



2013 Annual Project Review (APR)

Project Implementation Review (PIR) OF UNDP Supported GEF Financed Projects

PIMS 3629 - Project Title: Identification and Implementation of Adaptation Response Measures in the Drini-Mati River Deltas

Focal Area	Climate Change - SPA
Lead RTA	Keti Chachibaia
Lead Country(ies)	(ALB) Albania
Revised Planned Closing Date	31-May-2013
Overall Risk rating	Low
Overall DO rating	Highly Satisfactory
Overall IP rating	Highly Satisfactory
GEF grant amount disbursed so far	999,302

Project Summary

The Drini and Mati River Deltas (DMRD) are 2 of 3 deltas found on the northern Adriatic coast of Albania. River deltas are a distinct feature of the northern coastal region which extends from the Albania-Montenegro border in the north to the Rodoni Peninsula in the south. Of the three deltas, the Drini is the largest and most complex, consisting of a compound system of sandy belts, capes, bays, lagoons and island areas. The DMRD harbors significant biodiversity values, and this is recognized under the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 1999). Three main types of habitat are found between the 2 deltas: (i) marine, (ii) wetlands including estuarine, riverine, lacustrine and palustrine, and (iii) non-wetland habitats including forests, shrubs and open fields where traditional agriculture is practiced. The DMRD provides wintering ground for the globally endangered pygmy cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*) and over 70 other species of waterfowl and waterbird with a total population of some 180,000 individuals. The Drini delta is an internationally recognized Important Bird Area (IBA). A recent study has revealed that the Patok lagoon, within the Mati Delta, serves as an important feeding area for globally endangered loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*), with over 300 turtles tagged in this area over the last two years. Forests in the DMRD harbor several medicinal and aromatic herbs. Several areas within the DMRD (Lezha administrative region) have been identified as priorities in the NBSAP.

Based on assessments of impacts of climate change, including variability, the DMRD has been identified as a critically vulnerable region of the country. This conclusion comes from the first comprehensive vulnerability and adaptation assessment undertaken for Albania in the face of potential climate change under the aegis of its First National Communication (FNC) to the UNFCCC. For the coastal zone, the climate change scenarios for Albania developed as part of this exercise have predicted an increase in sea surface temperature and sea level rise of up to 61 cms. This is expected to place additional stress on marine and littoral biodiversity as well as livelihoods of local communities. Sea level rise, more

frequent and intense floods, frequent inundation and longer submersion of low lying coastal areas could affect life cycles of species and pose risks of habitat loss and fragmentation of a unique compound ecosystem consisting of sandy dunes, lagoons and coastal wetlands. Climate change, including variability, could thus undermine biodiversity conservation efforts under the protected area regime in the DMRD.

Currently, there are no efforts underway to address climate change impacts on the DMRD ecosystem. However, due to the importance assigned to the target ecosystem the government plans to expand already existing network of protected areas to cover the entire region of Shengjin (from Kune-Vain to Tale to River Mati to Patok to Fushe Kuqe to River Ishmi). This calls for consideration of climate change impacts to these efforts. Whereby, a combination of technical and institutional capacity development, on-the ground adaptation measures, such as coastal dune habitat restoration, modification of DMRD protected area network planning and coverage, and other landscape-wide adaptation policy measures will be employed by the project. The overall development goal of this MSP is to assist Albania in establishing a mechanism by which strategies to moderate, cope with, and take advantage of the consequences of climate change are enhanced, developed, and implemented. The specific objective of the project is to build adaptive capacities in the DMRD to ensure resilience of the key ecosystems and local livelihoods to climate change. This objective will be achieved through 3 outcomes: (1) Capacities to monitor and respond to anticipated climate change impacts in the DMRD at the institutional and community levels developed, (2) DMRD region's conservation and development programmes, plans and policies integrate climate change risks and take local pilot actions for coastal adaptation, (3) Capacity for adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons developed..

UNDP-GEF Technical Advisor's Comments

Explanation for change to Overall DO Rating or Overall IP Rating:

Is this the terminal PIR that will serve as the final project report? No

If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was started but not completed this reporting period, please explain how these are progressing and note if any delays are expected:

If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was completed this reporting period, or if this is the final APR/PIR, please address the following points here:

UNDP Country Office's Comments

If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was started but not completed this reporting period, please explain how these are progressing and note if any delays are expected:

If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was completed this reporting period, or if this is the final APR/PIR, please address the following points here:

The overall terminal evaluation of the project is rated as 'highly satisfactory'. The project has been successful in meeting the main objectives of the UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNDP and GEF and the Government of Albania. The project has well addressed the development objectives of the country and it was a best practice in addressing the needs of the beneficiaries at the regional level. The project was instrumental in raising awareness and understanding in the community on climate change and adaptation. Regional authorities are trained and motivated to continue attracting investments in the area for the implementation of adaptation measures designed and prioritized through a highly participatory process.

The UNDP CO provided consistent support for the project and the overall quality of their role as implementing agency is rated as 'highly satisfactory'. The engagement of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration as the executing agency for the project at the time of the final evaluation was rated and 'highly satisfactory'.

The main findings, lessons learned and recommendations are:

- The project is a best practise in terms of capacity development providing well-targeted skills and knowledge to its beneficiaries (regional authorities, farmers, educators, the public, etc).
- The project is a best practise in terms of a good system of results-based reporting and using monitoring and evaluation as a tool for promoting adaptive management.
- The project made full use of opportunities for collaboration with projects and other initiatives and the integration of the Drini Mati River Deltas (DMRD)\s project results with others, thereby profiting from cooperation and avoiding duplication.
- Both in its design (original inception) and in its implementation, the project is considered a best practise for supporting mainstreaming. The project is highly based on regional development, dealing with a vulnerable environment (thus also a vulnerable community which is dependent on this environment for its livelihood i.e. subsistence agriculture). This project has also supported the country in the decentralisation of power by improving the capacities of the local and regional authorities to take responsibility for governance and looking for solutions.
- The project has been very well timed for exerting impact on development of the country. It is important for the UNDP Climate Change Program Unit and CO to follow-up in the coming months ahead to keep the various ministries and sectors aware and ensure that the ideas of the project are not lost.
- The project has established a solid basis which provides pertinent analysis on geomorphology, anthropogenic pressures and costs and benefits. The Government of Albania should use the opportunity to continue up-scaling of the project results and findings through the design of a comprehensive coastal management system for Albania which would follow the integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) approach.
- Resources should be invested at the final stages of the project to summarize and handover project experiences at a more global level such as: preparation of good guidance documents from the technical documents available under the

project for distribution more broadly in UNDP and GEF adaptation projects; distribute a condensed technical report (summary of synthesis report) to demonstrate the key findings.

- The project has achieved great momentum for adaptation issues in the region of DMRD. People are fully engaged, aware and feel a high level of ownership for the adaptation measures proposed. It is very critical at this stage to capitalize on this momentum. For this it would be important to try to continue working in the DMRD in some manner with more specific implementation results.

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board meetings during reporting period:

February 2013

PROGRESS TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Description	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2009	Level at 30 June 2010	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013
To build adaptive capacities in the DMRD to ensure resilience of the key ecosystems and local livelihoods to climate change. This will be done by first identifying, and then integrating climate change response measures into development programming in the DMRD.	Enhanced resilience of DMRD coastal area covering approximately 140 km ² due to adaptation measures (e.g. rehabilitation of dune systems)	DMRD ecosystem faces additional stress induced by climate change. Sea level rise, more frequent and intense floods, frequent inundation of low lying coastal areas affecting life cycles of species and risk of habitat loss and ecosystem fragmentation of a unique compound ecosystem of sandy dunes, lagoons and coastal	At least two types of resilience-enhancing measures employed by the project upon its completion, covering 45% of ecosystem area of concern	Project Coordinator was hired in December 2008 and started to become familiar with the project document. Preparatory work to establish the project team has started, with drafting of ToRs for the project team and identification of stakeholders. The project inception workshop was held on March 17, 2009, with the main objective to bring together different stakeholders, to introduce and discuss the objectives and	Current climate impact on ecosystems, agriculture, water resources and tourism has been assessed; climate change scenarios for the area have been developed; climate change impact on ecosystems, agriculture, water resources and tourism has been evaluated; and the results were presented and discussed with local community in different workshops. Among the key findings to be mentioned are: DMRD ecosystems are subject to significant erosion and inundation and inland intrusion of saline water. Sea invasion due to erosion along the Drini River delta was approximately 500 m between 1971-2005. This has resulted in numerous and irreversible consequences, such as (i) loss of coastal, marine and estuarine habitats; (ii) extensive clearing of coastal vegetation, and loss of flora and fauna. The communities of the lagoons' margins dominated by common reed thicket (<i>Phragmites australis</i>), are currently totally dominated by halophytic vegetation. The belt of embryonic dunes is affected by incursion from the alien and invasive species. Instability and reduction of the coastal sand dunes results in loss of breeding ground for a number of birds, mammals and reptiles. The annual climate change scenarios for DMRD project: temperature increase of up to 1.8°C (1.3-	• A series of reports drafted and posted to Climate Change Programme website for comments: (a) on existing methods and tools used for the costing of climate change adaptation options; (b) on the optimal economic assessment methods related to climate change adaptation costing assessment within the DMRD; (c) on methods and tools for Coastal Ecosystem Restoration, with the main focus on wetlands; (d) on the geomorphological evolution, conceptual model on geomorphological evolution up to 2100; • The habitats' map developed on	The project has finalized all technical studies. In addition to what has been already reported in previous years during this reporting year the project team prepared and finalized cost&benefit analysis of the proposed adaptation measures, ICZM enhancement within the context of climate change adaptation in Albania; assessment of legislation and institutional capacity to implement priority adaptation measures; Coastal climate change risk map within the DMRD; adaptation/restoration map (GIS format) representing the measures to increase the ecosystem and livelihood resilience. Additionally, the project has synthesized all technical studies under the synthesis report. The synthesis report is composed of (i) Executive Summary; (ii) Non-Technical Summary, presenting in non-technical language the principle activities and outcomes from each of the technical subject areas of the project; (iii) Technical Summary – providing an outline of the studies carried out, the conclusions that emerge from the results and their relevance in the context of the other technical studies and the DMRD	The 'soft' measures, aimed at resilience enhancing are already in place: the Monitoring System to detect climate change impact on ecosystems, Early Warning System (both cover 100% of ecosystem pilot area and beyond -Lezha city), and 'dune planting' demonstration (around 0.5 ha) as reported under outcome 2. During the reporting period the following measures were also implemented: • Policy Paper "Climate change adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Deltas and beyond" was finalized and approved by the MoEFWA. The Policy Paper recommends seven Policy strategies to provide the proactive adaptation to climate change risks in the entire Albanian coastal area. These recommendations are included into the Cross-sectorial Strategy for Environment of National Strategy for Development and Integration (2014-2020), the very important strategic document for Albania. •The synthesis report of technical

		<p>wetlands. There are no efforts currently underway to address climate change impacts on ecosystem degradation.</p>		<p>expected deliverables, update and refine different project elements such as verifiable indicators, factors of risk, monitoring and evaluation etc. One international and two national consultants (on biodiversity and climatology) were recruited. Currently in the recruitment pipeline are two other experts on agriculture and tourism as well as the technical assistant. There are drafted ToRs for a company to develop a communication strategy, and develop & implement a communication action plan.</p>	<p>2.4°C) by 2050; 2.8°C (2.1-4.1°C) by 2080 and 3.2°C (2.3-5.0°C) by 2100; precipitation decrease up to -8.1% (from -5.5 to -11%) by 2050; 12.9% (from -8.4 to -21%) by 2080 and 15.5% (from -9.0 to -26.1%) by 2100; increase in mean sea level pressure and number of extreme events (including heavy rain and drought); decrease in river runoff up to 10% by 2050 and 30% by 2100; losses of wetland area (around 1 km² by 2100), and as a consequence a decrease in total wetland area as a consequence of sea level increase, etc.</p>	<p>October 2010 has helped to assess the potential impacts of climate change on natural systems. • Following the risk assessment and adaptation exercises summarized in Strategic Climate Change Adaptation Plan (see below) the work has continued parallel in two directions: (a) identification of potential adaptation/restoration activities to protect the lagoon ecosystems including their costs, and (b) in situ identification, with local community, of potential places for implementation of adaptation measures to protect the livelihood.</p>	<p>project as a whole; (iv) adaptation responses and adaptation implementation.</p>	<p>studies, conducted as part of the DMRD project, is finalized and under publication process in English and Albanian. It will be distributed to different stakeholders in DMRD and other coastal regions, line Ministries and institutions at national level. In this document non-technical and technical summaries are presented along with a synopsis of the adaptation measures that have emerged from the project. Institutional tools and methods using the concept of ICZM are also presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report "Recommendations for Integrating Adaptation Measures in Development and Infrastructure Plans / Programmes in DMRD area" that outlines a package of recommendations for integrating adaptation measures in existing development and infrastructure plans/programmes in the Drini-Mati River Deltas (DMRD) region is drafted and submitted to Lezha Regional Council (RC). The RC welcomed the report and stated that every project/programme in the future especially related to infrastructure development will address the recommendations on climate change adaptation. • The short-term adaptation measures prioritized through MCA exercise in 2012 were implemented and are reported under outcome 2. The mid- and long-term measures are
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								used by the local government as a basis to draft climate change adaptation project proposals. • In addition a package of amendments for integration of adaptation measures into the management plan (MP) of the Kune-Vaini Protected Area is approved by MoEFWA. The package is preliminarily included as an Annex and will be integral part of MP during its revision by 2015. Meanwhile, MoEFWA forwarded this package to the KV Administration and Regional Forest Directory obliging them to start implementation of measures, depending on the available budget. The MoEFWA will be looking for opportunities for additional financing over the next years to support implementation of these measures.
			as above	Expected risks in the area assessed through discussions with local community; adaptation toolkit designed and updated with the inputs from local community; training to develop the adaptation plan. • The work to draft the adaptation plan in the three communes (Shëngjini, Shënkoll and Fushë Kuqe), taking into consideration risks related to local communities, ecosystems and hydrology, is in preparation stage. It consists of adaptation measures and actions to be undertaken and their prioritization. • After drafting and discussions of adaptation plan together with local community, we will follow up with cost calculation of prioritized measures and	Based on expected climate change impacts/risks, the potential adaptation measures in DMRD area have been identified and discussed through a wide participatory process. The adaptation plans of the three communes, namely Shëngjin, Shënkoll and Fushë Kuqe and Region are drafted	All the technical material has been presented to the broad audience in Albania at the National Conference “Adaptation to Climate Change – challenge for development”, held in November 2011. Based on this broad consultation and technical discussion among project team: national and international members, RTA in Bratislava, experts of MoEFWA and local community representatives, is developed an adaptation matrix, as prioritization system, that finally served to prioritize the individual measures and to put them into the categories of short, medium or long		

					<p>selection of restoration activities for implementation.</p>	<p>and summarized into the Strategic Climate Change Adaptation Plan (SCCAP). According to SCCAP the adaptation measures&actions are classified into groups based on options that (i) Build Adaptive Capacity and (ii) Deliver Adaptation Action. Among the adaptation activities proposed in SCCAP, prioritized through a multicriteria analysis, may mention: eliminate factors that exacerbate erosion such as reintroducing sediment to the coast down the Drini River and removing the Drini River breakwater; beach restoration strategies particularly beach nourishment and dune management to slow erosion rates; structural methods of sand retention; structural methods to restrict</p>	<p>term measures. The prioritization counted on: financial indicative cost (based on cost-benefit analysis), time frame, potential partnerships with various strategic government organizations as well as donors, principle of 'additionality' (only additional climate change risk should be covered) and 'win-win' (multiple benefits) criteria. Based on that exercise are selected the adaptation measures for implementation within the DMRD project lifetime, namely: development of a Policy Paper Document on the integration of Climate Change adaptation issues in strategic programs and development plans in DMRD including Protected Area Management Plan; introduction into the National Monitoring Programme of the DMRD Integrated Monitoring Program and a startup of the observation activities on the targeted coastal area; Pilot Dune Restoration (stabilization by plantation); drafting of the Follow-up project proposals for further resource mobilization from the government and donor sources of funding. The implementation of the adaptation measures has already started. The level of implementation is outlined in Outcome 2.</p>	
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						sediment accumulation in the inlet channels; maintenance and upgrade of flood embankments, etc. These measures are further analyzed from the ecosystem restoration prospective, including the implementation costs, which results to be very high. Moreover, for their implementation other technical studies and environmental impact assessment is required. A cost and benefit analysis, followed by the ICZM analysis before the decision for the in-situ implementation of adaptation /restoration activities is in process.		
Capacities to monitor and respond to anticipated climate change impacts in	50-60% of organizations and / or population with access to climate change impact	There is only a very general understanding of how CC could impact coastal area	By project end, 60% of local organisations and / or population given access	Preparation of two reports has started: (i) Climate variability and its extremes in the area within	The assessments, mentioned under "Objective" have informed decision-makers at the regional level as well as national level through their dissemination in a series of capacity building workshops, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First workshop "Climate Change Risk Assessment" with participation of Head and 	The decision makers at local, regional and national level are kept continuously informed about the assessments mentioned under	A list of amendments to existing legislation (Laws and/or Decisions of Council of Ministers) are provided to MoEWA that, if amended, would better support the protection of all coastal areas, including the DMRD, so that natural ecosystems are more	More than 60% of local organizations and/or population have access to systematic data and information (technical and research reports on risk assessment, adaptation, including methodological approaches,

<p>the DMRD at the institutional and community levels developed</p>	<p>information and adaptation options for DMRD coastal area.</p>	<p>ecosystems.</p>	<p>to systematic data and information on the physical and biological impacts of climate change on the DRMD ecological systems</p>	<p>Drini-Mati River deltas and (ii) biodiversity of the Drini-Mati River deltas. The draft reports will be available at the end of July 2009. The first report will focus on detailed evaluation of current variability of climate and extremes over the project area. It will establish the climatic baseline for climate impact assessment on biodiversity and key economic sectors around the project area, agriculture and tourism, which have great influence on biodiversity. The second report will focus on assessment of actual distribution of biodiversity over the project area. It will serve as a baseline for the</p>	<p>Deputy Head of Regional Council, Director and four staff members of Directorate for Programme Development, Investments and Foreign Relations as well as Directorate for Environmental Assessment, was held on 14 September 2009 (in total 14 participants/7 women). Main outputs are: the results achieved by the experts' team to date analyzed, barriers and gaps in information assessed; methodological approaches discussed; a risk assessment template was compiled; local representatives were trained on assessment of climate change risk. As a result of this workshop key local stakeholders are fully aware of key risks of climate change on their coastal region and have a consensus to take adaptation actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop "Climate impact on ecosystems and economical sectors at Lezha area" was held in Lezha on 29 October 2009, with wide participation (47 participants/ 6 women from community) representing 18 different local institutions (Regional Council, Directory of Agriculture Advisory service in Lezhe, Shkoder and Kurbin, Communes under project area, Regional Environmental office, Protected Area Office, etc.). Main outputs: present and discuss projected climate impacts (including extreme events) in the area, and gather feedback from local community. • The second "Climate Change Risk Assessment" workshop was held on 24-25 May 2010. The objective of the workshop was to bring together key stakeholders and increase their capabilities in the identification and evaluation of adaptation options to treat the risks identified in the climate change risk assessments. Main outputs were climate change scenarios and impacts for the area presented; expected 	<p>"Objective". They are trained on selection of potential adaptation/restoration activities to increase the ecosystem resilience to climate change in workshop held on 28-29 October 2010, (58 participants), focused on the environmental restoration on coastal adaptation. Through presentation of methods and tools for the selection of potential adaptation/restoration activities, associated with good and bad examples from other countries, the participants made their own proposals to be considered in the project area. Another workshop on environmental economics and cost&benefit analysis (CBA) was held on 3-5 November 2010. Methods and tools for the CBA that can</p>	<p>resilient to the impacts of climate change and therefore better able to protect socio-economic systems. These recommendations for amendments are divided into those changes required in the short term (10) and those required in the longer term (4). Among the short term may distinguish amendment related to addressing climate change and adaptation to laws on protected areas, on civil emergencies, on strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment, etc. It is also recommended MoEFWA to draft two Orders of the Prime Minister: on the Establishment of the Environmental Inter-ministerial Committee; and on the Establishment of the Inter-ministerial Expert Group on Climate Change. From the institutional perspective a number of changes are proposed to MoEFWA that would make organizations better able to manage the process of adaptation to climate change, namely: institutions involved with adaptation to climate change should shift focus on prevention, forecasting, planning, impact studies, rather than on intervention and rehabilitation of damages, and amend job responsibilities accordingly; cooperation should be arranged between the structures dealing with risk assessment, economic assessment of impacts, etc. with the insurance companies, in order to improve their technical skills in this respect; each ministry whose policy and field activity needs to adapt to climate change</p>	<p>institutional capacities and legislation analysis, cost and benefit analysis, ICZM, etc.) provided by the project. Local Government (Donor's meeting) has evaluated the project as a great asset for the Region taking into account the database created, capacities built and awareness increased. Local people are deeply convinced on the need to act quickly to reduce the damages related to climate. Otherwise the consequences will be irreversible. The Lezha Regional Council considers that DMRD project is not coming to the end at this stage, but it is a starting point of the challenge they are facing with, to find the required support for implementation of adaptation. During the reporting period 14 representatives from Directorate of Projects, Regional council, and from communes were trained in development of adaptation proposals for funding (8 training sessions on writing of adaptation project fiches). The training on project proposal writing was combined with CCA training for the new administration staff. The main objective of this training was to further support and to strengthen the adaptive capacities of Lezha Regional Council and communes administrations. This is done through developing their skills to write projects proposals and better respond to their</p>
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			<p>climate impact assessment. A detailed vulnerability assessments is not available from other projects, even from National Communications . Only a general evaluation is performed within First National Communication. The report on climate impact assessment on biodiversity, according to contracts, will be submitted at the end of November 2009. This second report followed by mapping of biodiversity will serve as a basis for the assessment of expected impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>risks in the area assessed through discussions with local community; adaptation toolkit, designed after the first workshop on Risk Assessment, was upgraded with the inputs from local community; participants trained to develop the adaptation plan. The workshop tested and validated a risk-based 'adaptation toolkit' that enabled a broad range of integrated adaptation options to be considered and prioritized into the development of a strategic-level climate change adaptation plan (SCCAP). This approach delivered two key results: it helped provide focus for potential adaptation measures for environmental activities at later stages of the project and enabled community stakeholders to understand the range and scope of adaptation measures.</p>	<p>be used for evaluation of potential restoration/adaptation activities were introduced to 20 participants. • An effective training on ICZM activities for the national and local institutions was undertaken in workshops held on 15-16 March 2011 in Tirana and 17 March 2011 in Lezha (respectively 37 and 34 participants). These activities have provided the basis training for key stakeholders and have increased their capabilities in the ICZM focused on coastal areas and especially on protected areas. The outputs of the Tirana workshop were targeted at arriving an understanding of some of the challenges of the institutional barriers to developing an adaptation strategy and plan at a National to Regional</p>	<p>should appoint at least one permanent focal point on climate change to be included in cross-ministerial structures, etc. • A set of important recommendation related to ICZM are provided to the local and central governments, such as: (i) Principles and practices of ICZM should be implemented within existing structures and processes for the planning and development of coastal areas; (ii) instigation of an 'ICZM-type' Act is not recommended as forced integration has its political costs; (iii) Enactment of a specific Climate Change legal instrument is recommended with ICZM identified as the implementation instrument; (iv) Instigation of a specific cross-governmental committee to oversee the implementation of ICZM as a tool for developing adaptation to climate change. • Cost&benefit analysis is performed separately for 'ecosystem' and 'community' adaptation measures. The 'ecosystem and biodiversity' analysis (combined for the three lagoons) is heavily influenced by experts' use of a high willingness to pay benefit estimate to cover the total economic value of wetland preservation. The community measures in contrast are highly valuable in terms of their potential contribution to coastal flood protection. Overall, the proposed adaptation measures have shown attractive net present values (NPV) in all cases, suggesting all the proposed measures are worth implementing. These results of CBA are used as an</p>	<p>region's community needs. 11 adaptation/restoration project fiches prioritized in a participatory process (Ecosystem-based adaptation, engineering and community-based adaptation) were developed. Two out of 11 proposals, selected by the Regional Council, are developed as full proposals according to EU template to apply for multi donor funding. The proposals are published and distributed to donors. PMU has assisted the Regional Council of Lezha in organizing a '\Donorsand other stakeholders\\\\\\' meeting\\\\\\' in April 2013. The donors in attendance (EU Delegation, GIZ, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Italian Cooperation, Albanian Development Fund, USAID, IUCN) have evaluated the work carried out and presented some potential ways for their implementation (IPA, IPA Cross border, bilateral cooperation, etc.).</p>
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					<p>level. The Lezha workshop was focused on building capacity within local institutions to understand from a more holistic perspective the risk and vulnerability that arises from climate change: this means recognizing that the challenges of climate change arise not only from issues that result from 'physical' changes in the environment (i.e. removing the threat posed by erosion) but also addressing the social and economic challenges that can mean that individuals and communities may have alter their behavior and practices in order to reduce their exposure to risk and vulnerability.</p>	<p>important criteria in further prioritization analysis and adaptation planning that the project has transferred to key decision-makers such as Ministry of Environment Regional Council and Communes to apply in coastal development and protection planning. • After local elections in 2011 the technical staff and heads of Local Government (about 70%) at the Regional Council and Communes, already trained by the project, is substituted by a new one, not familiar with climate change issues and the capacity building process carried out by the project. In order to ensure the sustainability of the results achieved, the project has conducted a training on climate change risks assessment with 20 recently recruited experts from Regional Council (Directory of Planning and Policy Development, Directory of Projects) and Communes (urban planning). Two other trainings: on how to approach the adaptation measures already prioritized and how to consider them into development plan and strategies are planned to hold during the second half of 2012, jointly with training on writing the project proposals. • A Media training on 'Reporting on Climate Change in Albania', aimed at raising awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation, addressing questions on differing national and international approaches to tackling climate change, and discussing the critical role of the Media in shaping public opinion and government policy</p>	
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						initiatives to address the threat from climate change, is delivered to 20 journalists of print and electronic national media by the UNDP Regional Communication Advisor, RBEC.	
			as above	Three workshops were held during December 2009-January 2010 in the communes covered by project area (Shengjin, Shenkoll and Fushekuqe). The participants (local government, local business, school teachers, farmers) are aware of climate change issues and have discussed ways to minimize damages caused by extreme events (especially the area that was affected by a severe flooding during December 2009-January 2010 due to the combined effect of storm surge and sea tide). Participation: in Shengjin-3 women out of 19 participants; in Shenkoll-7 women out of 23 participants ; in Fushe Kuqe - 2 women out of 21 participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report of potential adaptation measures in the area has been the initial point for the development of the adaptation map. The project has organized a wide discussion in three communes Shëngjini, Shënkoll and Fushë Kuqe, consisted in identification of potential sites for implementation of "hard" (engineering) measures and their mapping (i.e. putting the proposed adaptation measures in a topographic map accompanied by implementation details). The adaptation map is under the process with GIS technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The adaptation map developed in GIS format, consisting of adaptation measures to protect the coastal ecosystems and livelihood activities, has been a useful tool further work on CBA and prioritisation. By the end of the capacity building process, it has been clear that increasing the ecosystem resilience, will ensure the protection of the local livelihood at the same time. In addition, the adaptation map is already transferred to MoEFWA, as an important part of recommendations to be included into Management Plan of Kune-Vain PA. A brochure "How we can adapt to climate change – Drini -Mati Rivers' deltas coastal area" (in a non technical language, in Albanian), aimed at increasing the awareness of the local communities as regards to adaptation, including ecosystem based adaptation, is drafted and ready for printing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The short-term adaptation measures prioritized through MCA exercise in 2012 were implemented and are reported under outcome 2. The mid- and long-term measures are used by the local government as a basis to draft climate change adaptation project proposals. In addition a package of amendments for integration of adaptation measures into the management plan (MP) of the Kune-Vaini Protected Area is approved by MoEFWA. The package is preliminary included as an Annex and will be integral part of MP during its revision by 2015. Meanwhile, MoEFWA forwarded this package to the KV Administration and Regional Forest Directory obliging them to start implementation of measures, depending on the available budget. The MoEFWA will be looking for opportunities for additional financing over the next years to support implementation of these measures.
			as above	In parallel to the above activities and results, the integrated monitoring program was developed and a monitoring system to	The monitoring programme is developed and the	Integrated ecosystem monitoring proposed by project is included by the MoEFWA in the Monitoring scheme	The adaptation map developed in 2012 is included in the Annex of the Management Plan of Kune-

				<p>detect climate change impact on ecosystems was designed; a habitat map, according to Nature 2000 and EU Directives for biodiversity, was prepared. The maps of expected changes of sea level rise and the study on the geomorphological evolution of the area are under review.</p>	<p>ecosystem integrated monitoring schema is designed. It is discussed and approved in a 'round table' with participation of different stakeholders. The work to integrate it into the National Monitoring Programme is under way.</p>	<p>for 2012. The Institute of Environment (IE), MoEFWA, in charge for environmental monitoring in the country. IE accomplishes this task through subcontracting the specialized institutions for field observations and data processing. The signing of contract between IE, and specialized institutions for biodiversity and hydrometeorological monitoring, namely National Centre for Flora and Fauna and Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment, is in process. It will ensure that integrated monitoring, actually missing, will start in the area. • The project has taken the first steps to ensure a good collaboration and complementary actions with the EU-IPA project 'Consolidation of the Environmental Monitoring System in Albania (CEMSA) as regards to integration of the ecosystem monitoring program developed in the frame of Drini-Mati project, into the National Monitoring Programme (NMP) developed by CEMSA, that will pass through a governmental decision. Both projects have recently shared the respective monitoring programs. After close discussions, CEMSA has incorporated 2 stations and a set of indicators, proposed by DMRD project, in the National Monitoring Programme, which will be marked with the reference/endnote 'climate change addressed'. The indicators, such as hydrobiological, water quality, habitats (coastal lagoons, Mediterranean salt meadows, embryonic Mediterranean sand dunes, etc.), priority</p>	<p>Vain PA. The brochure "How we can adapt to climate change – Drini -Mati Rivers' deltas coastal area", as reported in the previous PIR is published and disseminated to all stakeholders and community levels in DMRD area, aimed to increase the capacities and awareness on ecosystem-based adaptation as an important tool to tackle climate change impacts. Throughout a close collaboration with the National Environmental and Forestry Agency (MoEFWA) and CEMSA project, all climate change indicators reported in previous PIR are integrated into National Monitoring Program of Environment (NMP). Although NMP is still under discussion and approval process, the integrated ecosystem monitoring in the DMRD already started to be operational since 2012. It is performed by the National Agency of Environment and Forestry throughout contracts with specialized agencies, like National Centre for Flora and Fauna (Tirana University). This is one of priority adaptation measures, recommended for implementation in the frame of DMRD project, which covers 100% of ecosystem area concerned. Project has contributed in trainings on biodiversity monitoring organized by CEMSA project, through presentation of the climate change indicators, the importance</p>
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						<p>conservation species (birds, mammals-bat, marine and terrestrial reptiles, etc.), dynamic of the coastline are in the list. With the governmental decision, integrated monitoring will be operational in the area after the project closure. • There are open discussions with MoeFWA and CEMSA to partly support the monitoring for the next year 2013 for the above mentioned indicators. • As per training of Protected Area Administration staff on monitoring of above-mentioned biodiversity indicators, in order not to overlap with CEMSA, there are also discussion to organize a common training in November 2012. • Throughout a good partnership with Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment (IGEWE), the weather forecast and early warning (as per flooding, drought and forest fires) started to be transmitted to Lezha Prefecture. It will enable the local government to develop their own local capacity for disaster response through reducing the impact of weather induced disasters on the region over the coming years.</p>	<p>of their monitoring in impact assessment and specific monitoring aspects. Project has also provided consultancy to the CEMSA project in the workshop for development of National Database on Biodiversity (November 2012), in partnership with IUCN project.</p>
			as above	<p>The training on monitoring planned for 2010 will be shifted for the 2011. This activity has been planned to be connected with the Activity 2 under “The Albania Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project (Word Bank)”. This activity that deals with strengthening of hydrometeorological services has not yet started.</p>	<p>The training on monitoring has not yet started; most probably it will be shifted for early 2012, as the activity related to strengthening of hydrometeorological</p>	<p>• The meteorological monitoring in the project area is carried out in one manual station located in Ishull Shengjin, at the boarder of project area. In partnership with IGEWE, in the frame of “The Albania Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project (AL-DRMA project, Word Bank)”, is decided to install 2 (out of 15 over the country)</p>	<p>The automatic stations (provided by AL-DRMA project of WB) planned to be located by IGEWE in the project area are recently in place. According to the NMPE the hydrometeorological monitoring was recently planned to be transferred to NEA. Given that DMRD project took over the task</p>

					<p>services within the frame of “The Albania Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project (Word Bank)” has started its implementation with delay, only on January 2011. The equipment for hydrometeorological monitoring are expected to be in place by the end of 2011. PMU is in discussion with team leader of the project “Consolidation of the Environmental Monitoring System in Albania (CEMSA)” on the opportunity to partly cover the monitoring of a set of indicators in the project area.</p>	<p>automatic stations within the protected area, to monitor, process and disseminate the data on climate change indicators, as per Integrated Ecosystem Monitoring Program developed by the project. Although the stations were expected to be in place by the end of 2011, they are not yet received by IGEWE . AL-DRDM project is recently extended by the end of 2013 in order to accomplish the task. Given that, the training on hydrometeorological&phenology monitoring, planned for early 2012, has not yet started. It will be carried out as soon as the equipment will be in place.</p>	<p>to provide the training on hydrometeorological monitoring. After long discussions is decided this monitoring to remain with IGEWE, and the training resulted not necessary. In addition, through close collaboration with IGEWE, the Prefecture and the Regional Council of Lezha are included in the early warning scheme for the weather extreme events. The weather information on daily basis is disseminated on real time to inform the local community on climate related disasters. This is one of priority adaptation measures, recommended for implementation in the frame of DMRD project, which covers 100% of ecosystem area concerned.</p>
			as above			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DMRD week as one of the most important event of the awareness campaign is organized in October 2011 in Lezha aimed at increasing the awareness about the climate change impact and adaptation in DMRD area. A series of activities are performed during this week, such as: photo exhibition, with the theme “Climate Change and Adaptation Challenges”, with photos of DMRD area, which 	<p>On the occasion of “Climate Change Action Day” (local day) on 10 October 2012 is organized a demonstration activity, sand dunes restoration through grass planting - <i>Amophilaarenaria</i>”. The ‘dune planting’ represents an ecosystem-based adaptation tool to re-establish natural diversity of dunes’ plants and animals. The event is attended by a great</p>

						<p>demonstrated effect of erosion, flooding, sea level rising and the impact of climate change in biodiversity; best creative and art work of advertising campaigns from all over the world about this thematic; meetings with local NGOs and media; distribution of education packages and postcards with sensitive messages from DMRD area; posters showing the adaptation measures to protect the ecosystem and livelihood from sealevel rise and flooding. A great interest demonstrated the free wall to the people, where the visitors stuck the cards with their messages how to adapt to climate changes threats. By the end of the event were counted over 500 messages, many of those were uploaded in the facebook page of DMRD project (Pershtatja Ndaj Ndryshimeve Klimatike). The local government has announced the date 10 October as "The Climate Change Action Day" aimed to be a yearly event for the Lezha citizens with the main purpose to attract the attention of all about the phenomenon of climate change and its effect in biodiversity and their livelihood. • The information on capacity building and awareness raising activities are presented in local and national media. Radio and TV spots are aired throughout the reporting period in the local media; e-newsletter, sharing the findings and results with Solar Water Heating Project, both under UNDP Climate Change Programme, is sent via e-mail to all stakeholders and field experts;</p>	<p>number of representatives of local government, community members, international organizations, civil society and media. Its results will be used as an example to be replicated in other parts of the coast to help restoring, as appropriate, of some natural processes that sustain dunes ecosystems. In addition a painting competition of schoolchildren (Theme: "Climate Change and Adaptation Challenges") was organized in the premises of Kune-Vain PA Administration. Some important achievements of the project will be featured in the regional publication on adaptation.They are related to (i) stakeholder participation in risk assessment and adaptation planning and (ii)integration of climate change adaptation into development strategies and management plan of Kune-Vain PA • In partnership with the GEF Solar Water Heating project, UNDP Climate Change Programme, organized a media training on "Reporting on climate Change in Albania" with visual / electronic / printed national media. The aim of this training workshop was to raise awareness of print, electronic and visual national media on key climate change issues, address questions on differing national and international approaches to tackling climate change, and</p>
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						<p>billboards with message 'time to adapt' were located on the most frequented and visible areas of Lezha. • In collaboration with a regional TV Channel is organized a talk show with the theme "Climate Change in Albania", where different local stakeholders, among others, emphasized the need to start implementing the adaptation/restoration measures to protect the wetland system and the social activities. All activities performed in the frame of project during the reference period, were presented at different News Bulletins from regional and national television channels. • The project and its most important findings about climate change adaptation are made known 6 presentation from project experts and management staff at different international conferences/workshops in Albania and abroad. They are listed as follows: • A presentation at 'Regional Workshop on Climate Change and Local Action, 19-22 September 2011, Bratislava'; • "Coastal and Marine Conservation in Albania: a National Sea Turtle Management Strategy", Tirana on 24 October organized by MEDASSET, (around 40 participants) • 3 presentations at International Conference MarCoastEcos2012 (Tirana, Albania 25 – 28 April 2012) (192 oral and poster presentations from Albania, Algeria, Italy, Morocco, Turkey etc.) • A presentation at Biannual Meeting of UNDP Ecosystem</p>	<p>discuss the critical role of the Media in shaping public opinion and government policy initiatives to address the threat from climate change. • With the request from Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection 200 copies of the brochure ' On adapting agriculture to climate change' (in Albanian) were reprinted and disseminated to 128 Agriculture Service Centers all over the country.</p>
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							Management and Adaptation Projects (30-31 May Sofia, Bulgaria) A paper on 'Climate changes impacts on the Albanian coast and adaptation challenges' presented at International Conference of Ecosystems (ICE) Tirana, Albania, June 4-6, 2011, is published at IJEES magazine, volume 1, number 3, 2011.	
DRMD region's conservation and development programmes, plans and policies and climate change concerns in the DMRD integrated	Development programmes/ plans have been modified to address climate change adaptation measures (such as environmental zoning of the coastal area, tourism development, agriculture development, wastewater and sewage development plans)	Under the FNC, general response measures such as better in-situ conservation and monitoring have been identified	By the end of the project, at least five baseline programmes and policies modified as a result of risk assessment and scenario planning exercise;	The list of on-going projects/programmes was updated during the inception phase of the project. Meetings and discussions with project counterparts took place. The representative of the Directorate of Nature Protection of MoEFWA committed to cooperate during the project implementation by addressing the climate change impact in the coastal protection and DMRD	Based on the extensive studies conducted by the project under Outcome 1 some adaptation measures/actions are included in the Concept of Regional Development of Lezha for 2010-2015. This concept, still in a review stage, is the main Strategic Document for the Regional Development for the period 2010-2015. This document, developed by the Regional Council supported by German Association for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), represents the Intersectorial Strategy for a Sustainable Development. The development targets and the measures/actions to be implemented for the sectors: (i) economic development and infrastructure; (ii) education, health and culture; (iii) tourism, agro-business, fishery and forestry; and (iv) renewable energies and environment are addressed taking into consideration the long-term development as well. A number of adaptation measures such as: creation of "bio-corridors" to increase the connectivity of coastal protected areas and increase the adaptive capacity of ecosystems to climate change, prevention of coastal erosion and flood protection through use of traditional materials (build-in with nature), construction codes for new infrastructure that take into account climate change and sea level rise and climate change curricula in professional	• It is provided consultancy to the Regional Council of Lezha related to considering climate change and adaptation into development of the new sectorial strategies for (a) tourism and agro-tourism, and (b) forestry on December 2010. The project team is willing to provide consultancy in drafting of new development plan of Communes Shëngjini, Shënkoll and Fushë Kuqe. • Project report "Implementation of the National Plan for Approximation of Environmental Legislation in Albania - Mati River Basin Management Plan"	In addition to what is reported in the previous years, the project has reviewed a series of technical reports of other projects carried out and/or ongoing in the Lezha area and provided recommendations for integrating climate change response measures into development programming, regional and local planning summarized into 'Recommendations for integrating adaptation measures in development and infrastructure plans/programmes in DRMD area'. The study has assessed the degree to which identified adaptation measures can be implemented with the current mosaic of development and infrastructure plans/programmes in the DRMD region, informing at the same time a pathway for amending the development and infrastructure plans / programmes as required. Specifically, it is recommended that climate change adaptation be explicitly considered during the updating of all relevant local planning documents. • Project has had close contacts with the Regional Development Project for Northern Albania and GIZ to provide support on	The following programmes and policies were modified due to the project intervention: At local level: • Concept for development of Lezha Region (2010-2016) • Local strategies for tourism and agrotourism • Local strategy for forestry At country level : • The Management Strategy for the Conservation of Sea Turtles and their Habitats in Albania • Mati River basin Management Plan • The standard structure of management plans in Albania • Cross sectorial strategy for environment (in process) • Sector strategies for Agriculture, Energy [the latter two are part of the National strategy for Development and Integration 2014-2020 that is still in preparation process] • During the reporting period the report on "Recommendations for Integrating Adaptation Measures in Development and Infrastructure Plans/ Programmes in DMRD area was finalized and submitted to Lezha Regional Council, which

			<p>conservation plans for the Protected Areas. As a first step it was decided to have discussions aiming at incorporating some additional indicators in the National Monitoring Program for the coming years. These indicators will be proposed by the biodiversity and climatology experts in their reports. The Directory of Advisory Service & Agro Information of the General Directorate of Resource & Service Management within the Ministry of Agriculture expressed the interest to address climate change issues in their projects. Their Agricultural</p>	<p>education system, are part of the Concept of Regional Development as a key input by the SPA project .</p>	<p>(EC project) is reviewed and considers climate change & adaptation as an input by the DMRD project on December 2010. • The territorial coverage of PAs under project (Kune – Vain - Tale and Patok – Fushë Kuqe – Ishëm) is enlarged from 4500 to 9393.91 ha (Government Decrees no.432, dt.28.04.2010 and no.995, dt.03.11.2010). The work to prepare the package of amendments for integration of climate change adaptation into the management plan for this Protected Area is in the very first stages. This will be performed in collaboration with Directorate of Biodiversity & Directorate of Water resources and Fishery of MoEFWA.</p>	<p>approaches to integrate climate change into their programs. As result of project support, 'The Management Strategy for the Conservation of Sea Turtles and their Habitats in Albania' is addressing the climate change adaptation issues.</p>	<p>reacted positively. • As a result of the collaboration with working group for the Management Plan of Protected Areas in framework of the project "Institutional Support to the management of Protected Areas in Albania" (IC/IUCN) "The standard structure of management plans in Albania" has taken into consideration the climate change adaptation. • Project has continuously communicated with coordinator of the Regional Development Project for Northern Albania and GIZ to provide support on approaches to integrate climate change into their programs. As a result, the CCA was mainstreamed into the Regional Development Concept and the Regional Government encouraged local people to submit project proposals related to CCA , • With the project support climate change and adaptation issues are addressed into the "Cross-sectorial Strategy for Environment" and "Strategy of Rural and Agriculture Development in Albania" drafted in the frame of National Strategy for Development and integration, 2013-2020</p>
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			<p>Information Centers in Lezha and Shkodra Districts are open to work with farmers within the project area. Discussions with the Institute for Energy, Water and Environment are underway to locate a new meteorological station close to the project area, under the Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project, funded by the World Bank. Round tables with local government and experts of Department of Program and Development in Lezha Qark were organized. Local authorities have confirmed their support and understanding of the need to address climate change impacts</p>			
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				<p>and implement adaptation measures in their development plans. Local project coordinator will be assigned to be stationed in the Lezha region for continued communication and ensuring the local presence of the project. During the period October-December are planned to be organized two workshops for capacity building and awareness increase.</p>				
	<p>Implementation of adaptation response measures, as part of the development programs in the DMRD, initiated</p>	<p>Programming teams and documents do not take into account CC impacts on BD</p>	<p>By the end of the project, at least five adaptation measures designed and initiated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the report "Development of a monitoring program to assess the climate change impact on ecosystems and design of an integrated monitoring system" a set of additional indicators to detect the climate change impact on DMRD ecosystems is proposed. The report is in review stage and it will be the subject of further discussions with Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration. • A package with the key findings of the project on climate impact & change, climate scenarios is in preparation phase, to be distributed to the farmers all over the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per ecosystem monitoring see the information provided in Outc. 1 • The Directory of Advisory Service & Agro Information of the General Directorate of Resource & Service Management within the Ministry of Agriculture expressed the 	<p>The progress against this target is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drafting of Policy Paper is in process. An important chapter of this Paper, 'Integration the climate change issues in the Management plan of the Kune – Vain', dealing with addressing the adaptation in the Management Plan, is drafted in close consultation with experts of Nature Protection Directory (MoEFWA). The adaptation measures proposed consist of measures aimed at managing the coastal erosion, water exchange and adaptation to sea level 	<p>As reported above, the project has accomplished all the tasks as per work plan and logframe. The priority adaptation measures implemented during the project lifetime are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Paper 'Climate Change Adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Delta and Beyond', aimed at supporting Albania to take a more strategic approach to climate change adaptation and to ensure that the lessons from the DRMD project are learned and mainstreamed 	

					<p>country through Advisory Service & Agroinformation Centers (around 120 centers) of the Ministry of Agriculture.</p>	<p>interest to address climate change issues in their projects. In partnership with them, a brochure entitled “The expected climate change impacts on agriculture”, summarizing the project experience in this field, is drafted and distributed in 120 Agriculture Service Centres all over the country.</p>	<p>rise and extreme events. The measures present a combination of ecosystem based management (dune nourishment, planting, etc.) with hard engineering (construction of groyones, embankments for flood protection, maintenance of communication channels, etc.). As per MoEFWA proposal, this report will be included, at first, as an attachment to the existing MP of Kune-Vain PA and afterwards, during its revision in 2015, will be incorporated in this MP and also considered in MPs of other Coastal PAs. The Chapter is submitted to the MoEFWA for comments at a broader level. As per ecosystem monitoring see the information provided in Outc. 1. The data observations, processing and dissemination as per Integrated Monitoring Programme will improve the institutional preparedness to respond to coastal risks as well as determine the trends of coastal alterations that should feed into coastal development decisions. As per Dune Restoration (stabilization by plantation), a pilot (around 0.5 ha) degraded dune in Vaini area is selected by the project team in consultation with MoEFWA experts for planting with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (beach grass). The implementation of this adaptation measure aimed at restoration of degraded and damaged dunes from climate and sea erosion impacts; reestablishment of the natural diversity of the dune plants; removing the non-native (invasive)</p>	<p>across priority policies, sectors and programmes (as reported in Objective section) • Monitoring program of ecosystems of project area was integrated in the National Monitoring Program (as reported in Outc. 1). • Early Warning System for the extreme events established in DMRD area (as reported in Outc. 1). • adaptation measure ‘dune planting’ was implemented in a pilot area, as demonstration of restoration activities to combat erosion from sea level rise. According to the technical project, the Company has produced 20,250 seedlings of <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (beach grass, indigenous plant); out of them 16,875 seedlings are planted and 75% of them are grown and have good phytosanitary conditions, despite the difficult winter associated with heavy rain and flood. The remaining part of 3,375 seedlings is used to replace the damaged or covered by sand plants. • project fishes for the priority adaptation measures were developed (mid and long term) – there are 11 project proposals for adaptation and restoration measures implementation in DMRD. They were presented at the donor meeting from Regional Council of Lezha with MoEFWA support on 22 April 2013 (as reported in Outc. 1). Also two out of 11 proposals</p>
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						<p>plants that have disrupted inherited natural balance of dune system; this first experience on restoration to be used as a demonstration for the further coastal dune restoration. Owing to the problems related to a complex tendering process (incompliance of offers with tender requirements and tender re-launching), there is a delay in implementing of 'dune planting'. The first demonstration component, that of collection of rhizomes from native 'sea grass' to produce the seedlings failed to realize in due time (March-April 2012). The tendering process, which started in mid-March 2012, is closed at the mid-August 2012, with signing of contract by the selected company. Afterwards the company has immediately started with collection of seeds from native plants to produce the seedlings. A national expert is hired to train the local experts of Regional Council and Communes on drafting of the Follow-up project proposals (a total of 11 concepts, 2 full proposals) for further resource mobilization from the government and donor sources of funding. The head of Regional Council has endorsed the list of participants and approved the training program and agenda. The training material is under preparation. Training is scheduled for September 2012 and the proposals will be ready by mid-October 2012. In November, in cooperation with the Regional Council and MoEFA is planned to held a 'round table' of donors to present the</p>	<p>are formulated as full project proposal according to the EU formats to apply in environment field with priority studies in coastal areas. The brochure with project proposals was also presented on the occasion of 'Days of Lezha Region' held on premises of Regional Assembly of Europe on 21-22 March 2013.</p>
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							project fishes for resource mobilization for funding. The very first draft for development of a full size project – proposal on implementation of adaptation/restoration activities in DMRD area is produced and shared within the project team, Climate Change Programme and Cluster Manager at UNDP CO for comments.	
	Ability of the protected area network to provide effective protection to DMRD's globally significant biodiversity against climate-related risks is increased. Indicators for monitoring this are based on the GEF's METT approach of using proxy indicators, as follows: 1) Increased territorial coverage of PAs in the DMRD to increase habitat	4500 ha	9,394 ha		Three communes (Shëngjini, Shënkoll and Fushë Kuqe) are drafting adaptation plans, based on the adaptation toolkit developed in the frame of the project. The process is planned to be followed up with cost calculation of prioritized measures and selection of restoration activities. The last phase will be their implementation.	As a follow-up of regional and communes' adaptation plans, local people together with project team are designing the adaptation maps, i.e. identification of potential sites for adaptation implementation (see the information under outcome 2 as well). As a final result will be produced a GIS map of adaptation measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As reported in outcome 1, the risk and adaptation map produced in GIS format, have enabled the further steps in adaptation planning. 	As reported in 2010 the territorial coverage of PAs of Kune-Vain-Tale and Patok-FusheKuqe-Ishem are enlarged from 4500 to 9393.91 ha. A package of adaptation measures to increase ecosystem resilience were integrated into the Management Plan of KuneVaini PA, as reported under the Objective According to the new Law of Territorial Planning (came into force in September 2011) every local administrative unit is obliged to draft the new development plan. The three communes under the project area have the technical capacities, developed through the DMRD project, to mainstream climate change adaptation into these plans> The Shengjini Commune has already started and the two others plan to start depending on funding availability.

	heterogeneity, corridors							
	2) Management plan of expanded protected area takes into account climate information to define and implement additional conservation activities specifically targeted to increasing resilience to climate change (e.g., restoration of coastal dunes and other measures identified by the project)	Management plan does not include specific actions responding to climate change	At least 2 types of resilience measures specifically aimed at increasing coping capacity of the ecosystem to CC are taken into account within the PA management plan		Media trips with journalists of local and national media were organized in the project site. The local people interviewed mentioned the high vulnerability of the area, caused predominantly by erosion, flooding, strong winds and high temperatures in recent years and the need to take necessary measures. Every activity within the frame of the project (workshops, awareness activities) is presented in local and national media, namely LEZHA TV, M+, Rozafa TV (located in Shkodra Qark), NEWS24, TOP Channel.			In addition to adaptation measures implemented during the project lifetime, a Project Exit Strategy to provide a record of Project closeout activities that will promote sustainability of the investments made through the DMRD project is in place.
Capacity for adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons	Knowledge and capacity for upscale and replication is in place	No regions of Albania are considering the issue of adaptation to CC as there is not sufficient knowledge	By the end of the project, at least 2 other regions have requested a consultation and/or	The ToR to design a climate change communication strategy and an action plan (first phase), and implement the action plan (second phase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project, entering in partnership with UNEP, took the advantage and contributed substantially in training of representatives from 10 Regional Councils, covering almost all the Albanian territory, their municipalities and staff members of MoEFA (around 40 participants) in climate change impact and adaptation at the workshop "Territorial Approach to Climate Change". The platform of this workshop was used to present the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A national conference to present the main project results followed by a round table to discuss on potential adaptation measures with relevant stakeholder and project team 	An abundant information package on climate change risks from SLR and opportunities to adapt is shared (in electronic and hardcopy form) with other Coastal Regional Councils staffs during the National Conference "Adaptation to Climate Change – challenge for development" awareness activities carried out by SWH project under Climate Change Programme	Project has realized its target in potential disseminating information on climate change and adaptation issues in Albania. As previously reported, the experience gained in DMRD has already been shared with coastal regions, namely Shkodra, Durres, Fier and Vlore, as well as other inland regions through workshops,

						Strategy in the area and wider are: TV spot (in national and local TV channels), TV talk show, Radio spot, outdoor displays (billboards in the most visible area through Lezha National road), direct letters, educational packages, articles and press releases, posters, leaflets, website, facebook, etc. • The Adaptation Learning Mechanism page related to the project is updated in 2010 with new findings, actions and lessons learnt.		organized in Brussels in March 2013, by the Assembly of European Regions. In addition, the 'Donors' and other stakeholders' meeting has contributed in dissemination of project findings beyond the target area.
	Number of queries from other donors	No donors in Albania are considering the issue of adaptation to CC	By the end of the project, all donors who are active in vulnerable areas of Albania have had substantive discussions with the adaptation project		Not yet		As a follow-up of DMRD project findings, the adaptation component of the Albania's Third National Communication TNC will focus on development of an adaptation action plan for the coastal area, based on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). •One of the measures, proposed by local community in capacity building workshops, related to improvement of flood protection infrastructure along Mati River, aimed at protection of ecosystems and community activities, is considered by the project	Different Donors active in Albania, such as EU Delegation, GIZ, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Italian Cooperation, Albanian Development Fund, USAID and IUCN, have had discussions with the project and Regional Council related to implementation of adaptation measures to climate change. They have highly evaluated the project results and suggested some potential ways for implementation of adaptation measures at local scale (IPA, IPA Cross border,

			team.				<p>Infrastructure Projects Facility Technical Assistance Window (IPF TA) Western Balkans(EuropeAid/128073/C/SER/MULTI). The Feasibility Study performed, addresses the climate change threats on ecosystems as a direct contribution provided by the DMRD project. • Recently the project is closely working with the IUCN project ‘Institutional Support to the management of Protected Areas in Albania’, to provide support in integrating the climate change and adaptation into development of the ‘Standards for Management Plans for Albania’.</p>	<p>bilateral cooperation, etc.) especially during ‘Donors’ and other stakeholders’ meeting’. • The Feasibility Study for improvement of flood protection infrastructure along Mati River, adaptation measure proposed by local community in capacity building workshops in the frame of DMRD project, is funded by the Infrastructure Projects Facility Technical Assistance Window (IPF TA) Western Balkans (EuropeAid/128073/C/SER/MULTI). The Feasibility Study performed, addresses the climate change threats on ecosystems as a direct contribution provided by the DMRD project.</p>
			as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project, through the partnership with two other UNDP projects, has contributed to increase the awareness of community and schoolchildren in Gurëz village (Fushë Kuqe commune, Lezha district), related to the climate change and waste impact to coastal ecosystems in the frame of “International Day of Environment”. The device of the environment day was “Many species, a planet, and a future”. • A set of postcards with the main message "Climate changes, sealevel rise, intensive flooding and erosion will risk the ecosystems in Kune-Vain and Patok Lagoons", were produced within the frame of project by an Advertizing Company (MANIACARD), and distributed all over the country, especially in the coastal cities, to increase the awareness about the climate change impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study tour in Dranna Lagoon and Evro River Delta in Greece was organized to enable local stakeholders with knowledge and experiences from exemplar site of the Mediterranean countries which have a more advanced status and experience in Protected Areas management and administration. The participants from local community and project team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The findings and results of the DMRD project are shared in a Newsletter with respective results of Solar Water Heating Project, both under UNDP Climate Change Programme. • The social media, Facebook, is also used to share the adaptation to climate change and restoration practices with different interesting groups. • In collaboration with a regional TV Channel is organized a talk show with the theme “Climate Change in Albania”, where different local stakeholders, among others, emphasized the need to start implementing the adaptation/restoration measures to protect the wetland system and the social activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness increasing activities for community in the frame of ‘Climate Change Action Day’ and schoolchildren (high and ground schools in Lezhe, Shengjin, Ishull-Shengjin e Ishull-Lezhë) related to the climate change and waste impact to coastal ecosystems are continuously organized by the project. These activities were focused on impacts of the current extreme events in the area, how to cope with the likely impacts of climate change. The local community has participated actively in these events and is more aware of project findings. • All activities performed in the frame of project, such as capacity building workshops, awareness 	

					<p>became familiar with the restoration activities undertaken under the EU LIFE project to increase the ecosystem resilience and monitoring process in this lagoon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A postcard with the message "we may cope with the negative impacts of flood, drought and storm surges if we act on due time. That's the right time to adapt to climate change", is produced and distributed from the communication company all over the country, in the frame of the DMRD communication campaign. 		<p>increase activities are presented in national and local media. Project has organized a media field trip with national and local journalists to the project site to present the vulnerability of the area and the likely climate change impacts and the pressure of the other drivers. 2 articles published in the national newsletters, 3 in local newspapers after these activities, 5 interviews in national, 2 in international (Euronews, BBC) and 4 in local TV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project results are made present in UNDP Climate Change Adaptation Bulletin (Nr. 10, October 2012) and after in Balkanweb (November 2012). • Project has prepared and shared the Programme Newsletter where are presented the findings and results of the project during its implementation. Different activities developed from the project are presented to exchange the useful information about the resilience of the coastal areas and especially the protected areas. • Project has used the Facebook to share its findings and results between different interesting groups for the adaptation practices to climate change and restoration.
				<p>All activities performed in the frame of project, such as capacity building workshops, awareness increase activities in communes and celebration of Environmental Day, were</p>	<p>All activities performed in the frame of project during the reference</p>		

				<p>presented at different News Bulletins from regional television channels, such as TV Lezha, TV M +, TV Rozafa,, that covering the northern part of Albania. They are also presented by national television channels, such as TVSH (National Albanian Television) Top News and ORA News that cover all Albanian territory. In the News Bulletins, chronicles (from 2.5 to 4 minutes) have presented the project, its objectives, the vulnerability of project area, the climate change risks. These chronicles are associated with pictures / photos of the activity and short movies illustrating the climate sensitivity and identifying the problems. A media field trip with national and local journalists has been organized in the project site (http://www.undp.org.al/index.php?page=g/gal). An article has been published to one of the national newsletter, named "Panorama" where the journalist presented the main findings from the studies carry out for the DMRD as a result of the climate change impacts. TV M+ Channel, in its weekly emission "Dimension" (direct transmission) has invited the Local Coordinator to answer questions about the climate vulnerabilities in the area, the way to minimize damages caused by extreme events (especially the area has been effected by a severe flooding during December 2009-January 2010 because of combined effect of storm surge and sea tide).</p>	<p>period, were presented at different News Bulletins from regional and national television channels. • A TV Program under the SHQIP format in TOP Channel on Climate Change issues in Albania is produced. This program has been a communication bridge between the wider public to expand different studies and findings on climate change and especially for the progress of the project. The project activities are presented as part of adaptation activities undertaken in Albania. • Also project staff has participated at different national and international conferences, presenting present the project and its findings. These have been a good experience in expanding of the lessons learned of</p>		
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						<p>the knowledge base in terms of adaptation to climate change in our country. • UNDP in collaboration with project has produced a short documentary for the main concerns in climate change and especially for the project findings and adaptation activities undertaken on the project site. This documentary is uploaded in UNDP Albania website and also in YouTube.</p>		
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RATINGS OF PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

DO Rating: Please review the Development Objective Progress page of this APR/PIR and then answer the questions below. A DO rating will be generated based on your answers.	
1	Please rate the cumulative progress being made toward achieving the end-of-project targets as reported in the project results framework in the DO page of this APR/PIR
2	Please rate the likelihood that the project will deliver environmental and social benefits for an extended period after project completion?
3	Please rate the likelihood that social or political risks may threaten the sustainability of project outcomes
Project Manager/Coordinator: Is the person managing the day to day operations of the project.	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects where appropriate.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
Overall 2009 Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	Highly Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	Highly Satisfactory
2013 Rating	Highly Satisfactory
Comments	<p>During the reporting period the tasks' accomplishment has continued in the same positive trend of previous years. The main project achievements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy strategies recommended by the Policy Paper "Climate change adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Deltas and beyond" to provide the proactive adaptation to climate change risks in the entire Albanian coastal area are included into the 'Cross-sectorial Strategy for Environment' and the "Strategy of Rural and Agriculture Development in Albania", as principle components of the "National Strategy for Development and Integration (2014-2020)", the very important strategic document for Albania. A package of amendments for integration of adaptation measures into the management plan (MP) for Kune-Vaini Protected Area is approved by MoEFWA and is submitted to the KV Administration and Regional Forest Directory to be taken into consideration for implementation. The adaptive capacities of Lezha Regional Council and communes administrations are further strengthened through developing their skills to write projects proposals for implementation of priority adaptation measures to climate change. As a direct

result 11 project fiches and two full proposals according to EU template to apply for multi donor funding are drafted. In addition, the Regional Council has presented the proposals at the 'Donors' and other stakeholders' meeting held in April 2013. The donors in attendance have highly evaluated the work carried out and presented some potential ways for adaptation implementation (IPA, IPA Cross border, bilateral cooperation, etc.).

- Throughout a close collaboration with the National Environmental and Forestry Agency (MoEFWA) and CEMSA (EU project), all climate change indicators reported in previous PIR are integrated into National Monitoring Program of Environment (NMP). Although NMP is still in process, the integrated ecosystem monitoring in the DMRD has operationally started since 2012. Moreover, through close collaboration with IGewe, the Early Warning System is accessible which enables the Prefecture and the Regional Council of Lezha to inform on real time the local community on climate related disasters and take the necessary measures for protection. The implementation of these both priority adaptation measures covers 100% of ecosystem area concerned.
- Project has implemented a 'soft' adaptation measure 'dune planting'. As per the technical project, 20,250 seedlings of *Ammophila arenaria* (beach grass, indigenous plant) are produced and planted in a pilot area of 0.5 ha as demonstration of restoration activities to combat erosion from sea level rise. Despite the difficult winter 2012-2013, associated with heavy rain and flood, they are grown and have good phytosanitary conditions.
- As a follow-up of DMRD project findings, the adaptation component of the Albania's Third National Communication TNC will focus on development of an adaptation action plan for the coastal area, based on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).
- A package of recommendations for integrating adaptation measures in existing development and infrastructure plans/programmes in the Drini-Mati River Deltas (DMRD) region is drafted and submitted to Lezha Regional Council for consideration
- "The standard structure of management plans in Albania" has taken into consideration the climate change adaptation as a direct contribution of the DMRD project. 15 new MP are currently in drafting process according to this modified template.
- A synthesis report of technical studies, conducted as part of the DMRD project, is ready for publication in English and Albanian. In this document non-technical and technical summaries are presented along with a synopsis of the adaptation measures that have emerged from the project. Institutional tools and methods using the concept of ICZM are also presented.
- Awareness increasing activities for community and schoolchildren (attending the last year of 4 high and ground schools, around 350 children) related to the climate change and waste impact to coastal ecosystems are continuously organized by the project. Different awareness materials produced on climate change risk and adaptation are distributed in the project area and beyond. Thanks to these activities, the schoolchildren are aware of CC risk and need for adaptation and the local government has included adaptation issues in development plans, developed adaptation proposals and is seeking opportunities to implement identified adaptation measures.
- Project Exit Strategy to provide a record of Project closeout activities that will promote sustainability of the investments made through the DMRD project is in place.
- No critical risks are evaluated during the reporting period of project implementation.

UNDP Country Office Programme Officer: Is the UNDP programme officer in the UNDP country office who provides oversight and supervision support to the project.

MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.

Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.

1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating, for example, if your rating differs from the rating provided by the project manager please explain why.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
Overall 2009 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	<p>The project has brought the climate change and adaptation issues into the sustainable development and planning processes in the Drini Mati river deltas, as well as in the country programming activities. During the project lifetime major focus was put in securing the sustainability of the institutional framework and governance. The contributions to policies and planning and the integration of climate change issues within them provide stable sustainability in this respect. The three main elements to project sustainability i.e. engagement, capacity building and integration/mainstreaming have been key successes in achieving the sustainability of the project in terms of socio-economic factors, institutional framework and governance. The inclusion of a broad range and level of stakeholders (over 14 different institutions in the regions and communes and many more individuals) have also secured the ownership of the project outcomes on a very wide portion of the population. The cooperation and engagement of central, regional and local institutions yielded very good results in long term basis. At central level climate change adaptation is being introduced for the first time in the environment cross cutting strategy and has also informed the process of formulation of 'National Strategy for Development and Integration 2013-2020' which is the framework strategy in the country guiding country development and European Union integration process. During this process 4 sectorial and cross sectorial strategies (part of the NSDI) have considered climate change adaptation. Thanks to the project it has been established a good source of knowledge in Albania on integrated coastal zone management. There is a solid technical basis created which provides pertinent analysis on geomorphology, anthropogenic pressures and costs & benefits. Albania is home to core adaptation assessment experts in the region partially due to the capacity development success of this project. With this great wealth of information and source of expertise, the Government of Albania has great opportunities to continue up-scaling of the project results and findings through the design of a comprehensive coastal management system for Albania which would follow the integrated coastal zone management ICZM approach in line also with European Union requirements country's driving force to development. At regional level, the regional council of Lezha organizing the biggest donor meeting on environment of the year (2013) presenting the adaptation measures turned into project fiches provided a good example of a decentralization of power, of a local authority investing in raising capacities to improve the livelihood of its communities and being pro-active. This provides a sound framework and basis upon which to entrust project work and build on solid grounds for further replication in other coastal vulnerable areas in the country. At local level communes have successfully developed local plans with strong emphasis on local adaptation. The participatory processes in the elaboration of those plans have improved the transparency of these processes and the regional and commune leaders have increased their accountability to</p>

	<p>the inhabitants. The interests of the leaders to provide their communities with solutions and to capitalize on the momentum that has currently been achieved in attracting attention to the local's adaptation issues is considered as a good indication of the sustainability of the investments made in their capacities. This can be further promoted in the country in line as well with local adaptation approach formulated in the European Union strategy for climate change adaptation. Solid partnerships built during the project lifetime with EU, IUCN, etc ensured mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in the national environment monitoring programme; approved unified structure for development of management plans for protected areas, the first river basin management plan i.e. Mati river</p>
<p><u>Project Implementing Partner: Is the representative of the executing agency (in GEF terminology). This would be Government (for NEX/NIM execution) or NGO (for CSO Execution) or an official from the Executing Agency (for example UNOPS).</u></p>	
<p>RECOMMENDED but NOT MANDATORY for projects under implementation in one country and regional projects.</p>	
<p>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.</p>	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
<p><u>Project Implementing Partner</u></p>	
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	<p>During the project implementation, in every step of its implementation we felt ourselves a part of it. Today the Regional Council of Lezha possess a valuable asset which consist on increased capacity building, quality products prepared by the project as well as awareness rising of the population in the region. This project has had great impact at the local level, regional and central level.</p>
<p><u>GEF Operational Focal point: Is the government representative in the country designed as the GEF operation focal point.</u></p>	
<p>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.</p>	

Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.

1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.

GEF Operational Focal point

Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	

Other Partners: For jointly implemented projects, a representative of the other Agency working with UNDP on project implementation (for example UNEP or the World Bank).

RECOMMENDED but NOT MANDATORY for jointly implemented projects.

Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.

1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.

Other Partners

Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	

Comments	
UNDP Technical Adviser: Is the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for all projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating (do not repeat the project objective).
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	
Overall 2009 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	The project is rated highly satisfactory as it has fully achieved its end-of-project targets implementing two types of resilience enhancing measures that cover not only 100% of ecosystem pilot area (prodoc target 45%) but also extend beyond pilot area – to Lezha city. The Local Government has stated at the Donor’s meeting organized by the project that the DMRD project is a great asset for the Region taking into account the database created, capacities built and awareness increased. The overall DMRD project implementation was rated as ‘highly satisfactory’ by the Terminal Evaluation. The TE Report states that ‘The project is successful in meeting the main objectives of the UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNDP and GEF and the Government of Albania. The project addresses well the development objectives of the country and it was exceptional in its ability to address the needs of the beneficiaries at the regional level. The project was instrumental in raising awareness and understanding in the community on climate change and adaptation.’ The project was also considered a best practice in several areas, namely capacity development, stakeholders’ engagement, mainstreaming as well as a best practice in terms of a good system of results-based reporting and using monitoring and

evaluation as a tool for promoting adaptive management. More specifically, under the Outcome 1, the target to provide access by the end of project to 60% of the local organizations and/or populations to systematic data on climate and adaptation has been reached. Key achievements here include: (i) Development of the Integrated Ecosystem Monitoring Programme, which is combined with an Early Warning System that provides real time information to the local government. Integrated ecosystem monitoring in the DMRD already started in 2012; (ii) Integration of climate change indicators into the National Monitoring Program of Environment; (iii) Increased capacity of Lezha Regional Council and communes administrations in project proposal writing. 11 adaptation/restoration project fiches and two full proposals were developed and presented at the Donor's meeting; (iv) Under the Outcome 2, the project has also achieved the planned targets: a. at least five baseline programmes and policies modified as a result of risk assessment and scenario planning exercise. The following programmes and policies were modified due to the project intervention: (1) at the local level: Concept for development of Lezha Region (2010-2016), Local strategies for tourism and agrotourism, Local strategy for forestry; (2) at national level: the Management Strategy for the Conservation of Sea Turtles and their Habitats in Albania, Mati River basin Management Plan, the standard structure of management plans in Albania, Cross sectorial strategy for environment, Sector strategies for Agriculture and Energy [work in progress]. b. at least five adaptation measures designed and initiated: (1) Monitoring System to detect climate change impact on ecosystems; (2) Early Warning System ; (3) 'dune planting' demonstration; (4) Recommendations of the Policy Paper \"Climate change adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Deltas and beyond\" were included into the Cross-sectorial Strategy for Environment of National Strategy for Development and Integration (2014-2020); (5) Package of amendments for integration of adaptation measures into the management plan of the Kune-Vaini Protected Area was approved by MoEFWA and forwarded to the PA administration for implementation. c. Increased territorial coverage of PAs in the DMRD - from 4500 ha to 9393.91 ha. Under the Outcome 3, the project has also achieved both its targets. The Miloti Commune (beyond the project area) based on the DMRD project information has drafted and submitted a proposal to the Regional Development Programme for Northern Albania (financed by Austrian Development Agency and Swiss Development Agency). Following the request of regions not covered by the DRMD project, the MoEFWA recommended that the adaptation component of the Albania's Third National Communication TNC would focus on development of an adaptation action plan for the coastal area (5 regions), based on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). The implementation of TNC project started in September 2012. As mentioned before, the project should be commended for its work with stakeholders and awareness raising activities. Brochures, leaflets and other awareness raising

	<p>materials were published and distributed by the project, including the brochure "How we can adapt to climate change - Drini-Mati Rivers' deltas coastal area". The project established an annual climate change and adaptation week in the DMRD area (in October). Resulting from the success of this event, the local authorities have announced 10 October as a "Climate Change Day". In addition to maintaining cooperation with donors during the project implementation, a donor meeting was conducted on 23 April 2013, and all major donors who are active in vulnerable areas of Albania were in attendance, including: EU Delegation, GIZ, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Italian Cooperation, Albanian Development Fund, USAID, IUCN.</p>
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	<p>Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.</p>
Satisfactory (S)	<p>Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.</p>
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	<p>Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.</p>
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	<p>Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives.</p>
Unsatisfactory (U)	<p>Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.</p>
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	<p>The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

IP rating: Please review the Implementation Progress page of this APR/PIR and then answer the questions below. An overall IP rating will be generated based on your answers.	
1	Please rate the progress in delivery of outputs. For example, do the annual outputs represent sufficient progress in order to achieve the project outcomes (see DO page of this APR/PIR)?
2	Please rate the efficiency in delivery of outputs. For example, in this reporting period are budget resources being spent as planned? (i.e. is project delivery on target?)
3	Please rate the quality of risk management. For example, in this reporting period were project risks managed effectively?
4	Please rate the quality of adaptive management. For example, in this reporting period were actions taken to address implementation issue identified in the APR/PIR last year?
5	Please rate the quality of monitoring and evaluation. For example, in this reporting period were sufficient financial resources allocated to project monitoring and evaluation
Project Manager/Coordinator: Is the person managing the day to day operations of the project.	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects where appropriate.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Summarize annual progress and address timelines of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.
3.	Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.
Overall 2009 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is managed efficiently during the reporting year. The management team has been fully operational. All the activities are realized as per Annual Work Plan. The experts, national and international, have successfully accomplished their tasks providing a valuable contribution in recommending the pathways to addressing climate change adaptation into Management plan of Kune-Vain

	<p>Protected Area, into Regional Development Programmes/projects, as well as the Cross-sectorial Strategies of Environment and Agriculture for the National Strategy for Development and Integration (2014-2020).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capacities of the new technical staff (in the Regional Council and communes), recruited after the local elections in 2011 on climate change risks and adaptation issues, are built. They are aware of the benefits of ecosystem based adaptation to increase the livelihood resilience. They have full access to climate change impact information and adaptation options through dissemination of project findings, UNDP Climate Change Programme website and media programmes/activities. • Their skills to draft project proposals with special focus on implementation of adaptation/restoration activities are enhanced. • • Project expenditures in relation to the budget for the referring period, July 2012 – 30 June 2013, have been 82.4%. The UNDP co-financing has been delivered for 2013. The Government has provided about 99% of the total co-financing. The greatest share of Government co-financing is used for implementation of adaptation measures. • • The overall DMRD project implementation is 'highly satisfactory' by the Terminal Evaluation. It is also considered a best practise in terms of capacity development; a best practice in terms of a good system of results-based reporting and using monitoring and evaluation as a tool for promoting adaptive management; a best practise for supporting mainstreaming, etc.
<p>UNDP Country Office Programme Officer: Is the UNDP programme officer in the UNDP country office who provides oversight and supervision support to the project.</p>	
<p>MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.</p>	
<p>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. The QORs and delivery data in the ERBM portfolio project monitoring report should inform your rating. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.</p>	
1.	<p>Explain why you gave a specific rating. If your rating differs from the rating provided by the project manager please explain why.</p>
2.	<p>Summarize annual progress and address timeliness of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.</p>
3.	<p>Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.</p>
Overall 2009 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory

2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	<p>The project has implemented the activities according to the endorsed work plan in a very effective and efficient fashion. The steering committee meeting has convened twice per year serving like a governance structure for major implementation challenges. The government cost sharing has been delivered accordingly and the disbursement rate has followed the expected delivery till the end of the project. During the period under evaluation project has successfully finalised its activities marking the end of the project lifetime. The major achievements of the project have been the identification of climate change adaptation measures through a high participatory approach and implementation of 5 adaptation measures. Thus, enhancing resilience of Drini Mati river deltas coastal area through increased capacities to monitor and respond to anticipated climate change impacts at the institutional and community levels. In the same time the project has mainstreamed climate change adaptation at strategic level i.e. development of 4 sector and cross sector strategies as an integral feature of National Strategy for Development and Integration 2013 – 2020. In the same time climate change adaptation is provided in the endorsed structure for the management plans, as per the Minister Order 148, dated 21.02.2013. Due to the effectiveness of its partnership approach, the project management team used all opportunities to engage partners and avoid duplication of activities which were being conducted by other partners. In this way the project has increased its co-financing and parallel financing beyond that which was identified in the project document. The calculation of these inputs and costs borne by other entities include: - costs for the office space and supplies of the Local Project Coordinator, who is hosted by the Regional Council of Lezha; - coordination with the EU project "Consolidation of the Environmental Monitoring System in Albania" (CEMSA) which is assisting the Ministry of Environment in the development of the national monitoring system through the expansion and consolidation of an operational Integrated Environmental Monitoring System (IEMS). The project was able to work with the CEMSA project to integrate climate change monitoring elements in the national monitoring system; - as a result of collaboration with the working group for the Management Plan of Protected Areas in the framework of the project "Institutional Support to the management of Protected Areas in Albania" (supported by IUCN), climate change adaptation has been taken into consideration in the development of a standard for the structure of management plans for protected areas; - through coordination with GIZ-German Association for Technical Cooperation, integrated climate change and adaptation measures in the development strategy for the Regional Council of Lezha. Supported by the project local authorities rehabilitated 4,500 square meters of degraded sand dunes in both sides of Gryka e Matkeqes-Vain (protected area) critical for buffering the vulnerable coast from sea surges and long term rising sea levels. This demonstration dune restoration - planting with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> native plant will create good grounds for further replication in similar vulnerable coast areas. During the period under evaluation project was subject of an external audit the results were satisfactory (the highest evaluation level) and</p>

	there were no high or medium risks identified. Also the terminal evaluation was conducted highlighting project very good results best practices and recommendations on reinforcing the initial benefits of the project.
<u>Project Implementing Partner: Is the representative of the executing agency (in GEF terminology). This would be Government (for NEX/NIM execution) or NGO (for CSO Execution) or an official from the Executing Agency (for example UNOPS).</u>	
RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	
<u>GEF Operational Focal point: Is the government representative in the country designed as the GEF operation focal point.</u>	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
<u>Other Partners: For jointly implemented projects, a representative of the other Agency working with UNDP on project implementation (for example UNEP or the World Bank).</u>	
RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for jointly implemented projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep	

word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	
UNDP Technical Adviser: Is the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for ALL projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. The QORs and delivery data in the ERBM portfolio project monitoring report should inform your rating. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating. If your rating differs from the rating provided by the UNDP Country Office Programme Officer and/or the Project Manager please explain why.
2.	Summarize annual progress and address timelines of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.
3.	Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.
UNDP Technical Adviser	
Overall 2009 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Overall 2010 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2011 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(HS) Highly Satisfactory
Comments	The Terminal Evaluation concluded that the project implementation was very successful for this project and both MTE and TE found the project

management team to be of an 'inordinately high standard'. The project management team provided an environment which was very open and responsive to partners. The project was considered by the MTE as a best practice in terms of a good system of results-based reporting and using monitoring and evaluation as a tool for promoting adaptive management. All the activities were implemented in accordance with the annual work plan and all key activities that were supposed to be implemented during the project lifetime were finalized. The Terminal Evaluation was conducted on schedule and Management Response has been prepared. The project exist strategy was developed and is being followed. The project has been closed operationally and will be closed financially by early 2014. The project has been managed efficiently and effectively with 82.4% delivery in the reporting period. An external audit (both financial and procurement) granted the project the highest rating – satisfactory. The project management team was commended in the TE as a success and a best practice in results-based management and adaptive management. One example of successful adaptive management in the reporting period is continuous active engagement of newly recruited after the local elections in 2011 technical staff of the Regional Council of Lezhe and communes in the project implementation. Thanks to the project proactive work with the new staff, including training them on climate change risks and adaptation issues and re-printing some publications (e.g. strategy on climate change and adaptation), the project had their full support and achieved the same level of awareness as prior to the elections. The head of Regional Council stated at the donor meeting that they should continue work that the project started and that the 'project is not ending but starting for us'. In general, project's engagement with stakeholders was highly successful and can be seen as a best practice, which is confirmed by the TE. The project managed to maintain coordination and collaboration with a large number of different players at four levels (national, regional, local/communes level stakeholders and donor agencies active in the Lezha region) to ensure their continuous engagement in the project. The successful approach included first of all responsiveness to the needs expressed by stakeholders, but also development of the Stakeholder Involvement Plan, daily communication with stakeholders, placement of local coordinator at the regional council in the project area, organization of targeted w/shops and trainings. Several project outputs have been adjusted in order to adapt to the interests of the stakeholders. At the national conference in November 2011, the stakeholders emphasized importance of taking the identified by the project adaptation priorities further and developing concrete project proposals. In response, the project organized eight proposal development training sessions at the end of 2012. As a result, 11 project proposals were developed and showcased at a donor conference. The Project Steering Committee met twice during the reporting period and supported important project decisions, such as implementation of short term adaptation measures: dune planting, update of Kune-Vain Management Plan, integrating monitoring into NMP for environment, etc. Gender representation has been balanced and women were specifically engaged in capacity building activities, including writing project proposals (6 Project Identification Forms out of

	11 were drafted by women) and awareness raising activities.
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

PROGRESS IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Outcome 1- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: Capacities to monitor and respond to anticipated climate change impacts in the DMRD at the institutional and community levels developed

• The National Monitoring Program of Environment integrates indicators for monitoring climate change impacts on ecosystems, as recommended in the Integrated Ecosystem Monitoring Programme (IEM), developed by DMRD project. IEM, operational since 2012, is performed by the National Agency of Environment and Forestry throughout contracts with specialized agencies and covers 100% of DMRD ecosystem area. Early Warning System is accessible in real time to inform the local community on climate related disasters. • The capacities of local administration to respond to climate change impacts are further developed. They are trained to draft project files and full proposals on implementation of adaptation measures. The brochure with proposals is presented at a 'Donors' and other stakeholders' meeting, organized by Regional Council of Lezha in April 2013. • The synthesis report of technical studies, conducted as part of the DMRD project, is ready for publication. It will be distributed to different stakeholders in Lezha and other coastal Regions. • The brochure "How we can adapt to climate change – Drini-Mati Rivers' deltas coastal area" (in a non-technical language in Albanian) is published and disseminated at different community levels in DMRD area, aimed to increase the capacities and awareness on ecosystem-based adaptation as an important tool to face with climate change impacts.

Outcome 2- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: DRMD region's conservation and development programmes, plans and policies and climate change concerns in the DMRD integrated

As per workplan and logframe, during the project lifetime are implemented priority adaptation measures: • a Policy Paper 'Climate Change Adaptation in the Drini-Mati River Delta and Beyond' is drafted. It supports Albania to take a more strategic approach to climate change adaptation and to ensure that the lessons from the DRMD project are learned and mainstreamed across priority policies, sectors and programmes. The recommendations are included into Cross-sectorial Strategies for Environment, Agriculture, Energy, and Health of the NSDI. • DMRD Programme of integrated ecosystems is part of National Monitoring Program for Environment. Early warning for the extreme events in DMRD area is operational • 11 Project Identification Forms and 2 full proposals are drafted and the Regional Council is making the efforts to ensure donors' financing for implementation in the future. • Implementation of a 'soft' adaptation measure 'dune planting' in a pilot area, as demonstration of restoration activities to combat erosion from sea level rise is carried out; In addition to adaptation measures • The climate change adaptation is integrated into the Management Plan of Kune-Vain PA and in the "The standard structure of management plans in Albania"; • The local capacities already built will enable mainstreaming climate change adaptation into the new development plans at the local level, according to the new Law of Territorial Planning; and • The Project Exit Strategy to monitor the sustainability of the investments made through the DMRD project drafted.

Outcome 3- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: Capacity for adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons developed.

• Local government and community of Albania coastal areas are aware of the need for adaptation/restoration for the protection against

climate change impacts, through:

- Project publications are disseminated in different awareness and media activities, relevant information is regularly uploaded in the Lezha Regional Council webpage and stakeholders have free access in the UNDP Climate Change website;
- Awarenessraising activities, such as the 'Climate Change Action Day', in-situ application of 'dune planting' adaptation, lectures targeted to schoolchildren (high and ground schools), talk shows and outdoor activities are organized.
- As a follow-up of DMRD project findings, the adaptation component of the Albania's Third National Communication TNC focuses on development of an adaptation action plan for the coastal area, based on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
- Two communes, Miloti and Fushë Kuqe, Commune have submitted a proposal to the call of Regional Development Programme for North Albania (RDP, financed by ADA and Swiss DA) related to 'Feasibility study on wastewater treatment' based on one of the full proposals on adaptation measures implementation drafted in the frame of DMRD.
- Different donors, such as EU Delegation, GIZ, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Italian Cooperation, Albanian Development Fund, USAID and IUCN, have evaluated the project results related to adaptation to climate change and suggested some potential ways for implementation of adaptation measures at local scale (IPA, IPA Cross border, bilateral cooperation, etc.).

Adjustments

Adjustments to Project Milestones, Project Strategy and Risk Management.

Key Project Milestones

Have significant delays occurred in the project start, inception workshop, Mid-term Review, Terminal Evaluation or project duration?

Yes

If yes, were these changes reported in a previous APR/PIR?

Yes

Key project milestone	Scope of delay (in months)	Briefly describe change or reason for change	Briefly describe the implications or consequences this has had on project implementation
Project Start (i.e. project document signature date)			
Inception Workshop			
Mid-term Review			
Terminal Evaluation			
Project Duration (i.e. project extension)			

Adjustments to Project Strategy

Has the project made any changes to its strategy (i.e. logframe/results framework) since the Project Document was signed?

Yes

If yes, were these changes reported in a previous APR/PIR?

Yes

Change Made to	Yes/No	Briefly describe the change and the reason for that change
Project Objective		
Project Outcomes		
Project Outputs/Activities		

Risk Management

List number of critical risks as noted in the ATLAS risk log and briefly describe actions undertaken this reporting period to address each critical risk.

# of Critical Risks (type/description)	Risk management measures undertaken this reporting period

Adjustments general comments:

No critical risks assessed during the project lifetime.

Finance: cumulative from project start to June 30 2013

DISBURSEMENT OF GEF GRANT FUNDS

How much of the total GEF grant as noted in Project Document plus any project preparation grant has been spent so far? (e.g. PPG + MSP or FSP amount. Do not break down by PPG or project budget.)

Estimated cumulative total disbursement as of 30 June 2013. (i.e.CDR information up to 20 June 2013)	999302.00
Add any comments on GEF Grant Funds	The amount presents the total GEF fund spent as follows: USD 24,900 for preparatory phase PDF A and USD 974,402 are the project cumulative expenses as of 30 June 2013.

DISBURSEMENT OF CO-FINANCING

How much of the total Co-financing as noted in Project Document has been spent so far? Co-financing is the amount committed in the project document for which co-financing letters are available

Estimated cumulative total co-financing disbursed as of 30 June this year. Please breakdown by donor.	974067.00
Add any comments on co-financing including other types and amounts of additional co-financing such as in-kind, private sector, grants, credits and loans.	1) Note on the correct amount of planned co-financing: the planned co-financing in the project document is US\$ 984, 525. 2) The amount presents the total government contribution cash-

	USD 89,064; in kind - USD 50,000 and parallel financing USD 740,000; UNDP co financing 50,503 and REC parallel financing USD 44,500
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ADDITIONAL LEVERAGED RESOURCES

These additional resources can be from the same donors or new donors.

Estimated cumulative leveraged resources as of 30 June 2013	0.00
Add any comments on Leveraged Resources.	N/A

Other Financial Instruments

Does the project provide funds to other Financial Instruments?	N
If yes, please discuss developments that occurred this reporting period only.	

Communications and KM

Tell the Story of Your Project and What has been Achieved this Reporting Period

During its implementation the project has addressed the development objectives of the country, especially the needs of the beneficiaries at the regional level. As already evaluated by the TE the project was instrumental in raising awareness and understanding in the community on climate change and adaptation. The Climate Change Day (in October) established by the project, become an annual event to continue providing topical information to the inhabitants of the area for improved resilience against the climate. Regional authorities are trained and motivated to continue attracting investments to the area for the implementation of adaptation measures designed and prioritized through the activities conducted by the project with the local community representatives. People have been fully engaged, aware and feel a high level of ownership for the adaptation measures proposed. The most notable achievement during the reporting period consists of implementing of the priority adaptation measures, namely: A. Policy Paper on the integration of Climate Change adaptation issues in strategic programs and development plans is developed and recommendations are considered in drafting of Cross-sectorial Strategy for Environment and the "Strategy of Rural and Agriculture Development in Albania". The climate change adaptation is mainstreamed into the sector strategies for Energy and Health. All these documents are part of National Strategy for Development and integration (2014-2020), which is the most strategic document of the country and is still under preparation; B. the DMRD Integrated Ecosystem Monitoring Program (IEM) is included into the National Monitoring Programme for Environment and the IEM monitoring is operational since the second half of 2012; C. Early Warning System for the extreme events in DMRD area is operational and accessible online by the Prefecture and the Regional Council of Lezha. This provides real time information on climate related disasters and enables the local community to take the necessary measures for protection. D. Implementation of a 'soft' adaptation measure, 'dune planting' (a demonstration of dune stabilization by plantation with *Ammophila arenaria*, 'beach grass' in a pilot area of 0.5 ha), is carried out during October-November 2012. Despite the difficult

winter 2012-2013, associated with heavy rain and flood, they are grown and have good phytosanitary conditions and the coastline segment is stable. E. Drafting of 11 Project Identification Forms and 2 full proposals on implementation of adaptation measures to climate change as a follow-up of DRDM project, by the local experts, actively participating at the capacity building process. They are presented in a 'Donors and other stakeholders meeting' and the Regional Council is making further efforts to ensure the multiple donors' financing (IPA 2013, IPA Cross-border, SCCF, bilateral funding, etc.), for their implementation in the future. In the frame of the project are also prepared: F. A package of amendments for integration of adaptation measures into the management plan (MP) for Kune-Vaini Protected Area is preliminary included as an Annex and will be integral part of MP during its revision by 2015. MoEFA has submitted this package to the KV Administration and Regional Forest Directory to be taken into consideration for implementation. G. A package of recommendations for integrating adaptation measures in existing development and infrastructure plans/programmes in the Drini-Mati River Deltas (DMRD) region. H. A synthesis report of technical studies, published in English and Albanian, that presents the main project findings on climate change risk assessment and adaptation measures that have emerged from the project. I. "The standard structure of management plans in Albania" has taken into consideration the climate change adaptation as a direct contribution of the DMRD project. All the technical information produced is disseminated to a broad audience at the 'Donors and other stakeholders' meeting', activities organized by the UNDP Climate Change Programme (Solar Water Heating and Third National Communication projects) and different awareness activities. To be mentioned are the activities organized on the occasion of "Climate Change Action Day". A demonstration of an adaptation/restoration measure in the DriniMati River Deltas (DMRD) which consisted in dune restoration through grass planting - *Amophila arenaria*" was made. During the event an exhibition with paintings drawn by students of the public schools of Lezha Region on the topic: "Climate Change and Adaptation Challenges" is displayed. The activities have been presented in the local and national media. A 2013 wall calendar with photos from the DMRD area and SWH installations is printed out and distributed. The project webpage (www.ccalb.org) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/undpccp.albania>) are updated on regularly basis.

Adaptive Management this Reporting Period

During the reporting year project continued to work on building the capacities of the new technical staff of the Lezha Regional Council and Communes on climate change risks and the ways to adapt. This is done through a parallel training in series of workshops on drafting project proposals on adaptation implementation. The main outcome of the project is that the local people are deeply convinced on the need to act quickly to reduce the damages related to climate. Otherwise the consequences will be irreversible. Considering DMRD project not as coming to the end at this stage, but as a starting point of the challenge they are facing with, the Regional Council has made clearly known the support to continue with the implementation of the project proposals at the SC meeting (February 2013) and the "Donors' and other stakeholders' meeting" (April 2013). In addition, the Regional Council has given a great support in organizing the activities on the occasion of 'Climate Change Action Day', and particularly in the 'dune planting', as a 'soft' adaptation measure that might be implemented in other areas to protect the ecosystem from sealevel rise.

Lessons Learned

The lessons learnt during project implementation • Use of participatory approach, involving the local community and establishing a multi-stakeholder team since the early stages of project

implementation, promotes communication and enables the best use of knowledge/experience at local and national level and is the key element for a reliable climate change risk assessment and adaptation.

- Continuous communication with stakeholders, the periodic monitoring of inputs (trainings, workshops), and with the placement of a local coordinator at the Regional Council in the project area, resulted in provision of well-targeted skills and knowledge to its beneficiaries (regional authorities, farmers, educators, the public, etc).
- Use of multisectoral approaches through close collaboration and good coordination between the sectors managing ecosystems and those benefiting will enable to develop appropriate adaptation policies.
- The approach 'bridging' the disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change, used by the project, helped the locals to better understand that through enhancing ecosystems resilience they could restore natural protection against current extreme climatic events.
- A realistic current vulnerability assessment helps to develop adaptive approaches in response to the increased vulnerabilities or new opportunities, and to identify no-regrets adaptation strategies. As the assessment relies on existing database, the lack of some critical sectorial data, such as topography and geomorphological data, may induce the shift of some important adaptation measures into long term prioritization field.

The results of cost&benefit analysis, showing the net present values of the lagoon ecosystem, have been important criteria, used in prioritization of adaptation measures. It has been critical to convince the stakeholders about the need for cost-effectiveness interventions in the protected areas.

- In order to have 'tangible' results and meet the expectation of local people, in addition to capacity building process, it's important to further implement adaptation/restoration activities in the site.

PARTNERSHIPS

Civil Society Organisations/NGOs

Project has built a good partnership with local environmental NGO (EIRLA, Environment and health, ECO Integration). Being active part of awareness raising activities and round tables on adaptation to climate change they have provided their own experience on overcoming of flooding damages from storm surges and ecosystem protection. They have also given a notable contribution in climate change risks assessment, adaptation tools and measures during discussion in the frame of "Drini-Mati week", in which they emphasized once more the need to "act now" in order to increase the ecosystem and livelihood resilience. The project has established very good partnership with European Delegation and German Organization for Development, IUCN (project) through providing advice on mainstreaming climate change and adaptation into their projects.

Indigenous Peoples

N/A

Private Sector

The private sector was represented by association of farmers, fishermens association and the some touristic agencies that practice their business in the area. They participated actively in the workshops/training and awareness activities, organized by the project to better understand the climate change impacts and to react in time for adaptation measures in their business. Facing with the consequence of climate extremes, especially during the last years, they have given a valuable contribution in selection of appropriate criteria for prioritization of adaptation measures in different stages, of project implementation.

GEF Small Grants Programme

N/A

Other Partners

N/A

PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING GENDER EQUALITY

Has a gender or social needs assessment been carried out?

No

If a gender or social assessment has been carried out what were the findings?

Does this project specifically target women or girls as direct beneficiaries?

No

Have there been any changes in specifically targeting women or girls as direct beneficiaries this reporting period?

No

If yes, please explain:

Please discuss any of the points above further or provide any other information on the project's work on gender equality undertaken this reporting period

Some points to consider: impact of project on daily workload of women, # of jobs created for women, impact of project on time spent by women in household activities, impact of project on primary school enrolment for girls/boys, increase in women's income etc. Be as specific as possible and provide real numbers (e.g. 100 women farmers participating in sustainable livelihoods programme).

Women have been always an important part of capacity buildings (workshops/trainings) and awareness raising activities. During the reference period their participation has consisted in:

- Writing of Project proposals: 6 women out of 12 participants, 6 Project Identification Forms are drafted by women.
- Wide participation at the awareness raising activities (around 300 schoolchildren in activities in four high schools, 120 people participating at the Climate Change Action Day, dune planting, etc.)

ENVIRONMENTAL OR SOCIAL GRIEVANCE

What environmental or social issue was the grievance related to?

What is the current status of the grievance?

How would you rate the significance of the grievance?

Please describe the on-going or resolved grievance noting who was involved, what action was taken to resolve the grievance, how much time it took, and what you learned from managing the grievance process (maximum 500 words). If more than one grievance was addressed this reporting period, please explain the other grievance (s) here:

n/a