goals and measures of the NAP, including the priority actions relevant to your agency?"	25
Figure 9. Knowledge of stakeholders on NAP document in their sector	25
Figure 10. Level of effectiveness in supporting NAP implementation.....	26

List of Boxes

Box ES1. NAP - Albania, 15 PAs	iv
Box 1. NAP - Albania, 15 PAs.....	1
Box 2. NCCS, six strategic priorities on climate change action	3

List of Abbreviations

CCA	climate change adaptation
CSO	civil society organization
DRR	disaster risk reduction
EbA	ecosystem-based adaptation
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IGEW	Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment
IMWGCC	Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Climate Change
INSTAT	Institute of Statistics
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MoTE	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCS	National Climate Change Strategy
NDC	national determined contribution
NGO	non-governmental organization
NSDI	National Strategy for Development and Integration
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PA	priority action
RBMP	river basin management plans
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

1.0 Introduction

Located in Southeast Europe, the Republic of Albania is a nation facing significant climate vulnerabilities. It has a predominantly rural population of 2.9 million (as of 2019) and an economy reliant on sectors such as agriculture, hydropower, and tourism, which are particularly susceptible to the adverse effects of climate change. The increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as destructive flooding from heavy rainfall, and prolonged dry periods threatening agricultural livelihoods and water resources, underscore the substantial threats Albania faces due to climate change.

1.1 Albania's NAP Process

In response to the growing challenges posed by climate change, the Government of Albania initiated its long-term National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process in 2015. The NAP process, developed in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) technical guidelines, aims to enhance Albania's long-term climate resilience and organize effective cooperation among various stakeholders such as ministries, local government units, agencies, private sector, civil society, and academia.

Box 1. NAP - Albania, 15 PAs

PA 1: Steering of the adaptation process in Albania

PA 2: Overarching mainstreaming initiative

PA 3: Climate finance readiness

PA 4: Implementation monitoring system

PA 5: Public information and involvement initiative

PA 6: Initiative for capacity building on climate change adaptation

PA 7: Climate -resilient irrigation, drainage, and flood protection

PA 8: Integrated water resources management

PA 9: Adaptation in agriculture sector

PA 10: Promote implementation of adaptation strategy for health sector

PA 11: Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast (ICPC)

PA 12: Initiative for municipal adaptation

PA 13: Adaptation in tourism

PA 14: Upgrading civil defence prepare redness and disaster risk reduction

PA 15: Building the resilience of the Kune-Vaini lagoon system (KVLS) through the ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA).

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism leads this process through the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Climate Change (IMWGCC), established in 2014, with the intent of aligning the NAP process with other national planning processes and ensuring high political involvement. The NAP outlines 15 PAs (see Box 1), 118 adaptation measures and 23 goals to be implemented over 15 years (until 2035), and aimed at addressing vulnerabilities in sectors like agriculture, tourism, and energy.

A central focus of the NAP process is the integration of adaptation planning and development, ensuring coherence and addressing the need for adaptation in all necessary financial resources. The process is also oriented toward improving climate risk management, with PAs serving as interventions to reduce climate risks, identify entry points into existing national processes, and secure funding from both national and international public and private sources.

The NAP process in Albania was supported through Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) inputs by the Climate Change Adaptation in the Western Balkans initiative. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the EU also cooperated in the NAP development process to ensure coherence with previous and other ongoing processes of relevance to climate change adaptation. The following steps were taken for the development of the NAP:

- **Launch:** The NAP process was officially launched on February 19, 2015.
- **Stocktaking workshop:** A workshop was held using the Stocktaking for National Adaptation Planning (SNAP) tool, leading to a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis.
- **Vulnerability assessment:** Previous vulnerability assessments were used, such as the one conducted for the Second Nation Communication to UNFCCC (2009) and sector-specific vulnerability studies for agriculture (2013), health (2011), and energy (2009).
- **Process organization:** A workshop on June 10, 2015, outlined the NAP process's tasks, timelines, and responsibilities. The drafting process was further clarified in an IMWGCC meeting on September 8, 2015.
- **Definition of goals and indicators:** The IMWGCC set and adjusted the NAP's goals and indicators in a meeting on November 27, 2015.
- **First draft:** The first NAP draft was discussed and revised during an IMWGCC meeting on April 28, 2016.
- **Climate change policy training:** From July 13 to 15, 2016, a training session was held for the Ministry of Environment and National Environmental Agency, focusing on implementation strategies and the development of a monitoring and evaluation system for the NAP.
- **Workshop on climate finance:** On October 21, 2016, a workshop was organized to explore potential funding sources for NAP implementation and to present the NAP financing document.

1.2 Policy Context

With the government's signing of the Paris Agreement (New York, April 22, 2016), Albania entered a new era of international climate policy, joining the global commitment to limit the increase of global temperature to well below 2°C, preferably to 1.5°C, above pre-industrial levels.

In July 2019, Albania endorsed a National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS), which is the country's foundational climate policy. It serves as a roadmap toward a low-carbon economy and for allowing an adaptation response of future generations at reasonable environmental, economic, and social costs. Its vision is strongly focused on the three main components of climate change in Albania: mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development. The NAP is the adaptation component of the NCCS.

In pursuing the above-mentioned components, specific strategic priorities (SPs) have been identified (see Box 2). In terms of adaptation, the NAP contributes to fulfilling priorities 3 to 6 of the NCCS.

Box 2. NCCS, six strategic priorities on climate change action

SP.1 Ensure a sustainable economy growth consistent with GHG emission pathways defined in the NDC and move toward an economy-wide target to which all sectors contribute.

SP.2 Establish a monitoring, reporting, and verification system of GHG in line with EU requirements.

SP.3 Strengthen the capacity of relevant institutions and inter-institutional cooperation to address climate changes issues.

SP.4 Streamline climate changes across sectoral strategic planning.

SP.5 Reinforce the capacity and awareness on climate change issues.

SP.6 Align to the EU Climate Change framework across sectors.

However, over the long term, Albania's NAP process aims to reduce flood damage, improve agriculture's ability to recover from floods, and ensure quality drinking water despite the impacts of climate change.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) project Advancing Albania's Planning for Medium- and Long-Term Adaptation Through the Development of a National Adaptation Planning (NAP) process is designed to help the Government of Albania increase its capacity to address the country's climate change vulnerabilities. Specifically, the project will support Albania's NAP based on the following outcomes:

- Outcome 1: The strengthening of a national mandate, strategy, and steering mechanism that focuses on assessing and addressing capacity gaps (particularly in the priority sectors of tourism, urban development, agriculture, transport, and energy).
- Outcome 2: The development of a NAP strategy action plan document and its implementation plan.
- Outcome 3: The development of financing, monitoring, and evaluation strategies to ensure that capacities and funding options are institutionalized for the long-term sustainability of adaptation planning beyond the life of the project.

1.3 Progress Reporting Context

The National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS) and the NAP both highlight the importance of an effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system. Such a system serves as an instrumental tool to

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

equip stakeholders, policy-makers, the private sector, and civil society with the necessary knowledge and insights about the local context for informed decision making and planning. Accordingly, the NCCS proposes the establishment of an M&E framework, central to which is a progress report to be submitted to the prime minister's office. The progress report is to include the following key elements:

- monitoring the execution of agreed measures;
- evaluating progress and obstacles to achieving goals and sectoral PAs;
- assessing its effectiveness in reducing vulnerabilities and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- creating an opportunity for learning and adaptive management;
- proposing recommendations for future steps and measures; and
- fulfilling national and UNFCCC reporting requirements.

This approach is in line with Article 7 of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, which states that each party should “monitor, evaluate, and learn from adaptation policies, plans, programmes and actions.” Through the support of the NAP Global Network, Albania submitted its first NAP to the UNFCCC in October 2021 and is currently engaged in monitoring its implementation and evaluating its effectiveness.

This report represents the first review of Albania's progress in implementing its NAP. The primary intent is to aid policy-makers in understanding Albania's ongoing climate change adaptation efforts. This includes an analysis of achievements, insights gained, and the challenges encountered during the first 4 years of the NAP's implementation (2019–2023), thereby providing valuable inputs for its future revision. The overall aim of this progress report is to contribute to the vision of an Albania resilient to climate change.

The findings of this report will also feed into the GCF project during the designing stage of the M&E framework. It will offer recommendations and document lessons and experiences that will improve the update of the NAP document slated for 2024.

Finally, as a candidate for EU membership, Albania is actively adapting its national legislation to meet EU standards. The European Commission's EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, established in April 2013, has been instrumental in guiding the NAP process. In this context, the preparation of this progress report strived to maintain alignment and coherence between the methodology used to monitor the implementation of PAs within the NAP and the commitments made at the regional level.

2.0 Objectives of the Progress Report

To ensure that Albania's NAP is effective and sustainable over time, it is important to regularly monitor its progress. The scope of this assignment is to track the overall progress of the NAP process. This means focusing explicitly on the process and monitoring the implementation of the PAs by measuring the achievements made in implementing adaptation-related policies, plans, interventions, and investments. The goal is to compare actual outcomes against the initial targets that were set out during the NAP's development, assessing whether the necessary capacities are in place to implement the plan, and tracking the progress in mainstreaming climate change into sectoral strategic documents and budget planning.

This progress report will support the Ministry of Tourism and Environment to achieve five main objectives:

- monitor the implementation of the NAP PAs;
- track progress in mainstreaming climate change into sectoral policy documents;
- evaluate the NAP process;
- learn about the NAP process; and
- fulfill reporting requirements under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

3.0 Methodology for Preparing the First Progress Report

The methodology employed for the preparation of the First Progress Report was outlined through a comprehensive literature review, a participatory stakeholder engagement process, and data collection done in two phases. Criteria were developed to characterize the implementation status of NAP measures, their categorization, and how to assess their effectiveness. These criteria were based on the approach taken by Grenada in its own NAP progress report.²

3.1 Literature Review

The preparation of this progress report started with an extensive literature review, including pivotal documents such as the country's NAP, national determined contribution (NDC), national communications and more. A list of the key national, regional, and sectoral-specific documents examined can be found in Annex C. Other pertinent resources considered included the European Environment Information and Observation Network portal, the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and GIZ, among others.

3.2. Stakeholder Engagement Approach

To ensure comprehensive stakeholder engagement in NAP progress reporting, each identified key ministry or agency nominated focal points. This approach facilitated the inclusion of both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders via bilateral consultations, group meetings, and workshops. Participants included IMWGCC representatives from pivotal ministries such as the Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE), Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, among others. Additionally, stakeholders from the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT), the National Environment Agency, research institutes, the National Civil Protection Agency (NACP), the National Agency for Water Resources Management (NAWRM), the Institute of Geosciences (IGEO), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local experts, development partners like UNDP, GIZ, UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the private sector, academia (including the Polytechnic University of Tirana and Polis University), and civil society organizations (CSOs) were actively engaged (see Annex 1 for full stakeholder list). Capacity-building activities for stakeholders were also held during the preparation of the report.

Several tools were employed to engage all stakeholders, including decision-makers. Key among these was the IMWGCC, which coordinated with MoTE to facilitate inter-institutional collaboration for NCCS implementation. As stipulated by the Prime Minister Order no. 155/2014, the IMWGCC also regularly updated the prime minister on sector developments. Engagement tools included bilateral meetings, online discussions via platforms like Zoom or Teams, and virtual meetings and interviews with key institutions following the desk review. This process helped identify prominent

² Grenada's NAP Progress report. <https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/napgn-en-2022-2021-2022-progress-report.pdf>

gaps, needs, and achievements. Stakeholders participated in bilateral meetings and workshops where the progress report's contents were presented, discussed, and validated.

3.3 Data Collection

The first phase of data collection was informed by stakeholder interviews, especially with entities identified in the NAP for implementing selected measures. In total, consultations were held with 35 officials from 15 government agencies, two NGOs, and two donors between September 1 and October 31, 2022. The aim was to assess the progress of NAP measures, and to gather feedback on stakeholders' NAP implementation experiences, their perspectives on the 15 PAs, and suggestions for the next NAP update. To assess progress toward specific targets and objectives associated with the goals (see Annex B), additional data and information were solicited from selected stakeholders, including through a questionnaire (see Annex D) to corroborate the reported advancements on the implementation of NAP PAs.

The second phase of the data collection engaged the members of the IMWGCC. A consultative workshop was convened on March 1, 2023, which was attended by 20 representatives from various governmental entities. The workshop was structured around a few key objectives. The session served as an opportunity to present an initial draft of the progress report evaluating the NAP's implementation and enabling stakeholders to examine and authenticate its major findings. Furthermore, it provided a forum for gathering valuable suggestions for the forthcoming NAP update, slated for 2024.

3.4 Criteria for the Implementation Status of NAP Measures

The first objective of the progress report was to monitor the implementation status of the NAP's 15 PAs and 118 adaptation measures. This was conducted based on a set of seven predefined criteria that are outlined in detail in Table 1. These criteria serve as a guiding framework for the assessment and provide a systematic way to measure and benchmark progress. To verify the extent to which the agreed-upon measures in the NAP were delivered, the completion status of each PA was evaluated. This was done by determining the percentage of completion for each PA, using data obtained from interviews and the IMWGCC.

Table 1. Criteria for the implementation status of NAP measures

Status	Definition
Not started	No action taken to implement the measure.
Planned for implementation in the short term	Implementation is scheduled to start within 6 months to 1 year.
Started	Activities, although commenced, did not attain significant progress toward achievement of the measure.
Partially completed	Considerable progress has been made in attainment of the measure/action.
Ongoing	These are activities that are carried out routinely as part of the annual work program of the agencies.
Completed	Measure attained.
Unsure	Unable to provide information on the status of implementation.

3.5 Criteria for the Evaluation of NAP Measures

To evaluate progress made on the implementation of the NAP, three factors were considered, including the complexity of the adaptation measures, the financial resources needed for their implementation, and the impacts of these measures. These were then assessed and classified into categories as described in Table 2.

Table 2. Criteria for the Evaluation of NAP measures

Criteria	Definition	Categories
Complexity	This refers to the intricacies involved in implementing a measure. To evaluate complexity, various factors were considered, such as the level of specialized knowledge required, whether such expertise is available in Albania, whether the measures involve new or existing practices, and the number of actors needed to coordinate the implementation.	Low, Medium, High
Financial Resources	This represents the financial shortfall when comparing the estimated total costs of each PA with the expenditure of existing financial sources. Thresholds were set as low (up to ALL 240 million), medium (up to ALL 1 billion), and high (above ALL 1 billion).	Low, Medium, High
Impact	This evaluates the potential for measures to reduce vulnerabilities and enhance adaptive capacity.	1 to 10

3.6 Criteria for the Assessment of the Effectiveness of NAP Implementation

In order to evaluate the effectiveness in supporting the implementation of the NAP, seven criteria were developed. The criteria were decided in collaboration with the representatives of the working group during the workshop based on best practices that would be more relevant and similar to Albania. They were:

- clearly defined roles and responsibilities;
- coordinated efforts across sectors;
- clear implementation measures;
- adequate technical capacity within agencies responsible for implementation;
- sufficient funding;
- meaningful stakeholder involvement; and
- integration of gender considerations.

4.0 Results

4.1 Status of Implementation of Albania's 15 NAP PAs and 118 Adaptation Measures

This section presents key findings from the 2019 to 2023 implementation of each PA in Albania's NAP. All data provided by focal points underwent thorough analysis, with each measure receiving equal attention.

Table 3. Implementation status of 118 adaptation measures in Albania's NAP, 2019 to 2023, across all 15 PAs

PA	Not started	Plan for implementation in the short term	Started	Partially completed	Ongoing	Completed	Unsure	Total
PA 1: Steering of the adaptation process in Albania	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	4
PA 2: Overarching mainstreaming initiative	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	4
PA 3: Climate finance readiness - capacity development for NAP financing and implementation in Albania	2	0	1	0	1	2	0	6
PA 4: Implementation monitoring system	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
PA 5: Communication and outreach initiative	3	0	1	2	5	3	0	14
PA 6: Initiative for capacity development on climate change adaptation	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
PA 7: Climate-resilient irrigation, drainage, and flood protection	4	1	0	0	5	0	2	12
PA 8: Integrated water resources management	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
PA 9: Adaptation in the agricultural sector	5	1	6	1	9	1	2	25
PA 10: Promote implementation of adaptation strategy for health sector	3	1	2	0	4	1	0	11
PA 11: Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast (ICPC)	1	0	1	0	4	0	0	6
PA 12: Initiative for municipal climate change adaptation plans	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

PA	Not started	Plan for implementation in the short term	Started	Partially completed	Ongoing	Completed	Unsure	Total
PA 13: Adaptation in tourism	2		1	2	0	0	3	6
PA 14: Upgrading civil defence preparedness and DRR	0	0	3	1	3	0	0	7
PA 15: Building the resilience of the Kune-Vaini lagoon system (KVLS) through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Total	26	4	18	8	38	17	7	118

Figure 1. Implementation status of all 118 adaptation measures in Albania's NAP

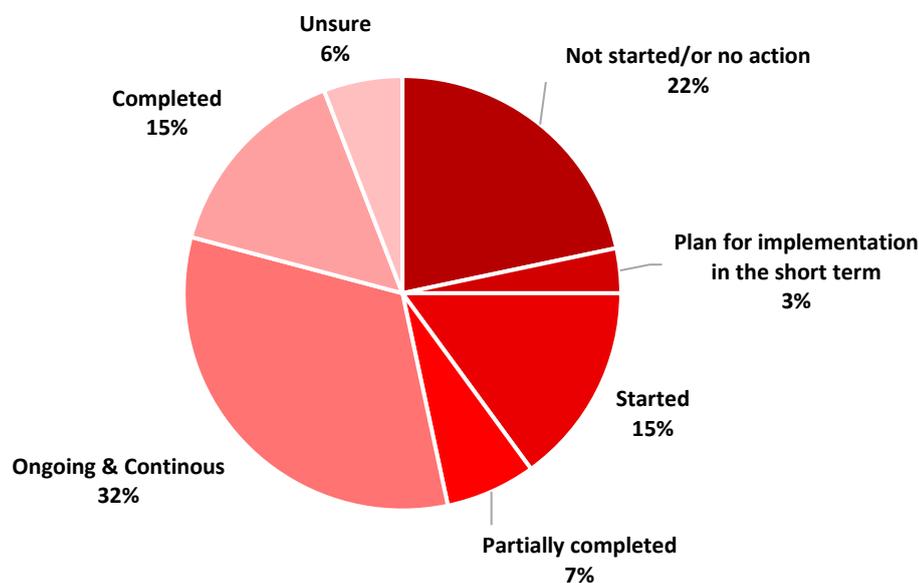
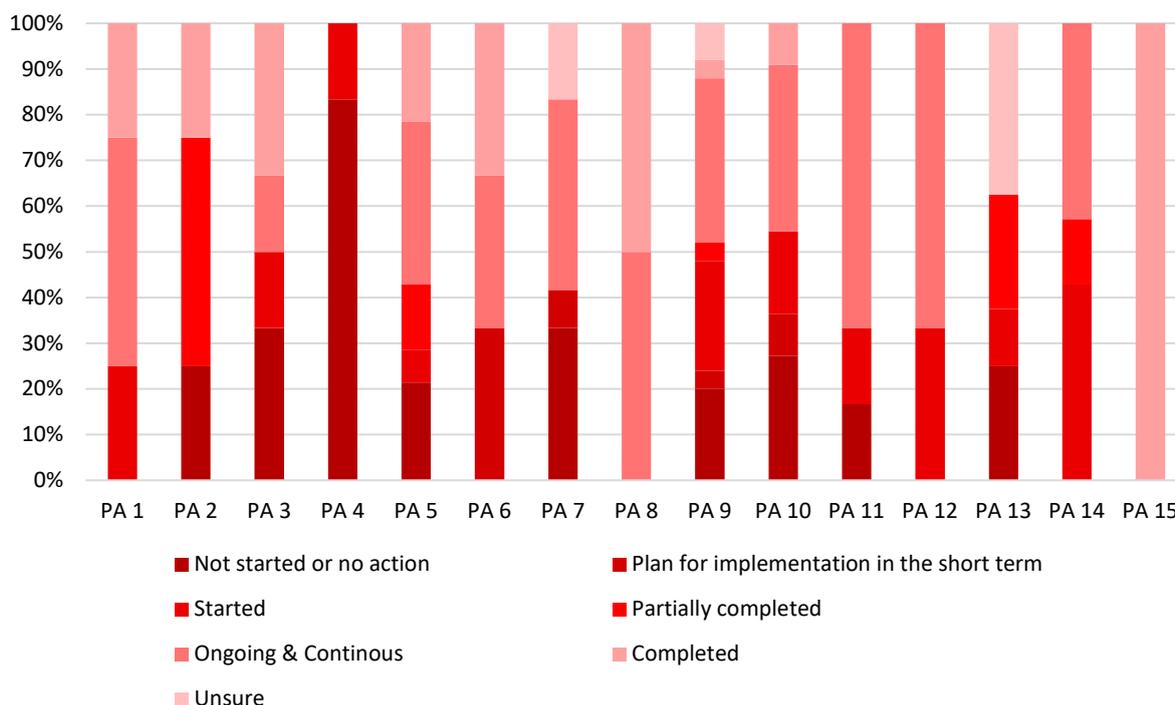


Table 1 provides an overview of the reported implementation status of the 118 adaptation measures contained in Albania's NAP, while Figure 1 shows the aggregate results for the NAP with the percentage for each completion criterion. Some of the key findings of this analysis include:

- Between 2019 and 2023, Albania had a low completion rate overall, with only 15% of adaptation measures reported as completed during the assessment period.
- Twenty-two percent of all planned measures had not yet started. This lack of implementation was predominantly reported in PA 4 (implementation monitoring system), PA 7 (climate-resilient irrigation, drainage, and flood protection), and PA 9 (adaptation in the agricultural sector).
- On a positive note, action was initiated on approximately 69% of all measures included in Albania's NAP over the 4-year implementation period. This percentage represents the cumulative total of measures that have been initiated, are ongoing, partially completed, or fully completed.
- It's worth highlighting that active implementation of the measures primarily took place from the end of 2021 onward. This delay was largely due to the 2019 earthquake in Albania, which necessitated a redirection of financing toward reconstruction efforts, and the significant disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. These events greatly affected the capacity of agencies to implement their planned annual work programs and projects.
- Only one PA, PA 15 (building the resilience of KVLS through EbA), was reported as fully completed.

Figure 2 shows the implementation percentage of the measures by PA. The annexes contain a list of all adaptation measures as reported by stakeholders as either completed, partially completed or ongoing.

Figure 2. Status of implementation (%) for the 15 PAs of Albania's NAP, 2019 to 2023



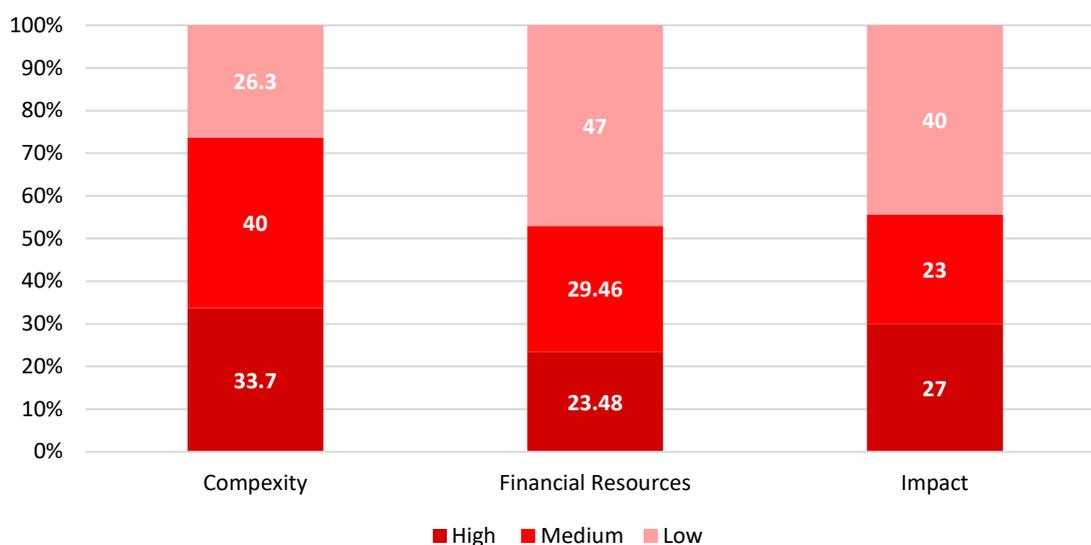
4.2 Evaluation of Adaptation Measures in the NAP

For the evaluation of the adaptation measures, three factors were considered, including the complexity of the measures set out in the NAP, the financial resources required for their implementation, and the impacts of these measures. Based on the categorization analysis conducted, 40% of the measures in the NAP were rated as medium with respect to complexity, 33.7% were considered highly complex and 26.3% were of low complexity.

In terms of financial investment, the NAP is estimated to cost around ALL 11 billion, equivalent to approximately EUR 80 million. These funds are divided across 15 PAs and split into two main categories: ALL 1.2 billion for overarching actions and the implementation framework, and ALL 9.8 billion for cross-sectoral activities. The evaluation revealed that 47% of measures need a low level of resources (below ALL 240 million), 29.46% demand a medium level of investment (between ALL 240 million and ALL 1 billion), and the remaining 23.48% require a high level of funding (above ALL 1 billion).

When examining the impact of these measures on climate risk reduction, 40% of measures had a low impact. These primarily consisted of actions such as conducting workshops and meetings, building capacity, strengthening governance structures, producing promotional materials, and initiating awareness campaigns and educational events. In contrast, only 27% of the measures had the potential to directly contribute to climate risk reduction. This was noticed in the PAs that foresee building resilient infrastructure or ecosystems.

Figure 3. Categorization of measures' complexity, resource intensity, and impact



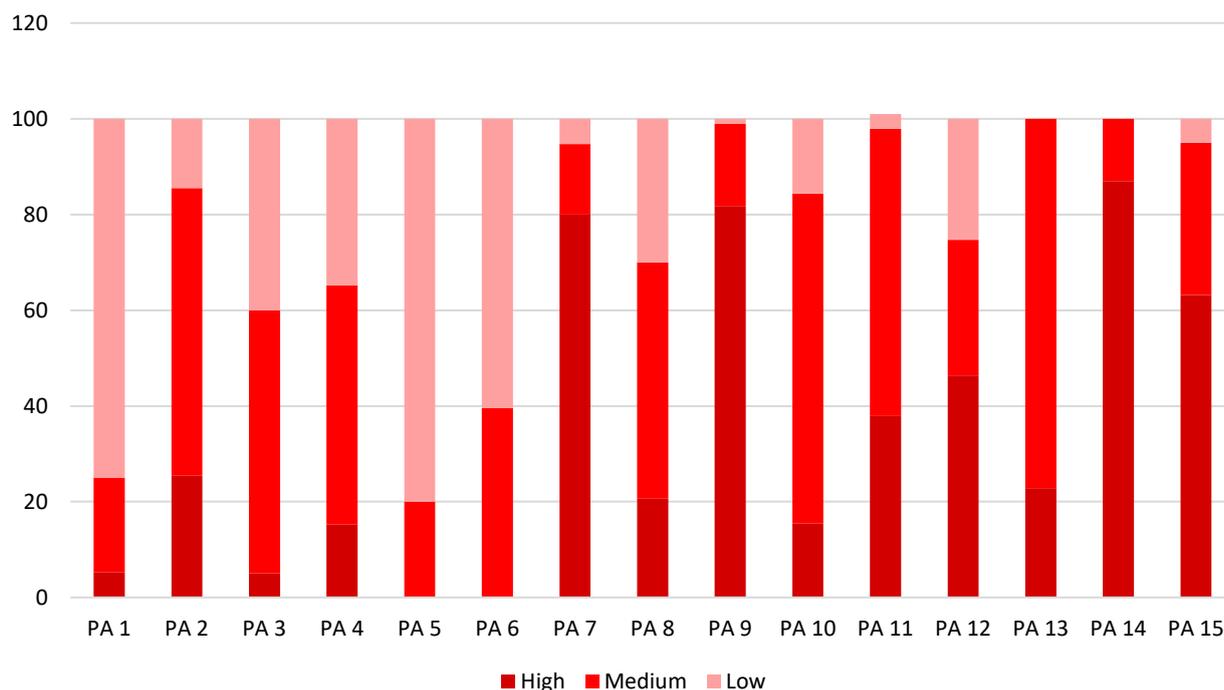
4.2.1 Evaluation of Measures Disaggregated by PAs

Complexity (Low, Medium, High)

In assessing the complexity of measures by PA, the following key findings were observed:

- PA 1 (steering of the adaptation process in Albania), PA 5 (communication and outreach initiative), and PA 6 (initiative for capacity development on climate change adaptation) presented the highest proportion of measures rated as low in complexity. The main activities for these PAs were capacity-building workshops, the IMWGCC, a climate conference, and several awareness-raising campaigns and outreach activities, mainly in educational institutions.
- The majority of measures in the remaining PAs were evaluated as medium in complexity.
- The highest percentage of highly complex measures were identified in PA 7 (climate-resilient irrigation, drainage, and flood protection), PA 9 (adaptation in the agricultural sector), and PA 14 (upgrading civil defence preparedness and DRR). They were rated as highly complex due to the level of specialized knowledge required and the higher number of actors to coordinate with. Some examples of these highly complex measures include:
 - creation of structures for technical checkups of the flood protection infrastructures (PA 7)
 - development of a training and certification system for the employees working in the irrigation and drainage sector (PA 7)
 - provide access to information on weather events, the data from early warning systems, and monitoring data (PA 9).

Figure 4. Evaluation of measures' complexity disaggregated by PAs – Albania NAP 2019–2023



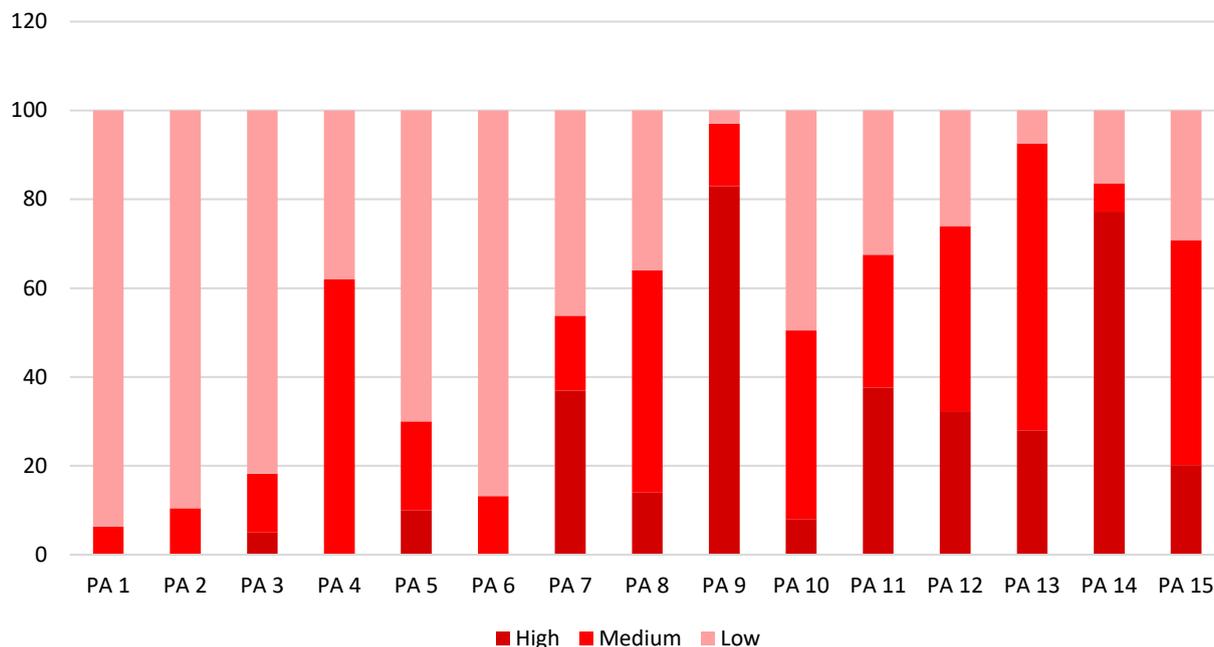
	PA 1	PA 2	PA 3	PA 4	PA 5	PA 6	PA 7	PA 8	PA 9	PA 10	PA 11	PA 12	PA 13	PA 14	PA 15
High	5.3	25.4	5	15.2	0	0	80	20.6	81.8	15.5	37.9	46.4	22.8	87	63.2
Medium	19.7	60.1	55	50	20	39.6	14.7	49.4	17.2	68.9	60	28.3	77.2	13	31.8
Low	75	14.5	40	34.8	80	60.4	5.3	30	1	15.6	3.1	25.3	0	0	5

Financial Resources Expenditure (Low, Medium, High)

In assessing the financial resources expenditures by PA, the following key findings were observed:

- PAs with measures **requiring low financial** resources for their implementation were:
 - PA 1 – Steering of the adaptation process in Albania;
 - PA 2 – Overarching mainstreaming initiative;
 - PA 3 – Climate finance readiness: capacity development for NAP financing and implementation in Albania; and
 - PA 6 – Initiative for capacity development on climate change adaptation prevention.
- PAs, with measures **requiring medium to high investment** are:
 - PA 9 – Adaptation in the agricultural sector;
 - PA 12 – Initiative for municipal climate change adaptation plans;
 - PA 13 – Adaptation in tourism; and
 - PA 14 – Upgrading civil defense preparedness and DRR.

Figure 5. Evaluation of measures financial resources disaggregated by PAs - Albania NAP 2019–2023



	PA 1	PA 2	PA 3	PA 4	PA 5	PA 6	PA 7	PA 8	PA 9	PA 10	PA 11	PA 12	PA 13	PA 14	PA 15
High	0	0	5	0	10	0	36.9	14	83	8	37.6	32.3	28	77.2	20.2
Medium	6.4	10.5	13.2	62.1	20	13.2	16.9	50	14	42.5	29.9	41.7	64.6	6.4	50.6
Low	93.6	89.5	81.8	37.9	70	86.8	46.2	36	3	49.5	32.5	26	7.4	16.4	29.2

Impact (1 to 10)

In assessing the level of impact³ of the NAP PAs on climate risk reduction and adaptation to climate change effects, the following key findings were observed:

- The PAs with the lowest impact, with a score from 1 to 3, are:
 - PA 1 – Steering of the adaptation process in Albania;
 - PA 2 – Overarching mainstreaming initiative;
 - PA 3 – Climate finance readiness: capacity development for NAP financing and implementation in Albania;
 - PA 4 – Implementation monitoring system; and
 - PA 6 – Initiative for capacity development on climate change adaptation.

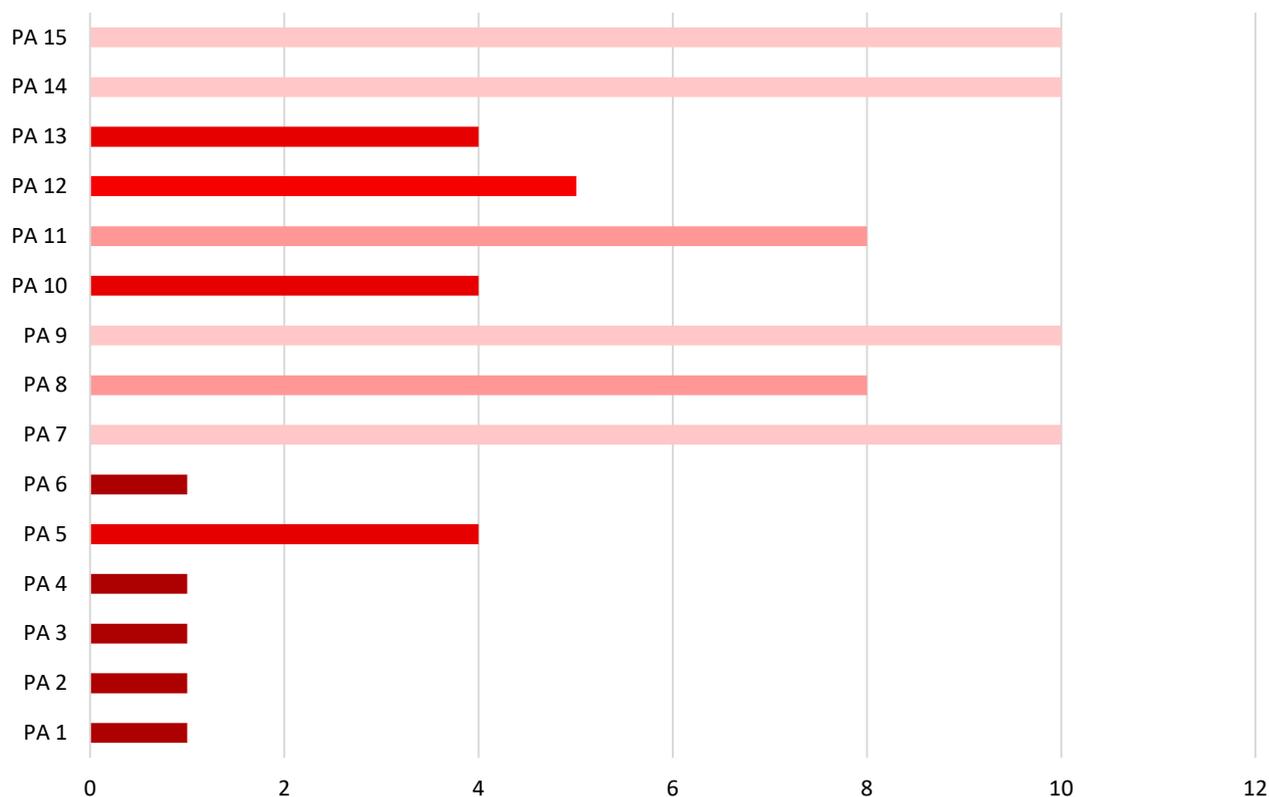
Similarly, PA 5 (communication and outreach initiative), PA 10 (promote implementation of adaptation strategy for health sector), PA 12 (initiative for municipal climate change adaptation

³ On the scale from 1 to 10, 10 means the highest impact.

plans), and PA 13 (adaptation in tourism) are not directly linked to risk reduction, but they have a medium impact with a score from 4 to 6.

PA 7, 9, 14, and 15 have the highest direct impact on risk reduction, with scores from 7 to 10.

Figure 6. Categorization of PAs linkage/impact to risk reduction, disaggregated by PAs in Albania's NAP 2019–2023



4.3 Progress in Achieving the NAP Goals, Objectives, and Indicators

In addition to the PAs and adaptation measures, the NAP encompasses a list of 31 goals. In order to establish a climate adaptation M&E system for Albania's NAP, it's crucial to assess the implementation status of the indicators and the realization of these goals.

Currently, the indicators provided for most of the NAP goals are inadequate for thoroughly measuring their comprehensive scope. Furthermore, these indicators lack clear definitions. As a result, these shortcomings make it exceedingly difficult to assess the goals accurately using the present indicators. In the absence of specific, well-defined indicators, it becomes impractical to conclusively ascertain whether a particular goal has been fully accomplished, thereby potentially hindering the realization of the intended objective.

Adding to the complexity is the absence of a systematic data collection and monitoring framework. This void has complicated the process of tracking the progress toward achieving the measurable indicators as defined in the NAP. The data that has been collected by various agencies, although

relevant, was not consistently gathered and was largely targeted at fulfilling the needs of sector-specific programming rather than effectively monitoring the NAP progress.

For more effective monitoring of the NAP, the goals and indicators stipulated in the PAs require further clarification in terms of

- identifying actors responsible for monitoring;
- defining sources of information; and
- establishing timelines and specifying milestones.

To assess the extent to which the goals were achieved and their utility in the future NAP, please refer to the table in Annex E.

4.4 Other Climate Change Adaptation Measures Implemented

Besides the adaptation measures outlined in the NAP, various additional interventions were implemented by the government, private sector, and NGOs. These interventions contributed to building climate resilience by enhancing adaptive capacity to varying extents. This section details these interventions and their contributions to building adaptive capacity.

Classification of Projects

A list of 35 projects has been collected based on the OECD criteria on Rio markers Adaptation. The list includes nine regional dimension projects, 11 cross-border dimension projects, 10 national dimension projects, and five NGO-driven projects/activities described in the respective sections and listed in the annexes in chronological order.

Funding and Implementation of Projects

These interventions were financed primarily through international funding from the EU, International Financial Institutions, and international development organizations. They provided valuable insights into climate modelling, impact analysis, vulnerabilities, and potential adaptation measures in Albania.

Evaluation and Monitoring

The lack of M&E protocols for climate change adaptation (CCA) projects/programs and of a framework of defined and mutually agreed strategic objectives in the period before Albania NAP drafting and approval makes it difficult to assess the actual achievements of the adaptation initiatives implemented to date. Specific evaluation exercises would be needed to assess the overall relevance of these projects/initiatives, their contribution to the achievement of objectives set out for them, value added and cost-effectiveness, lessons learned, recommendations to enhance efficiency and effectiveness or to replicate and/or to scale up in Albania.

Projects Impact and Sustainability

For most of the projects, only some indications can be found in respect to: **effectiveness** (the project has produced an output in a qualified and competent way in terms of the agreed scope, cost, time, and quality), **relevance** (how efficient the outcome of the project was with respect to given goals), **impact** (how the project affected the matters [environment, organization, community, people, etc.]

with which it comes into contact), and **sustainability** (how the beneficiary is able to continue project's related activities after its completion). A generally positive appreciation is noted, though, regarding their performance to date.

Rio Markers and Adaptation

The projects in this inventory did not initially include any reference to OECD's statistical markers on climate change mitigation and adaptation (Rio markers), which can track climate-relevant expenditure and aid mainstreaming. To ensure the accuracy and specificity of this analysis, we've retrospectively evaluated them. The goal is to maintain strict criteria, focusing solely on climate adaptation projects. The retrospective evaluation of projects on Rio markers was based on the information found on these past projects and comparing it on a case-by-case basis with the guidance given in the "Indicative Table to Guide Rio Marking by Sector/sub-sector - Climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation" section of the 2016 *OECD-DAC Rio Markers for Climate* handbook.⁴

Most of these projects seem to qualify for Rio marker adaptation to climate change, as it is evident that they have been conceived with adaptation purposes in mind. Others, though clearly qualifying for a Rio marker mitigation, do have an aspect related to adaptation that makes them also qualify for Rio marker adaptation. These are primarily energy efficiency-related projects, as indicated in the sections and related annexes below. Such projects have been associated with a note on this fact. The rest of the projects, i.e., the majority, have no notes attached, as they are purely adaptation projects that have a Rio marker adaptation.

Projects Dimensions and Issues Addressed

While a project has first been classified as regional and cross-border or national, based on the fact that it covers a number of countries in the region, at the border to each other, or the country as a whole, it was also eventually classified under the municipal dimension where the project is implemented at the local level or has a local component. While double counting has been avoided, they have been listed twice, i.e., in both relevant tables.

Summary of Projects

The table below offers an overview of the various adaptation projects, categorized by their scope and the main issues they address. These include adaptation policy and strategy, EU alignment, vulnerability and resilience, institutional building, equipment procurement for national and local adaptation action, capacity building, public administration training, education, public awareness, DRR, extreme weather event management, civil emergencies, security, insurance, economic considerations, river basin management plans (RBMPs), nature and ecosystem conservation, gender considerations, national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHS), and five key sectors: agriculture, energy, transport, tourism, and urban development. The table also considers projects marked for both mitigation and adaptation under the Rio markers.

Since the analysis of vulnerability, civil protection, and implementation of adaptation measures typically occur within a specific territory, the local aspect of all projects—be they regional, cross-border, national, or NGO-led—is also evaluated from a local or municipal perspective.

⁴ *OECD DAC Rio Markers for Climate Handbook* (2016).

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

The table is a condensed list of issues tackled by the adaptation projects as detailed in the relevant sections and annexes of this document. For a more comprehensive view, refer to Annex F where each project is identified by a unique number (e.g., PR1, PR2, etc.) that is used consistently throughout the document and annexes.

Table 1. Overview of other climate change adaptation measures implemented

Projects according to dimension	Total	Adaptation/vulnerability/ resilience Strategy.Policy.Planning/ Reporting/ EU alignment	Institutional building	Equipment	Capacity building/ training	Education/ awareness raising	DRR/ DRM/ extreme events/ civil emergencies	Security	Insurance	Economic ⁵	Result-based monitoring system (RBM)	Nature/ forests/water/EbA	Local	Gender	NMHS	Agriculture	Energy	Transport	Tourism	Urban/ infrastructure	Mitigation
Regional	9	7	1	-	3	2	7	1	2	3	1	2	2	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cross border	11	4		1	5	6	3	-	-	6	-	1	8	-	-	-	8			2	8
National	10	9	4	1	4	5	6	-	-	-	3	2	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
NGO	5	2	-	-	3		3	-	-	-	1	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total number of projects	35	22	5	2	15	13	19	1	2	9	5	7	20	1	5	2	8	0		2	11

⁵ The economic dimension includes INNOVATION/BUSINESS/INVESTMENTS/ COMPETITIVENES/ EMPLOYMENT/FINANCIAL RISK/ PUBLIC SECTOR/ PRIVATE SECTOR/GREEN PROCUREMENT

The table presents an overview of the issues addressed by each project. It's important to note that the numbers in each row should not be added together, as the total would not provide meaningful information. Instead, the table is designed to demonstrate how many projects have addressed a particular issue. For example, policy and strategy were addressed in seven out of nine regional projects, institutional issues were considered in one regional project, and 20 out of the 35 projects had components implemented at the local level. Adding the numbers vertically indicates the frequency with which a certain issue has been addressed across all projects, which can serve as a rough measure of the importance given to that issue.

The most frequently addressed issues are related to adaptation policy, strategy, alignment, and vulnerability (in 22 out of 35 projects), followed by initiatives focusing on local or municipal implementation (20 out of 35 projects), DRR and management, and extreme weather events and civil protection (19 out of 35 projects). Other areas of focus include capacity building (14 out of 35 projects) and awareness raising (13 out of 35 projects).

Of the five sectors highlighted in the Stocktaking Report and the NAP, the energy sector (specifically efficiency and renewables) had the most dedicated projects, primarily under the cross-border cooperation program. These projects were primarily mitigation efforts, but they also had some adaptation effects. Agriculture and urban development were each the focus of two projects, while it appears that the transport and tourism sectors were not addressed in this selection of adaptation projects.

Adaptation projects were implemented in several river basins, including Drin, Mati, Drini-Mati, Shkumbini, and Drini-Drina, as well as in the protected areas of Divjake-Karavasta and Kune-Vaini.

Several municipalities were involved in the adaptation projects, including but not limited to: Tirana, Vlora (at least three projects), Durrresi, Kruja, Fieri (at least two projects), Elbasani, Permeti, Gjirokastra, Kukes, Lezha Berat, Devoll, Malsi e Madhe, Finiq, Dropull, and Korca.

4.4.1 Lessons Learned from the Analysis of Adaptation Projects

In the past decade, Albania has undertaken climate adaptation actions, largely supported by international donors. These actions, implemented on an ad-hoc basis, lacked coordination and a multi-sectoral approach to address nationwide climate vulnerabilities. Each project in the sample addresses a range of issues rather than focusing deeply on one or a few. This reflects Albania's current stage in climate change adaptation—focusing more on policy, legislation, awareness, and capacity building and less on mainstreaming or fully addressing specific issues. This approach is likely to continue in the future, including replicating actions across municipalities and ongoing capacity-building and awareness initiatives.

These initiatives have provided useful data, scientific analysis, and support to beneficiaries. Donor efforts to consolidate grant resources for project implementation have been effective, with most projects likely to sustain their impacts.

However, the lack of M&E protocols makes it challenging to assess the actual achievements of these initiatives. Independent evaluation projects are needed to assess their relevance, effectiveness, value, and lessons learned. Furthermore, the Ministry of Finance and Economy has not used Rio markers, which can track climate-relevant expenditure and aid mainstreaming.

The evaluation of cross border projects⁶ shows that “the experience and organizational capacity of the Albanian partners seems that it was not at the required level resulting in problems and delays in the implementation of the projects,” while projects with local/municipal governments often suffer from a lack of proper administrative, managerial, and financial capacities.

Despite these challenges, the general prospects for delivering effective technical assistance projects are good. However, areas for improvement include:

- a lack of reference to Rio markers on adaptation on past and ongoing projects;
- studies and associated data collection processes remain fragmentary, limited, and uncoordinated at the national level;
- lack of a multidimensional approach;
- an imbalance among the different sectors;
- no evidence of mainstreaming of adaptation issues into the other sectors projects/action;
- a wide but not much in-depth work with specific issues related to adaptation;
- a lack of monitoring, evaluation, learning and verification system in place for projects;
- a lack of system for sharing adaptation projects outcomes and reports with the MoTE; and
- the beneficiary ownership of project has often been insufficient, especially at the local level.

For projects that can be supported by the GCF, the government of the Republic of Albania will support prioritized projects identified in the country program, a strategic framework developed as part of the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support program. The approval procedure goes through the National Designated Authorities (NDA):

- Each International Implementing Entity/National Implementing Entity submits a letter of request, full proposal and supporting documents, via the NDA Secretariat server.
- NDA approves final project proposals by issuing a no-objection letter.
- NDA provides a final approval of the recommended Direct Access Entities by issuing a Direct Access Entity nomination letter.

4.4.2 Recommendations on the Prioritization of Adaptation Projects

- The NDA to GCF should support only the prioritized projects identified in the country program, developed as part of the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support program.
- The IMWGCC must play an important coordinating role when deciding on new sectoral and/or cross-cutting adaptation initiatives/projects.

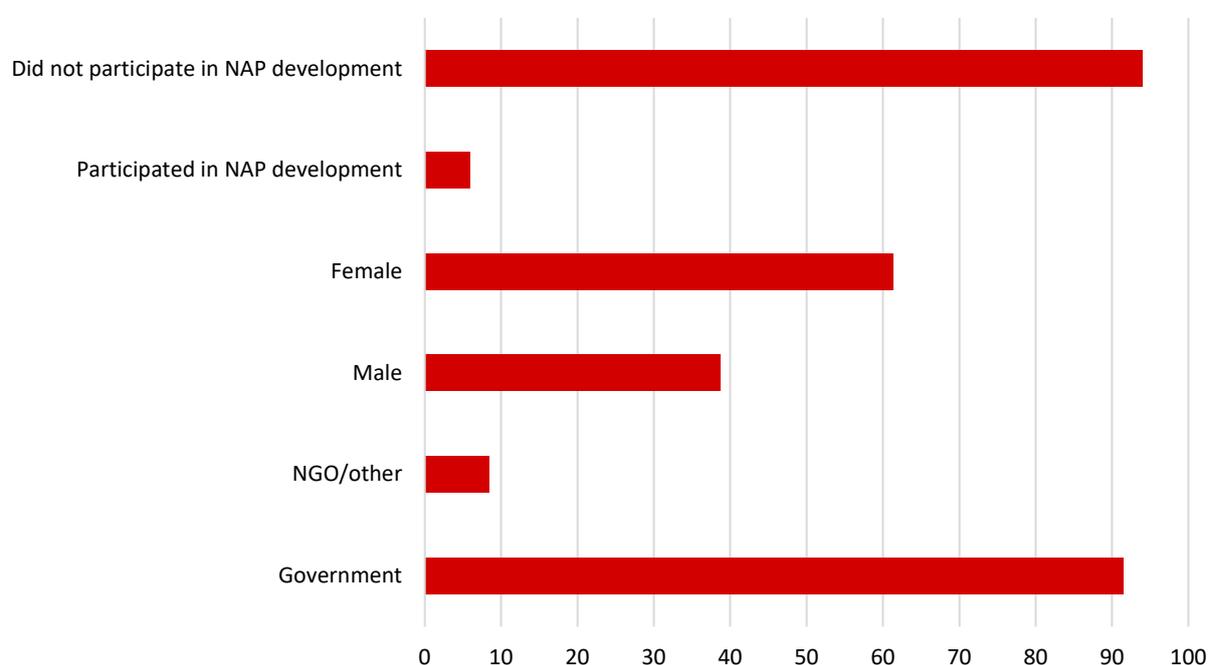
⁶ *The Final Evaluation Report of the Interreg IPA CBC Programme Greece – Albania 2014-2020 of the Managing Authority Of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes* (https://greece-albania.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/D.4-Final-Evaluation-Report_final.pdf)

- The members of the IMWGCC must
 - review the lists of projects collected under this sample, identify any missing projects in the line of their relevant sector, if any, assign a Rio marker adaptation as per the OECD guidelines described in this document and share them with MoTE;
 - update these lists eventually with any future adaptation projects on a case-by-case basis;
 - make sure that Rio markers adaptation (and mitigation) shall be assigned to all new project documents to be prepared by the relevant ministries;
 - share with MoTE information (table format) with future adaptation measures foreseen in their sectoral documents; and
 - engage in self-education on adaptation issues relevant for the state area of competence of their own sector through material that is freely available on different websites.
- MoTE must do the following:
 - prepare a comprehensive table with future adaptation initiatives/measures/projects for all sectors, with reference to the source of document that calls for such projects;
 - use all the potential resources, at both the international and national levels, to provide institutional training on adaptation and project management issues for the relevant staff of the line ministries, starting with the members of the IMWGCC. This should be addressed through a more strategic fine-tuning of the initiatives;
 - cooperate with the Albanian School of Public Administration for a regular and continuous update with adaptation and project management knowledge;
 - initiate and discuss with different donors regarding the project preparation and financing for an overall evaluation of their support with adaptation projects implemented in Albania in the period 2012–2022, to come up with concrete results on their relevance, effectiveness, impact, sustainability, etc.; and
 - establish an online sharing platform between the MoTE and line ministries represented in the IMWGCC for the following:
 - outcomes and reports (including administrative reports) of adaptation projects implementation, and
 - adaptation projects' monitoring, evaluation, learning and verification results.

5.0 Adaptive Management, Learning, and Main Findings

This section highlights the main perspectives of stakeholders regarding the implementation of Albania's NAP. The chart below provides a demographic breakdown of stakeholders who contributed to the First Progress Report. Most of the contributing stakeholders were female, constituting 61.3% of the total, while a significant majority, 91.5%, were employed in governmental agencies or organizations. It's noteworthy that 94% of these participants were not involved in the development of the NAP.

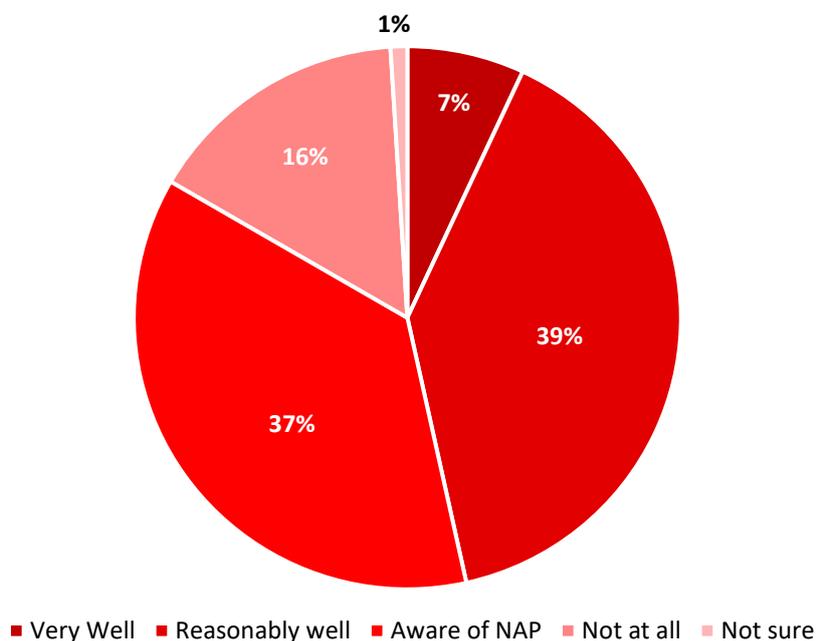
Figure 7. Stakeholders and participation in NAP development



5.1 General and Sectoral Knowledge of the NAP

According to the stakeholder perspectives presented in this section, a majority of the participants (83%) reported being aware of the NAP document and having some knowledge of the PAs that their institution or agency is responsible for. However, a significant portion (16%) of the interviewees reported not having heard about the NAP, which could be due to new officials being recruited who were not involved in its development or limited follow-up and communication after the document was adopted. Furthermore, only 37% of the stakeholders reported knowing the 15 PAs that are part of the NAP document. When questioned about the knowledge of the NAP within their sector, only the directorate responsible for climate change in the MoTE reported that the NAP is very well known.

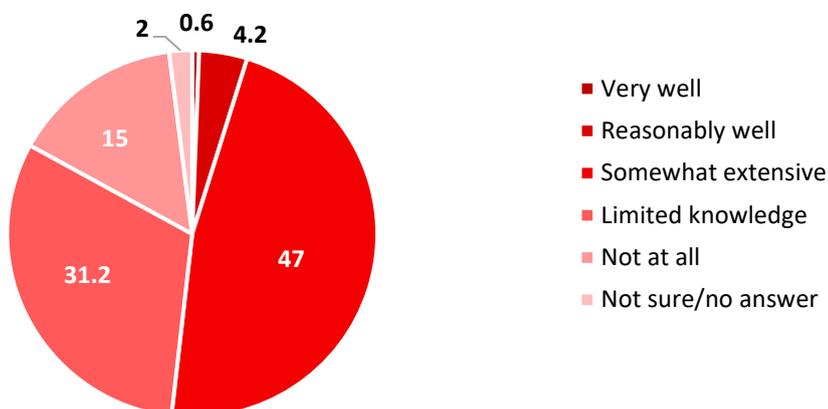
Figure 8. Responses to the question "How well do you know the goals and measures of the NAP, including the priority actions relevant to your agency?"



Questionnaires and bilateral meetings with stakeholders revealed that general information on NAP exists between civil servants that work in the MoTE, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of Health, Water Resource Management Agency, etc., 83% of whom rated their sector's knowledge as reasonably or somewhat extensive. However, only a small percentage of stakeholders are adequately knowledgeable about the NAP's contents and the specific PAs, goals, indicators, and actions relevant to their institution and/or sector.

Few stakeholders (e.g., Directorate of Forests and Biodiversity and Climate Change Directorate) reported active utilization of the document to guide climate change adaptation programming. The MoTE was the only institution that was aware of and recognized the need to integrate PAs and priorities of the institution in order to integrate climate change into projects and programs.

Figure 9. Knowledge of stakeholders on NAP document in their sector

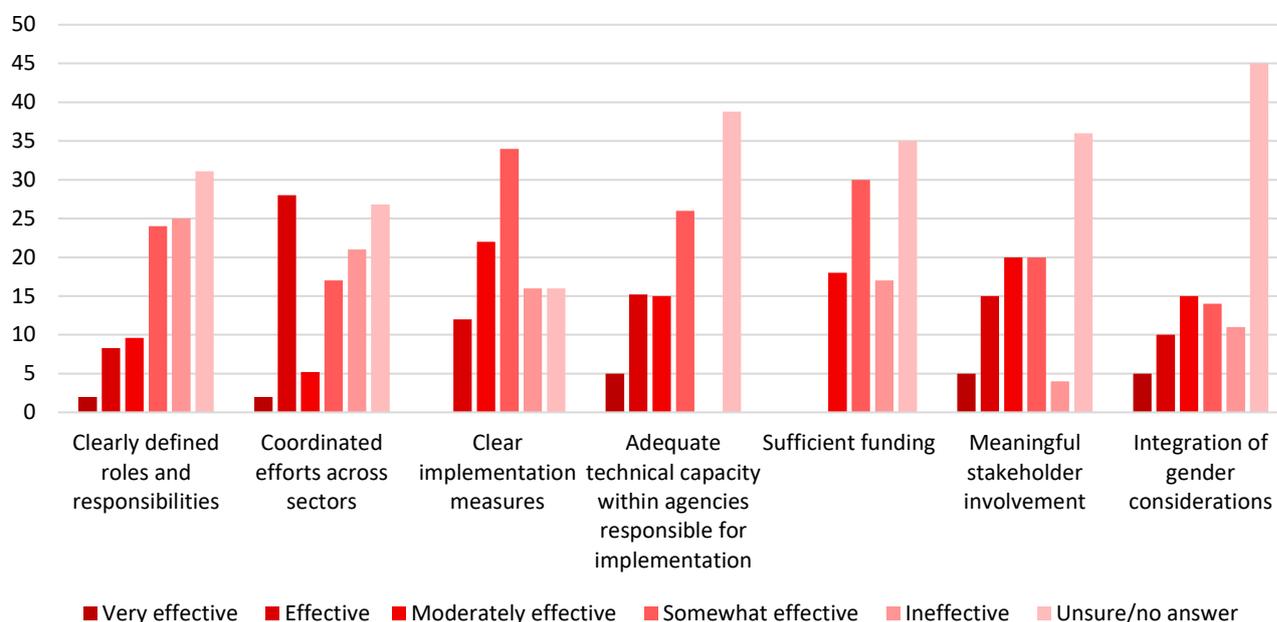


5.2 Effectiveness of NAP Implementation

As mentioned in the methodology, in order to evaluate the effectiveness in supporting implementation of the NAP, seven criteria were assessed to evaluate the levels of effectiveness. The criteria were decided in collaboration with the representatives of the working group during the workshop based on best practices that would be more relevant and similar to Albania. For this assessment, the IMWGCC considered the criteria that were developed for Grenada's first progress report of the NAP document, based on the data that were available and the similar structure of the NAP document of Grenada. The methodology highlights the key areas identified as crucial for effective NAP implementation:

- clearly defined roles and responsibilities,
- coordinated efforts across sectors,
- clear implementation measures,
- adequate technical capacity within agencies responsible for implementation,
- sufficient funding,
- meaningful stakeholder involvement, and
- integration of gender considerations.

Figure 10. Level of effectiveness in supporting NAP implementation



Due to a large number of experts that started to work in the government in the last 2 years, based on the graphic above, it is well noted that for almost all criteria assessed, a substantial percentage of representatives in the workshop indicated that they were unsure about the level of effectiveness. The graphic clearly shows the extent of stakeholders' engagement in NAP implementation.

Only a small number of stakeholders rated any of the criteria as effective or very effective. The criteria most commonly rated as effective were intersectoral coordination (30%), stakeholder involvement (20%), and agency technical capacity to support NAP implementation (20.2%).

Clarity of roles and responsibilities (25%) and intersectoral coordination (21%) were rated as the most ineffective criteria among those assessed.

Some of the answers collected during the exercise:

“When a policy document is drafted, or when a project proposal is sent for comments to the Directorate responsible for climate change, we always request that a reference should be made to NAP and an evaluation on how its implementation would impact the implementation of NAP.” [Climate Change Expert, MoTE].

“Since NAP is part of the National Climate Change Strategy, I thought that the Ministry of Tourism and Environment was the Ministry responsible for its implementation.” [Policy expert, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development].

“There is no information on the status of implementation of the NAP document. NGOs are rarely aware of projects implemented that have a positive impact on adaptation.” [Representative of NGO].

“Some of the projects that we are implementing have a positive impact on NAP implementation, but since I was not part of the NAP development process, I did not know that the project had an impact.” [Policy Expert, Water Resource Management Agency].

5.3 Highlights During NAP Implementation

1. Revitalization of the IMWGCC. The IMWGCC was established in 2014 by order of the Prime Minister. Focal points were appointed in the main institutions responsible for the implementation of the national strategy on climate change that would periodically report to the MoTE. As the country was hit by a devastating earthquake in November 2019 and the COVID-19 crisis, it has been very difficult to push the climate change agenda forward.

2. Mainstreaming climate change into other sectoral strategic documents. Even though it is not linked exclusively to the NAP, various stakeholders representing line ministries mentioned that they are integrating climate considerations into their sectoral planning.

3. Increased awareness about climate change adaptation. Different awareness-raising campaigns, mostly as components of other projects, bring about more awareness of the issue of climate change adaptation and its importance. Awareness in vulnerable communities helped to increase the capacity of government and local communities living near the KVLS to adapt to climate change using an integrated suite of adaptation interventions, including EbA.

4. Enhanced access to climate financing and strengthened partnerships with NGOs. The NCCS is deemed the most crucial document in the climate sector, reflecting Albania's commitment to the global community and its endeavours to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and boost resilience. A notable development has been the increased engagement of the NGO community in national

sustainable development efforts. The Directorate for Climate Change reported augmented collaboration with NGOs for securing climate financing. For instance, the Urban Research Institute (URI), a local NGO, has drafted numerous funding proposals based on the NCCS. These proposals have been endorsed by the MoTE as they contribute to the implementation of climate change adaptation measures. This strategy has resulted in two significant benefits: enhanced access to climate finance and expanded collaborative opportunities with NGOs.

5.4 Challenges

1. Climate change adaptation capacity and knowledge gaps. There is a pervasive lack of institutional knowledge and capabilities relating to climate change, not only at a national level but also at local levels. Based on interviews with civil servants, the response to climate change adaptation is notably inadequate due to a lack of sufficient knowledge and skills to address the impacts of climate change. The low level of awareness on climate change issues among key stakeholders, including national government, local government authorities, civil society and the private sector, can be evidenced when assessed that climate change is not effectively articulated in all the existing policy documents.

2. Mainstreaming climate change concerns. Only a limited number of national policies have addressed the concerns pertaining to climate change and its adverse impacts on various economic sectors. Discussions with local-level officials revealed that they lack guidelines that are helpful in implementing climate change policies. The workshop revealed that there is a lack of consultation between the local government units and national policy-makers, even though the policy formulation process is said to be participatory and inclusive. Most sectoral strategic documents analyzed have existed for more than a decade and should be revised. The responsible institutions and other non-state actors should plan to integrate climate change in the next update processes.

3. Budget allocation restrictions. Climate change budget allocation relies mainly on financial support from bilateral and multilateral donor arrangements and public and private sector funds. Most climate financing in Albania is highly dependent on the international community. One of the difficulties in implementing the climate change adaptation PAs is the lack of an effective and sustainable national financing mechanism. Implementation is low because the actions foreseen in the plan have not been included in mid-term budget planning by the institutions responsible for each sector.

4. Lack of capacities and human resources. While there is increased awareness and commitment from politicians to counter the adverse effects of climate change, as well as a growing political will to understand the urgency and potential costs of insufficient climate action, this has not been clearly translated into the allocation of human, financial, and other resources. This is necessary to achieve the level of adaptation required. All the representatives of the ministries or agencies mentioned human resources as a bottleneck for NAP implementation. Key staff that were part of the ministries during the NAP development are not working for the government anymore; therefore, there is a lack of capacity as well. It was highlighted the limited capacities to effectively address the threats and potential impacts of climate change to develop viable adaptation solutions is identified as an important potential barrier to its implementation.

5. Impact of the earthquake and COVID-19 pandemic. The earthquake in November 2019 and the COVID-19 crisis slowed down activities planned for 2020–2021.

6. Social-inclusion agenda in climate change adaptation. For effective implementation of adaptation PAs and resilience building to climate change impacts, Albania needs to make a clear distinction of how climate change affects different social groups and move beyond women and men toward gender and social inclusion. This means incorporating all diverse social groups into the NAP process and ensuring their specific needs are addressed.

Stakeholders' Thoughts Regarding Key Challenges

"We need people with the right capacities to address climate change. People who really understand and can explain in a very simple language to the farmers what climate change is and how to tackle climate change issues." [Agriculture expert, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development]

"Yes, we have the National Forest Policy; actually, the policy is here but enforcement is the problem. That is what we still need, to enforce the implementation." [Forest expert, MoTE]

"Albania's preparedness to address climate change or adapt to climate change has been hindered due to limited financial resources. Lack of funds is a big challenge because we actually need to create awareness of climate change adaptation for people all over and this requires financial support." [Finance expert, Ministry of Finance and Economy]

6.0 Mainstreaming of Climate Change Adaptation Into Policies/Plans/Strategies

Adaptation mainstreaming is relevant for both overarching development policies and sector policies. The process of embedding climate change considerations into budgeting will be monitored across the 15 PAs, with surveys conducted at the prime minister's office, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MIE), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE), Health and Civil Protection Agency, and the Water Resources Management Agency. The methodology for tracking the integration of CCA into policies/plans/strategies is based on the questions and tables described in Annex G.

Following the approval of the NCCS, the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant sector plans and policies is a core principle for the NAP process in Albania. Measures to integrate climate change into projects, legislation, and activities are already underway for several sectors, including the overarching National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI). Given the pervasive nature of the climate change challenge, it is imperative that adaptation strategies are incorporated into all levels of governance, including legislation, project planning, resource allocation, implementation, and monitoring.

Revised NDC 2021–2030

Following the Paris Agreement, the Republic of Albania adopted the revised NDC document through the Council of Ministers Decision No. 581 on 06.10.2021. This revised NDC, submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat prior to COP 26, sets a target to reduce Albania's carbon dioxide emissions by 20.9%. This commitment forms part of Albania's broader national climate agenda and its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The updated NDC 2021–2030 broadens its scope by incorporating climate change adaptation measures and by striving to integrate climate change adaptation into pertinent development and sectoral strategies. This expansion covers more geographic regions and sectors than the initial NDC, which lacked an adaptation component.

The revised NDC is also in harmony with Albania's post-earthquake/disaster and COVID-19 green recovery strategies and plans. The proposed adaptation measures, particularly those focusing on the built environment and disaster risk management, align with the guiding principles of Albania's post-disaster needs assessments. These principles specifically aim to achieve reconstruction and recovery in a manner that increases the resilience of infrastructures, ecosystems, the environment, and vulnerable communities to future disasters, including anthropogenic and climate shocks, and to promote adaptation to climate change by introducing specific measures into sectoral recovery and reconstruction programs.

The revised NDC is also aligned and contributes to the UN's Albania COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery and Response Plan, which complements the Government of Albania's National Response Plan and the National Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan. The revised NDC supports the need to invest in a low-carbon and resilient economy by promoting clean, green, sustainable, and resilient investments, ensuring post-COVID-19 green recovery.

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

The degree of integration of adaptation issues into the NDC document was evaluated as **rather strong**.

NSDI 2022 to 2030

The Council of Ministers approved the NSDI 2022–2030 by DCM no. 88, dated January 2, 2023. The vision is a “strong and stable economy for Albania through a path of zero emissions and Green Economic Growth.” The NSDI highlights the importance of determining, defining, and mobilizing the financial resources and other resources necessary to protect Albania from the effects of climate change, as well as the transition toward a path with climate resilience and zero emissions.

For the implementation of this goal, it is important to do the following:

- integrate climate change in strategies, political documents, or sectoral action plans; and
- create specific institutional processes and guidelines, with the aim of integrating the priority measures of the NDC 2021–2030 and the national strategy for climate change and NAP in the medium-term budget planning process with key measurable indicators.

Some of the most important interventions envisaged to achieve the priority measures are:

- completion of primary and secondary legislation in the field of climate change as well as the integration of climate issues in all affected sectors until 2027;
- integration of mitigation and adaptation measures into public budgeting until 2025 and national and local strategic documents until 2030;
- institutional and organizational reform, strengthening of government structures, and the provision of financial and human resources in order to generate and provide public data on climate and its effects in the key sectors of the economy, security, and health of the population until 2029;
- building of a national platform for information exchange and services for climate to ensure institutional interaction for the use of these data until 2030;
- adaptation and implementation of integrated, EbA measures and/or nature-based solutions at the local and central level by 2027; and
- piloting and replication of innovative measures in sectors related to mitigation and adaptation to climate effects (such as integrated waste management, mobility, agriculture, forestry, urban planning, infrastructure, energy, etc.) until 2026.

The degree of integration of adaptation issues into the NSDI 2022–2030 document was evaluated as **strong**.

The Policy Document for Forests in Albania 2019 to 2030

The Council of Ministers approved by Decision no. 814, dated December 31, 2018, the Policy Document for Forests in Albania,⁷ serves as a forestry strategy for 2019 to 2030 and recognizes the tremendous importance of forest resources in the territory of the Republic of Albania for environmentally sound social and economic development. The objective of the policy document is to

⁷ <https://turizmi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/DPP-17.12.2018.pdf>

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

manage forest resources efficiently to build Albania's climate resilience through appropriate climate change adaptation and mitigation actions. The implementation of the interventions foreseen in this document will reduce our country's vulnerability and help it adapt to climate change.

Although the revised national forest policy was not approved at the time that the NAP was adopted, its development and implementation have direct positive implications for the attainment of PAs 7, 11, 14, and 15.

The new Law No. 57/2020 "On Forests" mentions climate change but not adaptation to climate change specifically.

The degree of integration of adaptation issues into the Policy Document for Forests in Albania was evaluated as **weak**.

Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries Strategy, 2021 to 2027

The Council of Ministers has approved Decision No. 460, dated June 29, 2022, "for the approval of the agriculture, rural development and fisheries strategy, 2021–2027." This targets the sustainable management of natural resources and the undertaking of climate actions through:

- better management of forests and water resources and the application of agricultural production methods, protecting the environment and mitigating the effects of climate change;
- increasing the number of certified organic farms; and
- increasing the number of farms that have non-agricultural income.

The degree of integration of adaptation issues into the agriculture, rural development and fisheries strategy was evaluated as **weak**.

National Strategy for DRR and Action Plan 2023 to 2030

Albania has taken a significant step toward building a safer and more resilient nation by adopting the new National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Action Plan (2023 to 2030).

This document is in line with the Sendai Framework and EU guidelines, and it strengthens Albania's capacity to manage and consider the impact of climate change on reducing the risk from exposure, with a special focus on women and vulnerable groups.

The adoption of these national DRR strategic and planning documents demonstrates Albania's commitment to improving its mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery ability to disasters. It also serves as an example for other countries in the region grappling with the effects of disasters and climate change.

The degree of integration of adaptation issues into the civil defense and DRR strategy was evaluated as **rather strong**

7.0 Contribution of the NAP to Reducing Vulnerability and Building Adaptive Capacity

Although Albania lacks a comprehensive vulnerability assessment, the initial NAP cycle didn't sufficiently reduce vulnerability or build adaptive capacity to manage climate risks. This shortfall was due to a low completion rate for planned measures and a high proportion of unactioned measures. However, additional measures not listed in the NAP somewhat mitigated this inactivity, meaning the NAP's completion rates only offer a partial view of national progress.

Approximately 63% of the NAP measures were not designed for direct risk reduction, making significant climate risk decreases in the first NAP cycle unlikely. Vulnerability reduction and capacity enhancement are long-term goals and are unlikely to be fully achieved within a 5-year period. However, the NAP has positively impacted the institutional framework and the enabling environment, setting the stage for further adaptation by 2035.

Challenges faced during implementation can be transformed into opportunities for the next NAP cycle. A proactive, results-oriented strategy is needed for effective implementation, targeting transformative objectives at national and sectoral levels and backed by reliable data. This strategy should be cognizant of what can be realistically achieved within a 5-year cycle, considering available and anticipated human resources. Without robust implementation, the NAP, while a significant national instrument, will have limited impact on enhancing Albania's climate resilience.

8.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

The following is a list of recommendations that follows the description and analysis of the situation with adaptation at all levels, since the preparation (2017) and the approval (2019) of the first NAP and the report *National Capacity and Training Needs Assessment on CCA* prepared under this project. They should be considered for the preparation of the measures of the second NAP (2023 to 2033). For ease of reference, recommendations have been organized according to major areas of need.

CCA Policy, Planning, and Implementation

In order to comply with the UNFCCC, EU climate *Acquis*⁸ and the requirements of the national climate legislation, the following actions are needed:

- Assess the current mainstreaming level of adaptation and DRM into sectoral policies and plans and fully integrate as appropriate into the agriculture and rural development, energy, transport, tourism, urban development, National Territorial Plan, development plans of the eight municipalities, the integrated cross-sectoral coastal plan, to the NSDI, mid-term budget, the post-2020 Public Finance Management Strategy, etc. This implies explicit objectives related to the resilience of the sector to climate change, as well as activities to achieve them.
- Implement the revised NDC (2021) and its adaptation-related measures.
- Access new technology for climate proofing to adapt the supporting built environment and residential and productive infrastructure, touristic accommodation, and assets and health (and other social) facilities.
- MoTE must build up an overall umbrella list of future adaptation initiatives/measures/projects/ideas/concept notes for the priority sectors, municipalities, river basins, etc., as identified through different policy documents (e.g., NDC, NC4, the country program for Albania, different sectoral strategies/plans, municipal development plans, etc.) with reference to the source of document that calls for such projects and share it with the relevant sectors/line ministries through the IMWGCC.

Institutional Strengthening for NAP

- Strengthen the cross-sectoral collaboration and coordination mechanisms between ministries and relevant stakeholders in the NAP process through the proper functioning of the IMWGCC.
- Design clear institutional mandates for institutions concerned by climate change law/CCA mainstreaming/NAP/IMWGCC.
- Enhance institutional arrangements to coordinate, monitor, and implement climate change and NAP.

⁸ Acquis is the Climate Legislation package of the EU that includes treaties and laws, declarations and resolutions, international agreements on EU affairs and the judgments given by the Court of Justice.

- Amend the job description of the people in the line ministries involved with the IMWGCC with clear roles and responsibilities related to climate change and the IMWGCC.
- Enhance the systems for monitoring and performance evaluation of the staff involved with the IMWGCC.
- Establish a participatory process with relevant stakeholders.
- With the support of the IMWGCC members, establish at MoTE a multistakeholder platform⁹ on adaptation that facilitates the horizontal and vertical coordination mechanisms, policy alignment, and information exchange, sharing adaptation projects outcomes and reports with MoTE, planning and reporting on the NAP implementation:
 - Record the list of past and ongoing adaptation projects, including implementation outcomes and reports of the line ministries represented in the IMWGCCA, adaptation projects' monitoring, evaluation, learning and verification results, etc.
 - Build up an overall umbrella list of future adaptation initiatives/measures/projects/ideas/concept notes for the priority sectors, municipalities, river basins, etc., as identified through different policy documents (e.g., NDC, NC4, the country program for Albania, different sectoral strategies/plans, municipal development plans, etc.) with reference to the source of document that calls for such projects and share it with the relevant sectors/line ministries through the IMWGCC.

Human Resources for NAP

- Gradually employ seven more specialists in the Albanian public administration dealing with climate change/adaptation: two at MoTE, five at the National Environmental Agency (NEA), and one at MoIE. Some of the responsibilities of the experts working in the MoTE and MoIE would be to draft policies and make sure that CCA is mainstreamed into sectoral policies and projects. Five employees at NEA are needed for climate change mitigation and adaptation for putting the MRV system in place and collaborating with the different institutions to gather data.
- MoTE must utilize all the potential resources, at both the international and national levels, to provide institutional training on adaptation and project management issues for the relevant staff of the line ministries, starting with the members of the CCA Working Group. Increase their capacities to deal with adaptation planning, coordination, implementation and reporting procedures.
 - make use of international projects to increase the capacities of the public administration at both central and local levels;
 - inspire/inform the public administration at both central and local levels to engage in self-education on adaptation issues relevant for the state area of competence of their own sector through material that is freely available on different websites;

⁹ The use of IPSIS would consolidate the role of the IMWGCC, information exchange, knowledge sharing, climate change strategies/plans, action plans harmonization.

- evaluate the possibility of developing learning platforms to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best practices; and
- Establish a CCA and NAP training program at the Albanian School of Public Administration for regular and continuous training and update of the central and local administration with adaptation and project management knowledge. Engage, among others, IGEO to provide academic teaching and experience.
- Make sure the training program covers the main topics revealed by the self-assessment process, such as:
 - climate change finance, national and international funding mechanisms, standards, and practice on climate finances, develop proposals for accessing funding, approach adaptation funding available at the EU and international level to comply with UNFCCC, EU, and national legislation requirements;
 - climate technologies (mitigation and adaptation measures and technologies; technology linked to NAP);
 - climate change impacts on vulnerable groups (disproportionate impacts of climate change on women);
 - CCA mainstreaming (reinforcing capacity and ability to integrate and implement national adaptation processes; public–private cooperation on adaptation);
 - international context (UNFCCC and other global obligations on CCA; EU perspective on CCA; reporting process on CCA; etc.);
 - climate change vulnerability impacts and resilience, focusing on vulnerability and adaptation assessments, risk assessment, monitoring, plan implementation, and so on;
 - testing and evaluation of the trainees at the end of the training program for the knowledge acquired.

Financing for NAP

- Integrate climate change considerations and criteria in the guidance, procedures, and methodologies used for the selection and appraisal of public investment programs/projects and financing (including climate change risks and vulnerabilities relevant for the project objectives, activities and outcomes that contribute to adaptation and climate resilience).
- Through the IMWGCC, ensure that future programs/projects be conceived following a multi-sectoral analysis and in a balanced way between them.
- Funding should be primarily and increasingly directed to reduce the climate vulnerability and adaptation, to implement policies and measures that increase the resilience of economic sectors to natural and anthropogenic hazards caused by natural climate variability and anthropogenic climate change. Funding should be used for investments that help the country to better cope with climate change impacts.
- As per the OECD/DAC guidance (2016), implement the use of Rio markers for Adaptation during the program or project document preparation and before implementation. This is to enable tracking of the financing for all climate adaptation projects or those with integrated adaptation strategies, across all sectors and line ministries.

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

- Build and keep records of adaptation financing statistics.
- Make use of the EU and international funding available for CCA as described under Section 5.6 of this stocktaking report.
- Push the engagement of the private sector as a funding source for adaptation action because the focus has mainly been on the public sector. Increase the interest of local businesses to take adaptation actions in order to avoid damages that can affect their work and their income.

M&E of Adaptation Projects

- MoTE must initiate a discussion with different donor(s) on the project preparation and financing for independent evaluation of their overall support with adaptation projects implemented in Albania in the period from 2012 to 2022, to come up with concrete results on their relevance, effectiveness, impact and sustainability, value added and cost-effectiveness, lessons learned, recommendations to enhance efficiency and effectiveness, or to replicate and/or to scale up in Albania.

9.0 Annexes

A. List of Institutions and Individuals Interviewed

Institution	Name	Last name	Designation
MoTE	Eneida	Rabdishta	Climate change expert
	Klodiana	Marika	Director
	Rovena	Agalliu	Air quality expert
	Lediana	Karalliu	Head of waste sector
	Ylli	Hoxha	Head of forest sector
	Enkeleda	Vehbiu	Tourism expert
Prime Minister's Office	Evis	Qaja	Director of policies and good governance
Ministry of Finance and Economy	Gentian	Opra	Director of budget analysis and programming department
	Emanuela	Xhelita	Expert of budget analysis
The National Environmental Agency	Enkeleda	Shkurta	Head of information sector, GIS and environmental registers
National Agency of Natural Resources	Renata	Aliko	Head of data sector
Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Bledar	Aliaj	Director of policies and strategies in the field of energy and industry sector
	Enea	Karakaci	General director
	Jonida	Rika	Head of sector at the Directorate of Policies and Strategies in the field of energy and industry sector
Ministry for Health and Social Protection	Merita	Xhafaj	General director, general directorate of health policy and development
Public Health Institute	Elida	Mataj	Head of environmental epidemiology and air quality control sector
Ministry of Defence	Razlind	Shytaj	Captain of Rank III
National Agency of Civil Protection	Dukate	Dodaj	Expert of civil emergencies
	Fatjona	Xhaferraj	Expert
	Nereida	Lalmi	Expert
	Andi	Pogaci	Policy expert
	Jonida	Kalani	Expert
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Lauresha	Grezhda	Director of agriculture policies
INSTAT	Denis	Kristo	Director of agriculture and environment statistics
	Ndue	Cuni	Statistics on environment and forestry
Other donors	Mirela	Kamberi	UNDP
	Laureta	Dibra	UNDP
	Merita	Meksi	GIZ
	Arben	Kipi	FAO
	Viola	Agasi	UNEP

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

Institution	Name	Last name	Designation
IGEO	Ylber	Muceku	Director
	Irena	Ymeti	Hydrology expert
Academia	Albana	Hasimi	Polytechnic University of Tirana, Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment - Expert at climate and environment department
	Ornela	Shoshi	Polis University
NGOs	Lira	Hakani	Project coordinator, EDEN Center
	Endri	Haxhiraj	Director, Institute for Environmental Policy
	Ergi	Bregasi	Project coordinator, EDEN Center

B. List of the 15 Albanian NAP PAs and 31 Goals

Subject area	Rationale/main goals	Potential substantial elements	Responsible actors
Overarching actions/implementation framework			
No. 1: Steering of the adaptation process in Albania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure process character of NAP beyond adaptation of NAP document. Ensure implementation of measures envisaged in the NAP document. Ensure necessary adjustments of NAP process based on experiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delegate powers to the Ministry responsible for climate change, the Ministry of Tourism and the Environment. Ensure regular meetings of IMWGCC for general steering and on selected key topics for each session. Develop overall process roadmap including timelines, responsibilities, and resources. Regular review and update of NAP process. Link with M&E and reporting mechanism. 	MoTE (lead) Prime minister office (involved)
No. 2: Overarching mainstreaming initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change adaptation is reflected in NSDI and sector strategies. Climate change adaptation is being promoted in accession assistance in line with the EU climate policy objectives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote mainstreaming concepts and tools (climate proofing, climate lens, climate sensitive, strategic environmental assessment, etc.). Coordinate mainstreaming pilots in Albania. Climate change adaptation mainstreaming in NSDI implementation. Climate change adaptation mainstreaming into the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) process. 	MoTE Support: Relevant donors
No. 3: Climate finance readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successfully access Albania's public budget for financing NAP implementation. Gain indirect or direct access to GCF funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up a climate finance unit. Develop strategic framework. Climate budgeting/labelling pilots. Promote access to climate finance. Ensure learning and innovation. 	Ministry of Tourism and Environment/ND A (lead) UNDP (support)

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

	for Albania's NAP implementation.		
No. 4: Implementation monitoring system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess progress toward the climate resilience objectives. Establish RBM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall concept of RBM system. Gap analysis of existing M&E systems. Institutional setup for M&E. Operationalize M&E system with regular reporting. 	<p>MoTE (lead)</p> <p>Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy</p> <p>Institute of GeoScience, Energy, Water and Environment</p>
No. 5: Public information and involvement initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of relevant public institutions on climate change adaptation. Raising awareness and involvement of civil society on climate change adaptation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building for public institutions. Outreach through educational institutions. Civil society outreach and involvement. Extension of information for relevant economic sectors. 	<p>MoTE</p> <p>Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth</p> <p>Universities</p> <p>Media</p> <p>NGOs</p>
No. 6: Initiative for capacity building on climate change adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support through targeted trainings to raise the knowledge and personal skills of actors and stakeholders involved in the NAP process. The development of institutional structures, regulations, and policies in selected sectors of the NAP process are supported by donors and institutions of excellence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess training needs and elaborate training plan. Conduct trainings. Selected measures of institutional capacity building. 	<p>MoTE</p> <p>UNDP</p> <p>Donor agencies</p>
Sector-wise and cross-sector strategic actions			
No. 7: Climate-resilient irrigation,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calculation of water needs and supply potential for crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recalculate irrigation needs in a changing climate. Assess flood risks. 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural</p>

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

drainage and flood protection	<p>with consideration of climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrastructure improvement and maintenance for irrigation and flood protection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Select PAs on flood risk management based on the above-mentioned assessments. ▪ Training. 	<p>Development (lead)</p> <p>Local governments</p>
No. 8: Integrated water resources management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Climate change adaptation measures are adequately reflected in the implementation plan and process for pilot River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) and will be also part of the new RBMPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into the RBMPs. ▪ The implementation process for the RBMPs will be designed in a way that climate change is adequately reflected during implementation. 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>National Water Council</p>
No. 9: Adaptation in agriculture sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adaptation to climate change in agricultural sector through farm protection, crop yield management, information systems and livestock management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adapted agricultural practices and infrastructure. ▪ Improved information services for farmers. 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>National Food Authority</p> <p>Local government</p> <p>Farmers</p>
No. 10: Promote implementation of adaptation strategy for health sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Apply best approaches for vector control, public health measures and preparedness for extreme events (heat waves). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public awareness and training. ▪ Capacity building for health institutions. 	<p>Ministry of Health and Social Protection</p> <p>Institute of Public Health</p> <p>Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment (IGEWE)</p> <p>National Food Authority</p>
No. 11: Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast (ICPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote adaptation in coastal areas through local plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introducing and adapting the EU instruments and policies relevant to coastal areas' ecosystems and biodiversity. 	<p>MoIE/National Territorial Planning Agency</p> <p>Municipalities</p>

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement of legislation related to construction in the coastal area. Improve the management of coastal areas. Erosion control. Buildings and climate change. Concrete pilot projects. 	Universities NGOs
No. 12: Initiative for municipal adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipalities are capacitated for local climate change adaptation plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a guide that would facilitate the municipalities with simple know-how on how to integrate climate change adaptation into the city planning. Trainings, advisory services. Pilot measures for local adaptation measures. 	MoIE/National Territorial Planning Agency Municipalities
No. 13: Adaptation in tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated tourism sector objectives and plans reflecting climate change impacts are being developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the necessary legal basis, general or sectoral strategies, action plans etc. which will include the appropriate policies and measures. Prepare a sectoral strategy taking in consideration climate issues. Support local and national sectors dealing with climate change. 	MoTE
No. 14: Upgrading civil defence preparedness and DRR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the capacity of the Albanian general directorate for civil emergencies to prevent and respond to climate-related disaster management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a regional flood hazard map following EU flood directive. Preparation of a floods early warning system and its integration into the European flood awareness system (EFAS). Cost-benefit analysis, prioritization, and financing of measures in strengthening flood warning systems. Awareness/visibility/communication: improve flood awareness of the public by informing on the risk, early warning systems and the plan to follow in case of an emergency. Support Albania in preparing for membership to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM). Support to IGEWE for the strengthening of hydrometeorological network and services. 	Ministry of Interior Affairs IGEWE
No. 15: Building the resilience of the Kune-Vaini lagoon system (KVLS) through	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The climate change effects into the KVLS will be addressed through an integrated suite of adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the capacity of government and local communities living nearby the KVLS to adapt to climate change using an integrated suite of adaptation interventions, including EbA. 	MoTE Global Environment Facility (GEF)

ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)	interventions including EbA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build the climate resilience of the KVLS using demonstration of best practice and concrete EbA and other adaptation interventions. Increase awareness of local and national stakeholders to climate change risks and the potential of EbA to increase the resilience of local communities to climate change. 	UNEP
----------------------------------	------------------------------	---	------

C. National, Regional, and Sectoral Documents Reviewed for This Progress Report

Type	Main focus	Name	Year	Available
Regional (EU) and global policy frameworks	EU	EU Green deal	2019	Yes
		EU Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans	2020	Yes
		EU Green Agenda for the Western Balkans	2020	Yes
National long-term strategies		Vision 2030 or similar		No
		National Strategy on Development Integration 2015–2020 (and the new one if available)	2015	Yes
		National Territorial Plan 2015–2030		No
		Environmental cross-cutting strategy 2015–2020	2015	Yes
		Albania post-earthquake needs assessment	2020	Yes
		UN Albania COVID-19 Socio-economic recovery and response plan	2020	Yes
	Coastal area	Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast (draft)	2015	Yes
		Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan for the Coast 2030	2017	Yes
		Integrated Cross-Sectoral Plan of Tirana-Durres Area 2030.	2017	Yes
	Sectoral long-term strategies	Energy	Energy Strategy	2018
Transport		Sustainable Transport Sector Plan	2015	Yes
Tourism		National Strategy for Sustainable Tourism Development 2019-2023	No date (probably 2019)	Yes
Climate Change	Cross-cutting (mitigation and adaptation)	National Climate Change Strategy	2019	Yes
		First National Communication	2002	Yes
		Second National Communication	2009	Yes
		Third National Communication	2016	Yes
	Adaptation	Biennial Update Report (BUR)	2020	Yes
		Revised NDC 2021–2030	2021	Yes

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

	National Adaptation Plan	2019	Yes
Adaptation	Third National Communication	2014	Yes
Adaptation (human settlements, population and tourism)	Draft Fourth National Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate scenarios Socio-economic scenarios 	2020	Yes
Adaptation (Scenarios)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bank's Climate Change Knowledge Portal 	2020	Yes
	Draft Fourth National Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DRR Health Water resources Agriculture and forestry Soils Gender 	2020	Yes
Adaptation (settlements , population and tourism)	Tirana Adaptation Action Plan	2015	Yes
Adaptation (sub-national)	South of the country, including some stretches of the coast: Vjose river basin: assessment of hydro-ecological and socio-economic systems of the Vjosa river	2017	Yes
	Southwestern of Albania: regions of Vlora, Gjirokastra and Berat (unclear whether it covers coastal areas): assessment of the social impact of flooding in Albania	2016	Yes
	Northern Adriatic coast of Albania: Drini- Mati River deltas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy paper: Climate Change Adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Delta and Beyond Project synthesis report	2013	Yes
	Northern Adriatic coast of Albania, Lezha region: MTR of the project "Building the Resilience of Kune-Vaini lagoon through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)" ¹⁰	2019	Yes
Others	UN Women Albania: "Gender Inequality and Floods Impacts in Albania"	2016	No
	INSTAT: Men and women in Albania	2019	Yes

¹⁰ The Kune-Vaini lagoon system is part of the Drini-Mati River deltas.

D. Questionnaire for Stakeholders

Clarity of roles and responsibilities and intersectoral coordination

- a. How effective are governance structures for adaptation at the national level?
 1. Very effective
 2. Effective
 3. Moderately effective
 4. Somewhat effective
 5. Ineffective
 6. Unsure/no answer
- b. How clear are the role and responsibilities in implementing the NAP?
 1. Very effective
 2. Effective
 3. Moderately effective
 4. Somewhat effective
 5. Ineffective
 6. Unsure/no answer
- c. How effective is the coordination of adaptation across scales to ensure coherence and effectiveness of adaptation?
 1. Very effective
 2. Effective
 3. Moderately effective
 4. Somewhat effective
 5. Ineffective
 6. Unsure/no answer
- d. How is coordination with other sectors on climate change adaptation?
 1. Very effective
 2. Effective
 3. Moderately effective
 4. Somewhat effective
 5. Ineffective
 6. Unsure/no answer

Agency's capacity for NAP's implementation: stakeholder's awareness, risk assessments

- a. How would you rate your sector's knowledge on climate risks?
- b. How would you rate your sector's knowledge on climate adaptation?
- c. How would you rate your sector's overall technical capacity on CCA?
- d. What are your sector's main capacity needs to support the NAP implementation?

Financing: support for adaptation, budgeting

- a. What are the main technical and financial support for nation adaptation efforts from local, regional, and international mechanisms?
- b. How well integrated are adaptation activities into the medium-term budget and reporting process?

Information sharing: knowledge on climate change

- a. How is the collection, compilation, processing, and dissemination of data, information, and knowledge on climate change being done?
- b. Have climate risks and vulnerability been assessed in your sector?

- c. Does your sector have access to reliable weather and climate projections?

Cross-cutting issues: gender consideration and M&E

- a. How has the topic of gender and social inclusion been considered in the implementation of the NAP?
- b. How is M&E of adaptation currently being done? What are the existing M&E systems in place?

E. Implementation Status of the NAP's Adaptation Measures by PA

Measures Reported as Completed – Albania's NAP, 2019–2023

PA 1:

- Establish a climate change (CC) unit at MoE.

PA 2:

- The IMWGCC will decide upon one mainstreaming pilot per year to be conducted by a relevant sector ministry and supported by MoE in connection with expert inputs.

PA 3:

- Capacity development for NDA and climate unit at MoE, engaging stakeholders including from NAP process.
- Request GCF readiness support.

PA 5:

- Develop a training needs assessment and provide targeted training inputs to relevant staff of public institutions.
- Develop climate change education modules and launch school campaigns.
- Strengthen awareness through campaigns (media, civil organizations, etc.).

PA 6:

- MoE will develop a consistent training plan with support of donors active in this area. The training plan will specify for which action of the NAP process which knowledge gaps have to be addressed. The plan will also specify resources and support for the training inputs.

PA 8:

- Climate change experts (e.g., involved in the Climate Change Adaptation in Western Balkans program) will be involved in the consultation process to take advantage of previous experiences in adaptation processes in Albania and to give more guidance on preparing RBMPs related to the climate change aspect.
- The implementation process for the RBMPs will be designed in a way that climate change is adequately reflected during implementation.

PA 9:

- Strengthening the human capacities on adapting to climate change for farmers through trainings and workshops.

PA 10:

- Public awareness of climate change impacts on health. Include health-related impacts from climate change into awareness campaigns under PA 6.

PA 15:

- Conduct trainings for national and local government representatives on EbA.
- Prepare technical guidelines produced on implementation of climate change adaptation actions using EbA.
- An integrated suite of adaptation interventions including EbA implemented in the KVLS.
- A strategy for monitoring the EbA interventions is developed.
- Awareness-raising campaign conducted on the advantages of EbA to increase resilience to climate change impacts.

Measures Reported as Partially Completed – Albania's NAP, 2019 to 2023

PA 2:

- CCA mainstreaming can be supported and operationalized through a box of different tools such as climate lens, climate proofing, climate sensitive strategic environmental assessment, and climate expenditures markers (labelling). This toolbox will be elaborated and specified for the Albanian situation through an expert input.
- The EU Climate Strategy will be used as a key guidance for mainstreaming climate change into the financial assistance within the IPA framework. MoE will ensure consistency of the EU Climate Strategy with the NAP.

PA 5:

- Organize public involvement and debate on adaptation-related activities.
- Include climate information in extension services for farmers.

PA 9:

- Strengthening the capacities in the research institutes in regard to climate change adaptation.

PA 13:

- Provide the necessary legal basis, general or sectoral strategies, action plans, etc., which will include the appropriate policies and measures.
- Prepare a sectoral strategy taking in consideration climate issues.

- Preparation of a floods early warning system and improving communication and data exchange with European flood awareness system (EFAS), by end of 2019.

Measures Reported as Ongoing – Albania's NAP, 2019 to 2023

PA 1:

- Capacity building for focal points by donors.
- Ensure regular meetings of the IMWGCC for general steering and on selected key topics for each session. The IMWGCC meetings will include regular reporting by the responsible sector ministries on progress of their PAs.

PA 2:

- EU assistance will be required for systematically tracking the expenditures within the IPA framework under climate aspects. The reporting on the EU assistance will include conclusions regarding the extent of climate mainstreaming.

PA 3:

- Increasing access to climate finance (within 24 months).

PA 5:

- Capacity development for public institutions.
- Improve communication among and distribution of climate-relevant information to public institutions.
- Outreach through educational institutions.
- Include climate change knowledge in relevant educational curricula.
- Civil society outreach and involvement.

PA 6:

- Selected measures of institutional capacity development will be supported during the NAP process and on a demand-driven basis. Themes might include development of climate change-related data processing and evaluation mechanisms, support of institutional capacities for climate financing, development of emergency response capacities, especially in the field of flood risk management, capacity development for NDA and climate unit at MoE, development of regulatory adjustments (e.g., for standards of resilient infrastructure).

PA 7:

- Development of a plan for reduction of the erosion by plants.
- Strengthening of the structures and capacity building of The Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment (IGJEUM) for building up a hydrological data exchange system.
- Rehabilitation and increase of safety for 210 dams following the 2009 WB study.
- Strengthening of the structures on the interventions and intakes on the riverbeds.

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

- Studies and implementation projects for building up flood protection structures.

PA 8:

- The list of proposed measures will be assessed under climate change aspect.
- The other four river basin management plans will start the designing phase and the climate change will be reflected in the designing and implementing phases.

PA 9:

- Changing cultivation techniques.
- Conservation tillage, crop diversification, and crop rotation.
- Switching to crop varieties/hybrids that are heat and drought tolerant.
- Optimize timing of operations (planting, inputs, irrigation, harvest).
- Rehabilitation and modernization of irrigation infrastructure.
- Financial support to the breeding of resilient livestock breeds.
- Maintain and repair irrigation infrastructure, to ensure available water at critical times of the growing season, especially for maize and other forage crops to maintain available feedstuff.

F. List of Other Adaptation Projects

Table F1. Regional dimension projects

No.	Name of the project	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
1	Integrated climate-resilient transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River basin in the Western Balkans (Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro)	Adaptation Fund	USD 9,927,750	Water Resources Management Agency	Ongoing	https://www.adaptation-undp.org/projects/integrated-climate-resilient-transboundary-flood-risk-management-drin-river-basin-western
2	Adaptation to Climate Change through Transboundary Flood Risk Management in the Western Balkans	BMZ	N/A	MoTE, MoARD, NAPA, IGEO, Tirana municipality	Completed in 2022	https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/29000.html
3	Nature-based Solutions in the Western Balkans - ADAPT	SIDA	EUR 2.480.202	Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE)	Completed in 2022	https://www.iucn.org/regions/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/projects/adapt-nature-based-solutions-western-balkans
4	Regional Assessment for South-Eastern Europe Security implications of climate change	OSCE	N/A	Ministry of Tourism and Environment	Completed in 2020	https://www.osce.org/secretariat/484148
5	BRIDging the GAP for Innovations in Disaster resilience – BRIGAID project	EU Horizon 2020	EUR 227,796	National Agency	Completed in 2020	https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/700699

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

No.	Name of the project	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
				Territorial Planning		
6	Enhancement of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Capacities and Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation practices into the Agricultural Sector in the Western Balkans	FAO	USD 485,000	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Completed in 2018	https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/I9148EN/
7	Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN) (Regional) project	EU		MoTE		http://www.ecranetwork.org/
8	South-eastern Europe and Caucasus Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility	GEF-World Bank	USD 27,000,000		Completed in 2016	https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/4515
9	Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey	EU IPA UNISDR WMO	N/A	IGEO	Completed in 2014	https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9744

Table F2. Cross-border dimension projects

Name/Responsible Institution/Donor	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
Improved Forest FIRE PREParedness in Greece and Albania FIRE-PREP	Interreg-IPA CBC Greece-Albania	EUR 2,499,235	Ministry of Defence, National Civil Protection Agency, Municipality of Berat	Completed in 2022	https://greece-albania.eu/projects/improved-forest-fire-preparedness-greece-and-albania-fire-prep
Effective Planning of school's buildings for Environment and Climate changes Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	EUR 722,500	Vlora Municipality	Completed in 2022 2020 – 2022	https://effects.italy-albania-montenegro.eu
Sustainable and almost zero-emission communities and the role of public buildings nZECOM Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Greece-Albania	EUR 1,166,649	Devoll Municipality (EUR 356,350,00)	Completed in 2022	https://greece-albania.eu/projects/sustainable-and-almost-zero-emission-communities-and-the-role-public-buildings
Regional Energy Efficiency HUB Plus REEHUB PLUS Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	EUR 744,800	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Barleti Institute for Research and Development	Completed in 2022 2020 - 2022	https://reehubplus.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/
The flood and big fire forest, prediction, forecast and	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-	EUR 5,893,686	Ministry of Defense	Completed in 2022 2019 / 2022	https://tobeready.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

Name/Responsible Institution/Donor	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
emergency management TO BE READY	Albania-Montenegro				
Adriatic cross-border ALLIANCE for the promotion of energy efficiency and climate change adaptation	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	EUR 684,874	Malesi e Madhe Municipality	Completed in 2021 2017-2021	https://adriaalliance.italy-albania-montenegro.eu
CO-designed and implementation of local sustainable energy action CO-CLEAN Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	EUR 693,350	Vlora Municipality	Completed in 2021 2020 - 2021	https://coclean.italy-albania-montenegro.eu
Renewable Energy for the Optimization of Resources in Industrial Areas Resources Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	EUR 55,000	Center for Economic Development and International Relations	Completed in 2021 2020-2021	https://www.italy-albania-montenegro.eu/resources
Cross-border cooperation for energy efficiency using solar energy SOLIS Rio marker adaptation 1	Interreg-IPA CBC Greece-Albania	EUR 1,932,686	Finiq Municipality	Completed in 2020 (24 months)	https://greece-albania.eu/projects/cross-border-cooperation-for-energy-efficiency-using-solar-energy
Leading the way to Improve Energy Efficiency in Public Schools	Interreg-IPA CBC Greece-Albania	EUR 549,787	National Agency of Natural Resources,	Completed in 2020	https://2014-2020.greece-albania.eu/projects/leading-the-way-improve-energy-efficiency-public-

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

Name/Responsible Institution/Donor	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
and propagate the use of Renewable Energy Sources Rio marker adaptation 1			Dropull Municipality, Municipality of Korca		schools-and-propagate-the-use-renewable-energy-sources https://godigitalmedia.net/it/portfolio/led-albania-greece/
Trilateral model of civil protection: Ways, Tools and Challenges for Our Safety 3 WATCH OUT	Interreg-IPA CBC Italy- Albania- Montenegro	EUR 979,400	Lezha Regional Council, Foundation "Partneritet per Zhvillim"	Completed in 2020 2018- 2020	https://3watchout.italy-albania-montenegro.eu

Table F3. National dimension projects

Name	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
Advancing Albania's planning for medium and long-term adaptation through the development of a NAP process	GCF	USD 2,997,907	MoTE 8 municipalities (Vlora, Durres, Kruja, Elbasan, Fier, Gjirokaster, Kukes, Permet)	Ongoing 2021–2024	https://www.adaptation-undp.org/projects/naps-gcf-albania
Promoting Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management in the framework of EU Integration. Project number REF 621117-EPP-1-2020-1-AL-EPPJMO-MODULE. In the frame of the Erasmus and Jean Monnet modules.	EU		Faculty of Economy. UT	Ongoing 2021–2023	

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

Name	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
Enabling Activities for the Preparation of the Fourth National Communication and the First Biennial Update Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	GEF/UN DP		Ministry of Tourism and Environment	Completed in 2022	https://www.undp.org/albania/publications/fourth-national-communication-albania-climate-change
Technical assistance to flood protection infrastructure in Albania	WBIF	EUR 850,000	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Water Resources Management Agency	Completed in 2021 2020–2021	https://wbif.eu/news-details/completion-eu-funded-technical-assistance-flood-protection-infrastructure-albania
Program for improving national early warning system and flood prevention in Albania PRO NEWS	EU IPA II	EUR 2,281,404	Albanian General Directorate for Civil Emergencies	Completed in 2021 2017–2021	https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/albania/pronews-programme-improving-national-early-warning-system-and-flood-prevention_en?s=214
Building the resilience of the Kune-Vaini lagoon system through EbA	GEF	USD 1,903,000	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	Completed in 2020 2015–2020	https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/5386#:~:text=Search-,Building%20the%20Resilience%20of%20Kune%2DVaini%20Lagoon%20through%20Ecosytem%2Dbase,d,of%20adaptation%20interventions%20including%20EbA.
Institution Building for Enforcing Environmental and Climate Acquis - IBECA	EU IPA	EUR 1,800,000	Ministry of Environment	Completed in 2018 2015–2018	https://www.cmcc.it/projects/ibeca-technical-assistance-for-institution-building-of-the-ministry-of-

Albania's National Adaptation Plan: First progress report

Name	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
					environment-in-enforcing-environmental-and-climate-acquis-albania
Enabling Albania to prepare its Third National Communication in response to its commitments	GEF	USD 481,018	Ministry of Environment	Completed in 2016	https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Albania%20NC3_13%20October%202016_0.pdf
Identification and implementation of adaptation response measures in the Drini-Mati River deltas	GEF	USD 1,959,525	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	Completed in 2016 2008–2016	https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/projects/3515
Disaster risk mitigation and adaptation project	World Bank	USD 9.16 million	IGEO, Ministry of Interior	Completed in 2013	https://documents.worldbank.org/evaluation/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/435881468191362326/data-sheet

Table F4. NGO-driven projects

Name/Responsible Institution/Donor	Donor	Budget	Stakeholder in Albania	Status	URL
Forestation as a natural solution for climate and biodiversity protection in Divjaka-Karavasta National Park/GEF-Milieukontakt	GEF		National Agency of Protected Areas and Regional Agency of Protected Areas Fier	Completed in 2021 2021–2021	https://milieukontakt.org/?project=forestation-as-a-natural-solution-for-climate-and-biodiversity-protection-in-divjaka-karavasta-national-park&lang=en
Local DRR plan in the Municipality of Lezha	UNDP, Co-Plan		Municipality of Lezha	Completed in 2020	https://www.undp.org/albania/publications/preparation-local-disaster-risk-reduction-plan-municipality-lezha
CRESSIDA Project Building Local Community Resilience for the Sustainable Development of Watersheds in South-eastern Europe	US EPA/REC	EUR 440,000	Selected local communities located along the Drini and Drina River Watersheds	Completed in 2019	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6530910/
Damage caused by natural disasters in Albania				Completed in 2018	https://milieukontakt.org/?project=damage-caused-by-natural-disasters-in-albania&lang=en
Developing the capacities of Albania for an effective engagement with the GCF	UNEP, URI	USD 300,000	Ministry of Environment. IMWGCC	Completed in 2020	https://uri.org.al/?s=Final+country+programme+Albania

G. Methodology for Tracking the Mainstreaming of CCA Into Policies/Plans/Strategies

01. What is the degree of integration of adaptation issues into the National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) 2014 to 2020?

	0 = weak	1 = rather weak	2 = neither weak nor strong	3 = rather strong	4 = strong	N/A
Current state						
Strategic aim						

Justification:

02. What is the degree of integration of adaptation issues into relevant sectoral strategies?

	0 = weak	1 = rather weak	2 = neither weak nor strong	3 = rather strong	4 = strong	N/A
Current state						
Strategic aim						

Justification:

