

MRV System Report for Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka

Advancing knowledge and
understanding of MRV systems for GHG
inventories

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Executive Summary

Monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems are used to track greenhouse gas emissions and progress towards reducing them. MRV systems are an essential part of climate action because they allow the measuring and reporting of emissions, the setting of targets and other climate goals, and the verification of progress towards reducing emissions. This report outlines a design for an MRV system for the GHG emissions inventory and monitoring mitigation actions of Prizren and Suharekë / Suva Reka municipalities.

MRV systems are well-functioning arrangements of regular data flows, available expertise, useful tools, and well engaged stakeholder that enable a designated focal point to regularly inform decision makers on key problems/challenges, potential solutions and progress with actions for specific topics, in this case, climate change. The tracking of data and information is important for monitoring progress towards targets, identifying needs and gaps, driving continuous improvement, and accessing support.

The thematic areas of MRV systems include mitigation action, climate scenarios and risk and vulnerability, adaptation action, wider impacts, support, and greenhouse gas emissions quantification are presented in this report, as are a number of specific outcomes that a functional MRV system in Prizren and Suharekë / Suva Reka will need to track. Future policies should be assessed in terms of their threats and challenges, support, climate finance availability, wider impacts, and constraints to help prioritise action and investment. In addition, identifying outputs and communications that the MRV system will support is a priority to ensure transparency of the climate system in each municipality.

Institutional arrangements are suggested for each municipality, including:

- Proposed governance schematics which highlight the relative roles and responsibilities of local and Kosovo-level entities and Ministries
- Development of expertise but recognising capacity is stretched in terms of performing MRV system functions.
- Establishing robust data flows that enable the more frequent assessment of greenhouse gas emissions, impact of individual policies, and the effective prioritisation of action
- Use of coordinated systems and tools for the assessment of climate action impact and selection
- Development of stakeholder communication plans to enable more transparent climate action development.

An improvement plan is also presented to aid the development and coordination of the MRV systems in the municipalities of Prizren and Suharekë / Suva Reka.

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1 Introduction

Kosovo¹ has a number of domestic climate targets, which feed into international reporting objectives, and are in line with domestic legislation on climate change. Any local action in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka will clearly feed into these domestic targets, and their own actions and targets will be defined by domestic legislation and objectives.

Kosovo is not a signatory to the UNFCCC and so does not have any nationally determined contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement, but has produced a “Nationally Determined Contribution” (NDC) alongside its Kosovo inventory voluntarily for 2008-21. In support of this, Kosovo re-established its Climate Change Council, a body responsible for monitoring the implementation of strategic documents and action plans for climate change. The Council consists of a number of Ministers while it is chaired by the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure. The main goals of which are:

- Ensuring projects that may have an impact on climate change are implemented in accordance with local legislation and international agreements
- Preparation of documentation for the participation and membership of Kosovo in conventions, protocols, and agreements related to climate change
- Monitoring the state, development, and implementation of national policies in the field of climate change, sectoral policies, and other planning documents
- The proposal of measures for the implementation, coordination, and improvement of policies in the field of climate change, in accordance with the standards and regulations of the European Union and United Nations

At the domestic level, Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency (KEPA) is responsible for the collection of environmental data and reporting this to the European Environment Agency, from which the inventory is an output. At the municipality level, Prizren developed an (incomplete) inventory in 2014 under a UNDP programme, for Suharekë/Suva Reka this will be the first. Prizren and Suharekë/Suva municipalities will have a role to play in future contributions at the level of Kosovo.

Kosovo’s legislated Climate Law should transpose Regulation (EU) 525/2013 and 1999/2019 (on climate and energy reporting) as parts of the EU climate acquis, meaning that Kosovo systems for policies, measures and projections which had previously been missing will now be legislated for. A carbon tax system is also planned for 2026, which will tie in with the introduction of

¹ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism in the EU. Entry into Emissions Trading Scheme is further planned for 2031/32.

Other relevant Kosovo plans include:

- Kosovo Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change for 2019-28
- Kosovo Energy Strategy 2022-2031, which is under public review
- The Kosovo Energy and Climate Plan, which is under development
- Waste Management Strategy, Water Strategy and Spatial Plan.
- Air Quality Strategy 2013-2022 & Action Plan for Implementation. Air emissions account to be sent to EUROSTAT next year

Each of these plans will obviously need to be applied down to the municipality level. Further municipality level plans include:

- Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
- Environment and Waste Management Plans in Prizren, Waste Management Plan in Suharekë/Suva Reka
- Prizren Municipal Development Plan 2013-2025
- Municipal Zoning Maps
- Energy Efficiency Municipal Action Plans
- Local Economic Strategy 2022-2027

The above commitments to action and to gathering and sharing information highlight the need for a Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system to help to ensure the careful consideration and to track the delivery of climate and energy related strategies, by providing an efficient and comprehensive tracking and sharing of relevant information. Once the system is established and is seeded with data, the process becomes a cycle of gathering, cleaning, analysing, and sharing information to support target setting, and tracking progress. Pulling data from the inventory for indicators, maintaining a database of actions, and tracking the actions using the indicators will be important regular activities.

This report outlines how systems could be established for the municipalities of Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka, and how it will be seeded with data.

2 Project overview

The Strengthening Local Climate Action project, funded by UNDP, aims to support Kosovo municipalities in their transition toward zero-emission development pathways by building on the results of the successful project “Urban NAMAs” in Prizren and extending it to sustainable rural development and the Municipality of Suharekë/Suva Reka.

The objective of the project is to develop and/or upgrade the GHG Inventories, assess the MRV systems at different scales and scopes for local government and provide capacity building for municipal officials and groups of students in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka municipalities. This local

capacity building would allow local stakeholders to have more knowledge and control of emissions and actions to be taken at the municipality level, and this will feed into knowledge and action at the central level. As far as the programme is successful, the local inventories and MRV systems may be extended up to other municipalities in Kosovo.

2.1 Project activities

This project includes the following activities:

- Reviewing, upgrading and extending the Prizren municipality GHG inventory to include emissions from the transport, IPPU and LULUCF sectors and updating emissions estimates for the previously estimated sectors of energy, agriculture, and waste management.
- Developing a GHG inventory for the Suharekë/Suva Reka municipality, and presenting updated GHG inventories for both municipalities
- Designing and developing an MRV system for the GHG emission inventory and monitoring mitigation actions for the two municipalities.
- Providing capacity building and training for municipal sectoral officials, relevant private businesses and university students, to build their knowledge and skills to enable them to prepare future GHG inventories and use the MRV system independently.

This report focuses on the third component, the MRV system development.

2.2 MRV system development roadmap

The steps taken in the development of the MRV system will be as follows:

- 1) A series of engagement activities with stakeholders resulting in agreed:
 - a. **Organisational roles and responsibilities, gaps,** suggested positions and those that have mandates and those that do not. Details summarised in an agreed organisational diagram for the MRV system.
 - b. Identification and agreement on the **challenges, outcomes, outputs and related data flow and expertise needs** to help set the scope and prioritise development.
 - c. **Communication and engagement plan,** identifying how the MRV system will engage with data providers and decision makers to enhance climate action and its positive impacts on the regions.
 - d. **A detailed improvement plan, roadmap** and improvement management plan for the next 5 years identifying resource needs and opportunities for support.
- 2) **Development of systems and tools** for developing and managing the MRV system, stakeholder inputs and outputs.

- a. **Design and set-up of the MRV system portal** engaging key stakeholders in live and evolving details agreed and gathered in 1a-d above.
 - b. **Developing overarching quality objectives and systems** for managing the MRV systems data.
 - c. Customisation of the structure and categorisations for data in the system.
 - d. **Develop the capacity building and training framework** for regional experts and expert teams.
 - e. **Explore key outputs and the scope and detail of indicators** that the MRV system will curate.
 - f. **Identify critical decision maker needs and start to outline tools** that will support regional decision making and stakeholder engagement.
- 3) Developing an ongoing programme of continuous improvement of the MRV system including:
- a. **Ensuring availability of data and support** for producing key reports.
 - b. **Identifying and securing resources** for it to function, build technical teams and engage stakeholders.
 - c. **Developing and manage specific content improvement and engagement activities** (e.g. GHG inventory and projections, mitigation and adaptation action tracking, wider impacts analysis, building trust and understanding).

2.3 Short questionnaire on Institutional arrangements

At the beginning of the project the project team launched a questionnaire on MRV with the stakeholder groups. A limited response rate (8 responders) indicated limited levels of engagement and capacity available over the short time period of the project. Below is a summary of the responses received from a questionnaire discussing institutional arrangements put out during the UNDP workshop held in Prishtina on 28 October 2022 as part of this project.

RESPONDENT SUMMARY

There were eight responses from the questionnaire who were from the following institutional backgrounds:

- Local governance/municipality (37.5%)
- Kosovo central institution (25%)
- Public companies (25%)
- NGO (12.5%)

The majority of respondents worked in the environmental and sustainability sector (87.5%), with some respondents additionally working in areas

covering gender, indigenous people and social equity; youth and education; biodiversity; and health and wellbeing. Sectors that respondents worked in was varied, with presence in energy, waste, and water sector. Three respondents worked in areas which were cross-cutting, covering mitigation, adaptation and the just transition.

Two responses represented the Prizren geographical area, four represented Suharekë/Suva Reka and three represented Kosovo.

CLIMATE ACTION

Certain questions within the questionnaire aimed to capture current and planned mitigation and adaptation action within Kosovo and its municipalities. 87.5% of respondents stated that their organisation is or will be involved in providing data relating to climate change and 75% of respondents said that their organisation is interested in using climate change related information for better decision-making. Additionally, 75% of respondents wanted to understand how their organisation can contribute to reducing the impacts of climate change.

Some responses were received on mitigation action on a local level. The actions listed included tree planting to mitigate air pollution, and SMM plans to supply households with home compost and to separate plastic waste. The Municipality of Prizren has a Master Plan, which includes defined visions and strategies for the environment and waste sector.

However, respondents noted that substantial support is needed in identifying and evaluating Kosovo mitigation actions. Generally, respondents noted that decision-makers and concerned parties are informed about Kosovo mitigation actions upon request.

ENGAGEMENT

A portion of the survey questions related to methods and effectiveness of stakeholder engagement. Respondents were asked how their organisation has engaged at a Kosovo central level in preparing climate-related reports. This question received one response, from the head of the Waste and Environmental Sector in the Municipality of Prizren, whose organisation annually reports environment and waste reports to AMK, the Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency. They stated that a formal system for engaging with stakeholders is currently under development.

Respondents were asked to rate, from low to high, the level of stakeholder engagement they believe there is in climate change data collection and analysis. For Kosovo and local government/municipalities, three respondents ranked engagement as medium, and one as low. For community groups, this was the reverse, with one medium level of engagement and three believing engagement is low. Trade associations,

private or semi-private companies and NGOs were all perceived to have low engagement by three respondents.

Respondents were unsure of who is in charge of the Kosovo transparency system and how it is funded. When asked who is responsible for transparency at the municipality level, one response was received that each municipality is responsible, and that this is funded in accordance with municipal budget planning.

3 The MRV framework

This section introduces concepts for the development of a Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system. MRV systems are well-functioning arrangements of regular data flows, available expertise, useful tools, and well engaged stakeholder that enable a designated focal point to regularly inform decision makers on key problems/challenges, potential solutions and progress with actions for specific topics, in this case, climate change. The tracking of data and information is important for monitoring progress towards targets, identifying needs and gaps, driving continuous improvement, and accessing support. MRV has a wide scope and for the area of climate change, works across mitigation, adaptation, and support.

In this section we will outline the components of an effective MRV system, including key themes, concepts, and data types to be covered by the system. Where possible, we will identify data and information that already exists for each of the components. This preliminary analysis draws upon recently published reports and information identified through an initial stakeholder workshop.

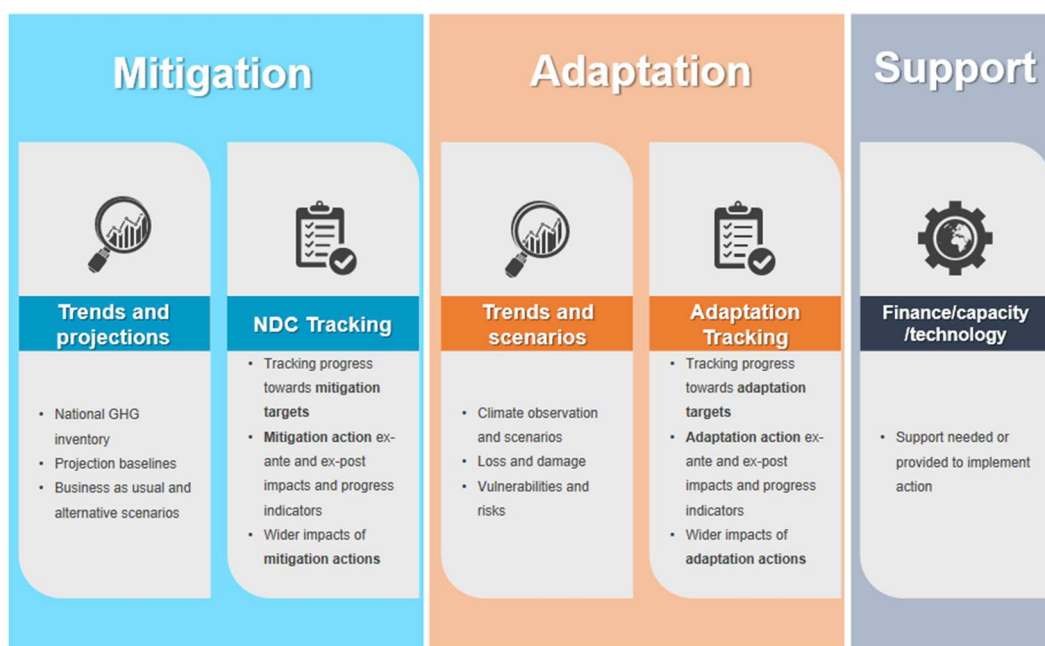
A full list of the documents reviewed for this project is included in Annex 1 and can be found on the draft SharePoint-based MRV Platform we have used for data collection under this project.

3.1 Themes, concepts, and data types

This section defines the key themes, concepts, and data types for an MRV framework. This framework can be built on and elaborated when implementing the improvement plan.

Themes: The themes outlined in Figure 1 will form the basis for the scope of the MRV system and the development of the Improvement Plan. As indicated in Figure 1, the thematic scope for the MRV system covers mitigation (including GHG inventory, projections and actions, their funding and support and wider impacts of actions) and adaptation (including vulnerability and risk assessment, climate analysis and actions, their funding and support and wider impacts of actions). The scope and detail will be further refined after initially identifying information used in existing reports and briefings around these themes.

Figure 1. Summary of the climate transparency themes included in the MRV system.



To provide transparency in tracking the outcomes (see section 3.1.1) around the agreed themes and to build stakeholder engagement around their achievement, the MRV system needs to include a range of other details, identified in **Error! Reference source not found.** and in the bullet points below and elaborated further in the sections below:

- the **actions/projects** considered, planned and being implemented including projects and programme that have a mitigation, loss and damage response, and/or adaptation impact and contribute to addressing certain challenges and achieving outcomes. This includes **objectives, leading stakeholders, estimated costs and geographical focus.** Actions should link to outcomes, support and finance and have indicators tracking their progress.
- the physical **challenges or threats** the actions address. This includes loss and damage and challenges in reducing GHGs and increasing GHG removals.
- the **investments/finance and support** needed/provided linking climate finance and budget spending to actions and projects.
- any positive or negative **wider impacts** (e.g. local strategies, SDGs, Just Transition etc) of that action.
- **indicators** used to track any of the above actions, threats and challenges and progress towards outcomes.
- **Constraints, gaps, risks, barriers** to implementing actions or preventing the achievement of outcomes.

A list of actions linked to challenges, indicators, outcomes, support/investments/finance received/needed and wider impacts of the actions (see **Error! Reference source not found.**) will be core to the

MRV system and support the production of reports, briefings, and other engagement activities and tools.

Below we have elaborated further details of these structured elements to help clarify how the MRV system can function. Each section begins with a question to frame the type of contents/evidence being gathered/used. Future development projects will elaborate the detailed structuring, field definitions, linkages, and user interfaces for this information.

Figure 2. Structuring climate change information



Concepts and data types: The following sub-sections explore a range of concepts and data types needed across the themes for the MRV system to function. The contents of these will define the scope and detail of the MRV system development. They focus on:

- the specific outcomes it will track (**outcomes**),
- identifying the elements that need understanding to help with prioritising action and investment (including the **threats/challenges, actions, support, climate finance, wider impacts and constraints and gaps**)

- identifying the **outputs** and communications (e.g. reports, briefings, stakeholders' engagements) the system will support (**supporting communications**)
- and **other benefits of MRV systems**

3.1.1 Outcomes

The MRV system will help stakeholders identify and track climate related thematic **outcomes**. Outcomes include goals, ambitions, or targets to address certain climate change related challenges that require actions and investment (support). Actions designed to achieve the outcomes may have positive and or negative wider impacts on society, the environment and/or the economy. It will be important for the MRV system to keep an up-to-date list of outcomes it is tracking and clearly defined methods, data sources and assumptions for tracking them.

Outlined below is an overview of the key outcomes identified in this initial study for Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka², that the MRV system should be able to track and engage stakeholders around. The outcomes focus on climate adaptation, GHG mitigation, minimising loss and damage, and maximising investment and support in action.

Annex 2 introduces an example working list of some key **outcomes** and their source documents compiled for this project that should guide the scope of the MRV system. Designing the MRV system around tracking these outcomes will ensure that it develops sufficient data flows, expertise, and stakeholder engagement. Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka should focus their respective MRV systems around municipal level outcomes and targets. Ultimately, these should feed into the Kosovo informal NDC outcomes among others. We have summarised Kosovo central level outcomes below as well as any municipal level targets found through our research however more work is needed to identify and formalise the municipal level targets that the MRV system should track.

A summary of example Kosovo central level outcomes extracted from the above strategy documents and plans is provided below:

- Reducing Kosovo GHG emissions – prevent and reduce GHG emissions and plan and promote sustainable mobility in the most populated areas of Kosovo. Kosovo's voluntary NDC will aim to reduce GHG emissions by 8.95Mt CO₂e by 2030, around 16.3% compared to 2016 levels.
- Develop Kosovo's capacity to meet UNFCCC Convention and EU obligations – develop and implement policies for climate change and create a framework for the establishment of the GHG Inventory System.

² <https://climatepromise.undp.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/kosovo#:~:text=Given%20its%20status%2C%20Kosovo%20is,to%20prepare%20a%20voluntary%20NDC>

- In accordance with the EU Directive 2006/32/EC on energy end-use efficiency and energy services, overall Kosovo energy savings target of 9% within 10 years of adopting the Directive.
- Develop and improve the necessary regulatory and operational mechanisms to reach the target of 25% of GDP's share of GDP in gross final energy consumption by 2020³.
- Develop mechanisms and improve disaster risk management measures, particularly in sectors of economic importance that are vulnerable to climate change impacts – establish mechanisms to reduce disaster risk and enhance adaptive capacity for vulnerable sectors and communities and prepare Climate Packages.
- Increase adaptation capacity of natural systems – improve the water balance through landscape improvements and create better microclimate conditions and more resistant landscapes to provide habitats for migratory species.
- Increase central and local stakeholder capacity, integrate climate change issues and adaptation into the development process – capacity building for production and use of information and communication, development of awareness programs for climate change, and avoidance of potential climate impacts on health.
- Successful uptake of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, carbon tax & Emissions Trading Scheme
- Provision of financial and economic instruments (e.g. Eco-Fund) for environmental protection⁴.
- Establish an environmental monitoring network throughout Kosovo, prioritising major industrial polluters and hot spots.
- Increase the proportion of the population with access to clean water, the sewage network and municipal waste disposal.
- Rational use of natural resources, focussing on limited resources and use of renewables.
- Application of energy efficient concepts in all sectors of energy use.
- Improve energy system resilience by enhancing system flexibility, modernisation networks, reducing network losses, increasing electricity production capacities, and ensuring cybersecurity in the energy sector⁵.
- Decarbonisation and promotion of renewable energy – implement a carbon pricing system by 2025, reduce GHG emissions in the power sector by at least 32% by 2031, renewable energy to cover 35% of electricity consumption by 2031, and install new wind and solar PV to increase renewable energy generation capacity to 1400 MW by 2031.
- Increase energy efficiency – limit final energy consumption in Kosovo to 1877 ktoe in 2031, achieve cumulative energy savings of 283 ktoe in commercial, public, and private buildings by 2031, and construct 150 Near Zero Energy Buildings by 2031.

³ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Climate Change Strategy 2019 – 2028

⁴ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Kosovo Environmental Strategy 2018 - 2022

⁵ Kosovo Energy Strategy 2022 – 2031: <https://konsultimet.rks-gov.net/viewConsult.php?ConsultationID=41424>

- Strengthen regional cooperation and market functioning for energy – achieve market integration with Albania in 2023, join the pan-European market area in 2030, gradually phase out the Bulk Supply Agreement from 2025, and increase the number of graduates working in energy related fields (ensuring 25% of employees are women by 2031).
- Protect and empower energy consumers – introduce schemes for vulnerable consumers (e.g. energy efficiency, solar panels), support community projects for energy efficiency, implement energy related awareness raising campaigns, and develop a Price Comparison Tool by 2024.

Example municipal level outcomes for Prizren include:

- Implementation of EE and renewable energy measures in public buildings and GHG reduction
- Reduction of energy consumption in residential buildings and GHG reduction
- Development of human and professional capacities for energy
- Awareness-building and promotion of EE measures and GHG reduction
- Drafting of relevant EE documents
- Reduce GHG emissions and heating energy consumption
- Reduce GHG emissions and public lighting energy consumption
- Reduction in the amount of waste generate
- Promotion of waste recycling and reuse
- Improvements to waste management systems, waste collection, and disposal systems
- Reduction of illegal waste dumps
- Promote the use of public transport to reduce GHG emissions from transport
- GHG reductions through the use of efficient vehicles
- Promote sustainable transportation by reducing the number of motor vehicles and increasing the proportion of journeys undertaken by cycling
- Promote walking and public transport through parking in designated areas
- Create a Green City

Example municipal level outcomes for Suharekë/Suva Reka include:

- Construction of windmills for energy production in Budakovë/Budakovo
- Construction of windmills for energy production in Duhël/Dulje
- Construction of the hydropower plant near Dragačinë/Dragačina lake
- Reduction of energy consumption in the sectors of building construction, transport and public lighting
- Reduction of energy costs in the municipal budget
- Improvement of municipal services
- Renovations of buildings and installations for energy production
- Improvement of sanitary conditions and level of comfort in public buildings

- Reducing CO2 emissions in all sectors by implementing energy efficiency measures, using renewable energy sources, managing consumption, through training and other measures
- Raising the awareness of energy saving policy makers, operators and end users

Defining these outcomes is an important step for MRV system development. They should include consideration of ambitions for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as for other priority areas such as gender equality, circular economy, just transition for the workforce and poverty alleviation.

Action at municipal level will clearly feed into the Kosovo central level. However, modelling and projections are needed to determine municipal level budgets and contributions as part of the Kosovo targets. A complete inventory can be used to help to figure out what the contribution to the overall outcomes should be.

3.1.2 Threats/challenges, actions, support and climate finance, wider impacts, constraints and gaps and indicators.

Threats and Challenges

"What vulnerabilities, risks and loss and damage are likely to occur and need actions to address them? Where can we improve resilience? What reductions in GHG emissions are important? Where can we enhance GHG removals? "

Understanding the threats and challenges enables the MRV system to support decision makers with justification for actions. Describing the challenges in narratives and presenting indicators on challenges (e.g. numbers of severe weather events and their impacts, or GHG trends) focus stakeholders on the call to action and provide transparent evidence on the problems. Information on challenges can be structured and maintained in the MRV system to support consistent communication to and by stakeholders. These challenges can be organisation, sector, time and geography specific.

Kosovo's Climate Change Strategy⁶ sets out the expected impacts of climate change in Kosovo. In general, these same threats will clearly also apply at the municipality level. These threats include:

- Exposure to hazards such as droughts, floods, and forest fires will become greater with climate change. Climate variability has already increased in Kosovo;
- Rising intensity and frequency of precipitation extremes like heavy rain events, as well as more severe drought, particularly since the 1980s.

⁶ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Climate Change Strategy 2019 – 2028

Flash floods are getting more common in mountain areas, while river floods occur more often in plains and lowlands;

- Higher temperatures will make heat waves and forest fires more likely. Since 2000 there have been an increasing number of forest fires in Kosovo;
- Kosovo has been struck by drought several times in the last two decades (1993, 2000, 2007, and 2008);
- Increased temperatures, more uncertain rainfall, and reduced runoff combined with socio-economic developments and increased use of water resources will heighten exposure to drought;
- Since 2004, 80% of Kosovo municipalities have suffered from water shortages due to hydrological drought and the misuse of water resources (OSCE, 2008);
- Ecosystem degradation and reduction of ecosystem services;
- Increase and new forms of pollution and water-related diseases.

It is also important to take into account that climatic hazards have a much greater impact than should normally be the case in Kosovo, owing to a high degree of vulnerability.

This is the result of a variety of factors, including:

- Unprecedented construction boom and urbanization since 1999;
- High socio-economic vulnerability due to a high incidence of poverty (among 45% of the population) and a fragile economy, combined with limited provision in the health, social welfare and employment sectors;
- Illegal construction in hazard zones and failure to adhere to building codes;
- Lack of maintenance and destruction during the conflict;
- Inadequate design of drainage and sewage systems;
- Inadequate land use and municipal planning increase population exposure to hazards;
- Unsustainable water management and agronomic practices, deforestation, and destruction of slopes by mining activities.

Mitigation challenges for the municipalities, which may be linked to these vulnerabilities, are also important to consider. These may include in this case:

- A reliance on coal in Kosovo and lack of alternative energy sources
- An increasing number of cars and fuel consumption as incomes continue to rise and the road system becomes more developed
- Institutional arrangements that don't allow for proper cooperation and knowledge sharing between ministries and offices
- A significant number of illegal dumpsites across municipalities
- Competing priorities in the agricultural sector
- General difficulty with access to funding

The MRV system should be aware of these and track them, linking them to actions and to indicators for tracking. The list above is not exhaustive and should be developed in full for the MRV system.

Climate Actions and Projects

What actions and projects have, are, will or could be implemented that will work towards achieving the outcomes? What outcomes will the actions support and to what extent (what will their impact be)? When/how have/will they be implemented and by whom? How much investment/support is needed for implementation? Are they ready for support/investment and are they investable (bankable)?

The Actions list will provide details of individual, or groups of similar adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage response, and support enabling projects, programme and actions that have a mitigation, loss and damage response, and/or adaptation impact, contribute to addressing certain challenges and achieving certain outcomes. Annex 3 provides an overview table of the information that will be included to track actions in the system. Actions will include the types of projects summarised below.

At a Kosovo central level, example actions taken from the Climate Change Strategy⁷, Energy Strategy⁸ and Environmental Strategy⁹ include:

- Drafting the Law on Climate Change that facilitated ambitious climate action to reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and build resilience
- Development of a monitoring and reporting system for Kosovo greenhouse gases and environmental monitoring to track action to reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and build resilience
- Deliver specific **mitigation actions** including:
 - using technical solutions to prevent and reduce lignite self-ignition in coal mines
 - Rehabilitation and replacement of power plant technologies to enable increased use of renewable energy resources. Construction of wind and solar plants.
 - Expansion of existing, and construction of new highly efficient thermal energy systems.
 - Workshops in major cities on sustainable urban mobility planning
 - Apply alternative methods for agricultural production and composting and support organic agriculture
 - Increase professional capacities for forest management
 - Institutional support of projects based on clean technologies and renewable resources

⁷ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Climate Change Strategy 2019 – 2028

⁸ Kosovo Energy Strategy 2022 – 2031: <https://konsultimet.rks-gov.net/viewConsult.php?ConsultationID=41424>

⁹ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Kosovo Environmental Strategy 2018 - 2022

- Implement fuel quality standards and promote catalytic converters on vehicles
- Improve and invest in inter-city and trans-boundary railways systems
- Upgrade public transportation and decommission obsolete public transportation vehicles
- Collection of eco-tax on the border crossing dedicated to the management of protected zones, forestry and rivers, and for future environmental planning
- Delivery of specific **resilience actions** including:
 - Restriction of settlements and construction in hazardous areas
 - Promotion of ecological construction such as green roofs
 - Establishment of the Eco-Fund
 - Tree planting and reforestation - around riverbanks to prevent flooding, and to create corridors for species where the impact of heat waves is minimised.
 - Training on risk assessment and management and development of weather monitoring and early disaster warning systems.

The following further mix of mitigation and adaptation actions were identified for Prizren municipality:

- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Wastewater Treatment Plant has been constructed, other plants are at the phase of feasibility study
- Renovation of administration buildings
- Renovation of public buildings related to education, science, and technology
- Renovation of public health buildings
- Renovation of most public buildings and limited private buildings by improving wall insulation, installing solar roofs, and improving the quality of doors and windows
- Monitoring of Energy Efficiency Action Plans in accordance with the Directive 2006/32/EU via reporting of energy savings through the Monitoring Verification Platform¹⁰
- Treatment and removal of waste is actioned through use of informal waste points across the municipal border
- Flood risk is reduced through use of protective barriers at strategic locations in the river basin

The Monitoring Verification Platform (MVP) is a web-based software developed by GIZ as part of the GIZ Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe – Energy Efficiency (ORF-EE) project. The platform enables countries to monitor and implement energy efficiency and CO₂ emission reduction plans at all policy levels at the municipal level using a bottom-up approach. In Kosovo, this information is reported to the Energy Efficiency Agency of Kosovo (KEEA) and to the Energy Community, enabling Kosovo to conduct real time monitoring of the implementation of plans such as

¹⁰ <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/kosovo-government-receives-mvp-monitoring-software-from-giz/>

Nation Energy Efficiency Action Plans, Municipal Energy Efficiency Plans, and Sustainable Energy Efficiency Action Plans.

We were not able to find any actions for Suharekë/Suva Reka through current research.

The list above is not exhaustive. It is recommended that a full list of actions/projects is developed and incorporated into the MRV system, to track the challenges that they seek to address and their contribution to progress against given outcomes.

Indicators

What data can we compile to help decision makers track progress and make decisions? What graphs/tables/other communications will help to engage stakeholders and drive action?

Indicators are a transparent, trusted set of metrics updated regularly and used to inform a wide stakeholder audience on progress with meeting the outcomes, implementing actions and addressing challenges tracked by the MRV system. Indicators will be linked to actions, outcomes, challenges, and/or wider impacts. Indicators will include a core set and a wider set which will be developed through consultation. Clear reliable data flows and well documented methods and regular updates will be needed to ensure that indicators are valued and trusted by stakeholders.

The indicators are likely to cover the following topic areas:

- GHG emission and removal trends (totals and by sector)
 - Total GHG emissions annually, by sector and by gas
 - Percentage change in emissions compared to 2016 levels
 - Predicted GHG emissions for Business As Usual and With Measures scenarios, annually to at least 2030
- Energy activity trends, energy efficiency, and renewable energy
 - Total final energy consumption
 - Total energy consumption per unit of GDP
 - Total energy consumed by commercial, public, and private buildings
 - Amount of electricity produced
 - Percentage of electricity produced that is from renewable sources
 - Total renewable energy generation capacity
 - Total energy saved from application of energy efficiency measures
 - Number of near zero buildings constructed
- Transport activity trends
 - Number of private motor vehicles registered
 - Proportion of journeys made by cycling and walking
 - Proportion of journeys made by public transport
 - Proportion of vehicles that meet fuel quality standards
 - Number of vehicles with catalytic converters installed
 - Number of installed vehicle charging points

- Number of people attending workshops on sustainable urban mobility
- Land use, agriculture, and biodiversity
 - Number of migratory species recorded
 - Percentage of land covered by trees
 - Proportion of farms applying organic agriculture techniques
 - Number of professionals employed in forest management
- Waste and wastewater management improvements
 - Proportion of the population with access to the sewage network
 - Proportion of the population with access to municipal waste disposal
 - Amount of waste recycled
- Water resources
 - Proportion of the population who have access to clean water
- Climate risk mitigation and adaptation
 - Number of houses built in hazardous areas
 - Number of green roofs constructed
 - Number of people affected by natural disasters
 - Cost of extreme weather events
- Wider Impacts
 - Proportion of employees in energy related fields that are women
 - Number of jobs created in environmental fields
- Climate trends
 - Rainfall – monthly and annual
 - Temperatures – monthly and annual
 - Number of extreme weather events

The list above is only indicative, it is recommended that Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka develops a full list of indicators and incorporates them into the MRV system. Annex 4, contains example indicators, these are for illustrative purposes and should be tailored for local climate actions.

The indicator database incorporated within the MRV system can include the following elements as well as a range of other metadata and the indicator data:

- **Name of indicator** (A unique and clear name)
- **Indicator type** (This can include whether it is tracking a challenge (e.g. frequency and intensity of storms), progress with an action (e.g. progress with protecting infrastructure from severe weather), an outcome (e.g. a reduced impact due to severe weather) or a wider impact (e.g. improved social, environmental or economic situations).
- **Related actions:** This includes a look-up on the actions the indicators will help to track.
- **Outcomes:** This includes a look-up on the outcomes the indicators will help to track.
- **Challenges:** This includes a look-up on the challenges the indicators will help to track. And/or
- **Wider impacts:** This includes a look-up on the wider impacts the indicators will help to track.
- **Description:** A short description of the indicator.

- **Units** of the indicator
- **Data source** – where the data comes from
- **Values** – the numerical values for relevant years
- **Years** – the years for which there are values. This should include base years, target years and progress years as a minimum.

Action support and finance

Which actions¹¹ have support/finance/investment and how much is invested? What actions need support/finance/investment and who could invest? What is considered climate finance when considering Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka's public and private budgeting and spending?

Support and finance can be linked to individual or groups of actions. It can also be attributed to public and private spending if suitable systems are available to categorise that spending. A list of **"funders and Supporters"** tracks those organisations providing investment and support to climate related solutions. With this list their overall support provision could be tracked within the MRV system. **"Funders and Supporters"** includes relevant information on the providers of support and type of support provided. The types of funders and supporters could include:

- United Nations Agencies such as UNDP, as identified in the GEF database
- Other international agencies
- Other governments and bilateral country support
- International banks
- Regional support programmes
- Kosovo public funders
- Private funds
- Private sector investors
- Other funders

The list above is not exhaustive. Annex 5 provides an overview table showing the information that would be kept on current and potential funders. It is recommended that Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka develop a full list of potential funders and supporters and incorporate it into the MRV system.

A list of **"actions funding"** include details of the individual instances of support or support needed for the action/s, the funder or supporter, the recipients, the amounts, when, the type of instrument (e.g. grant, concessional loan, non-concessional loan, equity, guarantee, insurance, other), the type of funding (e.g. Kosovo funding, Bilateral cooperation, Multilateral cooperation, Blended funding) and the status of that provision (e.g. needed, committed, disbursed). Ideally this would include one or

¹¹ Projects, programme and actions that have a mitigation, loss and damage response, and/or adaptation impact, contribute to addressing certain challenges and achieving certain outcomes.

more records per action listed to highlight the support/finance provided and its status.

Wider impacts

What are the positive and/or negative impacts of implementing climate actions? What stakeholders should be aware that could help implement actions and ensure they enhance Kosovo growth and development and sustainable development?

Wider impacts linking provides a mechanism to identify possible co-benefits and conflicts between climate actions and other local strategies and development goals. Wider impacts can be linked to the actions by tagging the action with one or more wider impact and indicating a subjective positive, neutral or negative weighting. This relies on a list of the individual wider impacts to be tracked (e.g. local growth and development strategies, SDGs and others) and an agreed subjective weighting system. A narrative on the wider impacts can also be provided that would be suitable for illustrating these in reports.

Constraints and gaps

What are the barriers to implementation of action? What issues need to be addressed to be able to mobilise action at the pace necessary?

Details of Constraints, gaps, risks and barriers to implementing actions provides a space to document perceived problems with the implementation of actions. This can be used for presenting, in international reports or to key stakeholders, important problems in achieving targets and goals. Items in the list of constraints and gaps (e.g. tax incentives for burning fossil fuels, long term fossil fuel supply contracts, building laws or regulations) can be linked to one or more action/project and or outcome to highlight a possible problem for implementation.

3.1.3 Supporting communications (Outputs)

In order to engage stakeholders and maximise successful outcomes (see Section 3.1.1 above), Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka's MRV system needs to regularly and transparently produce and update a range of reports, indicators and other stakeholder engagement pieces (e.g. briefings, documents, strategies, workshops, websites etc). The **MRV System support to outputs** will draw on a range of human and data resources and take the form of:

- Expert advice and review of material
- Expert creation of material
- Datasets and factsheets
- Indicators and data visualisations
- Sections, chapters, narratives for reports

- Background documents to reports
- Participation in consultations and review
- Training material
- Guidance
- One-off research and analysis undertaken using the MRV systems experts and underlying data.

Outputs will support communications on ambition, analysis of changes and narratives on progress. The following provides examples of **outputs** which could be managed by the MRV system:

- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change for 2019-28
- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Energy Strategy 2022-2031 under public review
- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Environmental Strategy
- Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025.

Communications will need to integrate with and compliment a range of cross cutting activities that are, at the same time, striving to establish a fair and well-balanced society. This includes the integration of Sustainable Development Goals including considering gender and other social group equality within climate change action implementation and MRV. There are three principal considerations for the integration of gender and social equality into MRV systems:

1. **Tracking metrics:** how does the MRV system track gender and other social group equality? e.g. are there gender and social group disaggregated indicators and are challenges for each group differentiated?
2. **Leading by example:** how does the MRV system ensure that it respects gender and other social group equality goals in its own design and institutional arrangements? e.g. is there a balance and is bias minimised in the operation of the MRV system?
3. **Supporting implementation in action:** how does the MRV system support the implementation of gender and other social group equality in climate action? e.g. are the opportunities, risks and wider impacts of mitigation/adaptation actions assessed for and designed to promote equality?

3.2 Institutional Arrangements

Figure 3 presents the conceptual framework for developing the MRV systems institutional arrangements. This framework splits the MRV systems into the five components, elaborated below.

Figure 3. Overview of the Institutional Arrangements components for the MRV system

Institutional Arrangements



1. **Governance** such as agreements, laws, and commitments (Section 3.2.1)
2. **Expertise** including data, modelling, compilation, and reporting experts across a range of themes. (Section 3.2.2)
3. **Data flows** of the data necessary for the MRV system to be of value. (Section 3.2.3)
4. **Systems and tools** for information, communication, and engagement (Section 3.2.4)
5. **Stakeholder engagement** (Section 3.2.5)

These components will cover a range of formalities and activities across several organisations. These organisations might include ministries and/or agencies, academic/research institutions, local self-government, private organisations, and consultants. Well-functioning institutional arrangements will ensure that the MRV system can fulfil the commitments set out in Kosovo Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change for 2019-28. They will be flexible and sustainable and ensure that resources are available for recurring and continuously improving data gathering, compilation, analysis and reporting across the agreed scope. This framework should be used to assess current institutional arrangements and be used as a foundation for future MRV development.

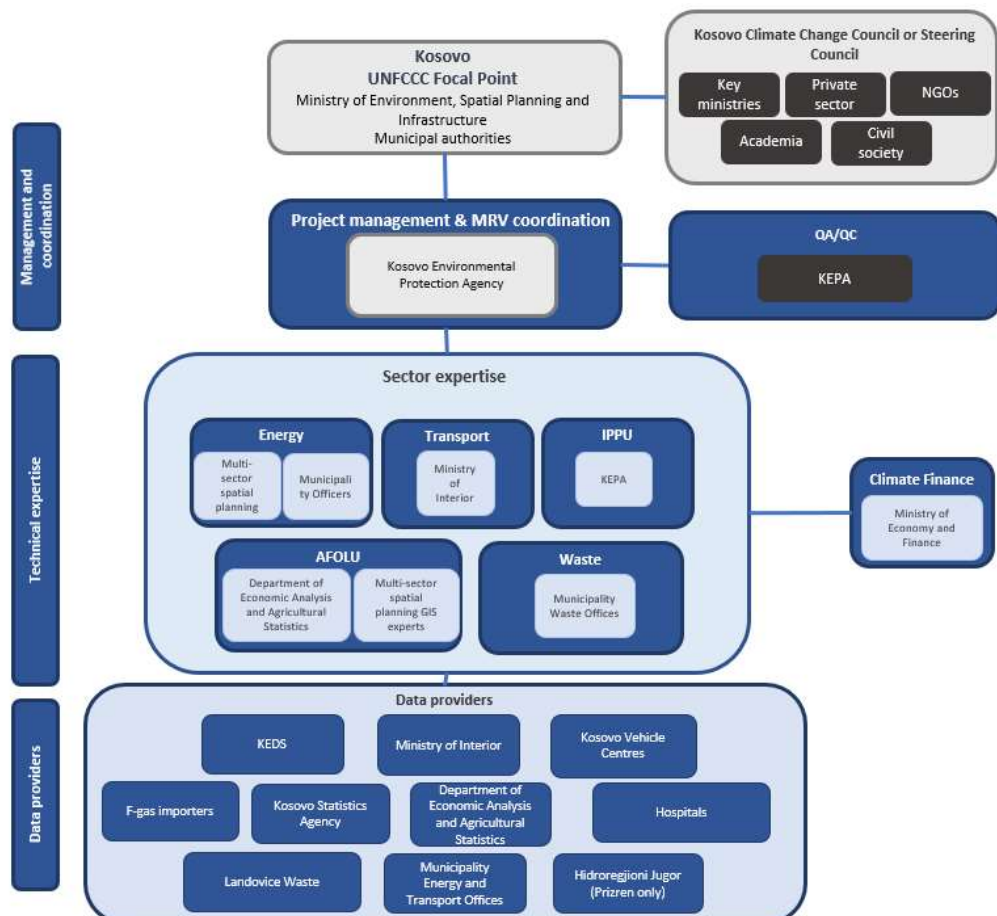
The following sections highlight example analyses that should be elaborated for future MRV development work related to existing activities and components and gaps for an MRV framework for tracking Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka's climate change challenges, targets, action, climate finance and associated impacts within the above working context. The sections are presented as a series of questions around the five institutional arrangements components introduced in Figure 3 (Figure 3. Overview of the Institutional Arrangements components for the MRV system (Governance, Technical capacity of experts, Data flows, Co-ordination, systems and tools and Engagement and communication strategy).

3.2.1 Governance

Governance should include terms of reference designed to guarantee that the human, financial and data resources needed are made available and to clarify the decision-making process. Critically, governance facilitates collaboration between experts and expert organizations and are required to, for example, ensure a regular supply of new data (e.g. DSAs), manage data confidentiality, guarantee access to data and engage private sector organizations to provide data or consultancy. Adapting existing arrangements for data collection and provision of expertise (e.g. statistical, economic or environmental data) will help to embed the transparency system in mainstream ongoing data-collection and analysis activities. Mechanisms that establish strong organizational mandates include Kosovo climate laws, organizational agreements or contracts, individual contracts and DSAs.

Figure 4 below sets out the institutional arrangements as they pertain to Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka. It reflects that some municipality level information and expertise is actually held at Kosovo central level, and also reflects that most available information related to the inventory rather than actions at this stage.

Figure 4. Figure Institutional Arrangements pertaining to Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka municipalities



Questions to answer under this component include:

- Is there an overarching legal framework which mandates regular data collection, analysis, and reporting for the MRV system?
- Have Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka consolidated its organisational structure for its MRV system (e.g. “organisational diagram”) and/or developed an agreed directory of stakeholders containing the people and organisations and appointed roles and responsibilities for various aspects of the MRV system?
- Have Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka established a sustainable flow of resources to support the ongoing development and management of the MRV system?

There currently doesn't seem to be any framework in place that mandates reporting at the municipality level. A climate law has been legislated, but we are not currently able to say what the mandates resulting from that will be. Much of the data seems to be collected from central institutions, and local level action makes use of the data that is available at local and Kosovo central level, rather than having strict regular mandates.

In terms of current legislation, A.I. (GRK) NO. 09/2015 makes the provisions for KEPA to provide the Kosovo inventory, and collect data annually. A.I. (GRK) NO. 01/2016 makes provisions for regular reporting (every 2 years) on policies and measures and projections at the Kosovo central level, also by KEPA. A.I. GRK - No.19/2013 necessitates KEPA's access to information on economic consumptions of fuel and CO2 emissions of new personal vehicles. AI (MEE) No.05/2017 sets renewable energy source targets for Kosovo.

3.2.2 Technical capacity of experts

The team of Kosovo and local experts should be capable of regularly gathering and processing data in order to produce the agreed outputs in a timely manner. The team should have suitable back-up expertise and access to relevant training materials. There should also be effective recruitment, retention and succession procedures in place that motivate the long-term and active involvement of experts in the reporting process. These aspects depend on suitable governance. In the early phases of developing institutional arrangements, it may be helpful to contract external support to train and mentor the team of experts. The team of experts may also wish to bring in temporary additional support for new developments from time to time.

Understanding existing capacity building and training programmes is key to identifying gaps or areas for further improvements.

Analysis under this component should answer the following question:

- Do Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka have sufficient capacity and expertise to perform the MRV systems functions of gathering and analysing data, producing reports and fully engaging with stakeholders?

Technical expertise relating the MRV system functions comes from the municipality offices, associated sectoral departments, Central Institution's agencies i.e. Kosovo Agency for Statistics, as well as consultation with universities and research institutes, scientific and technical publications in books, journals and reports.

Capacity is stretched in terms of performing MRV system functions. This is due to lack of funding, and also provisions that prevent the hiring of more public officials. As there isn't an established structure for the provision of data and reporting on inventory and PaMs and projections, related institutional system knowledge is also in need of development in conjunction with the processes that allow for such reporting.

3.2.3 Data flows

Reliable, regular data flows are essential for well-functioning institutional arrangements and the delivery of a transparency framework. This includes defining the need for and uses of data, managing the delivery of the required datasets from a range of data providers on a regular basis and continuously improving data and reducing uncertainty. The data sets include Kosovo and local statistics and institutional data, various forms of measurement data, company and trade association reports, and censuses and surveys that have already been undertaken and reported. They also include new data specifically developed to fill gaps in knowledge where existing data does not exist, including new surveys, measurements and other statistical data collected on specific anthropogenic activities (e.g. forestry, agriculture, use of fluorinated gases), climate risks and vulnerabilities as well as on the costs, benefits and co-benefits of adaptation and mitigation actions, and information on financial, technology and capacity-building support for action. Identifying and engaging with stakeholders who hold, produce, and could supply this data will be important. DSAs will be important for securing reliable data flows.

When asked in a survey whether they believe their organization has access to systems and tools for managing, quantifying, and reporting mitigation actions, all three responses were that they do not have systems or tools to support the process of data collection that are regularly used. Respondents to this question represented Kosovo central institutions, local institutions, and a public company.

Analysis under this component should answer the following question:

- Do Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka have sufficient data available to enable it to track progress and to inform decision makers of possible future options? Are data providers identified and understood, engaged (through data supply agreements or other memorandums of

understanding) and committed to provide and to continuously improve data?

There are current data gaps for a few sources. Kosovo's current waste management system does not provide complete data on waste generation, collection, treatment and disposal¹². Waste generation data is available from public operators whilst data from other suppliers is more limited.

3.2.4 Coordination, systems and tools

Coordination, systems, and tools are important for the smooth functioning of the transparency system. This encompasses managing the collection, analysis, QA/QC, summarizing and archiving of data and the preparation of briefings and reports. Institutional arrangements need to provide for the development and maintenance of workplans, engagement tools, databases, data collection and data analysis tools, indicators, and reports.

Analysis under this component should answer the following question:

- Do Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka have sufficient systems and tools to help its coordinators and experts to gather, analyse, quality assure, plan, prepare and report outputs on progress with mitigation, adaptation, and support outcomes?

There are Kosovo central level systems that the municipalities may draw on, such as the:

- air quality monitoring system
- electric vehicle MRV
- tool for reporting waste generation,

but we are not aware of any local systems or tools used for coordination of reporting. Responses from stakeholder engagement indicate that individual municipal directorates report to municipal assembly and central level institutions for auditing purposes, however, there is no systematic tracking of information. This MRV system project will therefore aim to fill these gaps in systems and tools using for coordination of reporting.

3.2.5 Engagement and communication strategy

Collecting data and using it to prioritise and drive action requires stakeholder engagement. This includes data providers as well as data users and encompasses the public, local governments and communities, businesses, and other decision makers. The greater the engagement the better (and more useful) the transparency system will be for evidence-based decision-making and the production of reports. Stakeholder engagement involves seeking out key individuals and organizations and offering benefits in exchange for their involvement (e.g. providing data, insights and resources) with the transparency system. Stakeholders

¹² Kosovo, 2021: Annual report on the state of the environment for 2020

engaged in domestic policy-making and business decision-making will provide an important link to the wider impacts of climate action and the integration of climate action with Kosovo and local social, environmental, economic and sustainability goals.

Analysis under this component should answer the following question:

- What stakeholder engagement activities and tools does the MRV system provide that ensure maximum engagement from contributing stakeholders and users of the MRV system (e.g. decision makers)?

Some key considerations when developing an engagement and communication strategy are as follows:

- **Emphasise the sense of urgency:** Individuals, communities, and organisations need information necessary to help them understand, adapt and respond to climate change
- **Link climate change to sustainable development:** Communicating climate change not as a complex, siloed environmental issue, but also as a social-economic and geopolitical one
- **Promote and demonstrate best practice:** Promoting best practice to facilitate learning at different levels and informing policies. Promoting models of best practices on adaptation and mitigation at community level that can be scaled up and replicated at different levels and areas through communication

Additional aspects to consider when developing an engagement and communication strategy are as follows:

- **Communication groups:** The intended recipients of engagement and communication should be identified. Inclusivity and accessibility should be considered throughout this process
- **Communication channel:** Engagement can occur through a variety of means, such as online (e.g. websites, social media), print (e.g. newsletters, leaflets), or in person (e.g. workshops, outreach programmes, conferences). Current communication with wider stakeholders within municipalities is through social media, official municipal websites, and occasional publishing of information leaflets. An appropriate communication channel should be selected for the intended audience, and recognise and account for accessibility needs throughout
- **Communication frequency:** The frequency of engagement should be considered. For example, periodic workshops with data providers to explain data quality needs may be more effective than a one-off event. This links with the communication method. At the beginning of the strategy, surveys and polls provide insights into existing levels of understanding and engagement and follow up surveys reveal whether these have changed

Developing a tool, such as a strategy implementation matrix, can be a useful way to identify and organise key climate messages and themes, identify the intended audience and means of communication. Figure 5 is an example of a strategy implementation matrix elsewhere (in this case, Tanzania) which can be used as a framework in Kosovo.

Figure 5. Example strategy implementation matrix developed by Tanzania as part of its Climate Change Communication Strategy (2012-2017)

Theme/ issue	Key messages	Target audience	Means/ tools/ channels of communication	Responsible Actor
1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) General knowledge on climate change, its causes and impacts, vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation strategies as well as associated opportunities. ii) Linkages of climate change and sustainable development 	General public; religious leaders; journalists; community leaders; schools, politicians and other policy and decision makers	Radio; TV; cinema; flyers; posters; newspapers; booklets; community meetings; workshops; seminars and outreach; drama and songs; websites; social media; letters; local and international exhibitions; promotional materials; climate change champions and influential leaders.	VPO; MoEVT; NEMC; LGAs; RAS, CSOs; Private sector; Higher Learning Institutions; TMA; Media and other MDAs
2. ADAPTATION	<p>2.1 Agriculture and food security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Impacts of climate change on agricultural production ii) Best agricultural practices (farming systems, storage and processing); iii) drought tolerant and early maturing crop varieties; iv) crop diversification; v) efficient irrigation technologies such as drip irrigation; vi) crop insurance; vii) early warning system; 	MDAs, LGAs CSOs, private sector, media and farming communities; Politicians; and development partners	Radio; TV; cinema; flyers; posters; newspapers; booklets; community meetings and outreach; drama and songs; websites; social media; farmers exchange visits within and outside the country; local and international exhibitions; demonstration plots; promotional materials; climate change champions and influential leaders.	MAFC; Agricultural Research Institutions; LGAs; TMA; Higher Learning Institutions; CSOs; Cooperative Union, Private sector; VPO; NEMC; Media and other MDAs

It is important to periodically review whether the existing communication strategy is effectively meeting its intended purpose. Periodic review of the channels and types of communication and engagement ensures that key messages are communicated effectively to all groups. Completion of surveys and requests for feedback from stakeholders allows for an open discussion on the accessibility and usefulness of communicated information. There are a variety of opportunities to ask for feedback on communications activities, such as workshops, seminars, and panels. Evaluations from participants signal whether communication activities are viewed positively by participants, while also gathering ideas on improvements going forward. Future improvements should be documented in a place which is accessible to those with the potential to implement improvements.

4 Improvement Plan

A central aspect to developing and coordinating any MRV development is an MRV Improvement Plan. This plan provides a central focus for understanding the existing activities and prioritising the future development of the MRV systems so it is equipped to serve stakeholders and inform decision making. The improvement plan includes all aspects of the MRV system including data gathering, analysis, reporting and engagement activities.

Our project team have identified a number of improvements throughout this project and compiled them into a draft improvement plan in Table 1 below.

The full Improvement Plan list is also available in an Excel format accompanying this report.

The improvements have not yet been prioritised or fully reconciled with ongoing activities and support. Completing and prioritising the list, identifying routes for the implementation of the improvements and helping to manage the implementation of improvements is the subject of any follow-on work to this project.

The improvements have been organised into two main parts. **Part 1** includes improvements to the MRV system itself and is arranged according to the 5 components constituting the institutional arrangements presented in section 3.2. The overarching activity (Part 1) is to further develop the MRV system and consolidate, prioritise and manage the implementation of the improvement plan itself. Within this there are 5 headline tasks to work on the 5 institutional arrangement components of 1) governance (3.2.1). 2) expert capacity (3.2.2), 3) data flows (3.2.3), 4) systems and tools (3.2.4) and 5) stakeholder engagement (3.2.5).

Part 2 focuses on important developments designed to make use of the MRV system to start to align municipal climate change strategy. These actions are focused on engaging with stakeholders and collecting and using information to develop strategies that work towards low GHG and highly resilient economies, strong social cohesion, and a well-protected environment.

Table 1. Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka's Improvement Plan, arising from this project's work. For each improvement, the level of priority, lead stakeholder and lead organisation need to be decided.

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
Part 1: Improvements to the MRV system							
1	Develop the MRV System	N/A	Build and develop the elements of a functional Monitoring (and Measurement), Reporting and Verification System. Further develop the improvement plan, prioritise improvements, design a road map for implementation and manage and	Temporary arrangements and a Kosovo system not capable of successfully meeting desired reporting requirements on a regular basis without external support. Mechanisms do not exist to prioritise improvements and implement the improvement plan.	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Governance, Expertise, Data flows, Systems and tools, Stakeholder engagement	In progress

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
			coordinate implementation.				
1.1	Improve governance	Develop the MRV System	Improve the relationships and legislation that governs and mandates transparency activities within the MRV system	Lack of formal arrangements for transparency activities such as data collection, data supply, progress tracking, reporting, QA/QC and verification	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Governance	Idea
1.1.1	Develop organisational diagram, roles and	Improve governance	Build a picture of the key roles within the Kosovo climate change transparency system with clear definitions for Kosovo	Unclear roles for experts and data providers and a lack of understanding of duties within the	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Governance	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	responsibilities		focal point, steering committee, coordinators, inventory compilers, mitigation, adaptation and support experts, data providers and QA/QC reviewers.	transparency system.			
1.1.2	Review and assess legal framework	Improve governance	Review the overarching legislation that supports resourcing of transparency activities within the MRV system and mandates the responsibilities of the various MRV	Roles and responsibilities are temporary and not supported by overarching legal framework.	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Governance	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
			stakeholders to meet the needs of the municipalities.				
1.1.3	Define a sustainable flow of resources to support ongoing development and management of the MRV system	Improve governance	Develop a roadmap for funding and support for staff roles involved in transparency activities (e.g. GHG inventory compilers) and for continued development of the MRV system.	Uncertainty over resourcing of the MRV System and increased risk of not meeting requirements due to lack of reliable source of funding.	Support	Governance	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.2	Expand expertise	Develop the MRV System	Increase the technical expertise within municipality institutions	Gaps in capacity and expertise to meet objectives without external support.	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Expertise	Idea
1.2.1	Assess technical capacity to regularly collect, compile and report on the GHG Inventory	Expand expertise	Perform competency assessment to determine level of expertise for GHG Inventory compilation and reporting.	Lack of understanding of inventory reporting practices.	Mitigation	Expertise	Idea
1.2.2	Assess technical capacity to	Expand expertise	Perform competency assessment to determine level of	Lack of understanding of mitigation action	Mitigation	Expertise	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	regularly collect, compile and report data on mitigation actions		expertise for mitigation action data collection and assessment.	tracking and reporting practices.			
1.2.3	Assess technical capacity to regularly collect, compile and report data on adaptation actions	Expand expertise	Perform competency assessment to determine level of expertise for adaptation action data collection and assessment (including risk and vulnerability assessments).	Lack of understanding of adaptation action tracking and reporting practices.	Adaptation	Expertise	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.2.4	Assess technical capacity to regularly collect, compile and report data on support and climate finance	Expand expertise	Perform competency assessment to determine level of expertise for tagging, tracking and reporting climate finance and support.	Lack of understanding of tagging, tracking and reporting climate finance and support.	Support	Expertise	Idea
1.3	Define data flows	Develop the MRV System	Identify and define the key data sets, data providers and data collection processes required to regularly meet	Undefined data requirements for transparency activities and	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
			requirements and for local decision making.	local decision making			
1.3.1	Define list of MRV system outcomes	Define data flows	Identify key Kosovo outcomes, objectives and targets relating to low carbon and climate resilient development (environment, economy, health and other key areas)	Understanding of overlapping targets and objectives in different policy and strategy areas	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea
1.3.2	Define list of MRV system outputs	Define data flows	Identify key Kosovo outputs (documents, reports, communications, policies, action plans)	Understanding the structure of the outputs to better refine data collection, tracking	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
			that document progress on low carbon and climate resilient development	and reporting systems and processes.			
1.3.3	Assess data availability for GHG Inventory sectors (Energy, Industry, Agriculture, LULUCF, Waste)	Define data flows	Perform an audit of data sources (availability, format, regularity of reporting, key stakeholders) for data relevant to the compilation of the GHG Inventory.	Data availability in GHG inventory sectors	Mitigation	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.3.4	Assess data availability for climate action data supply	Define data flows	Perform an audit of data sources (availability, format, regularity of reporting, key stakeholders) for data relevant to mitigation and adaptation action tracking.	Data availability for climate action tracking	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea
1.3.5	Assess data availability for support and climate finance data supply	Define data flows	Perform an audit of data sources (availability, format, regularity of reporting, key stakeholders) for data relevant to climate	Data availability for climate finance and support tracking	Support	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
			finance and support tracking.				
1.3.6	Develop list of data sharing agreements	Define data flows	Based on the assessment of data availability, draw up data sharing agreements between key data providers and compilers that define the format, quantity, frequency and supply conditions of the data being shared.	Lack of agreements to share data between key data providers and compilers between ministries and between industry and institutions.	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.3.7	Define list of Kosovo climate change challenges	Define data flows	Assess and define the key challenges that Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka in achieving low carbon, climate resilient development.	An understanding of the challenges that need to be addressed through climate action (the drivers).	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Data flows	Idea
1.3.8	Define list of climate change mitigation and adaptation actions	Define data flows	Compile a database of completed, ongoing and planned climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.	A comprehensive picture of Kosovo climate action	Mitigation, adaptation	Data flows	Idea
1.3.9	Assess data availability	Define data flows	Perform an audit of data sources (availability, format,	Data availability for climate vulnerability	Adaptation	Data flows	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	for climate risk, vulnerability, loss, and damage analyses		regularity of reporting, (key stakeholders) for data relevant to climate risk, vulnerability, loss and damage analyses	and risk assessments			
1.4	Build systems and tools	Develop the MRV System	Build systems and tools to facilitate transparency and improve institutional memory	Insufficient systems and tools for data collection, management, tracking and reporting on climate change MRV themes.	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Systems and tools	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.4.1	Develop GHG Inventory database system	Build systems and tools	Build an online database system for managing and sharing GHG Inventory data across all sectors	An efficient system for GHG inventory management	Mitigation	Systems and tools	Idea
1.4.2	Develop Climate Action and Support database system	Build systems and tools	Build an online database system for managing and sharing climate action and support data across all sectors	A system used for tracking progress of climate actions against Kosovo outcomes	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Systems and tools	Idea
1.4.3	Develop GHG inventory, moving to more accurate	Build systems and tools	Improve level of detail in the GHG inventory and develop an inventory built on	A detailed, high accuracy inventory built on Kosovo-specific methodologies	Mitigation	Systems and tools	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	estimation methods and verification activities		higher Tier IPCC methodologies				
1.4.4	Develop GHG projection scenario database system	Build systems and tools	Develop systems and tools (or adapt existing tools) to produce GHG projection scenarios	A system for easily producing detailed GHG emission projection scenarios	Mitigation	Systems and tools	Idea
1.4.5	Develop database system for analyses of climate risk,	Build systems and tools	Develop systems and tools (or adapt existing tools) to produce analyses of climate risk,	Appropriate tools for Kosovo evaluation of climate risk, vulnerability, loss, and damage	Adaptation	Systems and tools	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	vulnerability, loss and damage		vulnerability, loss and damage				
1.5	Increase stakeholder engagement	Develop the MRV System	Improving stakeholder engagement across different stakeholder groups (general public, industry, NGOs, CSOs, high level coordination and decision makers)	Stakeholders regularly engaged in climate change transparency	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Stakeholder engagement	Idea
1.5.1	Review stakeholder engagement	Increase stakeholder engagement	Scoping of existing stakeholder	Understanding of opportunities and challenges for climate change	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Stakeholder engagement	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
	nt activities and tools		engagement activities and tools	stakeholder engagement			
1.5.2	Develop stakeholder engagement plan (communication strategy) for climate change information	Increase stakeholder engagement	Develop a communication strategy with a tangible plan to engage stakeholders at all levels of local systems	A discernible plan for engaging stakeholders in climate change transparency matters	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Stakeholder engagement	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
1.5.3	High level engagement	Increase stakeholder engagement	Initiate engagement with Kosovo ministries and CC committees	Informing high level decision makers on knowledge of climate challenges and the impacts of action	Mitigation, adaptation, support	Stakeholder engagement	Idea
Part 2: Aligning local climate change strategy							
2	Align local climate change strategy	N/A	Mainstream climate change into local strategies, to widen the scope of climate action and further ambition	A coordinated approach and mandate across key public and private stakeholders on climate action in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka	Mitigation, adaptation, support	N/A	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
2.1	Optimise local policies and strategies	Align local climate change strategy	Ensure that all policies and strategies are optimised in their potential for climate mitigation and adaptation	Policies and strategies which prioritise climate as a key consideration	Mitigation, adaptation, support	N/A	Idea
2.1.1	Review local climate related outcomes, objectives and targets	Optimise local policies and strategies	Build clear institutional visions for what the municipalities are aiming to do to mitigate against and adapt to climate change	A shared vision and coordinated approach to climate action across the municipality offices and other key stakeholders	Mitigation, adaptation, support	N/A	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
2.1.2	Climate-proof Kosovo development strategies and investment plans	Optimise domestic policies and strategies	Embed considerations of climate mitigation, adaptation and support into major development and investment plans/strategies in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka, so that they are designed to contribute towards local climate targets/objectives/outcomes	Policies and strategies which prioritise climate as a key consideration	Mitigation, adaptation, support	N/A	Idea

Unique ID	Title	Parent Improvement	Description	Gap to be addressed	MRV Theme	MRV Component	Status
2.1.3	Perform cost-benefit analysis of climate actions under different mitigation and adaptation scenarios	Optimise domestic policies and strategies	Use cost-benefit analyses to prioritise certain climate actions and build a picture of the range of possibilities for climate action in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka	Understanding the costs and benefits of different options for climate action in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka	Mitigation, adaptation, support	N/A	Idea

Annexes

Annex 1: Key documents and inputs researched for the analysis of the MRV system

Document	Contents
Analysis of the motor vehicle fleet as a way to reduce air pollution in Kosovo	Literature paper which details the estimation of air pollutant emissions from the road transport fleet in Kosovo
BILANCI VJETOR I ENERGJISË ELEKTRIKE DHE TERMIKE PËR VITIN 2022	Report on private and commercial electricity consumption data for central heating stations in Prishtinë/Priština and Gjakovë/Djakovica
Charging stations for electric vehicles - Prizren (Kosovo) Kosovoly Appropriate Mitigation Actions, MRV Protocol	Documentation of MRV system for EV charging infrastructure NAMA in Prizren
Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28	Kosovo central level strategy document and action plan
Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change – Prizren	Prizren focused document for consumption and planned interventions on energy, waste, transportation and public sectors
Draft Energy Strategy of the Kosovo 2022-31	Information on Kosovo's current and recent energy generation history, policies and targets, potential sources of AD / proxy information for primary and secondary energy consumption split by sector
Energy efficiency in municipal buildings - Prizren (Kosovo) Kosovo Appropriate Mitigation Actions, MRV Protocol	MRV protocol: Energy efficiency (thermal insulation) of municipal buildings in Prizren
Emission Inventory Executive Summary	Executive summary of the inaugural air pollutant inventory
Annual Report on the State of Air 2019	Background on AQ limit values, description of existing air quality monitoring stations in Kosovo. Also

	includes monthly AQ pollutant levels for select municipalities for 2018/2019 (including Prizren) and Kosovo pollutant trends 2013-2019
Prizren City Base GHG Emissions Inventory 2014	Scope 1 - 3: Prizren 2014 emissions for CO ₂ , CH ₄ and N ₂ O: Energy (Residential Building and Commercial & Institutional Building); Agriculture; Waste (Solid waste and Waste water). Transport, IPPU and LULUCF not included
GHG emissions in Kosovo 2014-15	Kosovo inventory document. The emissions from the stationary energy and road transportation are not transparently and correctly estimated
IMSP – Carbon Footprint Report 2020	Emission data for Limak Kosovo International Airport' scope 1-3 for 2020. An updated document is also available with 2021 data IMS
Energy Strategy of Kosovo 2017-26	Kosovo's last approved energy policies and targets, historical primary and secondary energy consumption split by sector. Soon to be replaced with new draft strategy reviewed above.
Kosovo Emission Inventory Update 2020	Kosovo air quality inventory report for 2020, including annexes containing information on sectors, uncertainties and updates.
Kosovo Environment 2020 – Report on Environmental Indicators	Kosovo central level assessment of the state of the environment through environmental indicators Prizren air quality measurements; and visitor numbers
RAPORT VJETOR PËR GJENDJEN E AJRIT 2020	Air quality monitoring report drafted in 2021. Based on feedback received from 12 installed monitoring points spread across Kosovo
Solar PV in municipal buildings - Prizren (Kosovo) Kosovo	Protocol developed for Solar PV – municipal building in Prizren (<100 kW System) to specify the activities to

Appropriate Mitigation Actions, MRV Protocol	be carried out to monitor, report and verify the electricity consumption data and related GHG (CO ₂ e) emissions
Kosovo Environmental Strategy 2013-22	Kosovo's environmental strategy, prepared by Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Annex 2: Example key outcomes tracked by the MRV system

Outcome	Source Document
Reducing Kosovo GHG emissions – prevent and reduce GHG emissions and plan and promote sustainable mobility in the most populated areas of Kosovo. Kosovo's voluntary NDC will aim to reduce GHG emissions by 8.95Mt CO ₂ e by 2030, around 16.3% compared to 2016 levels.	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28
Develop Kosovo's capacity to meet UNFCCC Convention and EU obligations – develop and implement policies for climate change and create a framework for the establishment of the GHG Inventory System.	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28
Develop and improve the necessary regulatory and operational mechanisms to reach the target of 25% of GDP's share of GDP in gross final energy consumption by 2020 ¹³ .	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28
Develop mechanisms and improve disaster risk management measures, particularly in sectors of economic importance that are vulnerable to climate change impacts – establish mechanisms to reduce disaster risk and enhance adaptive capacity for	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28

¹³ Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning: Climate Change Strategy 2019 – 2028

vulnerable sectors and communities and prepare Climate Packages.	
Increase adaptation capacity of natural systems – improve the water balance through landscape improvements and create better microclimate conditions and more resistant landscapes to provide habitats for migratory species.	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28
Increase central and local stakeholder capacity, integrate climate change issues and adaptation into the development process – capacity building for production and use of information and communication, development of awareness programs for climate change, and avoidance of potential climate impacts on health.	Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2019-28
Implementation of EE and renewable energy measures in public buildings and GHG reduction	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Reduction of energy consumption in residential buildings and GHG reduction	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Development of human and professional capacities for energy	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Awareness-building and promotion of EE measures and GHG reduction	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Drafting of relevant EE documents	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Reduce GHG emissions and heating energy consumption	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
Reduce GHG emissions and public lighting energy consumption	Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025

Reduction of energy consumption in the sectors of building construction, transport and public lighting	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Reduction of energy costs in the municipal budget	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Improvement of municipal services	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Renovations of buildings and installations for energy production	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Improvement of sanitary conditions and level of comfort in public buildings	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Reducing CO2 emissions in all sectors by implementing energy efficiency measures, using renewable energy sources, managing consumption, through training and other measures	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021
Raising the awareness of energy saving policy makers, operators, and end users	Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2019-2021

Annex 3: Example summary table for tracking actions through the MRV system

Title	Description	Objective	Action type	Sector	Priority	Status of Implementation	Timeframe	Action Cost	Lead stakeholder	Estimated Emissions Reduction
<i>Action title</i>	<i>Description of the action</i>	<i>Main objective of the action</i>	<i>Mitigation, Adaptation, Support</i>	<i>IPCC Sector, Adaptation sector</i>	<i>High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Planned, Ongoing, Completed</i>	<i>Start and end date of the action</i>	<i>Estimated cost of the action</i>	<i>Lead organisation responsible for this action</i>	<i>Estimated impact on GHG emissions (if applicable)</i>

Annex 4: Example Climate change indicators

ID	Indicator
1	Total GHG emissions annually, by sector and by gas
2	Percentage change in emissions compared to 2016 levels
3	Predicted GHG emissions for Business As Usual and With Measures scenarios, annually to at least 2030
4	Total final energy consumption
5	Total energy consumption per unit of GDP
	...

Annex 5: Current and potential funders and supports for MRV system development

Funding body	Scope of support	Type of support ¹⁴	Financial instrument ¹⁵	Current engagements in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka
<i>Funder Name</i>	<i>Projects and programmes that funding is tied to</i>	<i>Financial, Capacity Building, Technical Support, Technological Support</i>	<i>Grant, Loan, Other</i>	<i>Currently ongoing projects</i>

¹⁴ Types of support: financial, technology development and transfer, capacity building

¹⁵ Types of instrument: grant, concessional loan, non-concessional loan, equity, guarantee, other

Annex 6: Example key outputs supported by the MRV system

- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change for 2019-28
- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Energy Strategy 2022-2031 under public review
- Municipality level contributions to the Kosovo Environmental Strategy
- Delivery of Municipality of Prizren Cross-Sectoral Intervention Plan on Climate Change 2020-2025
- Delivery of Environment and Waste Plans in Prizren and Suharekë/Suva Reka
- Delivery of Municipal Development and Zoning Plans