



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA



NATIONAL CIVIL
PROTECTION AGENCY

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY

**NDRRS
2023-2030**

Tirana, 2023



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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



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REDUCTION STRATEGY¹

(NDRRS 2023-2030)

¹ Approved by Albanian government with Council of Ministers Decision (CMD) No. 94, date 22.03.2023

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List of Abbreviations

AGS	Albanian Geological Survey
AICS	Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development
ASIG	State Authority for Geospatial Information
ASMN	Albanian Strong Motion Network
AWMN	Albanian Weak Motion Network
ARC	Albanian Red Cross
CBC	Cross Border Cooperation
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CECIS	Common Emergency Communication and Information System
CEP	Civil Emergency Planning/plan
CI	Construction Institute
CP	Civil Protection
DG ECHO	Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DCM	Decision of Council of Ministers
DesInventar	Sistema de Inventario de Desastres (Disaster Inventory System)
DPPI SEE	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South East Europe
DRA	Disaster Risk Assessment
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRSMWG	Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy Monitoring Working Group
EM-DAT	The Emergency Events Database
EU	European Union
EERC	European Emergency Response Capacity
ERCC	Emergency Response Coordination Centre
EWS	Early Warning System
FC	Flood Containment (EERC Module)
FRB	Flood Rescue using Boats (EERC module)
FRMP	Flood Risk Management Plan
FP&RS	Fire Protection and Rescue Service
GDCE	General Directorate of Civil Emergencies (Predecessor of NCPA)
GFFF	Ground Forest Fire Fighting (EERC module)
GIS	Geographical Information System
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
HUSAR	Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (EERC module)
NICH	National Institute of Cultural Heritage
IANP	Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics
IGEO	Institute of Geosciences
INSTAT	Institute of geography and statistics of Albania
IPA	The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
IPH	Institute of Public Health
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoC	Ministry of Culture
MoD	Ministry of Defense
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sport
MoEFA	Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
MoFE	Ministry of Finance and Economy
MoHSP	Ministry of Health and Social Protection
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoIE	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoTE	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
NFA	National Food Authority
NCEP	National Civil Emergency Plan
NCPA	National Civil Protection Agency
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDRRS	National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

NFA	National Forestry Agency
NICH	National Institute for Cultural Heritage
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPDRR	National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
NRA	National Risk Assessment
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PHEOC	Public Health Emergency Operational Center
PUT	Polytechnic University of Tirana
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathways
RESEAL	Resilience Strengthening in Albania (UNDP Project)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SECO	State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
SFDRR	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
SLR	Sea-level rise
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
EU CPM	European Union Civil Protection Mechanism
TESTA	Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRMA	Water Resources Management Agency

1. Foreword

Disasters cause losses that have an adverse effect on more than one social element in the area where they occur.

Almost all sectors bear the responsibility to ensure disaster management capacities thus guaranteeing the country's overall resilience and preventive capacity.

Knowing this, a multi-sector, multi-risk approach was chosen in developing this Strategy to ensure the involvement of stakeholders.

Each of the hazards was represented in the Technical Inter-institutional Working Group set up for the Development of the Albanian National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy to ensure all relevant expertise and knowledge in the development of this strategic document of exceptional national importance.

Every year local communities and Albania as a country face significant, sometimes devastating, disaster losses. Floods, earthquakes, vegetation and forest fires, landslides, and other hazards and their associated consequences have a significant impact on communities, the economy, infrastructure and the environment.

The impacts of disasters are being assessed on economic growth including due to (i) increased exposure of people and economic assets to vulnerable areas; (ii) insufficient financing for risk reduction in years; and (iii) the effects of climate change. This is particularly worrying given that the poor and the population at risk of near-poverty are disproportionately affected by disasters.

In the last three years Albania has undergone a profound reform of its disaster management system, shifting the focus from a passive management of situations, in a proactive management, oriented to responses in prevention and readiness. With the newly established National Civil Protection Agency new energy in context of disaster risk governance is imposed to address all challenges that Albania is facing when protecting the life and health of the population, the environment, important material and cultural assets, before, during and after disasters.

Like never before in the modern history of Albania, coordinated efforts are being undertaken by the Government for a creation of sustainable disaster management system in the country that will be ready to face all current and future challenges. Through a carefully designed and inclusive process, this year we will finalize the National Risk Assessment, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and the National Civil Emergency Plan. In parallel to strategic planning processes we are also enhancing our response capacities by modernizing and equipping our Fire Protection and Rescue Service.

The development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies is one of the seven targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. Disaster risk reduction strategies are the cornerstone of all formalised actions for reducing disaster risk and are setting the strategic direction for further developments of the national systems. As such the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy of Albania defines goals and objectives across different timescales and with concrete targets, indicators and timeframes. Furthermore the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy promotes the establishment of functional arrangements for coordination among all stakeholders in Albania and defines critical areas where capacities need to be strengthened.

At the last summit of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia, May 2022², the member states agreed on the Bali Agenda for Resilience. This agenda is calling for transformation of risk governance mechanisms to ensure that management of risk is a shared responsibility across sectors, systems, scales and borders. I strongly believe that through this strategic document we are reflecting exactly the fulfillment of this commitment with the aim that reducing the risk from disasters should be everyone's priority.

Haki Cako

Director General of the National Civil Protection Agency

² <https://globalplatform.undrr.org/publication/co-chairs-summary-bali-agenda-resilience>

1.1. Acknowledgments

The National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy document was prepared by the National Civil Protection Agency with the direct support of the Minister of Defense Mr. Niko Peleshi, in the framework of the Albanian government's commitment to reducing and preventing risks from disasters.

The Strategy was developed within the "Resilience Strengthening in Albania - RESEAL" UNDP's Project.

The Technical Inter-institutional Working Group for the preparation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy was led by the General Director of the NCPA Mr. Haki Çako. The data were collected with the contribution of ministries and institutions, which were an integral part of the process of preparing the strategy document.

The National Civil Protection Agency thanks all institutions, organisations and individuals involved in co-design of the first national Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for their time, effort and expertise. This document would not have been made possible without these contributions.

2. Introduction

2.1. Context: importance and rationale

The Government of Albania, answering to the globally accepted obligations as part of the Sendai Framework³, as a full member country of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (EU CPM) and aspiring to become a future EU member state but most importantly wanting Albania to become a disaster resilient country, is strongly supporting the development of National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy (NDRRS). Even though the preconditions in terms of existing national level framework and expertise were there it needs to be noted that the turning point directing changes in how the DRR system was perceived in Albania was the 26 November 2019 earthquake. It was then when the Government of Albania considered this major disaster as an opportunity to strengthen the overall DRR system, both in terms of capacity and strategic planning. This entire DRR strengthening process is something that the Government of Albania could be and is willing to internationally present as a best practice example.

Albania is vulnerable to a range of natural disasters. The main hazards affecting Albania are earthquakes, floods, forest fires and landslides. Other hazards include snowstorms, droughts, temperature extremes, epidemics, avalanches, technological hazards (eg, dam breaks), and windstorms. The International Disaster Database (EM-DAT) shows that, during 1979-2019, floods accounted for the majority of disaster events (38%), followed by earthquakes (15%). The vulnerability of the Albanian population to disasters of large and small scales is compounded by poverty, poor quality infrastructure and communications, a construction boom and a range of human-influenced environmental factors, from rapid deforestation and poor watershed management to environmental pollution. Moreover, the education and awareness of the population on these risks remains low.

The latest data shows Albania is exponentially more vulnerable to disasters as in the past decade all of the above mentioned hazards have at some point turned into a large scale emergency or a disaster. Numerous reports and documents evidence the high level of risks that threaten the country, the high exposure, and vulnerability, but also the insufficient capacity to cope with and adapt to them. As a result of high exposure and insufficient coping capacities disasters are affecting Albanian development path so on average damage from earthquakes and flooding are estimated at US\$147 million per year, with a catastrophic event, such as a 1-in-100-year earthquake for example causing over US\$2 billion in damage. In that sense, strategic Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) approach was found to be missing so for instance the lack of NDRRS is evident in the findings of successive Progress Reports of

³ Target F - Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020

the European Commission for Albania, including the last Progress Report for 2021 whereas the need to prepare a strategic document on emergency preparedness is evidenced in NSDI 2015-2020.

According to United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction Office (UNDRR) terminology, Disaster risk management (DRM) is the application of disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses.⁴

The recent restructure of the national disaster management system was a step in the direction of sustainable and efficient disaster management system, however there is much to be done in terms of risk awareness and knowledge, capacity development, infrastructure development and reinforcement, communication and intersectoral cooperation and preparedness for response and recovery.

Investing in disaster risk reduction can result not just in reducing losses and damages but in economic sustainability and new opportunities. The period of the country's fast development and restructuring is the perfect time to mainstream disaster risk reduction into the government's policy development on all levels, introduce risk aware investments and ensure new developments are smart and sustainable. A comprehensive and multisector approach, that reaps lessons learned from the world's disaster risk management international, national and local policies, strategies and research, can tackle risk factors rather than merely consequences and thus make Albania a safer, more resilient country - an example and anchor to her neighboring countries and a dignified member of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU CPM).

2.2. Scope and structure of the document

The main purpose of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy in Albania (Strategy) is to guide Albania's future disaster risk management activities and investments in a comprehensive and inclusive manner. Albania has identified the most relevant national natural and man-made hazards that could cause a disaster and analyzed and assessed the disaster risk in the 2022 National Risk Assessment. It is the next natural step according to the disaster management cycle and the object of this Strategy to envelop all disaster management activities and investments in order to plan for the risk reduction of the analyzed risks, prevent new risks from developing and manage residual risk.



Figure 1 Emergency Management Cycle

⁴ <https://www.undrr.org/terminology/disaster-risk-management>

The new Albania's civil protection system will be a modern one following all stages according to the disaster risk management cycle and including all relevant sectors and governance levels. This Strategy is the next step in further developing such functioning system in the foreseeable 8-year period.

The Strategy therefore describes the relation with the relevant international and national disaster risk reduction related documents, the present circumstances of the disaster risk management system in Albania, and the status, potential and gaps regarding each of the risks to be reduced with the guidance of this Strategy. The Strategy identifies the financial frame of the planned activities, mission, vision and goals and describes the Strategy's implementation monitoring system.

In order to ensure the Strategy's successful and realistic implementation the first 5-year Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan can be found in attachment to the Strategy.

2.3. Legal framework and place within national policy

This Strategy is the underlying document for all future disaster risk management activities and investments as well as other relevant civil protection, response, recovery and development planning documents. The Strategy is developed under coordination of the National Civil Protection Agency (NCPA) and will be adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Government of Albania.

The legal basis for the Strategy is specified for the first time in Law No. 103/2014, dated 31.07.2014 "On the approval of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Albania" where "the adoption of the National DRR and CP Strategy" was defined as one of the objectives of strategic necessity no. 5 - "Consolidation of the Protection and Security Sector". In addition, the DCM no. 348, dated 11.5.2016 "On the approval of the National Strategy for Development and Integration 2015-2020" although does not entail a full chapter dedicated to DRR and CP, for the first time it entails a compound chapter no. 8.5. "Strengthening public order and preparing for the cases of civil emergencies". Paragraph "challenges" includes a summary of the eight main challenges of DRM and CP management among which we highlight challenge no. 4: The need to develop a strategic document on emergency preparedness.

In this chapter, the strengthening of the DRM and CP management is envisaged to be realized through:

- Preparation and approval of the National Operational Plan for the Integrated Management of Civil Emergencies;
- Updating and strengthening related legislation and regulations, in line with EU standards;
- Strengthened capacities of emergency preparedness and disaster response entities across Albania;
- Gathering and organizing risk information, and strengthening Early Warning Systems; and
- Review of the catastrophe insurance market.

Currently, the process of drafting NSDI 2021-2030 is ongoing, based on Prime Minister's Order no.157, dated 30.12.2021 "On developing the National Strategy for Development and Integration 2021-2030".

Before the earthquake of 2019, the Government of Albania adopted a new Law No. 45/2019 "On Civil Protection", which replaced the Law No. 8756/2001 "On Civil Emergencies". amended, and established, under the Ministry of Defense (MoD), the NCPA. The new law provides a solid framework for promoting disaster risk reduction and requires the and adoption of a national disaster risk reduction strategy.

Article 10, point 1, of the Law No. 45/2019 on Civil Protection states that the National Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction shall be the fundamental strategic document of the

Republic of Albania that shall define policies and activities of central and local institutions and structures, as well as all other subjects for disaster risk management, which shall be in turn approved by the Council of Ministers, upon the proposal of the minister.

Article 18, point “a”, of the Law No. 45/2019 on Civil Protection states that the Council of Ministers adopts the National Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Republic of Albania. According to Article 23, point 1, of the Law No. 45/2019, the NCPA, a central public entity subordinated to the minister responsible for civil protection and disaster risk reduction, shall coordinate efforts to develop the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction⁵ that will be adopted by the Government of Albania.

This will be the first Albanian National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy. Up until the adoption of this document, the National Civil Emergency Plan of Albania and the Law No 45/2019 were the two main documents in the field of Civil Protection, but no document ever encompassed all disaster risk reduction activities in all sectors in the country.

2.4. Process of development

Disasters cause many losses and damages and have a negative effect on more than one social element in the stricken area thus causing a degradation in the standard of living and disabling the societies’ progress and prosperity.

It is therefore apparent that more than one sector suffers from losses during a disaster and is obligated to take responsibility and ensure resilience of the sector, business continuity and societies access to the basic services as well as contribute to the overall resilience of the country. Resilience of a country depends on the level of resilience of each of the sectors, on each of the levels of governance and on every persons resilience. It is the goal of this Strategy to define the steps of outmost importance on the way to a safer Albania.

Such resilience cannot be achieved with the active involvement of just one sector, one responsible for disaster risk reduction on the national level. Disaster risk reduction is everybody’s business and needs to be dealt with in cooperation of all relevant stakeholders.

Recognizing this, the Government of Albania chose a multi-sector, multi-hazard approach in developing this Strategy to ensure stakeholders involvement later in the implementation stage, as well as to ensure the most relevant gaps are identified and the objectivity and relevance of the chosen activities.

The Strategy addresses the most important hazards for Albania, in accordance to the National Risk Assessment (NRA). For each of the hazards a working group was established and each of the hazard working groups was represented by its’ coordinator in the Inter-institutional Technical Working Group for Developing the Albanian National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy.

Table 1. DRR Strategy Coordinators

NDRRS development main coordinator:	National Civil Protection Agency
Hazard	NDRRS development Hazard Subworking Group Coordinating Body
Earthquakes	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
Floods, surges and dam failures	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
Landslides, snowfalls and avalanches	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Forest fires	Ministry of Interior
Technological accidents	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
Infectious diseases	Ministry of Health and Social Protection

⁵ Law No. 45/2019 “On Civil Protection”

In this way the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders was ensured, as well as using all available existing data and expertise influencing also the ownership of results of the overall process.

The Strategy was developed within “Resilience Strengthening in Albania” - RESEAL Project and the process was facilitated by a group of national and international experts.

The Inter-institutional Technical Working Group for Developing the Albanian National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy was tasked by the Government of Albania to develop the Strategy. Close coordination and collaboration ensured information flow within all those involved in the development as well as networking amongst the future implementation core group.

Following draft development all relevant national consultation processes were conducted in order to ensure transparency of the process and inform all interested parties as well as general public about the content and purpose of the strategic document.

2.5. Achievements and lessons learned from the implementation of the reform after the 2019 Earthquake

Law no. 8756, dated 26.3.2001 "On Civil Emergencies", as amended, set the basis mainly in the field of planning and coping with civil emergencies, but it entailed no definitions with regard to DRR policies, as there were essential gaps in many other areas, such as early warning, education, training, public awareness, international assistance and inspection.

In 2005, with the new structural organization, regarding the determination of the field of state responsibility at the Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Civil Emergencies (GDCE) was established, which continued its activity within the Ministry of Interior by the end of 2017. With DCM no. 9, dated 12.1.2018, “the planning and coping of civil emergencies” area was transferred to the Ministry of Defense and by the order of the Prime Minister no. 47, dated 9.03.2018, GDCE was transferred under the Ministry of Defense. Although it was a legal obligation, sanctioned in Article 9, point 1, of Law 8756, dated 26.03.2019, “On civil emergencies” and in the National Civil Emergencies Plan, the Department of Planning and Coping with Civil Emergencies was never set up in the relevant ministry.

For the time period 2011-2021, according to the World Risk Report⁶ (Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft and Ruhr University Bochum – Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict, 2021), which calculates the disaster risk index from natural hazards due to earthquakes, cyclones, floods, droughts and sea-level rise based on exposure, and vulnerability (susceptibility and coping and adaptive capacities), Albania was constantly ranked in the first place in Europe. While according to the same 2022 annual report, Albania has an improvement of 21 places compared to 2021, being ranked among the first countries in Europe and 82nd in the world.

The first report in which the state of civil emergency service in the country was analysed, with important findings and recommendations for its transformation was the US Command Report in Europe, July 2014. The report finds the lack of coordinated planning and the execution of emergency management activities. The GDCE is identified as an organization with insufficient resources and limited authority, which hinder its ability to guide disaster preparedness and response efforts and therefore it is recommended to transform it into an agency under the Prime Minister or Council of Ministers.

In addition, according to the report "Post-Floods Needs Assessment" developed after the major floods of February 2015 in the south of the country, *limitations on the mandates, capacities, and funding of relevant disaster management system are identified as well as the*

⁶ <https://weltrisikobericht.de/english/>

inability of the Civil Protection Authorities at all three levels of government to be able to take action without permission or budget during a crisis situation

Starting from the 2014 EC Progress Report, the issue of disasters risk reduction and civil protection in Albania was addressed in it year after year, which further increased the focus of the Albanian government in this field.

The strategy was first sanctioned as a legal obligation, in point 5 of Law no. 103/2014, dated 31.07.2014 “On the approval of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Albania” and on section 8.5 “Strengthening public order and preparation for cases of civil emergencies” of the NSDI 2015-2020, which constituted a significant step forward in this regard.

In 2019, after a long period of work and consecutive drafts over the years, Law 45/2019 “On Civil Protection” was adopted which repealed after 18 years the predecessor law 8756, dated 26.03.2001 “On civil Emergencies”, as amended.

Law 45/2019 regulates the functioning of the civil protection system, clearly defining the responsibilities of the institutions and structures of this system, international cooperation, the rights and obligations of citizens and private entities, education, training, and inspection. It ensures the adaptation of the civil protection system to European standards, in accordance with the priorities of the Sendai framework as it has taken into account the cross-sectoral obligations stemming from the agenda for sustainable development 2030, the Paris agreement on climate change, and New Urban Agenda.

One of the main objectives of law 45/2019 is the strengthening of the civil protection system, by establishing the NCPA which is a central public legal entity, subordinate to the minister responsible for civil protection and is responsible for DRR and CP, throughout the territory of the country.

Some of the other innovations of the law are:

- Has defined the national DRR strategy as the basic strategic document of the Republic of Albania in disaster risk management;
- It is envisaged the developing of the DRR strategy also in the local self government units (LSGU) and the Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) and civil emergency planning (CEP) at the three levels;
- It entails a dedicated chapter for the protection of critical infrastructure and cultural heritage;
- DRA, as well as the CEP, are also mandatory for critical infrastructure;
- Contains clear sanctions for all public institutions, private entities, and establishes the inspection mechanism;
- Contains explicit determination for the percentage of DRR and CP budget in 2-4% in line ministries and at least 4% of the municipality budget.

The devastating earthquake of 26.11.2019 which shook the civil protection system including the General Directorate of Emergencies with its completely insufficient staff, pointed out the necessity for the fastest implementation of Law 45/2019 in order to establish and strengthen the civil protection system and building of a resilient society.

After that, and in the conditions when the country was in the recovery phase from the consequences of the earthquake of 26.11.2019, it was hit again by the pandemic caused by the Covid-19 virus. This overlap of disasters influenced the pace of preparation and adoption of bylaws and of the reform in the CP system as a whole.

NCPA has in its priorities the drafting of the three main strategic central documents, which are expected to be approved by the end of 2022.

Regarding the administrative capacities of the CP system, recruitment of staff is in the process in the NCPA, as the recruitment is continuing to complete the job positions and sectors in ministries as well as of planning and CP structures in the Prefect's Institutions and in the municipality.

Conclusions:

1. The establishment of NCPA finally provided sufficient administrative capacities at the central level alongside the broader responsibilities and competencies, thus transforming the agency into a leading, prestigious and comparable organization with all counterpart European organizations.

2. Increasing the administrative, technical, and financial capacity of the entire civil protection system is one of the main challenges that the NCPA will face in its journey in implementing the reform that began with the adoption of Law 45/2019. Increasing the financial capacities, based on the provisions of this law but not only, will in fact pose the biggest and most critical challenge that will determine the degree of success of the reform in its entirety.
3. Activating the Civil Protection Committee alongside the Technical Advisory Commission is providing a combination of high-level decision-making cooperation and inter-institutional coordination with that of the technical level.
4. The principle of subsidiarity and clear obligations for municipalities have increased their awareness of the crucial role they play in the DRR and CP. The financial capacities of the municipalities have increased as a result of the obligation to plan at least 4% of their total annual budget for the DRR and CP. However, there is still much to be done in this regard as a change of the organizational mentality is required, according to which, in emergencies, everything was expected from the central level intervention;
5. Annual financial compensation funds of households with disasters-damaged dwellings have increased as the technical-scientific processing of documentation and registration of files in the (computer) has improved. Funds managed by the NCPA for structural projects of disaster prevention and rehabilitation have multiplied, as well as the role of NCPA in procurement, implementation, supervision, and handovering by eventually increasing its role in the prevention and mitigation phase;
6. Intensive commitments in international agreements in various projects and programs in the field of DRR and CP which will be translated into benefits must continue as, inter alia, will enable funding to further strengthen the capacity of the CP system in the country;
7. Establishment of the inspection sector shall increase the controlling but also punitive skills of the NCPA. However, the provision of continuous control is needed, accompanied by the imposition of penalties on the offender, as appropriate;
8. The realization of membership in the EU, which constituted one of the major priorities of the NCPA, will also have to be accompanied by the TESTA link establishment for CECIS interconnection. This must also be accompanied by the establishment and completion of some EU modules to join the European Capacity of the Emergency Response (EERC);
9. By establishing of the Directorate of Preparedness and Coordination of Emergency Response, the NCPA operational capacities have increased significantly, as well as the early warning capacities. However, based on the current experience of disaster management, it is necessary to further increase the NCPA operational capacities that entail the strengthening of Regional Civil Protection Centers in ICT and other operational capacities;
10. Although activities related to education on DRR, public awareness, and training have increased and improved, these events need to be planned based on relevant awareness and training programs;
11. Strengthening the early warning system, integration of GIS data such as processing disaster risk information and disaster loss data through Desinventar;
12. Drafting the necessary legal basis and taking all other steps necessary for the full implementation of the unified civil emergency number 112 across the country;
13. Defining and inclusion in Law 45/2019 of the Civil Protection Volunteer Service in Operational Forces and the approval of DCM no. 667, dated 10.11.2021 "On the treatment of volunteers for their engagement in civil protection activities or in the disaster response and relief operations" have laid the foundations for the expansion of volunteering in the field of civil protection in the country. It is necessary ensuring the implementation of other measures needed to strengthen volunteering at all stages of the DRM;

14. Alongside the DRR and CP funds of ministries and municipalities, through the legal provision of article 66 of Law 45/2019 on the establishing of a solidarity fund used to cope with emergency situations, an additional financial instrument is established. However, the country needs a very comprehensive multi-sectoral approach to strengthening financial preparedness through adoption and then implementation of a disaster risk financing program which will have to be guided by MFE and strongly supported by the NCPA.
15. The NCPA should accelerate the work on completing the bylaws of Law 45/2019 as other documents such as SOP/SOG⁷, guidelines, manuals, regulations, continuity of operations plans (COOP) and continuity of Government (COG) in the ministry and other security and protection institutions etc.
16. Entailing in law 45/2019 of chapter V "Protection of critical infrastructure and cultural heritage" is a first and important step for strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure. However, a Law on Critical Infrastructure is necessary to be drafted the soonest possible which will transpose the EU legislation on critical infrastructure such as EU Council Directive 2008/114 of December 8, 2008. In addition, it is necessary for the NCPA to coordinate the work to carry out the assessment of the critical and public infrastructure resilience, based on which the most needy objects will be prioritized, their project will be designed and the rehabilitation works will be carried out;

2.6. Concept of the DRR Strategy

The concept of the Strategy was to ensure the national and international disaster risk reduction concepts and frameworks were described. Each of the hazards were described and for each the gaps and opportunities as well as needs to sustainably reduce disaster risk were listed. The content of the Strategy being the following:

1. Introduction
2. Current situation and trends
3. Vision, Indicators and Policy Goals
4. Implementation strategy and Financial Frame

3. Current situation and trends: challenges

This section of the Strategy elaborates on the risk management status, needs and potentials by describing the status of each risk, risk factors, capacities and gaps of sectors involved in disaster risk management as per specific risk and it finally describes strategic development needs.

3.1. Earthquake

Earthquake is defined as the intense shaking of the Earth's surface caused by movements in Earth's outermost layers. As such it is classified as geological or geophysical hazard which means that it is the result of internal Earth processes. Earthquakes may cause liquefaction, landslides, fire, and tsunamis which then lead to far higher levels of damage and losses.

Albania is characterized by the activity of intense microearthquakes ($1.0 < M \leq 3.0$), small ($3.0 < M \leq 5.0$) and medium ($5.0 < M \leq 7.0$) earthquakes and only rarely by large earthquake events ($M > 7.0$). Albania is a country that has experienced significant and severe seismic events, with 10 earthquakes with a magnitude ≥ 6.0 Ms for the period 1919 to today, within the country's territory.

⁷ Standard Operational Guidelines

In Albania there are three longitudinal seismogenic zones (Ionian-Adriatic, Shkodër-Mat-Bilisht and Drini [Peshkopi-Korçë]) and three transversal ones (Shkodër-Pejë, Lushnjë-Elbasan-Dibër and Vlorë-Tepelenë)

In general, the main risk factors to seismic hazard in Albania include poor infrastructure and illegal and/or irresponsible construction of buildings which often involves disregard to safety criteria of the construction itself and placement of the buildings in high seismic risk areas such as the former Durrës swamp where an earthquake causes the buildings to collapse. In addition, there is a low level of real estate insurance and the ability of the economically poor (especially rural) population to recover from the consequences of earthquakes.

Moreover, in Albania there are 362 dams more than 15 m high with populated areas below. They are relatively old, especially those under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development or local government, which account for about 90% of the dams and therefore more vulnerable to seismic activity. In addition, there is a demand for the construction of new dams as well, some of which in the areas exposed to seismic hazard from a geological point of view.

A long history of earthquakes in Albania has not only initiated population displacements from areas hit by an earthquake, but considerably affected the cultural heritage of Albania as well. Currently over 2220 cultural assets and over 210 historical centers, protected areas and archaeological areas listed in the national register of cultural heritage are considered vulnerable to earthquakes due to a number of factors such as the age of buildings, poor technical conditions of construction and design and the lack of maintenance. As the damage to cultural assets results not only in losses of museum collections, archaeological funds and important archival documents, but also the loss of the collective memory of the community, the loss of heritage is set one of the main pillars in the 2019 Law on Civil Protection.

The Albanian Geological Survey (AGS) is the state's technical and scientific advisory institution that executes activities in the field of soil sciences in the territory of the Republic of Albania and has a strong database related to the activity of various natural hazards, including geological hazard maps. The Survey plays a critical role in both in disaster prevention but also in the disaster risk reduction activities.

The Department of Seismology of IGEO (Polytechnic University of Tirana) is the only operational and scientific unit in Albania that covers the continuous monitoring of seismicity in the country. The National Seismic Activity Monitoring Center has the primary task of continuous monitoring 24 hours a day, of seismological activity occurring within the territory of Albania and around it.

In the context of civil emergencies, this center enables almost real-time information of the relevant operational structures on seismic emergency situations. To fulfill this primary task of great importance for the country, this center disposes and operates the Albanian Seismological Network, part of which are:

- Albanian Weak Motion Network (AWMN) or seismographic network;
- Albanian Strong-Motion Network (ASMN) or accelerographic;
- The geodetic network in support of the study of Albania's seismotectonic features consisting of several permanent registration stations (GPS). GNSS Permanent Stations (AlbGNSS);

For in-depth geological-engineering studies of earthquakes, there are financial shortcomings which reflect as well in the lack of modernized equipment (seismographs) for measuring the energy of earthquakes and pinpointing the location of epicenters. Furthermore, a lack of continuous international cooperation on the advancement of seismology has been perceived, as well as efforts focused on prevention in terms of loss of life.

The main gap in the Albanian DRR governance system would be the lack of earthquake risk reduction strategy and closely related organizational restructuring and finances. There are limited capacities concerning both finances and personnel of the local administration in addressing the risks and consequences of earthquakes. When it comes to disaster prevention, there is still impunity for individuals and legal entities that build illegal construction on lands where construction is prohibited by law, or ignoring earthquake-resistant construction measures. Furthermore, buildings (including historical ones and works of art) and infrastructure previously damaged by earthquakes still haven't been structurally

reinforced to withstand future earthquakes and there are shortcomings when standards of reconstruction are concerned. In case of an earthquake, there will be challenges related to the evaluation of buildings and reconstruction of buildings evaluated by the relevant authority, due to lack of funds. Also, civil protection organizational units in the central administration and planning and CP structures at the local administration have not yet been consolidated which will most probably lead to delays in the response to earthquakes and greater damage and loss. Lastly, the levels of awareness and preparedness for earthquakes of the general population are low.

In communication with the government and relevant state institutions, numerous measures needed for the increase of national resilience to earthquakes have been identified some of which are:

- Establishing/improving strategic documents addressing the risk of earthquakes in every municipality;
- Increasing the number of experts in the field in local administration;
- Updating and implementation of seismic hazard maps and Codes on Earthquake Resistant Building Design in accordance with Eurocode;
- Conduction of seismic assessments of dams, schools, hospitals and other institutions that exercise collective functions, the building of the ministries and institutions subordinated to the Technical Advisory Commission as well as other informal facilities;
- Central and local governments should ensure that the results of AGS studies are considered in urban planning and territory management of the municipalities so that building permits are not issued in areas of high exposure to earthquake effects;
- Increasing the degree of decision making responsibility related to territorial management and completing the necessary legal framework related to the construction work and environmental aspects which lead to the change of the territorial natural balance;
- Penalizing persons and legal entities building without permits or disregarding safety construction measures;
- Continuous improvement of the seismic monitoring system;
- DRR cooperation with neighboring countries experiencing similar seismic activity as Albania;
- Consolidation of the civil protection staff in the central and local administration;
- Capacity building of local first responders and their cooperation with NCPA and other governmental and non-governmental bodies;
- Coordinating programs/strategies for dealing with the consequences of earthquakes in order to minimize the risks and the respective costs of recovery;
- Inclusion of basic information about earthquakes in school curricula.

In addition, special emphasis was given to the protection of cultural heritage. Increased measures should be taken to structurally seismically reinforce historic buildings whilst preserving the legacy values to the maximum, through traditional methods of reinforcement and restoration to the maximum extent possible, ensuring optimal levels of safety. As there are only a few masters skilled in traditional building, transfer of knowledge and trainings of new masters of traditional construction with corresponding manuals and guides should be organized as well as trainings for civil emergency operational teams on emergency response to damaged cultural heritage. Furthermore, development of web/mobile application for real-time collection of data on damage of cultural assets in case of disaster has been proposed as well.

3.2. Floods, surges and dam failures

The average annual rainfall in Albania is 1,485 mm / year. It ranges from 1,000 mm / year for lowlands to 3,000 mm / year in mountainous areas. About 70% of the total annual rainfall falls in the period October-March. November is the month with the highest rainfall level.

In Albania, about 130,000 ha is covered with flood protection infrastructure. However, winter floods and summer droughts are becoming more and more frequent, especially during the last two decades.

The protection infrastructure on rivers and streams in the country was built mainly after the catastrophic floods of the winter of 1962-63. Significant floods have also occurred in the south of the country, in 2015, 2017, 2018 and 2021.

An assessment made for the technical condition of 626 dams, resulted in a conclusion that 410 (or 65% of the total number), show significant technical problems and require urgent attention.

Floodwater drainage has also deteriorated due to flooding of drainage canals and reduced drainage capacity of pumping stations. The situation is expected to worsen further due to climate change, which is reflected in extreme weather phenomena.

It is estimated that there is a significant number of illegal construction in irrigation, drainage and flood protection infrastructure. Urbanization and human intervention on the one hand, the natural degradation on the other hand, have caused many of the protective infrastructure to be out of function or semi-functional, in an environment where frequency, severity and geographic distribution of floods are increasing.

In terms of early warning systems related to floods it is to be noted that so far several flood warning studies were carried out targeting multiple river basins.

Institute of GeoScience is the main stakeholder detecting, monitoring, analyzing, forecasting and timely disseminating and communicating potential floods warning information.

To strengthen and increase the level of flood risk management Albania is developing Flood Risk Management Plan consisting of 3 components:

1. Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment leading to the identification of areas where there is a potential risk of flooding or floods are likely to occur;
2. Hazard and Flood Risk Mapping;
3. Flood risk management planning.

Past events that have been assessed have served as general information for identifying potential high-risk flood areas.

Despite the interventions made on the infrastructure of protection from rivers, massive and prolonged floods that occurred in the years 2010-2021 show an increase in the frequency of floods, which has to do with both natural and human factors.

Some of these factors are: rainfall in large quantities and intensity (not previously recorded), water inflows and rapid fluctuations of flow level in river beds, changes in river estuaries, deforestation, change of vegetation cover in catchment area, indiscriminate use of aggregates in river beds, dumping of aggregates and urban waste by reducing the accompanying section of the river bed, urbanization of areas near river banks and modification of terrain and development of roads along river valleys. Climate change impacts in terms of predicted weather extremes the likes of heavy rainfall events and precipitation increase are related to the occurrence of floods, especially during winter, but also during fall and spring months. At the same time, due to low level of irrigation infrastructure development and precipitation decrease during summer months the increase in droughts is expected as well, all related to the issue of still inadequate water management practices.

The water management legislative framework defined by Law No. 111/2012 "On the Integrated Management of Water Resources" defines measures for effective mitigation of both floods and droughts. It is expected that drought, however, will impact the agriculture sector more than floods or landslides in the near future as a result of climate change. Factors such as high temperatures, high winds and low relative humidity have the potential to contribute to the severity of an event as well and are all related to climate change. Droughts have the potential to have large scale negative impacts on the agricultural sector in Albania. Over 3 million people were affected by the 1989-1991 drought, which was one of the most significant disasters that occurred in Albania and costed the economy USD 24 million.⁸

⁸ FAO. (2018) Comprehensive analysis of disaster risk reduction and management system for agriculture in Albania. <https://www.fao.org/3/I8866EN/I8866EN.pdf>

It should also be noted that the safety of the design of embankments in the 60s, on a full basis with a return period of 10 to 35 years is lower, with full calculations based on current series, which give other values. In addition to this the technical and operational capacities of the Albanian institutions regarding forecasting, monitoring and warning of hydro-meteorological data are still considered to be insufficient and therefore there is a need for further investments in the early warning system (EWS).

In terms of flood protection, from 850 km of river and marine embankments, about 300 km of embankments need repairs, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or re-dimensioning due to the changes that have taken place in recent decades.

There is also a need for modernisation and rehabilitation of the weather station network, regular maintenance of equipment, regular reliable internet connections, new qualified staff, such as hydrologists and meteorologists and data digitalization in order to improve Albania's EWS.

The main objectives for flood protection to be achieved within a 9-year period are:

1. Reducing flood damage and losses to less than 50% of what has happened in recent years;
2. Rehabilitation and modernization of damaged infrastructure and where there is a risk of collapse;
3. Construction of new flood and drought mitigation infrastructure where necessary;
4. Training of staff of institutions responsible for irrigation and drainage in terms of monitoring, design, construction and repair of protective infrastructure;
5. Strengthening the response and EWS capacities for floods.

In addition to protecting highly populated areas, the aim is to identify areas and boundaries for water retention or evacuation areas and to limit the construction of flood protection such as embankments, embankment reinforcements, etc., which may actually impede the natural movement of water.

At the same time non-structural measures, which are preventive and relate to the management of flood risk areas such as risk assessment for both floods and droughts, mapping, early warning and forecasting systems need to be taken too. An assessment should be made of the additional flood protection needed in the medium and high flood risk areas and capacity building of the staff on the structures responsible for irrigation and drainage should be organized. Other key measures include: development of school curricula on flood risk, cooperation with the neighboring countries regarding floods, increasing the number of flood experts in the local administration, programs for dealing with the consequences of flood disasters in order to minimize the risks and the respective costs of recovery, case-by-case review of legislation for each building permit and a database for all flood risk related data.

3.3. Landslides, snowfalls and avalanches

Landslides belong to the group of gravitational hazards. Landslides are defined as physical-geological phenomena that represent a displacement of land masses without rolling under the action of the force of gravity.

The territory of the Republic of Albania is considered a place exposed to climate change and natural hazards, including, but not limited to, hazards of hydrometeorological origin (such as floods), meteorological (droughts, forest fires) as well as landslides .

These occurrences or phenomena can be natural caused by various geological factors, but they can also be caused by the activity of man (artificial). Climate has a direct impact on soil erosion.

Many of the cultural assets are located on steep terrain and/or at the foot of hills and mountains. Cultural monuments, but also castles and archaeological sites, are vulnerable to landslides as well as collapses of rock masses.

Main risk factors are deforestation and damage to forest and vegetation areas, damage of hilly sites by irresponsible construction and damage to mountain sites from the exploitation of construction materials (eg quarries) without criteria and without proper geological studies.

Additionally, damages and deviations of riverbeds for construction or exploitation purposes (eg. indiscriminate and uncontrolled exploitation of aggregates) without criteria as well as damage to drainage channels affect the risk in great manner. Additionally low correlation between the expected effects of climate change and the policies and programs to address the consequences contributes to the level of risk. In that regard, climate change trends are affecting the potential for afforestation area increase estimated at 300 ha per year.

There are currently sufficient assessments of the risk of landslides that can be used as a guide for development and spatial planning and local plans to reduce this risk. The institution of the Albanian Geological Service, owns a powerful data base by conducting a large number of studies with the final products (maps and their explanatory texts), in relation to the negative geodynamic phenomena.

Also, the geological-engineering regionalization is in process for the territories of the country's municipalities.

Notwithstanding the above, there is still work to be done in this direction, both in the perfection of the products developed so far, and in further advancement, for the definition and evidence of geodynamic phenomena, their registration and monitoring of those with high levels of risk.

In the agriculture sector it has been ascertained that the main problems known over the years are: emergence of river beds which cause flooding and erosion of agricultural lands, damage to agricultural land from illegal construction, utilization of rivers for obtaining river aggregates for constructions. Problematic is the damage of agricultural land by the impact of high waters and erosion, which cause gravel and erosion of agricultural land. Inadequate use of land in sloping areas. Failure to implement good agricultural practices related to; inadequate use of high water canals, use of inadequate irrigation systems, etc. Deforestation and overgrazing reduces vegetation and exposes the soil to climatic factors. EWS are extremely important when it comes to increasing the capacity to mitigate risks from natural hazards, especially with regard to agriculture and they are lacking in Albania. Additionally, on the local level, lack of knowledge of local government experts about the phenomenon of erosion and risk reduction measures contributes to the risk as well.

The contribution of the Albanian Geological Survey, in the framework of the activity for coping with civil emergencies, is included within the scope of its competency. The Albanian Geological Survey has a valuable database related to the activity of various natural phenomena which endanger the community in general. The IGEO is a national research centre and is identified as the national monitoring and warning agency for natural hazards. The institute is endorsed by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) as the National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (NMHS) for Albania.

In addition to the protected areas, the phenomenon of landslides also affects many other areas in the territory of the Republic of Albania, where greater attention should be paid to populated areas, engineering works (mainly dams, bridges, national roads, railways, etc.), tourist areas and agricultural lands and forests.

For in-depth geological-engineering studies of landslides and studies in general there are financial shortcomings. In addition, for the processing and reading of this geological material, presence of a geologist in the organization chart of the local government is necessary. There is a substantive lack of infrastructure investments regarding the cultural and historical monuments. Insufficient policies and funds to address deforestation problems are identified as well as low level of implementation of the legislation in force for the protection of forests and the protection of the territory in general. Lack of a consolidated mapping of road areas / axes historically endangered by landslides. Low ability to recover damages in rural areas due to the low economic level of the population and low financial capacity of the respective municipalities. Lack of in-depth geological studies to prevent future landslides related to road axes that over the years have shown problems. Low financial support for afforestation programs in areas with high risk of erosion. Low level of knowledge of the use of land resources related to erosion and inadequate EWS in connection to weather conditions that affect the occurrence and activation of landslides.

Snow avalanches, similar to landslides, belong to gravitational hazards. An avalanche is characterized by the rapid downward movement of a mass of snow.

Albania is a country characterized by high inclination of hillside slopes (>30%), poor forest vegetation in many regions, and intense winter snowfalls. Combined, these conditions are favorable for the occurrence of avalanches that, due to demographic patterns of the country, are often accompanied by property damages. High snowfall is characteristic of the Albanian Alps, and the central and southern mountainous regions. The highest risk period for heavy snowfall is from November until late March. In 1985 alone avalanches caused deaths of 68 people and destruction of 1,604 houses.

Precipitation is considered to be the biggest cause of erosion due to their intensity and irregular distribution during the year. Snow avalanches are mainly triggered by heavy precipitation and high winds leading to the build-up of unstable snow layers.

It can be assumed that the majority of buildings in Albania belong to the building classes of average and high resistance to impact of landslide or avalanche. However, high snowfalls and frequent avalanches have caused substantial damages in the winters of 1933/34, 1940/41, 1953/54, 1963/64, and 1972/73 and in 1985. Additionally, there is a lack of consolidated mapping of road areas / axes historically endangered by snowfalls and inadequate EWS in connection to weather conditions that affect the occurrence and activation of avalanches.

Some of the necessary measures in order to improve the seismic, rockfall and other massive movements, landslide and avalanches resilience, are:

- Drafting technical instructions/guidance's that can be used in the future by all decision-making units in the field of construction, at local and central level;
- Drafting the Building Passport Model with the aim to collect technical information for the building units in order to assess vulnerability level and exposure at a smaller scale, within the framework of the next census;
- Drafting technical guidance for the assessment of critical infrastructure;
- Preparing technical instructions and proposing legal measures for the transition phase during improvement of the design codes.;
- Awareness and knowledge of research studies among central and local government officials in order to regard the findings while drafting urban plans and managing territory usage in the Municipalities;
- Raising population awareness, monitoring of the territory;
- Rigorous monitoring of river utilization, construction of embankments in damaged areas;
- Preparation of a consolidated map of areas / road axes historically endangered by landslides (landslide zoning);
- Creating an emergency plan in case of coping with a natural hazard / landslide.
- Preparation of a consolidated map of areas / road axes historically endangered by avalanches.

3.4. Forest fires

Forest, shrub, or vegetation fires, can be described as any uncontrolled and non-prescribed combustion or burning of plants in a natural setting such as a forest, grassland, or brushland, which consumes the natural fuels and spreads based on environmental conditions (e.g., wind, topography). It can be incited by human actions and is considered an anthropogenic or hydrometeorological hazard if provoked by extreme drought and, in rare cases, lightning⁹.

According to the reports on risk assessment within projects that include the 2003 Disaster Risk Assessment Report¹⁰ and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery's (GFDRR) tool ThinkHazard¹¹, the forest fire hazard in Albania is classified as high. This means that the chance of weather conditions supporting massive forest fires likely to result in

⁹ <https://www.un-spider.org/category/disaster-type/forest-fire>

¹⁰ <https://www.geo.edu.al/durres/risk.pdf>

¹¹ <https://thinkhazard.org/en/report/3-albania/WF>

both life and property loss in any given year is greater than 50%. Damage can occur as a result of direct flame and radiation exposure as well as ember storm and low level surface fire. Areas with forests and vegetation are mostly endangered by man-made fires and/or high temperatures during the summer.

The risk of forest fires will most probably increase in the future due to climate change. Modeled projections of future climate identify a likely increase in the frequency and severity of forest fires in Albania, including an increase in temperature in general and prolonged periods of drought. According to the climate change predictions mean annual temperature will increase alongside frequency of extremely high temperatures, number of tropical nights and duration of heat waves. At the same time, decrease in annual precipitation, especially for summer months, is anticipated all leading to increased risks of wildfires. The fire season is likely to increase in duration, and include a greater number of days with weather that could support fire spread due to longer periods without rain during the fire seasons.

Despite serious commitments of the government, forest fire risk reduction remains a major problem in Albania. Firstly, there is still no proper document addressing wildfire risks to serve as a guide for local and national spatial planning taking into account this risk. Secondly, legal acts not very understandable, and dual-task institutions result in often late decision making which reflects on the quality of wildfire intervention. Thirdly, there is no nationwide forest fire surveillance-signaling system that ensures intervention in a timely manner. Furthermore, significant shortcomings in fire-fighting equipment have been observed as well as the lack of funds for the training and preparation of intervention forces. In addition, there are currently around 626 artificial irrigation reservoirs listed in the Water Cadastre which is digitalized and managed by water resources management agency, but lacks the information regarding their location and water capacity thus making these reservoirs unavailable for firefighting use. Similarly to other hazards, IGEO is in charge of EW dissemination including forest fire forecasts and monitoring data delivery to the NCPA and other DRR partners at different levels. On the daily basis during summer time (dry season) the IGEO National Center for the Forecasting and Monitoring of Natural Hazards issues Forest Fires Warning Bulletin which is by e-mail sent to NCPA, ministries, prefectures and municipalities. In their work, the Center uses RISICO model to forecast and monitor risks from forest fires for the entire territory of Albania.

The Ministry of Culture reports cultural heritage sites as rather vulnerable in respect to fire due to low maintenance which reflects in delayed smoke detection inside of buildings, irregular testing of automatic fire protection systems and fire extinguishers, presence of obsolete and uninsulated power lines that often run through wooden-roofed ceilings and floors with high ignition and diffusion rate as well as devices that may react as fire sources and very narrow roads to various monuments and sites which disturb the access of fire trucks, or there is complete lack of access to facilities in deep mountainous areas. Lastly, there is currently limited awareness of citizens about the risk of (forest) fires in general.

In communication with the government and relevant state institutions, numerous measures needed for the increase of national resilience to forest fires have been identified of which some are:

- Review of the legal framework and the creation of a (specific) framework law on forest fires;
- Drafting a document on wildfire risk in Albania that includes a risk map, as an instrument for spatial planning and sector development;
- Creating a database for all information on forest fire risks, projects, research related to this risk, with relevant references;
- Development and implementation of appropriate policies and regulations regarding burning activities on fields and pastures in Albania which would include naming ignition control sources, identifying burning seasons, procedures and permits for incineration, controlled incineration, early detection and notification systems, etc;
- Development and implementation of appropriate policies and regulations regarding forest fire risk management of cultural heritage sites in Albania;

- Training of local self-government units for surveillance-signaling systems set up for enhancement of EWS;
- Improving forest fire prevention and response by establishing/modernizing Civil Emergency Operation Center and ensuring the necessary resources, ground borne and airborne equipment and emergency infrastructure for first responders to properly manage forest fires while as well involving national and international actors in providing consultations and the necessary funds for forest fire risk reduction;
- Providing firefighters with critical information on artificial reservoirs of water listed in Water Cadastre for the purpose of vehicle water supply and fire extinguishing in forests and on the surface of agricultural land;
- Ensuring hydrant control systems and clear evacuation paths near cultural assets;
- Training, advising and monitoring farmers regarding their burning activities for agricultural purposes by the Regional Agency for Agricultural Extension which acts under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Awareness raising campaigns informing citizens of forest fire risk and reducing the potential anthropogenic forest fires induced by the community (i.e. information and regulations regarding fires, waste disposal and removal, non-smoking etc.);
- Providing citizens with evacuation plans and organizing simulations of fire situations to familiarize the community with the evacuation procedure.

3.5. Technological accidents

Technological systems are by definition followed with complex structures relying on the functionality of many subsystems. Their failure can be from inside when one of the subsystems collapses or it can be caused from the outside environment as a consequence of external shocks. According to the UNDRR Technical report on Hazard Definition and Classification from 2020, technological hazards involve transport systems (land, sea, air), wide range of dangerous materials (chemical, radiological, nuclear, biological etc.) that can trigger accidents in industrial facilities, ICT-related hazards having in mind our highly dependence on information and communication technologies in vital sectors for our existence (banking, energy, health, transportation etc.) with that making cyber security growing priority. Unlike the other hazards prioritized with the Strategy, technical-technological hazards are not natural in origin. Another aspect of the technical-technological hazards is their connection with the social structures and their impact on the environment. Having said this technical-technological facilities and systems can increase or decrease our vulnerabilities as society and open the door to cascading effects of disasters. For example dam failure that causes a flood or the growing need for fossil fuels leading to land degradation, erosion, landslides and flash floods. Therefore technical-technological hazards can not be analyzed in isolation to the other hazards prioritized with this Strategy.

According to the Technological Risk 2022 report document, the technological (industrial) hazards are:

- Technological of installations and equipment in the industry of research, production, processing (refining), transportation and trading of oil, gas and their by-products (fuels);
- Technological of plants and installations in the industry of production, transportation, use and storage of dangerous industrial/chemical substances;
- Technological of mining and installations in the mining industry, in the search (discovery) and exploitation of mines and the enrichment and processing of minerals;
- Technological of plants and installations of water supply and distribution networks;
- Technological installations of industrial production, transportation and storage of ammunition/explosives;
- Technological of plants and installations for the transportation, storage and use of nuclear/radioactive materials;
- Technological of infrastructure of telecommunications;
- Technological of production/generation and electricity transmission infrastructure;

- Technological of plants and production installations in agro-industry.

On the 15 of March 2008 explosion at the ammunitions dump near Tirana caused 26 deaths, injuries to over 300 people, destruction of 2,300 buildings and the displacement of 4,000 people. Others like the hydrocarbon leaks on 22 May 2012 at the Port "Vlora-1" or the fire of the oil tanks in Shengjin on 17 December 2006 are showing the negative effects that these accidents have on the environment and the economy. Transportation accidents are also well documented in Albania. According to INSTAT¹², the number of reported transport accidents in the period from 2014-2021 is 13,742 with 18,491 casualties (killed or injured). Although the number of casualties in individual events can be lower compared to other accidents, on an annual basis the collective number is much greater imposing the need for planned action in reducing this risk. In October 2020, the government of Albania announced the plan to have zero victims of road traffic accidents by 2050.

Managing the risk from technological hazards in Albania among others will require:

- Continuous efforts in risk assessments and risk mapping of critical facilities containing dangerous materials,
- Identification of critical infrastructure and its protection,
- Implementation of control measures within the facilities that are dealing with dangerous materials and processes and
- Capacity building of the involved institutions and regulatory bodies for monitoring and application of state of the art standards related to safety at work.
- Compliance with international conventions on carriage of dangerous substances (land, air, water)
- Compliance with EU legislation on maritime accidents causing maritime pollution.
- Compliance with EU SEVESO III Directive on preventing industrial accidents.

Having in mind the predictable character of the technological risks and their connection with the heavily regulated processes in the industry sector, the possibility to predict their occurrence and outcomes should be relatively straightforward. This can also be supported with a well organized EWS that can anticipate these events from happening and issuing timely warnings to the authorities and the population. Having an EWS of such nature must be integrated with the preparedness activities of the first responders. Firefighters, police and the ambulance service in Albania need to know the nature of the hazardous materials located in Albania and to have prepared protocols how to react when in contact with them.

3.6. Infectious diseases

Infectious diseases are connected with micro-organisms that cause or are related to illness in people, animals and plants. They include pathogenic microorganisms, toxins and bioactive substances that occur naturally or are deliberately or unintentionally released causing significant loss of life, affecting people and all fauna and flora, and can lead to severe economic and environmental losses. Infectious diseases are understood as both happening independently (or partially independently) or as a consequence of other disastrous events. Many other hazards such as floods, earthquakes, droughts can have potentially severe epidemiological consequences as secondary effects.

Besides that, the climate change trends could also impact the infectious diseases as some vector-borne diseases could be affected by higher temperatures and changing rainfall patterns. In that sense, the increased spread of macro parasites is presumed which is then accompanied by the emergence and circulation of new diseases as part of new transmission models.

On the other hand the threat of biological terrorism also remains, requiring preparedness for effective laboratory identification of terror pathogens and existence of rapid communication protocols for the public.

Vulnerability to biological hazards is related to many factors embedded into our socio-political systems such as lack of immunity among the people, plants and animals to a new and

¹² <http://www.instat.gov.al/en/themes/industry-trade-and-services/transport-accidents-and-characteristics-of-road-vehicles/#tab2>

virulent micro-organism; water and sanitation practices among the people; public health system resilience; unplanned urbanization etc. Busy communications and connectivity among the people are also a factor that facilitates fast transmission.

COVID-19 showed that a new virulent organism can be introduced into our communities and make severe damages thanks to a non-immune population. Busy communication networks and a globalized world are only few of the contributing factors to the fast transmission of the new virus. In that sense COVID-19 is the perfect example of the systemic nature of contemporary risks that we are facing within our societies and Albania is not an exception. COVID-19 affected not only the health systems but the supply chains and the transport sector, access to education, food distribution etc.

COVID-19 pandemic crisis, exposed embedded vulnerabilities in all public health systems across the world. Albania not being excluded from that global lesson needs to prioritize the pandemic risk in the future and public health in general creating sustainable strategies for capacity building of its structures to anticipate, prevent and respond to pandemics in the future. Very early into the response phase the public health system in Albania, and across the world learned the importance of early detection, contact tracing and communication with the public. All these are components of the EWS and they should be supported with continuous efforts of all national stakeholders in Albania. According to WHO¹³, in Albania from 3 January 2020 to 1 July 2022, there have been 280 298 confirmed cases with 3499 deaths and total number of 2 906 126 doses of vaccines administrated.

On a more operational level tackling the infectious diseases on short term Albania could benefit through:

- Improving the laboratory network and strengthening laboratory capacities (technical and personal) for early detections and analysis.
- Improving the legislation, establish clear competences and supplement them with necessary bylaws.
- Increasing the reliability of food traceability systems through awareness of food producing organizations.
- Strengthening cooperation with IPH in the framework of epidemic management.
- Capacity building of the Public Health Emergency Operations Center.
- Setting up a National Biosafety and Biosecurity Training Certificate

4. Vision, Indicators and Strategic Objectives

4.1. Vision

A safer, sustainable Albania, capable of reducing disaster risks and the effects of climate change, to prepare, cope and recover, integrated into all sectors with developed capacities to ensure prevention of new risks and management of residual risk, all of which contributing to strengthening resilience and therefore to achieving society's sustainable development.

4.2. Mission

To make coordinated efforts, ensure the cooperation and use of capacities and capabilities, technological, existing and new resources of all sectors and stakeholders, in order to protect the people's lives, livestock, property, cultural heritage, and the environment.

To strengthen resilience at the national level through the establishment of effective, accountable, and comprehensive institutional structures of the civil protection system in order to increase preparedness and partnership for response, recovery and reconstruction. To strengthen community resilience by enabling, empowering, and supporting individuals,

¹³ <https://covid19.who.int/region/euro/country/al>

organizations, and communities to act for themselves and others, for the safety and well-being of all.

4.3. Impact Indicators

Impact indicators, as adopted from the Sendai Framework and SDGs are:

Table 2. 2 Impact indicators

Indicator	Measuring unit	Baseline		Target	
		year	value	year	value
Substantially reduced number of directly affected people, aiming to lower the average figure per 100,000 population	No per. 100.000	2018	163.15	2030	Reduce the baseline value by 10%
Reduced direct disaster economic loss caused by disasters in relation to global gross domestic product	loss/ GDP	2018	0.36	2030	Reduce the baseline value by 5%

4.4. Strategic Objectives

1. To manage existing risks and prevent new risks.
2. To increase awareness, national knowledge and facilitate information exchange on disaster risk reduction and civil protection and creating resilient and sustainable communities with attention to people with disabilities, gender equality, and other vulnerable groups.
3. Enhancing response capacities through building resilient infrastructures, fostering comprehensive industrialization and fostering innovation.
4. To promote policy coherence and the regulatory framework related to disaster risk reduction.
5. To strengthen disaster risk management capabilities with the aim of membership in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU CPM) in a short period of time, thus becoming an additional safety factor for the region and the EU¹⁴.

5. Implementation strategy and Financial Frame

The implementation of the Strategy is planned through defined key intervention areas, assessed as of most importance for future DRM investment. Each of the areas has a list of activities identified in order to achieve all set policy goals in the most effective manner. The indicative financial plan will be part of each of the action plans drafted to help implement the Strategy.

In order to implement the Strategy a monitoring system was developed and a communication strategy drafted to ensure transparency and information dissemination both to the public and to the relevant implementation stakeholders.

¹⁴ The vision, mission and objectives of the National DRR Strategy were drafted while Albania was in the phase of negotiations with the European Commission for the signing of the "Agreement between the European Union, one party, and the Republic of Albania, the other party, for Albania's participation in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism" and were approved by the State Agency for Strategic Programming and Aid Coordination (SASPAC). In these conditions, even though objective no. 5 needed to be updated in the new conditions created after the signing of the above-mentioned agreement on 18.11.2022, this was not possible due to insufficient time available.

5.1. Intervention Areas

Key intervention areas are areas that, as analyzed by the Inter-sectoral Working Group, are of most importance and urgency in order to manage the highest level risk in Albania.

Each of the Key intervention areas includes a number of planned activities that will be, per hazard, listed in the Action Plan corresponding to the relevant time period.

The summarized, approximate financial frame for the Strategy will be summation of each of the Action Plans financial frames respectively.¹⁵

5.1.1. Area 1: Manage existing and prevent new risks.

Area 1 will include activities that contribute to: research, innovation, and prevention construction as well as raising awareness, knowledge, and facilitating information exchange in service of disaster risk reduction and civil protection and promoting policy coherence and regulatory framework related to disaster risk reduction.

5.1.2. Area 2: Strengthen the response capacities

Area 2 will include activities to strengthen the response capacities through the construction of resilient infrastructures, promoting comprehensive industrialization and innovation, and capacity and capability development to strengthening Albania's role within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, which it will officially join on 1.01.2023.

5.2. Communication

The NCPA as the coordinator of the process and the Government of Albania as the owner of the Strategy made sure all national processes and obligations regarding the consultations with other national institutions and local and governments as well as with the public are consulted during the adaptation process. All relevant stakeholders have been introduced to the draft Strategy prior to its adoption.

Following the adoption of the Strategy, it is of utmost importance to communicate its goals and purpose to the national institutions and to the public in order to raise awareness of the agenda in question. Communication is also crucial in developing a solid implementation base and ownership in all implementing institutions thus enhancing the implementation rate.

Main communication goals are:

1. Raising awareness of the **Strategy and its relevance** among all stakeholders - knowledge of the Strategy and its content is a prerequisite for positive action of all stakeholders, governmental institutions and scientific and expert institutions with roles in disaster risk reduction.
2. Raising awareness of the **importance of disaster risk reduction for the sustainable economic development** and for societies vulnerability reduction – in order to ensure continuity, stakeholders and the public most know the importance of their efforts
3. **Risk knowledge** dissemination and raising **awareness on ways to reduce risk** – it is important to inform and educate stakeholders and the public about disaster risk, but also about their role in the DRR system and how to act in order to effectively reduce disaster risk.

Communication target group:

1. The public - the wider population to which we want to bring the topic of disaster risk reduction closer by providing clear information and instructions on how their daily

¹⁵ Detailed list of intervention areas and projects presented in Annex 4

choices can increase or reduce risk of disasters particularly targeting those who are more affected by disasters and more marginalized in society which highlights the importance of gender and vulnerability.

2. Governmental institutions involved in the implementation of the Strategy – sectors have identified key activities to reduce disaster risk in Albania. It is important that they recognize which of their regular activities are also disaster risk reduction activities.
3. For example, climate and disaster risk has not yet been integrated as part of government budget planning. Including climate and natural disaster risk assessment in the government's fiscal risk statement will help to better understand the government's contingent liabilities due to disasters.
4. Decision makers at the national, regional and local level - disaster risk reduction is a complex area that enters the sphere of all levels of government it is important all levels are introduced to the document and its purpose as well as their role in the system.

Key communication messages:

1. Disaster risk reduction is of great national importance and a national priority
2. Disaster risk reduction is a matter of choice, only development that includes disaster risk reduction is sustainable development
3. Disaster risk reduction is everybody's business

5.3. International cooperation and global partnership

Albania took an important step in its journey to the EU, as on 19.07.2022 the opening of negotiations for EU membership was marked at the first intergovernmental conference between the European Union and Albania and North Macedonia that was held in Brussels.

In accordance with objective "F" of the Sendai Framework, regarding the importance of international cooperation for DRR, its level is constantly increasing and improving. NCPA, in implementation of technical guidelines for monitoring and reporting on progress in achieving the global objectives of the Sendai Framework, should guide and coordinate the activities of the relevant institutions in this direction.

International cooperation has particular importance in law 45/2019 with the whole dedicated chapter no.VII and setting the grounds for a new proactive and contemporary approach in this field. International cooperation activities are well defined, introducing for the first time the concept of Host Nation Support. Unlike the previous law or NCEP, which mostly had some definition for receiving international assistance, law 45/2019 has established detailed definitions for the provision of international assistance. For this, among other things, the law aimed at compliance with Council Decision no. 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, dated 17.12.2013, "On a Union Civil Protection Mechanism", as amended, establishing provisions for humanitarian assistance to other countries as well as modules and other emergency response capacities.

The continuous growth and strengthening of Albania's DRR and CP capacities, including the creation, as possible, of modules and other emergency response capacities, and the provision of assistance outside the borders of the Republic of Albania are the appropriate measures for a member country of EU CPM.

Albania is an active participant in a number of conventions, treaties, protocols, agreements, initiatives, committees, regional programs, European and international related to DRR and CP.

Over the years, the country has had very good mutual cooperation relations with a number of international institutions and organizations. Also, multilateral and bilateral international agreements have been signed in the field of DRR and CP, considering them as important political instruments that bring states and organizations closer to each other, but also with irreplaceable practical values that are gained during their implementation.

The organizations where Albania is a member, as well as the signed agreements and memoranda and those in the process, can be found in annex no. 4 of the strategy.

In the past, international cooperation has mostly consisted of receiving humanitarian assistance in the event of disasters. Thus, the Albanian Government has declared a state of natural disaster in the years 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2019 and 2020. It has requested the activation of the EU CPM in 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

In past major emergencies that exceeded the country's coping capabilities, Albania has turned to both the ERCC and the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Center (EADRCC) for assistance.

In addition to international cooperation in the emergency response phase, international cooperation has mostly consisted of:

- a) Training of Albanian experts in the framework of the DPPI SEE Disaster Management Training Program, the EU CPM Training Program and other trainings;
- b) Participation in trainings and other exercises financed by the EU, NATO, etc.;
- c) Study visits to the premises of the Emergency Response Coordination Center and other similar institutions in Europe and the world;
- ç) Other experiences related to the implementation of programs and projects financed by different donors and international partners.

The overall objective of the EU CPM is to strengthen cooperation between participating states in the field of civil protection, with the aim of improving prevention, preparedness and response to disasters. Through the Mechanism, the European Commission plays a key role in coordinating the response to disasters in Europe and beyond. When the scale of an emergency exceeds a country's response capabilities, the country can request assistance through the Mechanism, which, once activated, coordinates the assistance made available by its participating States. Currently, the only country that has not yet joined the Mechanism is Kosovo.

The first document that highlighted the need for Albania's membership in the EU CPM was PDNA 2015, followed by PDNA 2020 as well as the Progress Reports of the European Commission 2019, 2020 and 2021. In the latter, it is constantly recommended to accelerate the preparation to join EU CPM and the establishment of the TESTA connection to connect with CECIS. To support Albania's membership in the Mechanism, the EU financed the PRO NEWS Program (2017-2021). The importance of PRO NEWS was strategic because Albania's application for participation in the Mechanism could begin when the implementation of the program had substantially advanced. After the signing on 18.11.2022 in Tirana, of the "Agreement between the European Union, one party, and the Republic of Albania, the other party, on the participation of Albania in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism", starting from 1.01.2023, Albania will be a member with full rights in EUCPM.

A list of other international organizations and partners with which Albania has close partnership relations in the field of DRR and CP can be found in annex no. 4 of the strategy.

Regarding collaborations and other important agreements for DRM, there is a need to strengthen the operational links of the meteorological and hydrological authority and the NCPA with European meteorological infrastructure organizations such as the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the European Agency for Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)¹⁶. Membership in the Global Health Security Agenda was also identified as a need during the drafting of the strategy document.

Cooperation with UNDRR includes a commitment to implementing DRM policies in accordance with the principles and practices of the Sendai Framework. For emergency cases, in relation to UNOCHA, the latter is represented by the office of the UN Permanent Coordinator in Albania.

The countries of South East Europe (SEE) are spread over a small geographical area and therefore, although there are obvious differences in physical environments and social

¹⁶ Program for the Improvement of the National Early Warning System and Flood Prevention in Albania (PRO NEWS)

cultures between individual countries, they generally share the same disaster risks. Many disasters are transboundary in their effects, such as hot and dry weather, droughts, or flooding of some river systems, thus from a regional approach to DRR there is room for benefit for all.

Making full use of existing structures and services: Existing sources of data, information, knowledge, structures and processes for DRM and CP will need to be used first. Investments to improve the DRM system within SEE countries will lead to increased disaster risk resilience for each country individually and also among all SEE countries to guarantee a more robust regional disaster risk management. Also, efforts to increase regional communication and cooperation between DRM authorities, MC sectors and other actors, including research and scientific bodies, the private sector, regional organizations and international development organizations working in the region, will not only bring an improvement of capacities at the national and regional level, but will also reduce the overlapping of activities and help in the control process.

Cross-border nature of hazards: Given the cross-border nature of the predominant hazards in the region, Albania and other countries in the region have a clear need for maintaining and strengthening regional cooperation agreements, in particular in the main areas of updating cross-border monitoring systems and those of the early warning system. A very good example of cross-border regional cooperation is that of integrated water resources management and climate change-related flood risk management in the cross-border Drin river basin. There are several ongoing projects within the region to establish weather and hydrological monitoring networks that meet WMO standards, as well as a network of hydrometeorological stations that would enable compliance with the EU Water Framework Directive and EU Flood Directive.

Another cross-border area where there is a need for increased regional cooperation is monitoring and dealing with forest fires, and this is recognized as a regional priority. Albania does not yet have a permanent monitoring and signaling network for forests that are in danger, the system of which can be put into operation by the forest service during the fire season. At the same time, there is room for improvement regarding the availability of infrastructure and equipment for preventing and extinguishing fires, especially in the light of unpredictable patterns in the context of climate change. There is a general need in the region for technical assistance for capacity building for forest fire management and research work related to forest fires.

Exchange of information and knowledge: Albania and the SEE region are aware that today's access to information communication technology, the exchange of data, information and knowledge is one of the least expensive forms, but still more efficient of the regional and international cooperation.

Regional and International Regulatory Mechanisms: Many regional and international DRM and CP organizations have developed numerous regulatory mechanisms that include standards, codes of conducts and codes of practice, building codes, land use regulations, infrastructure regulations, etc. Since these exist, SEE countries have realized that this is a relatively inexpensive activity to explore relevant regulatory mechanisms, as needed, and then evaluate and whether it is worthwhile to adapt them to national needs and specifics. and regional priorities. At the same time, adaptation to climate change is creating a new need for new or revised regulatory mechanisms.

Sharing capacity development: Training for DRR needs continuous strengthening. A number of capacity building training activities are focused on different elements of emergency response. Many efforts have also been made in the framework of regional trainings for emergency preparedness. Future sharing of training and capacity development efforts, regionally and internationally, also requires strengthening networking, knowledge sharing and cooperation in general.

Key challenges: Challenges related to regional cooperation include generally insufficient financial resources at national and regional levels. Another challenge related to cooperation during disaster response is that often the disaster affects the entire region and each national organization becomes overwhelmed with its own needs.

The context of climate change is a further argument for the escalation of regional cooperation in relation to various aspects of climate adaptation. From a pragmatic point of view, it is necessary to increase efforts to achieve recognition at high levels of government regarding the social and economic importance of investments in regional DRM efforts. It should also be kept in mind that regional cooperation is necessary when seeking funding from regional and international development and financial institutions.

5.4. Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting

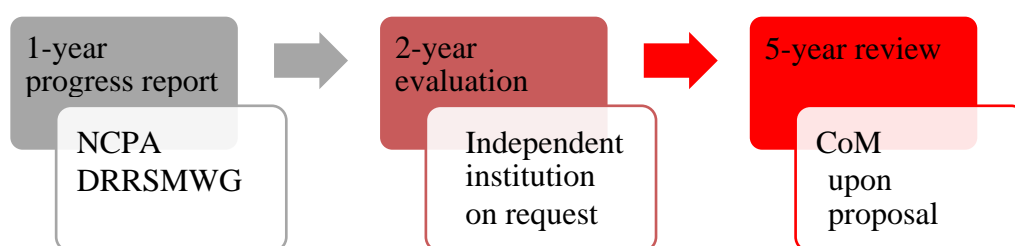


Figure 2 Strategy implementation monitoring process

5.4.1. Monitoring and progress reporting

In order to achieve optimal implementation rate the implementation process has to be regularly monitored and transparently reported on.

As is stated in Sendai Framework a substantial reduction of disaster risk requires perseverance and persistence, with a more explicit focus on people and their health and livelihoods, and regular follow-up.¹⁷

This Strategy's activities were chosen using the SMART guidelines (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic, and **T**imely).

Each of the Hazard Working Groups have identified gaps and needs most crucial to ensure effective disaster risk reduction caused by the hazard of each of the respective groups. This was to ensure the final product is **realistic** and **achievable**.

Each of the key intervention areas has a number of activities identified contributing to the area. Each of the hazards has a list of result indicators that will help monitor the progress of reducing the specific risk. This is to make the Strategy **measurable**.

For each of the gaps, defined under section 3. "Current situation and trends: challenges" one or more activities or projects is proposed. Each of the proposed activities has an identified timeline, implementation institution, approximate budget and budget source. Detailed information on the projects and their key activities implemented under a specific Action Plan are listed in the respective Action Plan. This is to make the Strategy **specific** and **timely**.

The progress achieved by each of the relevant stakeholders will be monitored by the **NCPA** and the **DRR Strategy Monitoring Working Group (DRRSMWG)** on a yearly basis. Since

¹⁷ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Albania doesn't have a **National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR)**, another foundation of a functional multisector DRM system, the above mentioned working group would best be established by the Government of Albania in the context of a coordination between the Civil Protection Committee and the Technical Advisory Commission. This process would therefore additionally ensure all parts of the DRM system are continuously included in the Strategy's implementation and monitoring as well as proposing amendments to the Strategy.

Information on the activities implemented and the percentage of the implementation as well as next steps will be transparently reported on to the Council of Ministers of the Government of Albania. Along with the progress report an implementation risk assessment with proposed solutions will be reported.

5.4.2. Evaluation

Based on the progress reporting biannually, starting with year 2024. An evaluation of the Strategy's implementation will be conducted by an external impartial institution upon the request of the coordinator, the NCPA.

5.4.3. Updating and adapting

If so decided and evidenced within any of the Progress Reports and based on the conclusions of the evaluation a proposal will be made to the responsible minister to adopt the Strategy.

Following this proposal and according to Article 10, point 1, of Law No. 45/2019 on Civil Protection the National Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction shall be reviewed, at least every five years, by the Council of Ministers, upon the proposal of the Minister of Defence.¹⁸

6. Cross cutting elements of NDRRS

The concept of the National DRR Strategy is based around the main philosophy of DRR and that is to reduce identified risk, to prevent new ones from emerging and to manage the residual risk. To do so, as stated many times across the text of the Strategy, DRR cannot be merely a responsibility of the body responsible for civil protection in the Government of Albania but of the entire society. To build that sentiment of accountability and ownership, the process of designing the Strategy was carefully tailored to also allow identification of cross cutting elements that need to be considered when Albania addresses DRR. The list below is not an exhaustive one when DRR cross cutting areas are in question, however it contains those most commonly used, capturing the light on the horizontal links with other sectors. All the elements listed below, and new ones that will emerge through the implementation of the Strategy, need to be taken into consideration when DRR projects are designed and implemented.

6.1. Relation to Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development Goals

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 was adopted at the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015 by members of the United Nations. Through the Sendai Framework, countries around the world recognize the importance of not only managing disasters, but managing disaster risk.

¹⁸ Law No. 45/2019 on Civil Protection

The Sendai Framework outlines seven targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk. Seven global targets are: (a) substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015; (b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015; (c) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030; (d) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030; (e) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020; (f) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030; and (g) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030. The four global priorities of the Sendai Framework are: understanding disaster risk; strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to ‘Build Back Better’ in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.¹⁹

The Sendai Framework set out the case for development to be risk-informed in order to be sustainable. There is no sustainable development without disaster risk reduction. Both the Sendai Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outcomes are a product of interconnected social and economic processes. There is a lot of synergy between the two policy instruments. Sendai Framework monitoring is intended to complement monitoring of 11 SDG indicators.²⁰

6.2. Sustainable Development Goals and DRR

Implementation of SFDRR and in that context the NDRRS, is closely related with all SDGs but especially:

SDG 1 No Poverty (1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters);

SDG 3 Good Health and Wellbeing (3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination);

SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all level);

SDG 6 Clear water and sanitation (6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally);

SDG 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all);

¹⁹ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

²⁰ www.undrr.org

SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities (11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations);
SDG 13 Climate Change (13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries).

In that context all the projects and all the activities as part of this NDRRS are to take into consideration noted SDGs and then once implemented contribute to achieving those particular goals.

6.3. Climate Change Adaptation and DRR. Climate change variability and impacts²¹

The need for coherence between Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and DRR has been identified by the SDGs on the global level and by the EU on a regional level. Existing CCA findings and reports coming from various sources talking about the lasting conditions of high temperatures and low precipitation, the change of patterns and frequency of occurrence of high precipitation events causing flash floods and landslides, among others, are not disputed by the DRR sector. On the contrary, taking into consideration long term climate scenarios is becoming a requirement of future disaster risk assessments and consequently of national DRR strategies. Therefore, where applicable CCA measures are to be strongly embedded in projects implemented as planned in this NDRRS.

The Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (including the Sustainable Development Goals) both highlight the importance of climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. UNDRR states that if we want to reduce risk we also must join up in our approaches and must include all relevant sectors, cooperate within institutions, and ensure harmony from policy through to activity.

Recognizing this, Albania decided to develop this Strategy connecting all relevant national and international strategies in a shared goal – to reduce disaster losses and ensure sustainable development.

Institutions are often singled out in their agenda looking only to achieve their separate goals, thus it is important to recognize that all of the above mentioned international agendas as well as many national ones would be achieved sooner and more efficiently if the institutions cooperated. Limiting the impact of disasters now and in the future requires a coordinated effort across and within many areas including land use planning, infrastructure, emergency management, social policy, agriculture, education, health, community development, energy and the environment.

As stated throughout chapter 3. of this Strategy, climate change affects most of the key risks identified in Albania in a negative fashion i.e. – increasing the level of the risk. Below are the findings from the Albania Revised NDC as articulated in the document.

Temperature

Projected trends indicate that the mean annual temperature in Albania will increase between 1.3°C and 2.2 °C by 2050 and between 1.2°C and 4.4°C by 2100 from the 1986-2005 baseline of 11.8°C. The most significant increases would take place between June and September (5.8°C under RCP 8.5), bringing mean summer temperature around 27°C by 2100.

As a consequence, the number and duration of heat waves is expected to increase. Temperature above the 95th percentile of the 1986-2005 baseline, is expected to increase

²¹ An excerpt from the Albania Revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)

significantly by 2050 according to all scenarios, with a median between 20 and 41 days, up from 2.5 days.

Precipitation

Mean precipitation levels have remained relatively stable since 1901, although with a slight decreasing trend. By 2050, precipitation for Albania is expected to decrease between 2.1% (RCP 2.6) and 4.3% (RCP 8.5)

Climate change impacts

The current and projected changes in climate will have effects on meteorological and environmental conditions in Albania. While mean temperature increases, a decrease in precipitation and SLR will have several effects in the long term. These changes will also result in increased frequency and intensity of weather-related disasters.

Table 3. 3 Summary of climate changes and related effects/risks by 2100 (Surce: Albania Revised NDC)

Factor	Area	Change	Extent (by 2100)	Effects/Risks
Temperature	Albania	Increase in mean annual Temperature, especially for summer months	+1.2-4.4°C (Summer: +1.-5.8°C)	Increased evaporation Increase in cooling degree days Increased proportion of winter precipitation in the form of rain (instead of snow)
	Albanian coast	Increase in minimum and maximum temperature (all seasons)	Summer max: +1.5-6.4°C Winter min: +0.9-3.8°C	
	Albanian coast	Increase in the frequency of extremely high temperatures	Decrease in return period from 100 years to 9.2 – 3.6 years (Tirana example)	Increased frequency of droughts
	Albania	Increase in the number of tropical nights	From 1 to 10-70/year	
	Albania	Increase in the number and duration of heat waves	+17.5 – 38.5 days (by 2050)	
Precipitation	Albanian coast	Decrease in annual precipitation, especially for summer months	-1.6 to -7.1%	Increased occurrence of floods, especially during winter, but also during fall and spring months
	Albanian coast	Increase in precipitation for winter months	+1.8 to +7.8%	
	Albanian coast	Increased variability of precipitation, with increased frequency and intensity of heavy rainfall events	Decrease in return period from 100 years to 60-75 years (Tirana example)	
	Albanian coast/ Albania	Decreasing 12-month cumulative water balance (SPEI)	-0.34 to -2.08	
Sea Level	Albanian	Increase in sea level	Vjosa basin:	Salinization of coastal

Rise	coast		on average +45 cm (RCP 4.5) to +60 cm (RCP 8.5)	Aquifers Increased vulnerability of coastal areas to floods from storm surges and erosion
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Projected changes in precipitation patterns during winter, fall and spring months increase the risk of river floods. Due to their flatness, coastal areas are not only vulnerable to the projected increased floods from rivers, but also those from storm surges due to SLR. The size and magnitude of floods and of erosion of coastal areas are expected to increase, affecting disproportionately beaches, river mouths and lagoons and causing landslides. Since a significant portion of Albania’s infrastructure is located in its coastal area it could therefore be affected. The Adriatic coast, and the Drini and Mati River Delta in particular are identified as “critically vulnerable” to climate change.

Water supply infrastructure is among at-risk infrastructure from climate change, as floods and storm surges could affect the existing network and treatment plants. Furthermore, SLR is projected to increase the water level of rivers, flooding riversides and increasing salinization of coastal aquifers. Projected increases in temperature will lead to increased evaporation, especially in the summer. Water availability will be further affected by the projected decrease in precipitation projected to be strongest during summer months, resulting in decreased river runoff.

On the other hand, water demand is expected to increase. This is largely related to increased access to water supply and increase in personal use of water for well-being, as well as challenges to water governance. Although the marginal effect of climate change is difficult to project, heat waves and droughts are likely to lead to high peaks in demand.

Given the high reliance of the country on hydropower and the poor state of related infrastructure, the energy supply is vulnerable to climate change. The projected decrease in annual river runoff will worsen this situation. Indeed, the National Climate Change Policy (2019) estimates that “by 2050, annual average electricity output from Albania’s large hydropower plants could be reduced by about 15% and from small hydropower plants by around 20%”. Hydroelectricity infrastructure could also be damaged during heavy rainfall events, which tend to cause unusually high amounts of sediments to flow into the rivers and dams.

On the demand side, increased temperatures will cause an overall increase in cooling degree days between May and September, which will reflect on higher demand for electricity. The energy network is thus exposed to increased demand precisely at the time of the year where its supply is expected to be the lowest. Therefore, drier summer months, with higher evaporation and more frequent droughts will affect the level of the reservoirs in summer months.

The increased frequency and intensity of heat waves and droughts is likely to increase the number of fires, especially forest fires, which threaten the natural environment, but also livelihoods, settlements, and lives.

Climate-related disasters will increase the risk of injury and preventable death among population, and especially among vulnerable groups. Floods have been the natural hazard affecting most people between 1985-2019, and this trend has increased in recent years. In addition to direct physical and mental health consequences from floods include water-borne and vector-borne diseases to which infants and children are the most vulnerable.

6.4. Vulnerable groups and DRR

Disasters affect all realms of society, however some social groups are more affected than others due to their specific vulnerabilities. These groups need to be given special attention to while responding to disasters, but also included in the preparedness and prevention phases as there is added value in inclusive policy development not only for the group in question, but for all of society.

All the disaster risk management phases and all projects identified by the NDRRS will have to consider the element of vulnerable groups and what the effects will be for their wellbeing. On top of this, the capillarization of the vulnerable groups elements of this strategy is

essential for the level of drafting and applicability of local government plans for disaster risk management. Therefore, general strategic provisions related to vulnerable groups will have to be adapted into local level strategies and plans in accordance with the respective local needs.

The most vulnerable groups are made-up of financially disadvantaged families, marginalized and socially excluded communities including minorities and LGBTQ community members, women, children, elderly and people with disabilities. Disaster risk depends on the resilience of the social, economic and political structure and can be reduced by reducing the exposure and vulnerability and increasing this resilience. Building resilience across all parts of society requires all-sector involvement and partnerships. It also requires inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people extremely vulnerable to disasters.

This Strategy and the activities planned must adhere to the needs and demands of vulnerable groups. Understanding different vulnerabilities is important for reducing risks and ensuring particular needs are met through all DRM phases. Vulnerable groups can face specific challenges during and after disasters. These include lack of access to information and communications, inaccessible facilities and services, lack of access to needed support resources, disintegration of social connections, lack of inclusive and responsive policy frameworks etc.

Several actions support the resilience of vulnerable groups. These include: supporting the design and implementation of resilience-focused emergency preparedness; sustainable solutions that benefit everyone if vulnerable groups are included in emergency management planning and implementation; effective and inclusive emergency management strategies and vulnerability-inclusive response, recovery and regeneration activities.

Social rehabilitation is an important part of disaster rehabilitation. Vulnerable groups often need special social support to survive impacts of disasters. Thus, this type of rehabilitation would include various activities such as the **educational activities and psychological support**. Educational facilities may suffer greatly in disasters - causing considerable stress to children. Therefore, it is important, in the rehabilitation phase, to give regular counselling to teachers, parents and children, encourage children to attend schools regularly, provide writing material, and books to children, make children participate in all activities seemingly achieving normalcy in daily schedules, in school and the society.

People with disabilities and DRR

Even in normal times (pre disaster stage) people with disabilities are subject to discrimination and exclusion. Their vulnerability increases as the circumstances change due to disasters. Implementation of NDRRS in Albania needs to create conditions and strengthen disability networks in pre disaster stage by identifying their capacities and involve them into the planning process. Being disabled doesn't make someone vulnerable by definition, it might also reveal capacities and capabilities of that person or a group of persons of added value for the community that were not existing before. In doing so the system for social protection plays a crucial role and therefore effective links with DRR need to be established.

Gender and DRR

As disasters affect men, women, boys and girls differently, integrating gender perspectives into the implementation of the NDRRS enables conditions for all regardless of their abilities and social backgrounds, to enjoy the same opportunities. Applying a gender lens to this DRR initiative will enable addressing gender-specific capacities and concrete needs in the affected population, and the ability of the affected communities of women and men to face and recover from disasters. Gender often intersects with other factors like age, sexual orientation, social mobility, ethnicity, cultural background, economic status or occupation, amplifying an individual's vulnerability to disasters. These factors make women and girls more likely to be disproportionately affected by disasters and lead to a spike in the loss of livelihoods, gender-based violence, and deaths. As gender is defined by the actual distribution of power in the society and its close relation to the existing social norms and values, having gender

perspectives addressed in DRR projects identified with the NDRR Strategy will allow better identification of the needs of affected women and girls as well as targeting and implementing meaningful projects.

The Sendai Framework emphasizes the importance of engaging women in building disaster resilience programmes. Recommendations specify considering gender, age, disability and cultural perspective across all DRR policies and practices since: “Women’s participation is critical for effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations.”

Furthermore, engaging women and girls in boosting community resilience is critical for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 5 (gender equality and women’s empowerment). Gender equality and women’s empowerment are crosscutting issues and prerequisites for achieving many other SDGs, including SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and SDG 13 (climate action). Meeting the SDGs relies on appreciating and promoting women’s unique capacities when it comes to DRR. Doing so will not only help policymakers, rescue teams and DRR professionals serve impacted communities more effectively but can also remedy existing gender imbalances and injustices.

The NDRRS will provide women with opportunities to assume leadership roles in risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery and position them to influence the direction of development and enable more progressive gender equal roles and relationships. One of the budget criteria in the action plan for strategic projects will also be gender sensitivity for which there will be a checklist with gender-sensitive budgeting criteria.

Elderly, Children, Minorities and LGBTQ community

The elderly, children and marginalized minority and LGBTQ community members are more vulnerable after a major disaster. Therefore, it is important, in the rehabilitation phase, to organize regular counselling to strengthen the health and mental health of vulnerable groups; pay attention to health, nutrition and hygiene in the long-term rehabilitation package; activate or reactivate day-care centres, and old-age homes; promote self-help groups etc.

In addition to these actions, it is important that emergency responders are aware of and competent in inclusive planning, response, and recovery, so vulnerable groups can participate in resilience, response, and recovery on the same basis as others.

Finally, there is increasing recognition in Europe of the multiple complementarities and growing convergence in approaches between assistance provided in crisis contexts and social protection approaches adopted in more stable contexts. Thus, the country should consider implementing and operating social protection programmes in situations of shocks and protracted crises and linking humanitarian aid with social protection systems²².

²² <https://socialprotection.org/discover/publications/tools-and-methods-series-reference-document-no-26-social-protection-across>

Annex 1: SWOT Analysis



Annex 2: List of national documents in line with the Strategy

Table 4. List of national documents

No.	Document
1.	Constitution of the Republic of Albania
2.	Law no. 103/2014 "On the approval of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Albania"
3.	DCM no. 348, dated 11.5.2016 "On the approval of the National Strategy for Development and Integration 2015-2020"
4.	Progress Reports of the European Commission for Albania
5.	DCM no. 91, dated 9.2.2022 "On the approval of the national plan for European integration 2022-2024"
6.	Law no. 75/2016 "On the ratification of the Paris Agreement, within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change"
7.	Risk Assessment Report in Albania, October 2003
8.	National Plan for Civil Emergencies in Albania
9.	Law no. 139/2015 "On local self-government", amended
10.	Law no. 115/2014 "On the administrative-territorial division of local government units in the Republic of Albania", amended
11.	Law no. 107/2016 "For the qark prefect"
12.	Law no. 45/2016 "On volunteerism"
13.	Law no. 72/2012 "On the organization and operation of the national geospatial information infrastructure in the Republic of Albania"
14.	DCM no. 810 prot., dated 21.10.2020 "On the approval of the document "state standards for technical specifications of geospatial information in Albania - topic: areas with natural hazards"
15.	Bylaws of Law no. 72/2012 "On the organization and operation of the national geospatial information infrastructure in the Republic of Albania"
16.	Law no. 45/2019, "On Civil Protection"
17.	Bylaws of Law 45/2019, "On Civil Protection"
18.	DCM no. 329, dated 16.05.2012 "On the criteria and procedures for the provision of financial state aid to cover damages caused by natural disasters or other disasters caused by human activity"
19.	DCM no. 148, dated 24.2.2016 "On the establishment and operation of the integrated information and statistics system of the Council of Ministers"
20.	DCM no. 501, dated 13.9.2017 "On determining the scope of state responsibility of the Ministry of Defense", amended by No. 9, dated 12.1.2018.
21.	Law no. 10 435, dated 23.6.2011 "On the search and rescue service in the Republic of Albania"
22.	Law no. 72/2015 "On the approval of the military strategy of the Republic of Albania"
23.	DCM no. 628, dated 25.9.2019 "On the approval of the revision document of the defense strategy of the Republic of Albania"
24.	The relevant DCMs related to the definition of the area of responsibility of the ministries
25.	Law no. 152/2015 "On Fire Protection and Rescue Service"
26.	Bylaws of Law no. 152/2015 "On Fire Protection and Rescue Service"
27.	DCM no. 345, dated 22.5.2019 "On the approval of the national irrigation and drainage strategy 2019-2031 and the action plan"
28.	DCM no. 437, dated 17.5.2017 "On the creation, organization and operation of the irrigation and drainage directorates of Lezhë, Durrës, Fier and Korçë"
29.	DCM no. 221, dated 26.4.2018 "On the organization and operation of the Water Resources Management Agency", amended
30.	Law no. 24/2017 "On irrigation and drainage administration"
31.	Instruction no. 12, dated 30.12.2019 "On the rules and technical criteria for the maintenance and operation of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure"
32.	DCM no. 73, dated 7.2.2018 "On the approval of the national strategy for the integrated management of water resources, 2018-2027"
33.	Law no. 8681, dated 2.11.2000 "On the design, construction, use and maintenance of dams and dikes", as amended
34.	Law no. 111/2012 "On the integrated management of water resources", amended
35.	DCM no. 147 dated 18.3.2004 "On the approval of the regulation on the safety of dams and dikes"

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36.	Order no. 370, dated 11.6.2019 "On the approval of the standard statute of the Organization of Water Users"
37.	Order no. 697, dated 30.12.2019 "On the approval of the registers of irrigation and drainage directorates, municipalities and organizations of water users".
38.	DCM no. 1015, dated 16.12.2020 "On the content, development and implementation of the national water resource management strategy, water basin management plans and flood risk management plans"
39.	DCM no. 1157, dated 25.11.2009 "On the approval of the inventory list of state immovable properties, of drainage boards, which are transferred to the administration responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection", amended
40.	DCM no. 567, dated 14.7.2010 "On the transfer of reservoirs and relevant irrigation schemes from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, owned by local government units and for a change in decision no. 1157, dated 25.11.2009 of the Prime Minister "for the approval of the inventory list of state immovable properties, of drainage boards, which are transferred to the administration responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection"
41.	DCM no. 1108, dated 30.12.2015 "On the transfer, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration to the municipalities, of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure, personnel and movable and immovable assets of the Regional Drainage Boards", changed
42.	Flood Recovery Program Project: UTF/ALB/010/ALB "Recovery of agricultural damage and restoration of productive capacity"
43.	Law no. 57/2020, dated 30.4.2020, "On forests"
44.	Law no. 9863, dated 28.1.2008 "On food", amended
45.	Law no. 10 465, dated 29.9.2011 "On veterinary service in the Republic of Albania", amended
46.	DCM no. 1080, dated 22.12.2010, "On the rules for preventing and extinguishing fires in forests and pastures, as well as for the creation of voluntary firefighting units".
47.	DCM no. 290, dated 30.4.2004, "On the approval of the national strategy for the management of fires in forests and pastures"
48.	Document "On the policies of the forestry sector in Albania"
49.	Implementation of the Forestry Policy for quality care and services to forests - Policies 10; 11 and 12 - Measures-31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39 and 40
50.	Law no. 9244, dated 17.6.2004 "On the protection of agricultural land", amended
51.	DCM no. 80, dated 28.1.2005 "On the composition, modes of operation, duties and responsibilities of state structures for the protection of agricultural land"
52.	Order no. 535, dated 27.9.2019 "On the approval of the standard cooperation agreement between the municipality and the agricultural cooperation society"
53.	National Strategy for Culture 2019-2025
54.	Disaster Risk Management for World Heritage – Handbook 2010
55.	Law no. 27/2018 "On cultural heritage and museums".
56.	DCM no. 420, dated 15.6.2022 "On taking measures to preserve cultural heritage in cases of natural disasters and armed conflicts"
57.	DCM no. 1125, dated 30.12.2020 "On the approval of the design rules, the implementation of conservation and protective intervention works in material cultural assets, their supervision and approval"
58.	Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage Sites in Albania - 2014
59.	Cooperation agreement between the National Institute of Cultural Heritage and Cultural Heritage without Borders (NGO): Improvement of the monitoring system of the state of cultural assets
60.	Plans for preparing for civil emergencies, of the Ministry of Culture and 28 subordinate institutions
61.	DCM no. 1099 dated 24.12.2020 "On the approval of treatment methods, technical norms, criteria and models of interventions in the field of preservation of cultural assets"
62.	Seismological Risk Analysis - Geo -Hazard and Guidelines for Disaster Risk Reduction for Apollonia Archaeological Park, Historical Centers of Berat and Gjirokastra and Butrint "
63.	Law no. 7864, dated 29.9.1994 "On the Albanian Red Cross", amended.
64.	Law no. 7865, dated 29.9.1994, "On the protection of the emblem and name of the Red Cross" approved by the Assembly"
65.	ARC plan for disaster preparedness and response
66.	ARC policy in the field of Emergencies and Crises
67.	ARC Strategy for Development 2020-2030

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68.	DCM no. 290, dated 30.4.2004, "On the approval of the National Strategy for the management of fires in forests and pastures"
69.	Normative Act no. 9, dated 16.12.2019 "On Coping with the consequences of a natural disaster" approved by Law 97/2019
70.	The entire legal package consisting of laws, Normative Acts and DCMs related to the State Commission for Reconstruction and then to the Minister of State for Reconstruction which is available at: https://rindertimi.gov.al/ligje/
71.	National General Plan of the Territory
72.	Law no. 107, dated 31.07.2014 "On planning and development of the territory", amended
73.	DCM no. 686, dated 22.11.2017 "On the approval of the territory planning regulation", amended
74.	Law no. 10431, dated 09.06.2011 "On environmental protection", amended
75.	Law 81/2017 "On Protected Areas"
76.	Law no. 111/2015, dated 15. 10. 2015 "For the Albanian Geological Service"
77.	Law no. 8025, dated 9.11.1995 On protection from ionizing radiation, amended
78.	Law no. 824, dated 18.12.2019 "On the approval of the sectoral strategy of public finance management 2019-2022"
79.	Law no. 9936, dated 26.6.2008 "On the management of the budget system in the Republic of Albania" as amended
80.	National Information Society Agency legislation
81.	Disaster risk reduction strategy in Lezhë Municipality, 2020
82.	Disaster Risk Assessment in Lezhë municipality, 2020
83.	The local plan for civil emergencies in Lezhë municipality, 2020
84.	<i>United States European Command. Albania. Weapons of Mass Destruction Counter Trafficking/Consequence Management and Disaster Preparedness Capabilities Assessment Report. July 2014". July 2014</i>
85.	Post-Flood Needs Report in Albania, April 2015
86.	<i>Disaster Management in Albania. Gap Analysis. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. Presence in Albania 2017</i>
87.	Comprehensive analysis of disaster risk reduction and management system for agriculture in Albania
88.	Third National Communication of the Republic of Albania on climate change
89.	Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in Albania, February 2020
90.	"Towards the inclusive disaster risk management strategy in Albania". Disaster risk management system capacity Assessment. Evaluation report. UNDP 2020
91.	Disaster Risk Finance Diagnostic Albania. World Bank. December 2020
92.	Diagnostics Report. Emergency Preparedness and Response Assessment. Albania. World Bank 2021
93.	Investment Report Emergency Preparedness and Response Assessment Albania. World Bank 2021
94.	Improving disaster risk and loss information in Albania. Catalogue of risk-related information - Task 1 World Bank. February 2022
95.	Improving disaster risk and loss information in Albania Assessing and improving accessibility of risk related information – Task 2. World Bank. March 2022
96.	Improving disaster risk and loss information in Albania Recommendations for improvement of post-disaster Loss information – Task 3. World Bank. March 2022
97.	Improving Disaster Risk and Loss Information in Albania. the World Bank Group Summary Report May 2022
98.	National Adaptation Planning (NAP) to Climate Change in Albania. Framework for the Country Process
99.	Albania's First Biennial Update Report, July 2021
100.	ISO 31000 Standard for Risk Management
101.	Tools and Methods Series Reference Document No. 26: Social Protection across the Humanitarian-Development Nexus. A Game Changer in Supporting People through Crises
102.	DCM no. 866, dated 24.12.2019 "For the approval of the national social protection strategy, 2020-2023, and the action plan for its implementation"
103.	DCM no. 276, dated 12.5.2021 "For the approval of the national plan for persons with disabilities, 2021–2025"
104.	Law no. 57/2019 "On social assistance in the Republic of Albania"
105.	DCM no. 400, dated 30.6.2021 " On the the adoption of the national strategy for gender equality, 2021–2030, and its action plan"

Annex 3: Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan for Albania 2023-2027

Disaster risk management is an extremely complex area and has a multi-sectoral effect on almost all aspects of life and development. It includes different policies that need to act in synergy in order to improve prevention, response and recovery activities.

As part of the development of the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, the Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction for the period 2023 to 2027 was developed as an act that operationalizes the implementation of the Strategy. For the remaining period of implementation of the Strategy, one more action plan will be developed, namely the Action Plan for the period 2028 to 2030.

The amounts in the Action Plan refer to the indicative assessment of the financial frame of each activity or project implementation costs and are made on the basis of market research and the experience of the proponents.

The action plan refers to the management activities of a total of 6 risks defined for the purposes of drafting the Strategy until 2030. For each risk, a number of activities have been determined that will be implemented as a priority by the end of 2026. In addition to individual risk management activities, the Action Plan includes groups of activities that simultaneously affect the level of all or more risks at once: activities to strengthen disaster risk management.

1. Multi-risk Disaster Risk Management²³

Table 5 Multi-risk Disaster Risk Management Projects

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense and line ministries. It will be supported by UNDP RESEAL
Strategic project 1:	<i>Further fulfillment of Albania's obligations as a member country of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU CPM)</i>
<p><i>Description: After the signing on 18.11.2022 of the "Agreement between the European Union, one party, and the Republic of Albania, the other party, on the participation of Albania in the Civil Protection Mechanism of the Union" Albania is now the 35th member with full rights in EU CPM. The implementation of the procedures requires the bylaws required for the implementation of the TESTA in order to become operational in Albania ensuring thus the connection with the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS).</i></p> <p><i>NCPA must harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project and:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic Project No.3: "Full implementation throughout the territory of Albania of the unified Civil Emergency number 112."</i> - <i>Strategic Project No. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Identifying technical and institutional requirements for access to TESTA</i> 2. <i>Support the roadmap preparation for the establishment of TESTA system</i> 3. <i>Development of training materials and education plans and programmes in line with EU guidelines.</i> 4. <i>Support on the establishment of TESTA system</i> 5. <i>Support to strengthening of cooperation protocols and single point of contact approach in dealing with EU CPM</i> 6. <i>Deliver training on EU CPM legislation, implementing rules and overall procedures</i> 7. <i>Technical recommendations related to establishment of communication links with the EU Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)</i> 8. <i>Enable links and connectivity to EU monitoring tools and early warning systems (EFAS, EFFIS, Copernicus)</i> 9. <i>Providing timely planning of required financial resources for paying annual fees for TESTA as well as EU EU CPM membership</i>
Financial frame/source:	Total 1,840,000 USD - EUR EU/UN/National Budget of which USD 840,000 will be from the UNDP RESEAL project

²³ The costs of all strategic projects in sections 1-7 are set in the original currency of the strategic projects proposed by the members of the inter-institutional working groups for the drafting of the NDRRS

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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency,
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense
Strategic project 2:	<i>Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module "Team with unmanned Aerial Vehicles"</i>
<p>Description: <i>Establishing of a new EU module "Team with unmanned air vehicles" according to international standards to join the EERC capacities. This module will be certified by the European Commission and will be ready to join EERC.</i></p> <p>NCPA must harmonize any type of synergy and complementarity between this project and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania"; - Strategic Project no. 12: " Strengthening the Early Warning system"; - Strategic project no. 8 of earthquakes: "Strengthening the response capacities of the Operational Forces to earthquakes through the creation of a Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR)" module; - Strategic flood project no. 8: "Strengthening the response capacities of the operational forces to floods by complementing the existing FRB and FC modules of the EU for floods"; - The strategic project no. 5 of forest fires: "Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to wildfires through the EU module "Ground Forest Fire Fighting" 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Study on establishing of a "Team with unmanned air vehicles".</i> 2. <i>Performing all the necessary national procedures required for approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO.</i> 3. <i>Carrying out the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO</i> 4. <i>Carrying out, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, of training and/or exercise activities in the presence of European Commission authorities</i> 5. <i>Carrying out the module certification process as well as its registration in the EERC</i> 6. <i>Budget planning and carrying out all the necessary payments for the module as well as other annual payments for its functionality and operationality</i>
Financial frame/source:	<p>Development costs: 15,500,000 euros (the maximum fund needed to create a module has been set)</p> <p>Maintenance: 7,500,000 euros</p> <p>Deployment: 8,308,160 euros</p> <p>In total = 31,308,160 euros</p>
Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency, Ministry of Defense
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Interior and other line ministries

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Strategic project 3:	<i>Full implementation and throughout the territory of Albania of the Unified Civil Emergency number 112</i>
<p><i>Description: Implementation of the Unified Emergency Number 112, based on the current stage of its implementation as well as the feasibility study and implementation project drawn up in 2011, through the World Bank AI-DRMAP project.</i></p> <p><i>The NCPA should harmonize any type of synergy and complementarity between this project and:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- Strategic Project No. 1: " Further fulfillment of Albania's obligations as a member country of the EU CPM".</i> <i>- Strategic Project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2026
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Drafting and approval of DCM "On the Establishment and Functioning of the Unified Emergency Call System 112"</i> 2. <i>Development of a study on the state of implementation of 112 in Albania, based on the factual situation as well as the 2011 feasibility study and project design</i> 3. <i>If it is necessary, based on the conclusions of the study, the design of a new project for implementing 112 number</i> 4. <i>Implementation of the Unified Civil Emergency number 112 based on the conclusions of the study conducted and the new project/ feasibility study and implementation project, carried out in December 2011, within the World Bank project "Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project" (AL-DRMAP).</i> 5. <i>Budget planning and carrying out all the payments necessary for the implementation of the unified civil emergency number 112 as well as other annual payments of its function and operationality</i>
Financial frame/source:	30.,000,000 EUR EU/UN/National budget

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Central structure of the FP&RS including the 12 directorates of the FP&RS in the municipalities - qark centers. The project will be supported by AICS
Strategic project 4:	<i>Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania</i>
<p><i>Description: Following the Donors' Conference, dated February 17, 2020 (held for the earthquake of November 26, 2019), Cooperazione Italiana in collaboration with the Italian government, will manage the civil protection funds that will be invested or donated in Albania by all donors . The project consists of financing from the Italian Government in the form of a loan, is a whole project and sub-components of the construction and technological infrastructures of the new NCPA building, the equipment for the operational rooms in the four centers of the NCPA and 8 prefectures, tools and equipment, school campus for training</i></p> <p><i>The NCPA should harmonize any type of synergy and complementarity between this project and:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- Strategic project no. 1: " Further fulfillment of Albania's obligations as a member country of the EU CPM";</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 2: Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module " Team with unmanned aerial vehicles";</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 3: Full implementation and throughout the territory of Albania of the unified Civil Emergency number 112;</i> 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program":</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 17: "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response"</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 7 of forest fires: "Strengthening the technical capacities of the Fire Protection and Rescue Service";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 23: "Strengthening the readiness capacity of operational forces through training, exercises and drills"</i> 	
Time frame:	2022-2026
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Following all necessary procedures for the approval of the Credit Agreement</i> 2. <i>Construction and equipment of the new NCPA building;</i> 3. <i>Ensuring the supply of tools, vehicles and equipment for the NCPA and the FP&R Service;</i> 4. <i>Increasing the professional training of the FP&R staff;</i>
Financial frame/source:	30,000,000 euro

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense and line ministries
Strategic project 5:	<i>Policies and legislation</i>
<p><i>Description: Completion of the drafting and adoption of bylaws, pursuant to Law 45/2019 "On civil protection". NCPA should ensure the synergy and complementarity of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Activity No. 3 of this project with the respective projects related to the methodology of single risk assessment such as:</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 15: "Drafting of disaster risk assessment documents at qark level"</i> - <i>Strategic earthquake project no. 2: "Improving, updating and harmonizing the methodology for earthquake risk assessment";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 of forest fires "Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 1 of infectious/biological diseases "Development methodology for biological risk assessment"</i> <p><i>Its activity no. 4 with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 7: "Support the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)".</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 20: "Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2025

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Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the results of the NCPA document consultancy, developing of the continuity of operations planning (COOP) and the continuity of the Government (COG) in ministries and other security and defense institutions; 2. Development of the methodology for the Civil Emergency Plan at central, qark/region and local level as well as for critical infrastructure, SEVESO and other institutions (according to the relevant obligations arising from the article 23, point 6, letter “dh” of Law 45/2019); 3. Drafting the Methodology/Guideline for Disaster Risk Assessment at Central, qark/region and Local level as well as critical infrastructure 4. Drawing up instructions for the functions of the Disaster Loss Database to help its users; 5. Drafting of instructions, regulations and manuals determined by the consultancy of the National Civil Emergency Plan
Financial frame/source:	500,000 EUR

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by UNDP RESEAL
Strategic project 6:	<i>Developing priority Standard Operational Procedures of the CP system (UNDP RESEAL)</i>
Description:	<p><i>Identifying the challenges of cooperation in response to emergencies inside and between emergency agencies in Albania and attempt to build capacity to handle them accordingly. The project will be based on the outputs of the National Civil Emergency Plan consultancy which includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>conducting a gap analysis of current procedures to develop whole-of-government communications and notification standard operating procedures (SOP) and exercise them at the national, regional, municipal, and incident levels;</i> - <i>Recommendations for the guidelines, regulations, manuals and new SOP to develop in the country;</i> <p>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity no. 3 "Development of standard operational procedures" of strategic Project no. 17: "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response" - Strategic project no. 1 of forest fires "Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey)"
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Based on the NCEP Consulting outputs, conducting a gap analysis of current procedures to develop whole-of-government communications and notification standard operating procedures (SOP) and exercise them at the national, regional, municipal, and incident levels;</i> 2. <i>Based on the results of NCEP Consultancy on SOP to be developed in Albania:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. <i>Priority identified SoPs developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and institutions</i> 2.2. <i>Support consultations on SoPs and their approval</i>

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Financial frame/source:	150,000 USD, UNDP, Reseal project
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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by UNDP RESEAL
Strategic project 7:	<i>Supporting collecting and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in the NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qark and municipality level (UNDP RESEAL)</i>
<p><i>Description: After the approval of DCM no. 345, dated 26.5.2022 "On determining the way of collecting and administering disaster losses" guidelines for disaster loss database functions in support of its users qre also expected to be adopted.</i></p> <p><i>The project will assist in fulfilling the legal obligation to create a disaster loss database that is an obligation for the NCPA, ministries and central institutions as well as the prefect institution and municipalities.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- Strategic project no. 5: Policies and legislation"</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 20 "Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management";</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment".</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 3 of earthquakes: "Data base of structural properties of buildings"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Study of all existing reports regarding the disaster loss data in Albania and identifying existing condition</i> <i>2. Implementation of disaster loss database</i> <i>3. Maintenance of database and legal improvements</i>
Financial frame/source:	100,000 USD, UNDP Reseal Project

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency, Ministry of Education and Sports (only for curriculas)
Contributing institutions	Local service structures of the FP&RS
Strategic project 8:	<i>Public education and awareness</i>
<p><i>Description: Creating and inclusion in curricula knowledge of civil protection, as well as human resources development through continuous training and education. Preparing a community awareness program and relevant work plan as well as its implementation</i></p>	

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Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carrying out a study on incorporating in educational plans and programs of civil protection knowledge, examination if the pre-university level provides knowledge on the protection and prevention of disasters by their profile 2. In accordance with the conclusions of the study developing of an action plan to fulfill the legal obligation. 3. Implementation of the action plan for the inclusion of knowledge of Civil Protection in educational plans and programs. 4. Develop a public awareness program on DRR and an action plan 5. Implementation of the public awareness action plan for DRR
Financial frame/source:	600 000 EUR EU/UN/National budget

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 9:	<i>Strengthening preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training programme</i>
<p><i>Description: According to article 26, point 6, letter "f", of Law 45/2019, the NCPA prepares the Training Program of Civil Protection Structures, at central and local level. The NCPA, through the National Civil Protection Training Center, conducts training of state structures, private and voluntary entities. On the other hand, municipalities should organize training activities in the field of civil protection for employees and residents in their territory. The project supports the NCPA on the development of training modules in order to start as soon as possible the implementation of the Personnel Training Program throughout the country's civil protection system</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 17 planned by the World Bank "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 19: "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in the Municipality;</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disaster loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 23: "Strengthening the preparedness capacity of operational forces through training, exercises and drills"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing of the Civil Protection Training Program based, inter alia, in the new National Civil Emergency Plan and specifically in the relevant NCEP consultancy recommendations. 2. Supporting inter-institutional consultations and approval of training program 3. Implementing of the Civil Protection Training Program
Financial frame/source:	1.000.000 EUR EU/UN/National budget

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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by JICA and other donors
Strategic project 10:	<i>Establishing and strengthening the wildfires early warning and notification system (JICA)</i>
<p><i>Description: The purpose of this project is to strengthen the integrated emergency management system in Albania with the developed capacity of government agencies for protection from forest fires and other natural disasters. JICA has developed such an early warning system in North Macedonia and this is seen as an approach for regional contribution</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 4 of Wildfires: "Study on the needs for setting up the signaling and surveillance system";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 11: "Alb-Adapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"";</i> - <i>Forest fires strategic project no. 1: "Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) and Turkey)"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023-2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Carrying out of a mission by Japanese experts for an assessment of the existing state of the early warning system. Identification of gaps, deficiencies and proposals for improvement</i> 2. <i>Signing of the Technical Agreement for the Technical Assistance of the Government of Japan</i> 3. <i>Project implementation</i>
Financial frame/source:	Approximate cost of the JICA Project 4,000,000 Euro

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by GIZ, donors and other institutions
Strategic project 11:	<i>Alb-Adapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"</i>
<p><i>Description: The project seeks to transform the entire value chain of climate services: from building a National Framework for Climate Services to building a multi-risk impact-based early warning system for early action and mobilization of financial resources for adaptation measures. To reduce the impacts of climate-induced hydrometeorological hazards, timely access to Climate Information & Early Warning Systems (CIEWS) and delivery of targeted measures and investments will be significantly improved through the project. As a result, vulnerable Albanian communities and decision-makers will be able to take early action, make informed climate finance decisions and be more resilient to the impacts of climate change, especially those related to the risks associated with water in coastal areas.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 4 of forest fires: "Study on the needs for setting up the signaling and monitoring system";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 10: "JICA - Establishing and strengthening the early warning and notification system for forest fires";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 21: "Rehabilitation of 16 stations of the hydrometeorological network provided within the framework of the World Bank project " Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptatio Project " (AL-DRMAP)" and that were not rehabilitated within the PRO NEWS Program.</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 3 of floods: "Flood risk assessment and early warning".</i> - <i>Strategic flood project no. 4 of floods: " Drought risk assessment".</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 1 of forest fires: "Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia) , Serbia and Turkey)"</i> 	
Time frame:	<i>2023-2027</i>
Key activities:	<i>Component 1 - Climate Information Services Component 2 - Impact-Based Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action Systems Component 3 Climate-informed decisions and investments</i>
Financial frame/source:	<i>Green Climate Fund (GCF) and GIZ The requested fund of GCF 35,450,000 euros Total project cost (GCF + co-financing) 49,950,000 euros</i>

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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	
Strategic Project 12:	Strengthening the Early Warning System
<p><i>Description: The aim of this project is to strengthen the early warning system in the country through modern advanced technologies such as drones and the purchase of a software that will help the early warning system type Katwarn, Nokia</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 2: "Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module " Team with unmanned aerial vehicles"";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 4 of forest fires "Study on the needs for setting up the signaling and surveillance system";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023-2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The purchase of 4 medium-level drones for the 4 Regional Civil Protection centers.</i> 2. <i>The necessary training for the use of drones</i> 3. <i>Identification of other deficiencies considering the following investments or Development of the Early Warning System Checklist</i> 4. <i>In the short term: purchase of software that will assist Nokia's Katwarn-type early warning system</i> 5. <i>Purchase of relevant Licenses for Software, Installation, Integration</i> 6. <i>Forecasting maintenance costs and calculating the corresponding costs for annual fees for companies purchasing licenses.</i>
Financial frame/source:	1,582.530 euro

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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by donors
Strategic Project 13:	<i>IPA CBC STRATEGIC Albania, Montenegro, Italy</i>
<i>Description: The five priority axes are: 1. Creative South Adriatic; 2. Resilient South Adriatic; 3. South Adriatic connected; 4. Smart South Adriatic; 5. Good governance of the South Adriatic. The main pillar in which the National Civil Protection Agency is included is pillar no. 2, resilient South Adriatic;</i>	
Time frame:	2023-2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the sustainability of water resources or the sustainability of territories affected by water disasters or both. 2. Capacity building for cross-border resilience, with small investments in infrastructure, for protection from wildfires and possible feasibility studies and any other assessment studies needed according to Albanian and EU legislation.
Financial frame/source:	2.000,000 EURO EU/UN/National budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Finance and Economy
Contributing institutions	It will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 14:	<i>Strengthen financial preparedness of the country through adopting a National Disaster Risk Financing Program</i>
<i>Description: The Program aims to increase the financial resilience of middle-income countries against natural disasters and support their capacity to meet post-disaster funding needs through the provision of neutral, independent advisory services. It aims to deepen the dialogue, to help countries achieve a green, resilient, and inclusive recovery. The Program has been supporting Albania from 2019.</i>	
Time frame:	2022-2026
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management of government disaster-related contingent liabilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Post-disaster spending transparency and provision of rapid liquidity 1.2. Increasing cost-efficiency of using public finance 1.3. Mobilize private sector capital for managing government liabilities 1.4. Streamline post-disaster financing process 1.5. Increase availability of funding for local governments 2. Access to financial services post-disaster by households, farmers and businesses and the poor <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Earthquake insurance for households 2.2. Access to finance (by farmers, MSMEs) 2.3. Adaptive social protection 2.4. Insurance market development

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	<p>2.5. Introduction of financial instruments that can strengthen financial and private sector resilience against disasters and climate change</p> <p>3. Management of financial and private sector's disaster-related risks and mobilization of finance for strengthening resilience (green and sustainable investments)</p> <p>3.1. Increasing resilience of financial and private sector against disasters</p>
Financial frame/source:	Financial frame/source: SECO Around 450.000 USD

Responsible institution:	Qark Prefect Institutions
Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency
Strategic project 15:	<i>Drafting of disaster risk assessment documents at qark level</i>
<p><i>Description: The institution of the Prefect of the qark has a number of obligations in the management of the risk and of the disasters themselves, which are determined in the law 45/2019. While the central level and that of the municipality have the financial resources available to fulfill these obligations, the Prefect institution does not have a budget for this purpose. It is necessary to draft disaster risk assessment documents at the qark level, which will be carried out in addition to the review of CE plans that will be carried out within the framework of strategic project nr.4 "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania". The drafting of risk assessment documents at the qark level will be based on the DRA document at the central level, on the pilot project in the municipality of Lezhë, but also on the experience of drafting documents in the six municipalities of the Fier region that is in the process of implementation. NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 5: "Policies and legislation":</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 of earthquakes: "Improving, updating and harmonizing the methodology for assessing the risk from earthquakes";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 forest fires: "Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 1 of infectious/biological diseases: "Development methodology for biological risk assessment"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Preparation of disaster risk assessment documents at qark level</i> 2. <i>Approval of risk assessment documents at the qark level by the Prefect Institution</i>
Financial frame/source:	2.640.000 EUR EU/UN/National budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency and line ministries

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Strategic project 16:	<i>Drafting and approval of the legal basis for critical infrastructure</i>
<i>Description: Law 45/2019 has chapter V "Protection of critical infrastructure and cultural heritage", dedicated to the protection of critical infrastructure and cultural heritage. It also has an article in this chapter dedicated to critical infrastructure with a cross-border effect. Law 45/2019 does not ensure full alignment with the EU Directive on CI, therefore the need to draft a legal basis for critical infrastructure has long been evident in practice, which will provide the missing legal basis with the aim, inter alia of obtaining of continuous measures to ensure the enhancing of its resilience. The CI legislation will simultaneously ensure full alignment of Albanian legislation with Council Directive 2008/114/EC, dated 8.12.2008, " On the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection"</i>	
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Developing and endorsement of the law "On critical infrastructure" ensuring thus full concordance with EU Council Directive 2008/114 of 8th December 2008, "On the identification and designation of European critical infrastructure and the assessment of the need to improve their protection"</i> 2. <i>Developing of all bylaws of the law "On critical infrastructure" paving the way for enhancing the resilience of critical infrastructure and the EU CI Directive implementation</i>
Financial frame/source:	

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency, General Directorate of FP&RS and local FP&RS structures
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 17:	<i>Strengthening emergency preparedness and response</i>
<p><i>Description: A recent assessment²⁴ highlights significant gaps in emergency preparedness and response systems, including information systems, early warning, shelters, response and rescue capacities, firefighting and incident management structures. The system is challenged by partially outdated equipment and the lack of an integrated, well-equipped and functional emergency operations center (EOC) and a national training center. The World Bank has identified the necessary emergency preparedness and response investments in three horizons: short-term (US\$10.6 million), medium-term (US\$54.8 million), and long-term (US\$33.0 million).</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 19: "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in the Municipality";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a</i> 	

²⁴ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/35716>

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<p><i>system for collecting and protecting of natural disaster loss; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment";</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 23: "Strengthening the preparedness capacity of the operational forces through training, exercises and drills";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 7 of "forest fires": "Strengthening the technical capacities of the Fire Protection and Rescue Service";</i> - <i>In particular, the synergy and complementarity of activity no. 3 "Development of standard operational procedures" with strategic project no. 6 "Development of priority Standard Operational Procedures of the CP system (UNDP RESEAL)" must be ensured.</i> 	
Time frame:	2024 – 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Procurement of emergency response equipment and ICT systems 2. Possible works for operational centers and training centers 3. Development of standard operational procedures 4. Trainings <p><i>The above activities are all from the strategic project no. 2 of the World Bank, "Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response"</i></p>
Financial frame/source:	\$10 million - \$30 million (likely higher)

Responsible institution:	The public institutions, central and local structures, or private subjects that own/administer the selected infrastructures. Construction Institute
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 18:	<i>Improving Resilience of Critical Infrastructure and Public Buildings</i>
<p><i>Description: Given the critical role of first responder stations (fire, police, etc.), hospitals, schools and other public buildings, their resilience should be assessed and if needed reinforced, so to not only increase safety, but also ensure continuity of services, particularly during crises. This would also provide the opportunity to upgrade infrastructure functionalities and make them more inclusive and energy efficient.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 16: "Drafting and approval of the legal basis for critical infrastructure";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 7 of "forest fires": "Strengthening the technical capacities of Fire Protection and Rescue (FP&RS)";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 3 of technological-industrial risks: "Creation of a database for the calculation, management and prevention of technical and technological risks, according to sectors"</i> 	
Time frame:	2024 – 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of first response stations (as well as other selected critical public infrastructure) for disaster resilience (physical and functional)

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Design of resilient stations/buildings</i> 3. <i>Construction/rehabilitation works</i>
Financial frame/source:	\$20 million - \$40 million (likely higher possible)

Responsible institution:	Selected municipalities
Contributing institutions	Prefect institutions, Ministry of Interior and National Civil Protection Agency. The project will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 19:	<i>Strengthening Municipal Disaster Risk Management</i>
<p><i>Description: Current legislation places significant responsibility for disaster risk management on municipalities, many of which are struggling to mobilize the resources and capacities needed to fulfill local needs. While much of the aforementioned investments in critical infrastructure resilience will be delivered at the municipal level, many municipalities do not utilize the formally committed budget for disaster risk management, and the system by which local authorities access and receive support from national institutions needs to be made more manageable, reliable and robust.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any type of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no.9: “Strengthening preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training programme”</i> - <i>Strategic project no.17: “Strengthening emergency preparedness and response”</i> - <i>Strategic project no.23: “Strengthening the preparedness capacities of operational forces through training, exercises and drills”</i> 	
Time frame:	2024 – 2027
Key activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Training</i> ● <i>Procurement of relevant ICT/GIS systems</i>
Financial frame/source:	\$1 million - \$3 million

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 20:	<i>Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management</i>
<p><i>Description: While disaster risk assessment and loss data collection have been performed in Albania for many years, the obligations under the new law formalize the requirements and responsibilities of the involved parties, and aim to ensure that the resulting information is pro-actively used to prioritize, plan and implement DRM. This activity aims to support Albania to achieve this, in-line with global good practice, and following recommendations developed during a recent World Bank</i></p>	

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<p><i>assessment</i>²⁵. NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with: Strategic project no. 7: "Supporting the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)";</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic project no. 5: "Policies and legislation"; - Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disaster loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment"; - Strategic project no. 3 of earthquakes: "Data base of structural properties of buildings" 	
Time frame:	2024 – 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Development of standard operating procedures</i> 2. <i>Procurement of relevant ICT/GIS systems</i> 3. <i>Training</i>
Financial frame/source:	\$1 million - \$3 million

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency and Institute of Geosciences
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense
Strategic project 21:	<i>Rehabilitation of 16 stations of the hydrometeorological network provided within the World Bank project " Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project " (AL-DRMAP) and which were not rehabilitated within the PRO NEWS Program.</i>
<p><i>Description: 40 hydrometeorological stations were purchased and installed in 2013 within the World Bank Project "Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project" (AL-DRMAP). NCPA is the owner of these stations which have been transferred for operation to the Institute of Geosciences through a joint operational agreement. Within the component "D" of the Program "Improvement of the National Early Warning System and Flood Prevention" / PRO NEWS, only 24 of the 40 planned stations were rehabilitated. The remaining 16 stations are also the most problematic and need to be rehabilitated as soon as possible. The project includes everything needed for full network functionality of the stations. NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with strategic project no. 11: ALBAdapt – "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania".</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023 – 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Inspection of 16 stations to ascertain their real condition and rehabilitation needs</i>

²⁵ <https://documents1.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099430106142216471>
<https://documents1.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099430006142239792>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Providing the necessary financial resources for the design and implementation of the rehabilitation investment</i> 3. <i>Drafting of the implementation project based on the situation evidenced by the inspections as well as on all the documentation and the experience of implementing the rehabilitation project of 24 stations through the PRO NEWS program</i> 4. <i>Project implementation, supervision, handover</i>
Financial frame/source:	535,928.56 euro

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Fire Protection & Rescue Service. The project will be supported by AICS
Strategic project 22:	<i>Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment.</i>
<p><i>Description: The project aims to fill some deficiencies identified in the Fire Protection and Rescue service. It consists in strengthening the capacities of the civil protection system such as through the creation of dog teams for S&R. It will be implemented in cooperation with the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development. NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 7: "Supporting the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 17: "Strengthening preparedness and response to emergencies";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 20: "Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 – 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness raising and establishing of voluntary organizations; 2. Strengthening technology for operational monitoring; 3. System for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; 4. Support for FP&RS operational structures in training and equipment.
Financial frame/source:	4,000,000 euro

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Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	FP&RS. The project will be supported by AICS
Strategic project 23:	<i>Strengthening the preparedness capacities of operational forces through training and exercises</i>
<p><i>Description: The project aims to increase the readiness of the civil protection system through NCPA staff training, equipment, strengthening the human capacity of the firefighting forces as well as other support in the field of DRR. It will be implemented with the support of AICS.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 17: "Strengthening preparedness and response to emergencies";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 19: "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in the Municipality"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 – 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Development of trainings for NCPA staff;</i> 2. <i>Provision of firefighting equipment;</i> 3. <i>Strengthening the human capacities of the firefighting forces;</i> 4. <i>Establishing the dog team for the FP&RS</i>
Financial frame/source:	1,000,000 euro

Responsible institution:	MTE
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by donors
Strategic project 24:	Provide technical assistance to MTE for Chapter 27 - Writing and negotiations; and provide technical assistance to MTE to identify planning needs and support the implementation of strategic planning documents. Phase II, SANE 27
<p><i>Description: The new phase called "Support of Albanian Environmental Negotiations, Chapter 27 (Sane27)- Phase 2" is implemented by Brooks Hannas & Partners, funded by AIDS and essentially has the same implementing unit that was included for the first phase . The new program began on September 1, 2021, has a two-month start period and a period of implementation twenty-six months.</i></p> <p><i>Sane27 is considered a horizontal program that includes all issues related to Chapter 27 EU Talks and its purpose is: (i) to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MTE) for Chapter 27 -Writing and negotiations; and (ii) provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment to identify planning needs and support the implementation of strategic planning documents.</i></p> <p><i>The main beneficiary of the program will be the Ministry of Tourism and the Environment with a special focus on the Department of Integration, Coordination, Agreement and Assistance. However, all institutions and persons related to the integration processes related to Chapter 27 will benefit from the program. The</i></p>	

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<p><i>program will continue to have close working relationships with all stakeholders and also try to create sustainability and knowledge transfer. The program will mobilize a combination of international and national experts that will support project staff and beneficiaries in achieving results. The project will operate based on the 6-month work plans to be reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee that includes representatives from MTE and SIDA. Planning meeting will be held before each working plan agrees</i></p>	
Time frame:	1/09/2021 – 21/12/2023
Key activities:	<p>Based on the above the program is structured around two results:</p> <p>Result No.1 - Ministry and other institutions of Chapter 27 have strengthened the ability to review and negotiations of Chapter 27. According to this result, the program will support MTE to coordinate the EU negotiation process, especially to prepare answers to official EU review questions, prepare presentations for EC bilateral meetings, prepare negotiating positions and propose actions to close the identified gaps. It will also support MTE in creating a good process management system to follow the progress of EU negotiations. When required, MTE will support with the small legal drafting deriving from the NPEI and to meet the obligations from the conclusions of the EC subcomites. The Sane27 team will be an advisory service for MTE when needed.</p> <p>Result No.2 - Strategic Planning Needs of Chapter 27, important strategic planning documents for EU negotiations have been prepared and support for their implementation.</p> <p>According to this result, the program will support MTE in identifying the planning documents needed for EU negotiations, proposing actions to prepare such documents and follow their implementation. It will also support MTE in the programming of EU IPA funds and other donor funds with the preparation of action documents, ToR, project proposals and other procurement documents.</p> <p>It will provide support in increasing donor coordination for the environmental sector in Albania and creating good mechanisms for planning investment in the environmental sector.</p>
Financial frame/source:	Cost 2,200,000 euro

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 25:	<i>Research, development and implementation of a National Incident Management System (NIMS)</i>
<p><i>Description: Incident Management is a globally recognised, systematic process for emergency management agencies and first responders to manage operational emergencies, crises or disasters. A standardised IMS facilitates all agencies working together with common procedures, terminology and processes. An Albanian Incident Management System (AIMS) is an essential multi-agency, multi-tier concept used for the effective and efficient coordination and resolution of emergency incidents, regardless of scale or complexity. An NCPA-led IMS fits all-hazards and risks resulting in optimum interoperability on the incident ground and in Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs).</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should harmonize any kind of synergy and complementarity between this project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- Strategic project no. 1: " Further fulfillment of Albania's obligations as a member country of the EU CPM);"</i> <i>- Strategic project no. 4: : "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";"</i> 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic project no. 6: Developing priority Standard Operational Procedures of the CP system (UNDP RESEAL); - Strategic project no. 7 of forest fires: "Strengthening the technical capacities of the Fire Protection and Rescue Service"; - Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program"; - Strategic project no. 17: "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response"; - Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment"; - Strategic project no. 23: "Strengthening the readiness capacity of operational forces through training, exercises and drills" 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research phase incorporating a gap and needs analysis of systems, procedures, stakeholders and resources; 2. Design and development of a National Incident Management System framework and Standard Operating Procedures; 3. Design and fit-out of national and regional Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs); 4. Multi-tier national and regional IMS training and development programme for stakeholder agencies; 5. Implementation of Incident Management software platform linked to new or existing ICT platforms.
Financial frame/source:	€ 3,250,000.00 EU/UN/National Budget

2. Earthquakes

Table 6 Earthquake Related Projects

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy and Institute of Geosciences
Contributing institutions	Polytechnic University
Strategic project 1:	<i>Improving and restructuring of the Albanian Seismological Network</i>
<p><i>Description: This project will include technological improvements and densification of the current seismological network, both strong-motion and weak-motion networks, which will increase the capacity of the Department of Seismology of the Institute of Geosciences to monitor earthquakes, characterize the seismic impact in different land conditions and assess seismic risk on a national level. In addition, renovation of seismic stations and the National Seismic Activity Monitoring Center will be conducted as well.</i></p>	

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Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities: (max 4)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvement of the current monitoring technology of the Albanian Seismological Network; 2. Densifying of earthquake monitoring network stations, and those of strong-motions, for the characterization of the seismic impact in different terrain conditions; 3. Improvement of technology and systematization of the current network at the National Seismic Monitoring Center; 4. Renovation of the current seismological stations.
Financial frame/source:	2,200,000 EUR from the state budget and/or donors

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Construction Institute, IGEO, AGS
Contributing institutions	Polytechnic University and National Civil Protection Agency
Strategic project 2:	<i>Improving, updating and harmonizing the earthquake risk assessment methodology</i>
<p><i>Description: The project will contribute to the strategic goal of earthquake risk reduction by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Providing a monitoring system as modern and capillary as possible for the collection and administration of data that will serve as a basis for their scientific treatment and the drawing of conclusions and strategic considerations at the local and national level.</i> • <i>Bearing in mind that at the European level the compilation of data for the earthquake risk map is done, recent seismic events have influenced Albania to update and correct the conclusions so far regarding the seismic exposure of Albania.</i> • <i>The more accurate the collected data and recorded events are, the more efficient the interventions for the prevention or reduction of earthquake risks will be. Naturally, this requires the harmonization of the strategic development plans of all stakeholders, the harmonization of the legislative frameworks of the institutions responsible for the response, the improvement of the existing situation of preventive measures or mechanisms, and ultimately sustainable development at the local or national level.</i> <p><i>The expected benefits of this project are related to the standardization of risk data collection and processing practices, the standardization of the earthquake risk monitoring system in all municipalities, the practices of building safety certification, etc. The ultimate output of this project is a unified methodology for earthquake risk assessment, harmonized with EU practices or standard international procedures.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 5 "Policies and legislation";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 15: " Drafting of Disaster Risk assessment documents at qark level";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 of forest fires: "Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 1 infectious/biological: "Development methodology for biological risk assessment";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities:	1. An extensive study on modern risk assessments which includes an overview of the situation in the country and an implementation

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	<p>strategy.</p> <p>2. Trainings with experts in the field on <i>European Seismic Risk Model</i> for risk assessment at national and regional level.</p> <p>3. Analysis and assessment of the regulatory framework for adaptation and frameworks of the institutions responsible for prevention, preparedness and response, which include the results of the risk assessment in order to better manage the risk from earthquakes and the sustainable development of the territory.</p>
Financial frame/source:	400,000 EUR from the state budget and EU funds

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Construction Institute, municipalities, prefectures,
Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency and Ministry of Interior
Strategic project 3:	<i>Database of structural properties of buildings</i>
<p><i>Description: Albania is classified as a country with moderate seismicity (characterized by small and medium intensity earthquakes). Oscillations are subject to a certain periodicity. The massive displacement of the population in urban areas by building without respecting safety criteria, as well as in high-risk areas, remains present and constitutes one of the segments most at risk from natural disasters. Likewise, illegal constructions, problems with property issues, the economic situation, especially in rural areas, are assessed as problematic in respect to construction criteria as well as the ability to recover from the consequences of earthquakes.</i></p> <p><i>This project defines the necessary basis for all activities related to the risk of earthquakes from the construction point of view, and consists of a qualitative database of the stock of buildings, assessed as vulnerable to earthquake risks. For example, for earthquake risk it is essential to determine the exposure parameter that is generally related to the collection of attributes in the structural properties of buildings, for rescue and evacuation it is essential to know which building to enter or what the hazards are and how to approach it (penetration, support). Reliable data on post-earthquake damage to buildings is essential to determine typical and similar reinforcements.</i></p> <p><i>The top priorities of the project are as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>updating and correcting the database for the stock of informal buildings built without taking into account natural risks (earthquakes, landslides, floods) as well as other (non-residential) buildings assessed as at risk from earthquakes;</i> - <i>reassessment/periodic assessment of the seismic safety of public facilities with strategic importance, such as dams, schools, dormitories, hospitals, objects of historical-cultural heritage, etc., so that the safety of these facilities is guaranteed for longer periods (in the hundreds years);</i> - <i>reassessment of the safety of (large) dams over 20 years old, the safety of which may have been compromised by the 2019 earthquake; this may also include a reassessment of the stock of abandoned and unrehabilitated, vulnerable mines from seismic activities;</i> - <i>updating of seismic maps, approval of seismic zoning maps, review of technical design codes in accordance with EU standards.</i> <p><i>The expected result of the project is the creation of a quality database that includes the attributes required for all activities, where it is essential that people with knowledge and experience in this field work on the basis (data correction is problematic). Also, the database should be linked to risks and other needs of various services at the local and state level. Database creation is a very broad activity that includes specific activities related to construction aspects, but also the</i></p>	

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interconnection / harmonization with other databases (eg cadastral data included in the Common Information System of Land Registration and Cadastre and various GIS bases, statistics...). The database will enable systematic addressing of the risk as well as a better planning of institutional and financial capacities as well as the minimization of intervention costs.

NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:

- *Strategic project no. 7 "Supporting the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)";*
- *Strategic project no. 20: "Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management";*
- *Strategic project no. 4 of earthquakes " New building codes according to Eurocode and national annexes prepared (UNDP RESEAL)"*

Time frame:	2023 - 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A data collection system has been created which includes analysis of existing databases (cadastre, data from the legalization process, archives), adjustment of attributes on design properties, database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.). 2. Recommendations have been prepared for the renovation of seismic maps, technical design codes in accordance with EU standards 3. Conduction of seminars and trainings (minimum 3 per year) which include and connect experts available within the system (minimum 100 experts throughout the country). 4. Collection of available attributes for building construction properties in the main cities of the country where the risk of earthquakes is high.
Financial frame/source:	7.875.000 EUR state budget, EU funds, other donors

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Construction Institute, and Institute of Geosciences
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by UNDP RESEAL
Strategic project 4:	<i>New building codes according to Eurocode & national annexes prepared (UNDP RESEAL)</i>
<p><i>Description: This output relates to the technical assistance that will be given to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MoIE) for updating the building codes (20-year-old) according to Eurocode as well as the related national annexes. The PDNA 2020 report highlights the urgent need to update Albanian building codes, including formalizing integration of the Eurocode, and that reconstruction be based on the Build Back- Better principle (BBB), with up-to-date standards and as per new building codes.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with strategic project no. 3 Earthquakes: "Database of structural properties of buildings";</i></p>	

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Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparation of national annexes, with focus on Package 2.1 (reinforced concrete building). 2. Update National Guidelines for Eurocode implementation in Albania. 3. Preparation of 4 sets of Designer Guides. 4. Support regional-based trainings of engineers in collaboration with the MIE, NCPA and Prefectures.
Financial frame/source:	850,000 USD UNDP RESEAL

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Culture, National Institute of Cultural Heritage
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by donors
Strategic project 5:	<i>Reinforcement and restoration intervention in the cultural heritage facilities "Kalaja Kruja"</i>
<i>Description: The project includes restoration of the Krujë Castle as well as reinforcement of the rocky slope on which the Castle is located. The project was designed following the earthquake of November 26, 2019, based on the Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Culture and the Urbatrans Society (2020) in order to carry out the geological survey and write the complete project. The project has been approved by the National Council of Material Cultural Heritage (NCMCH).</i>	
Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kruje Castle restoration 2. Stabilization of the slope of the northeastern part of Kruja Castle
Financial frame/source:	6,600,000 EUR - EU/National Budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Culture, National Institute of Cultural Heritage
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by UNOPS
Strategic project 6:	<i>Measures for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage sites</i>
<i>Description: The project envisages conservation, restoration and rehabilitation according to the Build Back Better principle of the:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ethnographic Museum of Kavaja, a 1st category cultural monument,</i> - <i>Puppet Theater, Tirana, a 1st category cultural monument,</i> - <i>Building of the Institution of Politically Persecuted, Tirana, a 2nd category cultural monument,</i> - <i>Former Building of the Archbishop of Durrës, Delbnisht, Lezhë, a 2nd category cultural monument,</i> 	

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<p><i>after being damaged by the earthquake of November 26, 2019. The design phase financed by the EU has been completed and currently the project is in the phase of the realization, implemented by UNOPS in partnership with the Ministry of Culture within the EU4Culture program. The project has been approved by the National Council of Material Cultural Heritage (NCMCH).</i></p>	
Time frame:	2022 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Architectural and structural design. 2. Restoration, structural reinforcement and improvement of installations. 3. Drafting of the management and business plan.
Financial frame/source:	4,038,300 EUR - EU/National Budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Culture, National Institute of Cultural Heritage
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 7:	<p><i>Capacity building for seismic risk mitigation in cultural heritage sites through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of masters in the field of restoration and transmission of knowledge on materials and traditional techniques in construction; - Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies; - Improvement of technical design standards in the field of restoration.

Description:

The training of masters in the field of restoration and the transmission of knowledge on traditional materials and techniques in construction: *It envisages the continuation of the program Ability for the employment of tomorrow (APN), with the main goal of preserving traditional skills and techniques, the qualification of persons who exercise their activity in the field of preservation of cultural heritage, increasing the quality of works (according to contemporary standards of restoration and conservation) as well as increasing employment opportunities for experienced masters, as well as for new apprentices who will qualify in this field. The project aims to preserve and transmit knowledge on traditional materials and techniques in construction, which will also help mitigate the effects that earthquake risk can have on cultural assets. The project includes the development of modules (6-months within each year) where approximately 40 participants/year are expected to participate. This program was initially implemented in the period 2016-2019, by the foundation Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB) Albania in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, the Institute of Cultural Monuments, MFE, Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage Berat, Gjirokastër and Korçë as well as the Regional Public Vocational Directorates in Gjirokastër, Korçë and Berat. The curriculum for this program drawn in cooperation with NICH and with technical support from local and foreign experts has been approved as part of professional training within the Regional Public Vocational Directorates.*

Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies: *The guide (case study Historical Centers Berat and Gjirokastër, world heritage) aims to preserve and protect material cultural heritage through study, recognition and promotion and awareness of specialists and the community on the use of traditional construction techniques. It will also serve for the orientation of all those interested in the preservation, sustainable development and rehabilitation of these historical centers in order to mitigate the risks of disasters. It will be addressed not only to residents, but also to owners or users of buildings, as well as administrators, institutions, construction companies, specialists and construction masters. This guide will describe historical aspects, existing problems and give practical*

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<p><i>recommendations on how to carry out maintenance and restoration works as well as repairs and reconstructions in these historic centers.</i></p> <p>Improvement of technical design norms in the field of restoration: <i>It aims to improve design standards in the restoration of cultural assets. The improvement of technical norms will aim to include technical norms of security against seismic risk and fire as well as energy efficiency.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2024 - 2026
Key activities:	<p>1 Training of masters in the field of restoration and transmission of knowledge on materials and traditional techniques in construction.</p> <p>1.1. Development of Theoretical Sessions for strengthening knowledge on cultural heritage (part of the 6-month module).</p> <p>1.2. Practical sessions where the practical knowledge will be strengthened in the application according to the specifications of the materials "stone" "woodwork", "plaster" (part of the 6-month module).</p> <p>2. Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies</p> <p>2.1. Division of international (2 experts) and national (3 experts) expertise.</p> <p>2.2. Field workshop involving architecture professionals and students.</p> <p>2.3. Publications.</p> <p>3. Improvement of technical design norms in the field of restoration.</p> <p>3.1. International (2 experts) and national (2 experts) expertise</p> <p>3.2. Work with technical groups of specialized institutions.</p>
Financial frame/source:	<p>The training of masters in the field of restoration and the transmission of knowledge on traditional materials and techniques in construction: 450.000 EUR</p> <p>Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies: 100.000 EUR</p> <p>Improvement of technical design norms in the field of restoration: 200.000 EUR</p> <p>750,000 EUR - EU/ National Budget</p>
Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency, Ministry of Defense
Contributing institutions	General Directorate of FP&RS
Strategic project 8:	<i>Strengthening the response capacity of operational Forces against earthquakes through the creation of a Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) module</i>
<p><i>Description: Establishing a national and international HUSAR module according to international standards to join EERC capacities. The implementation of this module requires national procedures required for the approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <p><i>Strategic project no. 2: "Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module " Team with unmanned aerial vehicles ";</i></p>	

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<p><i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> <i>Strategic project no. 5 of forest fires: "Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to forest fires through the EU's "Ground Forest Fire Fighting" module;</i> <i>Strategic project no. 8 of floods: "Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to floods by complementing the existing FRB and FC flood modules of the EU";</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023-2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study on establishing of a new HUSAR module. 2. Performing all the necessary national procedures required for approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO. 3. Performing necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO such as communication with International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). 4. Performance, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, of training activities as well as final training in the presence of European Commission authorities. 5. Performing the module certification process as well as its registration in the voluntary capacity of the European Emergency Response Capacity/EERC capacity. 6. Budget planning and making all the necessary payments for module as well as other annual payments of its functioning and operationality.
Financial frame/source:	<p>Costs include: training; Vaccination: Depreciation of equipment; Maintenance and storage of equipment, consumables and vehicles; Licenses: exercises; placement costs etc. Approximately the costs of the deployment taking the maximum which can be by land or air can be: 540,620 euros; Maintenance costs: 140,689 euros Development or creation of the module: 602,787 euros 1,284,096 EUR EU/UN/state budget</p>
Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Construction Institute, Polytechnic University of Tirana, National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Faculty of Civil Engineering, Construction Institute and donors
Strategic project:9:	Drafting of Technical Regulations and Documents for Structural Evaluation and Recovery of Construction Works
<p><i>Description The earthquake of 26.11.2019 highlighted a set of gaps and needs to increase the resilience of existing buildings and in particular public and critical infrastructure. In addition to them the earthquake highlighted an urgent need for non-structural measures consisting of improving the legal basis but also in developing training to increase engineer capacity</i></p>	

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Time frame:	2023-2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updating of legal framework related to evaluating and rehabilitation of existing facilities 2. Drafting use guidelines for evaluating and rehabilitating existing works. 3. Preparation and dissemination of training materials in interest groups
Financial frame/source:	2,500,000 EURO EU/UN/State budget

3. Floods, surges and dam failures

Table 7 Floods, surges and dam failures related projects

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Contributing institutions	Municipalities
Strategic project 1:	<i>Increasing the safety of river flood protection, through the rehabilitation / reconstruction of existing embankments and the construction of new structures</i>
<p><i>Description: Through this strategic project, referring to the increasing frequency of floods in our country and the effects on the expectation of climate change, the aim is to assess the security situation of existing flood protection works and to set a higher safety standard for existing works and those new ones that need to be built, according to the provisions of the European Union Directive on the assessment and management of flood risks (EU Directive 2007/60 / EC ; Floods Directive - FD). While the minimization of floods with a higher safety standard will be realized through the rehabilitation / reconstruction of existing embankments and the construction of new structures of flood protection and erosion protection of river banks. NCPA and MARD to ensure the complementarity and synergy with Strategic Project No. 9 of floods: “Enhancing Flood Risk Management”;</i></p>	
Time frame:	2019-2031
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting feasibility studies to improve flood protection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Currently, the feasibility study of the Mat River and the Drin and Bune Rivers has been carried out. 1.2. The feasibility study for the rivers Ishëm, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosë is in progress, which is expected to be completed in 2023. 2. Carrying out implementation projects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. The full implementation project for the Mat River is currently underway 3. Budget programming for structural interventions in flood protection works 4. Rehabilitation / Reconstruction and construction of flood protection embankments and erosion protection structures 5. Increasing the operational, maintenance and monitoring capacities of the safety of embankments in the respective structures of MARD and Municipalities

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Financial frame/source:	276.8 million USD with state budget source with domestic and foreign investments
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Responsible institution:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Contributing institutions	Respective municipalities and Institutions of the Qark Prefect.
Strategic project 2:	<i>Increasing the safety of irrigation reservoir dams, through rehabilitation / reconstruction of existing dams</i>
<p><i>Description: Through this strategic project, referring to the current context, where it turns out that 626 dams are in difficult technical condition, as about 65% of them have various technical problems (mainly in the body of the dam, catastrophic discharge, discharge, etc.) and rehabilitation interventions in continuity in a considerable part are an immediate necessity, the aim is to increase the safety of dams according to Albanian and international standards for the protection of residential areas at the bottom of the dams and the guarantee of water resources for irrigation, as drought in itself is a risk for agriculture and agricultural production security. The project includes analyzing the condition of each dam, determining its use for the following period, prioritizing interventions according to the degree of risk and performing relevant structural interventions in the body of the dams. The project also has an important component of building the technical capacity of municipalities to monitor the safety of dams.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2019-2031
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting the feasibility study of 626 dams 2.1. Currently through the World Bank project the pre-feasibility study for 195 dams has been carried out and meanwhile in the context of WBIF and EU grant funds, the pre-feasibility is expected to be carried out for another 431 dams by the end of 2024 2. Conducting a feasibility study 2.1. With the completion of the feasibility based on the multicriteria analysis, the dams that will pass in the feasibility study will be prioritized. 3. Carrying out implementation projects for the priority group of dams 4 Budget programming for structural interventions in dams 5. Rehabilitation / Reconstruction of existing dams according to the defined priority 6. Establishment / Consolidation and training of Dam Safety Groups for each municipality. 7. Coordination of activities on dam safety between MARD-Municipalities-National Committee of Large Dams
Financial frame/source:	171 million USD with state budget source with domestic and foreign investments

Responsible institution:	Institute of Geosciences
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 3:	<i>Flood risk assessment and early warning</i>

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<p><i>Description: Through those projects is intended the evaluation of flood risk and their early warning according to European Directive 2007/60/EC of European Parliament and the Council, dated 23.10.2007 "On flood risk assessment and management" and the Law 45/2019. Through this project it is intended to realize models which predict and make possible the early warning of floods in the Vjosa River.</i></p> <p>NCPA and IGEO ensure complementarity and synergy with Strategic project no. 11: "Alb-Adapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"</p>	
Time frame:	2022-2031
Key activities:	<p>1. <i>Hydrological Analysis AND hydraulic</i></p> <p>1.1. <i>monitoring of inflows , precipitation , temperatures , evaporation in the territory of Albania .</i></p> <p>1.2. <i>analysis hydrological flow of rivers . _</i></p> <p>1.3. <i>analysis hydraulics of the spread of aggregates in rivers .</i></p> <p>2. <i>Forecasting of weather with a space time 10 days</i></p> <p>2.1. <i>Membership in the Organization European Centre for Medium Weather Forecast ECMWF _ _</i></p> <p>3. <i>Forecasting of Flooding in the River Vjosa</i></p> <p>3.1. <i>building of a model hydrological for flood forecasting .</i></p>
Financial frame/source:	1.2 million euros

Responsible institution:	Institute of Geosciences and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 4:	<i>Drought risk assessment</i>
<p><i>Description: Drought are an increasing phenomenon, which is directly related to the integrated management of water resources, according to Law 111/2012,. Through this project, it is intended to build a water balance model which will perform an analysis for the optimization of the use of water resources.</i></p> <p>NCPA and IGEO ensure complementarity and synergy with Strategic project no. 11: "Alb-Adapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"</p>	
Time frame:	2022-2031
Key activities:	<p>1. <i>Building a model for the analysis of the water balance in the Seman River</i></p> <p>1.1. <i>This project aims to build a model that will make a detailed analysis of the water capacity and utilization in the basin. It will also be possible to manage the amount of water to avoid or minimize droughts.</i></p> <p>2. <i>Analysis of sediment transport in the Seman River</i></p> <p>2.1. <i>This project aims to assess the sediments transported by the Seman River. The construction of a model which analyzes them depending on rainfall, type of terrain, land use, etc.</i></p>
Financial frame/source:	500 000 euros

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Responsible institution:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Water Resources Management Agency
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 5:	<i>Mitigation, reduction of possible negative consequences of floods</i>
<p><i>Description: Through this strategic project, referring to the history and increasing frequency of floods in our country and the effects on the expectation of climate change, it is intended mitigation, reduction of possible negative consequences of floods.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA, MARD and WRMA must ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <p><i>- Strategic project no. 2 of forest fires: "Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) and Turkey)"</i></p>	
Time frame:	2021-2024
Key activities:	<p><i>Drafting of Flood Risk Management Plans for water basins: Vjosa, Seman, Shkumbin, Ishm and Erzeni;</i></p> <p><i>Currently:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- The final draft of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Shkodra region (Drini Basin) has been completed. Expected to be approved at the end of 2022;</i> <i>- Preliminary Assessment reports and flood hazard maps for the basins have been developed for Ishem, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosë,</i> <i>- Damage maps and the document of the Flood Risk Management Plans for these water basins are in process. Expected to be completed in 2023.</i>
Financial frame/source:	2,000,000 EUR state budget with domestic and foreign investments

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Water Resources Management Agency
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by UNDP
Strategic project 6:	<i>Integrated transboundary flood risk management in the Drin River Basin</i>
<p><i>Description: Through this strategic project, referring to the history and increasing frequency of floods in our country and the effects on the expectation of climate change, aims to manage knowledge on risk risks; building an institutional cross-border framework and flood risk management policies; drafting measures to adapt to climate change for the benefit of the community.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2019 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Review of data collection procedures and their quality;</i> <i>2. Assessment of monitoring network requirements for strategic flood risk management;</i>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Assessment of institutional capacities for monitoring the hydrometric network;</i> 4. <i>Operational plan for reporting procedures;</i> 5. <i>Assessment of the capacities of the respective institutions for the development of a long-term plan for the development of capacities and training needs.</i> 6. <i>Compile a list of options to identify the most economically advantageous for the basin.</i>
Financial frame/source:	642,430 USD Foreign Investment (UNDP)

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Culture and National Institute of Cultural Heritage
Contributing institutions	The project will be supported by the Turkish Government
Strategic project 7:	<i>Increasing the safety of cultural heritage objects against the risk of floods - "Restoration and construction of a flood protection system of the Lead Mosque (Mehmet Pashë Bushatlliu) in Shkodër"</i>
<p><i>Description: The project envisages the realization of works for the restoration of the Shkodër Lead Mosque as well as the construction of a flood protection system. The interventions envisage the construction of a continuous pile wall. The design of the project as well as the realization of the works will be financed by the Republic of Turkey, the General Directorate of Endowments, based on the Cooperation Protocol signed between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Turkey in 2020. The drafting of the project process financed by TIKA has been completed and the project has been approved by the National Council of Material Cultural Heritage and the National Territorial Council.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023 - 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Restoration of the Lead Mosque</i> 2. <i>Construction of the piling system for flood protection</i>
Financial frame/source:	4,000,000 EUR - Government of Turkey / National Budget

Responsible institution:	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior and State Police
Strategic project 8:	<i>Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to floods by completing the existing the EU, FRB and FC floods modules</i>
<p><i>Description: Strengthening of capacities will be accomplished by completing two out of the three existing EU flood modules. The study of this project will be over</i></p>	

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<p><i>1/3 of the national and international modules of the FRB and FC established through the IPA Floods program, as well as their completion into full modules that will join the EERC.</i></p> <p>NCPA should ensure complementarity and synergy with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic project no. 2: "Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module " Team with unmanned aerial vehicles"; - Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania"; - Strategic project no. 8 of earthquakes: "Strengthening the response capacities of the Operational Forces to earthquakes through the creation of a Heavy Urban Rescue Search (HUSAR)" module; - Forest fires strategic project no. 5 Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to forest fires through the EU's "Ground Forest Fire Fighting" module 	
Time frame:	2023 - 2026
Key activities: (max 4)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Performing a study on the current situation of 1/3 national and international modules established through the IPA Floods program as follows:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. <i>"Flood Rescue with Boats/FRB)</i> 1.2. <i>Flood Containment /FC)</i> 2. <i>Performing all the necessary national procedures required for approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO</i> 3. <i>Performing the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO</i> 4. <i>Conduct, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, of the final training and training activities in the presence of European Commission authorities</i> 5. <i>Conducting the process of certification of full FRB and FC modules as well as their registration in EERC</i> 6. <i>Budget planning and making all the necessary payments for raising modules as other annual payments of its operation and operationality</i>
Financial frame/source:	<p>FRB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development: 983,200 EURO - Maintenance: 554,550 - Deployment: 203,000 EURO <p>TOTAL = 1,740,750 EURO</p> <p>FC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development: 116,356 EURO - Maintenance: 554,550 EURO - Deployment: 203,000 EURO <p>Total = 873,906 euros</p>

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	Total cost FRB and FC = 2, 614, 656 euro
Responsible institution:	WRMA and MARD
Contributing institutions	NCPA. The project will be supported by the World Bank
Strategic project 9:	<i>Enhancing Flood Risk Management</i>
<i>Description: Several development partners are supporting Albania to develop flood risk management plans for its seven major river basins. In alignment with the EU Flood Directive, the resultant plans (expected by 2024) should include investment plans that focus on flood prevention, protection and preparedness. With a view to giving rivers more space, they should consider where possible the maintenance and/or restoration of floodplains, as well as measures to prevent and reduce damage to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. It is expected that the identified investment needs will be on the order of hundreds of millions of US\$.</i>	
Time frame:	2024 – 2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feasibility studies and design of structural and non-structural flood protection, with a priority on nature-based solutions 2. Construction/rehabilitation works 3. Planning of maintenance and procurement of necessary equipment 4. Training
Financial frame/source:	\$20 million - \$40 million (higher possible)

4. Landslides, snowfall and avalanches

Table 8 Landslides, snowfall and avalanches related projects

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Culture –National Institute of Cultural Heritage
Contributing institutions	Alabanian Geological Survey, Albanian Development Fund. The project will be supported by the WB
Strategic project 1:	<i>Reinforcement measures in cultural heritage objects - Site Management, Interpretation Plan, Design and Supervision of works in Kanina Castle, Borshi Castle and Spile Cave, Himare. Structural intervention for the reinforcement of the rocky slopes of Borshi Castle and Kanina Castle.</i>

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<i>Description: Project "Site Management, Interpretation Plan, Design and Supervision of Works in Kanina Castle, Borshi Castle and Spile Cave, Himarë. Structural intervention for the reinforcement of the rocky slopes of Borsh Castle and Kanina Castle" is part of the Project for Integrated Urban and Tourist Development financed by the World Bank and implemented by the ADF. Currently, the terms of reference for the project have been drawn up by the ADF.</i>	
Time frame:	2023 – 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design / supervision of works 2. Restoration works and interpretation of Kanina Castle, Borsh Castle, Spile Cave 3. Reinforcement of the rocky slope of the Kanina fortress 4. Reinforcement of the rocky slope of Borshi fortress
Financial frame/source:	\$ 2,800,000 - World Bank National budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy and Albanian Geological Service
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 2:	<i>Identification of landslides throughout the country, based on standardized criteria and their reflection on a single map, as well as the creation of a national inventory for landslides, which contains all their data. Monitoring of the most potent landslides and the most dangerous for the community</i>

<p><i>Description: The territory of the Republic of Albania, being a relatively new land, has a varied configuration and as such is exposed to geodynamic phenomena. These phenomena can endanger residential centers, special engineering objects or even various ubiquitous engineering works. These occurrences or phenomena can be natural caused by various geological factors, but can also be caused by the practical activity of man. In both cases, they constitute a geological hazard for the existence and normal and effective use of the natural geological environment and, consequently, for the full and rational complex use of all engineering facilities built in various fields of the country's economy. Among the natural phenomena with great danger are landslides (which are very widespread in Albania), with dire consequences for human lives. The Albanian Geological Service, in relation to negative geodynamic phenomena, owns a powerful data base by conducting a large number of studies with final products:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The geological-engineering map of Albania on a scale of 1: 200,000</i> • <i>Map of the geological hazard of Albania on a scale of 1: 200,000</i> • <i>The landslide susceptibility map of Albania on a scale of 1: 200,000</i> • <i>Land suitability map at scale 1: 100,000</i> • <i>Geological hazard maps on a scale of 1: 100,000</i> • <i>Geological-engineering maps on a scale of 1: 100,000</i> • <i>Land suitability map at scale 1: 50 000</i> • <i>Geological hazard maps on a scale of 1: 50,000</i> • <i>Geological-engineering maps on a scale of 1: 50,000</i> 	
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- Geological hazard maps on a scale of 1: 25,000
- Geological-engineering maps on a scale of 1: 25,000

Despite what we said above, there is still work to be done in this direction, both in the perfection of the products released so far and in further advancement, for the determination and identification of geodynamic phenomena, their registration and the monitoring of the most dangerous for the community. This would prevent serious consequences, especially in human life.

So in other words, the project would contribute to the strategic goal of reducing the risk of landslides through their identification, data collection, and finally taking measures to prevent and mitigate the risk of natural disasters from this phenomenon.

The outcome of the project would be the development and harmonization of data acquisition and simultaneously the landslide risk assessment methodology at all baseline levels for future cyclical risk assessment activities. Landslide risk assessments are the basis for harmonizing the strategic urban development plans of all territorial units responsible for the response and improvement of the existing situation as well as the sustainable development of the area.

NCPA in coordination with MIE and AGS must ensure the complementarity and synergy of the project with:

- Strategic project no. 5: "Policies and legislation";
- Strategic project no. 7: "Supporting the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)";
- Strategic project no. 20: "Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management";
- Strategic project no. 22: "Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disaster loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment"

Time frame:	2022 – on going
Key activities: (max 4)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The necessary basis for the identification and modern assessment of risk from negative geodynamic phenomena has been prepared, which includes an overview of the situation in the country and serves for the future strategy of perfecting both the current performance and the continuity.</i> 2. <i>Preparation of proposals for changes in legislation and preparation of regulations, which include the implementation of these studies in urban planning throughout the territory of the Republic.</i>
Financial frame/source:	100, 000 EUR EU / UN / National budget

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Albanian Geological Service
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 3:	<i>Geological-engineering zoning on a scale of 1: 10,000, for urban planning in the most populated areas of the country, as well as in areas primed for tourist developments.</i>

Description: In recent decades, we have witnessed an increase in damages in general to various engineering works (including private and public buildings, cultural monuments, bridges, dams, road networks, railways, electrical networks, etc.), as a result of physical processes and phenomena. - negative geological. This has

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<p><i>caused the level of geological risk to increase, both due to the increase in endangered elements (engineering objects or infrastructure works) and because of society's tolerance for damages (engineering objects and mainly human lives). In these conditions, among other things, there is a need to carry out geological-engineering studies at different scales, for urban planning in the most populated areas of the country, as well as in areas primed for touristic developments". This would allow them to identify the problem areas in the entire territory, especially in the most populated areas of the country as well as in the areas prone to tourism development, and on the basis of these studies, the local government structures that administer the territory, plan urban development areas in the most populated centers as well as in those prone to tourist developments.</i></p> <p><i>So the result of this project would be the determination of geological risk areas and the orientation of urban developments in sustainable areas, both to the carrying capacity of the land and to geological risk.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2022 – on going
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The necessary basis of the studies previously carried out by AGS, which would serve as a basis for the realization of these geologic-engineering regionalizations, is ready. It remains to organize and collect data in the field through surveys at the relevant scales to compile the relevant regionalization maps at the planned scale.</i> 2. <i>Drafting proposals for legislative changes and pre-preparation of regulations, which include the implementation of these studies in the urban planning of the entire territory of the Republic.</i>
Financial frame/source:	150 000 EUR EU / UN / National budget

5. Forest fires

Table 9 Forest fires related projects

Hazard	Floods and Wildfires
Responsible institution	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	The structures of the FP&RS at the central and local level
Strategic project: 1	Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection of FP&RS in the context of strengthening the capacity of the homologue services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey)
<p><i>Description: The EU-funded 3-year IPA "Floods and Wildfires" program aims to improve flood and wildfire risk management capacities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. . The program is structured in two components, respectively for floods and wildfires.</i></p>	

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By promoting regional cooperation and the exchange of good practices, IPA "floods and wildfires" cooperates with local civil protection authorities and other relevant local agencies and institutions to improve the legal and institutional framework related to the EU Flood Directive, and Institutional coordination between all actors involved in the implementation of the EUFD and to improve prevention, preparedness and the ability to respond to forest fires at central, regional and EU level.

The NCPA should ensure the complementarity and synergy of the project with:

- Strategic project no. 6: "Development of Priority Operational Standard Procedures of the CP system (UNDP RESEAL)";
- Forest fire strategic project no. 5: "Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to forest fires through the EU's module "Ground Forest Fire Fighting".
- Strategic project no. 10: " Establishing and strengthening the early warning and notification system for forest fires (JICA) "
- Strategic project no. 11: "ALBAdapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"
- Flood strategic flood project no. 6: "Integrated transboundary **flood** risk management in the Drin river basin"

Time frame:	2023-2026
Key activities:	<p>Component 1: Floods</p> <p>Drafting a Guideline for Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) in accordance with the measures listed in the Guidelines for the implementation of the EU Flood Directive.</p> <p>Assessing existing capacities for FRMPs and river basin management plans (RBMP).</p> <p>1.1 Capacity building for Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) based on EU Member States' good practices and European Union Flood Directive (EUFD).</p> <p>1.2 Capacity building for developing common transboundary FRMPs.</p> <p>1.3 Development of procedures and agreements for newly incorporating of Early Warning systems (EWs) in local/central Emergency Response Plans (ERP).</p> <p>1.4 Harmonization of FRMP with RBMP.</p> <p>1.5 Drafting specific procedures for FRMP development and RBMP harmonization.</p> <p>Component 2: Wildfires</p> <p>2.1 Providing technical support for the development of Forest Fire Risk Assessments (FFRA) and Forest Fire Risk Management capabilities.</p> <p>2.2 Establishment, equipment, training of Civil Protection Modules of Ground Forest Fire Fighting (GFFF) in accordance with the Commission Decision on EU Civil Protection Modules.</p> <p>2.3 Establishing Border Crossing (BC) and Host Nation Support (HNS) protocols in line with EU Guidelines on HNS.</p> <p>2.4 Organizing regional table-top exercises and a field exercise for GFFF modules.</p>
Financial frame/source:	1,000,000 EUR

Responsible institution	Ministry of Tourism and Environment and Institute of Geosciences
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Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency and General Directorate of FP&RS
Strategic project:2	Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory
<p><i>Description: Given the strategic goal of wildfire risk reduction, and its dependence on accurate data, it is necessary to update the current data on the state of the territory, its vulnerability to wildfires, to update the hazard map and create a risk map, but also to do scientific research in relation to the more modern and efficient methods of wildfire risk assessments to be included into local and national strategic documents.</i></p> <p><i>The final outputs of the project are improved wildfire risk assessment methodology developed at all levels (the keystone for future cyclical risk assessment activities and the development of customized scenarios for individual events) and accordingly harmonized frameworks of legislative institutions responsible for the risk management, wildfire prevention, preparedness and response as well as overall strategic development plans of all stakeholders.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should ensure project complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 5 "policies and legislation";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 15: "Drafting of disaster risk assessment documents at the qark level";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 of earthquakes: "Improving, updating and harmonizing the methodology for assessing the risk from earthquakes";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 1 infectious/biological: "Development methodology for biological risk assessment";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023-2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An extensive study on modern risk assessments which includes an overview of the situation in Albania and an implementation strategy for updates of Albania's risk maps that will include wildfires. 2. Knowledge transfer workshops with international (minimum 5) and national (minimum 50) experts on European model of wildfire risk management at national and/or local level; 3. Drafting proposals for changes in legislation which include the implementation of risk assessment results at all levels with the aim of quality wildfire risk management.
Financial frame/source:	400,000 EUR from the state budget and EU funds

Responsible institution	Municipalities, National Agency of Protected Areas, and Ministry of Tourism and Environment (co-responsible only for the methodology of fire management plans)
Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency and General Directorate of FP&RS
Strategic project: 3	Development of methodology for fire management plans at the local level
<p><i>Description: In this project annual and medium-term management plans for the prevention and control of forest fires will be drafted in collaboration with local</i></p>	

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<p><i>governments with special emphasis on methodology design of these plans.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should ensure project complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Forest fire strategic project no. 1: "Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) and Turkey");</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 5: "Policies and legislation"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023-2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of an inter-institutional working group for the preparation of the methodology. 2. Study of the supporting legal basis and exploration of the needs for change. 3. Preparation of the methodology and preliminary drafts followed by the discussion with stakeholders. 4. Adjustment and approval of the methodology.
Financial frame/source:	12,000 EUR from the state budget

Responsible institution	Ministry of Tourism and Environment, National Agency of Protected Areas, and municipalities
Contributing institutions	National Civil Protection Agency and General Directorate of FP&RS
Strategic project: 4	Study on the needs for setting up the signaling and surveillance system
<p><i>Description: In this project, national level needs, that include personnel capacities as well, will be determined and the respective costs for the establishment and operation of the surveillance signaling system will be calculated. The project will result in a legal act concerning the setup and functioning of the surveillance signaling system and the establishment of relevant structures on regional and national level.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA should ensure project complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 10: "Establishing and strengthening the early warning and notification system for forest fires (JICA)";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 11. ALBAdapt – "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 12: "Early Warning"</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 – 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study of high wildfire risk forest areas in Albania. 2. Study of the human capacity needs regarding surveillance signaling system at national level. 3. Study of the costs and financial resources necessary for the establishment and operation of the monitoring signaling service.

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Financial frame/source:	18,000 EUR from the state budget
Responsible institution	National Civil Protection Agency and General Directorate of FP&RS
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense
Strategic project: 5	Strengthening the response capacity of the operational forces to wildfires through the EU's "Ground Forest Fire Fighting" module
<p><i>Description: Strengthening the response capacities of the operational forces to wildfires will be carried out through the Ground Forest Fire Fighting (GFFF) part of which will be established through the IPA Flood and Fires Program, in order to complete it into a full module and joining the European Emergency Response Capacity. The study, training activities, and final exercise with the presence of the European Commission (EC) and DG ECHO will be carried out for completing this partial module.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 2: "Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through the creation of a new EU module "Team with unmanned aerial vehicles";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania ";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 8 of earthquakes: "Strengthening the response capacities of the Operational Forces to earthquakes through the creation of a Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) module";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 8 of floods: "Strengthening the flood response capacities of operational forces by complementing the existing FRB and FC modules of the EU";</i> 	
Time frame:	2024-2027
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting a study on the current situation of the national and international Ground Forest Fire Fighting (GFFF) established through the IPA FF program for floods and forest fires. 2. Implementation of necessary national procedures required for the approval and commencement of communication with EC and DG ECHO. 3. Implementation of necessary communication and coordination activities with the EC and DG ECHO. 4. Conduction of the final training, in cooperation with the EC and DG ECHO, in the presence of EC authorities. 5. Implementation of the process of certification of the full GFFF module as well as its registration in the EERC. 6. Budget planning and making all the payments necessary for establishing the module as other annual payments of its

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	functionality and operability.
Financial frame/source:	GFFF: Development 1,530,420 euro Maintenance: 117,880 euro Displacement: 123,000 euro Total cost: 1,771,300 EUR EU/UN/state budget
Responsible institution	National Civil Protection Agency
Contributing institutions	Ministry of Defense
Strategic project: 6	Strengthening operational capacities for aerial firefighting
<p><i>Description: Strengthening aerial operational capacities is about the creation of the Albanian forest firefighting fleet by buying/renting aircrafts/helicopters, for which the NCPA should have appropriate financial resources.</i></p> <p><i>Beside the extra air vehicle, within the cost of the project is not foreseen the cost of two aircrafts for extinguishing the fire from the air type Air Tractor with a capacity of 3000 liters, suitable for water supply even in small tanks which will be provided through the assistance of AICS..</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania"</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023-2026
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduction of study on the needs to expand and strengthen Albanian aerial firefighting capacity secured by two aircrafts credited by the Republic of Italy (Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development) while considering whether another aircraft / helicopter is needed. 2. Purchasing of an additional aircraft with the capacity of 3000 liters, suitable for water supply even in small tanks and/or helicopters based on the study conclusions. 3. Planning of the NCPA annual budget having also in mind the funds needed to rent national / international land or air firefighting vehicles. 4. Budget planning of financial resources for the functionality and operability of the firefighting fleet.
Financial frame/source:	3,000,000 EUR (cost of an <i>Air Tractor</i> aircraft) according to AICS

Responsible institution	National Civil Protection Agency and General Directorate of FP&RS
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project:7	Strengthening the technical capacities of the Fire Fighting and Rescue Service
<p><i>Description: Among the many needs that the FP&R Service has had over the years are the fire station buildings, some of which, due to depreciation, need reconstruction, as well as the need for the construction of new firefighting stations. The project first aims to carry out an assessment of the locations of the existing FP&R stations in the municipality as well as their condition from a functional and security point of view. Based on the evaluation conclusions, some of the implementation projects will be carried out to continue with the construction/reconstruction of some of the most priority stations. The project will also include the creation of the new National Operational Center of the FP&RS.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA to ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania"; - Strategic project no. 17 "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response"; - Strategic project no. 18: "Improving the resilient capabilities of critical infrastructure and public buildings"; 	
Time frame:	2023-2026
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation of the locations, functionality and security of the existing FP&RS stations in the municipality. 2. Based on the conclusions of the evaluation, the drafting of implementation projects for the construction/reconstruction of several priority stations; 3. Construction and reconstruction of the designed stations; 4. Creation of the new National Operational Center of the FP&RS.
Financial frame/source:	2,200,000 EUR EU/UN/state budget

6. Technological accidents

Table 10 Technological accidents related projects

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Responsible institution:	Institute of Geosciences, Polytechnic University of Tirana, Institute of Public Health, Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 1:	<i>Setting up a laboratory for measuring Radon</i>
<p><i>Description: Radon Indoor radon, mainly in basements and first floors, increases the risk of lung cancer.. Radon concentration is influenced by several factors: geological, physical and meteorological and also requires monitoring in different seasonal periods. It is also a warning signal in case of an earthquake. In Albania, sporadic measurements have been made with the help of several projects, and the Natural Radiation Map has also been compiled available from the Geological Survey, but this does not eliminate the need for further, more detailed monitoring, especially in those areas that are at risk and have a high number of inhabitants such as Tirana, Durres, etc. The laboratory for measuring radon initially will focus on public facilities such as nurseries, kindergartens, schools, faculties, etc. The laboratory will help on informing and raising awareness of the population, especially in those areas that pose a risk in order to be able to take protective measures. With this laboratory, the foundations will be laid for a work that can continue with the installation of real mine monitoring devices in objects or areas that pose a risk. It would also be possible to create a database with continuous data carried out at regular intervals. The laboratory would contribute to the strategic goal of reducing the risk from radon in terms of obtaining representative data by consulting and collaborating with institutions such as IPH and IANP and also contributing to the scientific research field for the recognition of situation and taking more efficient and less costly protective measures.</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023 - 2025
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A consultation was carried out with experts in the field regarding the necessary equipment for short-term and long-term measurements in soil, water and air in order to establish a laboratory with professional standards that enable the measurement of radon concentration, mainly in areas that pose a risk from geological and structural point of view with a special attention to public facilities or to populated areas. 2. For this purpose, sensors should be placed in nurseries, kindergartens and schools, or other public structures, mainly in ground floors, basements, garages. <p>In accordance with EU legal frameworks, draft proposals for legislative changes regarding the control of public and private housing, especially ground floors, garages in those areas that pose a risk.</p>
Financial frame/source:	160,000 EUR National Budget and EU funds

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Institute of Geosciences, National Nuclear Agency, Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics and Ministry of Defense
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 2:	<i>Expanding the radioactivity monitoring network</i>
<p><i>Description: The project will contribute to the strategic goal of reducing the risk from radioactivity in general and different radiations ionization through strengthening,</i></p>	

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improvement and expansion of the monitoring network or the radiological emergency network. The methodologies for evaluating the radioactive risk at the global level are defined and implemented in Albania as well. Currently, the data for the country is unregulated, so it is necessary to transfer the recorded data in real time and to harmonize it with the International Radiation Monitoring Information System (IRMIS) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Within this Project, which is part of EU funded project, in addition to the 7 stations administered by IANP - TPU (ALB-9-009 - Enhancing National Capacity for Radiation Monitoring and Emergencies Warning), it is planned to add 4 more stations to the existing radioactivity monitoring network environment, to expand the monitoring network. The Ministry of Defense will be the beneficiary and administrator of the 4 additional stations.

Time frame:	2023 – 2024
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A network has been created for data collection in 7 stations, that determine the power of the ambient dose in the air, in order to continuous. 2. Radioactivity monitoring network connected to the system Radiological Emergencies will be improved and strengthened with 4 new stations. 3. All four monitoring network stations will deposit to data in a single IT system (server) located in IANP – TPU. 4. Analysis of databases and modeling of its basis data (applications, server, cloud, etc.) will be realized by IANP -TPU.
Financial frame/source:	National Budget and EU funds

Responsible institution:	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy and Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Contributing institutions	Other line ministries.
Strategic project 3:	<i>Establishment of a data base for accounting, management and prevention of technical and technological risks, according to sectors</i>
<p><i>Description: The expected result of the project is the creation of a quality database oriented according to sectors potentially exposed to technical and technological risks. The data recorded in this database will serve as a basis for the orientation of national policies and strategies for the avoidance or prevention of risks as a whole, as well as for the minimization of costs in the long term. The database will be easily accessible by all stakeholders, both at the central and local level. In a medium-term plan, the project will help improve financial and human planning capacities as well as a systematic addressing of risk, with the aim of moving from passive policies to proactive and preventive ones.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA together with MIE, MTE and other line ministries ensure complementarity and synergy with Strategic project no. 18: "Improving the resilient capabilities of critical infrastructure and public buildings";</i></p>	
Time frame:	2023 – 2030
Key activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collection and processing of data on the presence of technical and technological risks in hydrocarbon products processing plants, crude oil processing refineries, gas pipelines and oil pipelines; 2. Data collection and processing for the presence of technical and technological risks in mining sector facilities, hydrocarbon

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	<p><i>products processing plants, database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.);</i></p> <p>3. <i>Collection and processing of data on the presence of technical and technological risks in the system of dams and reservoirs;</i></p> <p>4. <i>Database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.).</i></p>
Financial frame/source:	300,000 EUR National Budget, EU funds, other donors

7. Infectious diseases

Table 11 Infectious Diseases related projects

Responsible institution:	National Food Authority
Contributing institutions	
Strategic project 1:	<i>Developing methodology for biological risk assessment</i>
<p><i>Description: The project will contribute to the strategic goal of reducing the biological risk in terms of obtaining data from nine institutions to enable the design of the biological risk assessment methodology. Addressing the appropriate measures to manage the risk of infectious diseases in the service of protecting the lives of consumers. Its realization will be achieved through the improvement of the infrastructure of laboratories and their equipment with relevant tools and equipment in the cities of Fier, Shkodër, Gjirokastër, Korçë and Vlorë.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA together with NFA ensure complementarity and synergy with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 5 "policies and legislation";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 15: "Drafting of Disaster Risk assessment documents at qark level";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 2 of earthquakes: "Improving, updating and harmonizing the methodology for earthquake risk assessment";</i> - <i>Forest fires strategic project no. 2: "Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory";</i> 	
Time frame:	2023 – 2025
Key activities:	<p>1. Improvement of the infrastructure of the laboratories.</p> <p>2. Equipment and machinery for laboratories</p>
Financial frame/source:	2.372.500 EUR EU / UN / National budget

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Responsible institution:	Institute of Public Health
Contributing institution	Health Care Services Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, National Food Authority etc.
Strategic project 2:	<i>Implementation of the biosafety and biosecurity regime through an effective national laboratory network</i>
<p><i>Description: The International Health Regulations IHR (2005) asks for ensuring safety and security in all laboratories testing infectious agents or other hazards that may cause public health emergencies of national and international concern. Laboratories are a critical part of surveillance, preparedness and response and participate within the detection and investigation with analysis of samples performed at country level or at international referall collaborating centers or reference laboratories. The establishment of an effective one Health national laboratory with public and private partnership with well established National biosafety and biosecurity standardize regime is a necessity to improve the country's health security</i></p>	
Time frame:	01/01/2023 – 15/11/2023
Key activities:	<p>Objective 1: Assess the level of preparation and implementation of guidelines and/or regulations for national health laboratory biosafety and biosecurity in health, veterinary, food safety and environmental laboratories at national, intermediate and local levels.</p> <p>Objective 2: Address gaps in biosafety and biosecurity guidelines and/or regulations and review them at national, intermediate and local levels.</p> <p>Objective 3: Establish a system for oversight of the implementation of one health biosecurity and biosecurity regime and its continuously testing</p>
Financial frame/source:	100.000.000 EUR EU / UN / National budget

Responsible institution:	Institute of Public Health and Ministry of Health and Social Protection
Contributing institution	Health Care Services Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, National Food Authority etc.
Strategic project 3:	<i>Establish a Public Health Emergency Operation Center at Institute of Public Health</i>
<p><i>Description: A Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) serves as a hub for public health emergency preparedness and response and integrates traditional public health services into an emergency management model for coordinating information and resources to support management activities. of incidents. The Public Health Emergency Operation Center is part of a comprehensive program of public health emergency preparedness, planning and capacity building. Such a program includes, but is not limited to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Prevention and mitigation of risks</i> <i>2. Increase preparedness by planning for and stockpiling response resources;</i> <i>3. Building related institutional and technical capacities and capabilities (eg laboratories, community clinics and epidemiologists and rapid response teams)</i> <i>4. Implementation of public health surveillance programs</i> 	

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<p>5. <i>Implementation of environmental health programs</i></p> <p>6. <i>Engagement of communities</i></p> <p>7. <i>Staff training and validating plans.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA in coordination with IPH and MHSP should ensure complementarity and synergy of the project with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strategic project no. 5: "Policies and legislation";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 4: "Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania";</i> - <i>Strategic project no. 17 "Strengthening emergency preparedness and response "</i> 	
Time frame:	19/01/2022 – 15/12/2024
Key activities:	<p>A functional PHEOC is critical to the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005).</p> <p>Step 1: Creation of regulations, national standards and operational procedures for PHEOC;</p> <p>Step 2. Provision of infrastructure and appropriate equipment for PHEOC; securing equipment and systems;</p> <p>Step 3: Creation of the surveillance system of public health emergencies and their alert;</p> <p>Upgrade of the infectious disease surveillance system (including the biosecurity model of biological risks)</p> <p>Step 4: Build national human capacity for a functional PHEOC by training and exercising.</p> <p>Step 5: Creating national capacities for analytical risk assessment, forecasting and risk reduction.</p>
Financial frame/source:	700,000 USD EURO EU / UN / National budget

Responsible institution:	<i>Institute of Public Health and Ministry of Health and Social Protection</i>
Contributing institution	<i>National Quality Center for Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions, Health Care Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, NFA etc.National Environment Authority.</i>
Strategic project 4:	Creation of curriculum and certification for national biosafety and biosecurity training
<p><i>Description: There is currently a short training course on biosafety and biosecurity while the IHR is looking for a national program for training in biosafety and biosecurity. The training aims to increase the capacities and skills to ensure a uniform health security for all laboratories involved in the detection of infectious agents and other risks. Training will include public health, clinical laboratory, veterinary, food safety and environmental staff.</i></p> <p><i>NCPA in coordination with IPH and MHSP should ensure complementarity and synergy of the project with Strategic project no. 9: "Strengthening of preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program"</i></p>	
Time frame:	10/11/2022 – 10/11/2024
Key activities: (max 4)	<p>Step 1: Preparation of one health curricula on biosafety and biosecurity</p> <p>Step 2: Establish a basic and a continuous cascade training program of one health curricula on biosafety and biosecurity.</p>

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	Step 3: Empower the current one health laboratory workforce by offering the cascade continuous training.
Financial frame/source:	200,000 USD EURO EU / UN / National budget

8. Action Plan Summary²⁶

Table 12 Action Plan Summary

1. Risk management from multi-hazard disasters

No	Specific Objective	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Further fulfillment of Albania's obligations as a member country of Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU CPM)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying technical and institutional requirements for access to TESTA 2. Support the roadmap preparation for the establishment of TESTA system 3. Development of training materials and educational plans and programs in line with EU guidelines. 4. Support the establishment of the TESTA system 5. Support to strengthening of cooperation protocols and single point of contact approach in dealing with EU CPM 6. Deliver trainings on EU CPM legislation, implementing rules and overall procedures 7. Technical recommendations related to establishment of communication links with the EU Emergency Response Coordination Center (ERCC) 8. Enable links and connectivity with EU monitoring tools and early warning systems (EFAS, EFFIS, Copernicus) 9. Providing timely planning of required financial resources for paying annual fees for TESTA as well as EU CPM membership 	NCPA	Ministry of Defence, , line ministries and UNDP RESEAL	2023	2027	219.438.400	119.260.000

²⁶ In contrast to the costs of the strategic projects in sections 1-7, the costs of the strategic projects of the action plan have been converted into lek. The exchange rate of 1 euro = 117.25 ALL and 1 USD = 119.26 ALL are the averages for October 2022 given by the Bank of Albania

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2	Strengthening the response capacities of the NCPA and operational forces through establishing of a new EU module "Team with unmanned aerial vehicles".	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study on establishing of a "Team with unmanned air vehicles". 2. Carrying out all the necessary national procedures required for approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO. 3. Carrying out the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO 4. Carrying out, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, of training and/or exercise activities in the presence of European Commission authorities 5. Carrying out the module certification process as well as its registration in the EERC 6. Budget planning and carrying out all the necessary payments for the module as well as other annual payments for its functionality and operationality 	NCPA	MoD	2023	2025	3.670.881.76 0	3.670.881. 760
3	Full implementation throughout the territory of Albania of the unified Civil Emergency number 112.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drafting and approval of DCM "On the Establishment and Functioning of the Unified Emergency Call System 112" 2. Development of a study on the state of implementation of 112 in Albania, based on the factual situation as well as the 2011 feasibility study and project design 3. If it is necessary, based on the conclusions of the study, the design of a new project for implementing 112 number 4. Implementation of the Unified Civil Emergency number 112 based on the conclusions of the study conducted and the new project/ feasibility study and implementation project, carried out in December 2011, within the World Bank project "Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project" (AL-DRMAP). 5. Budget planning and carrying out all the payments necessary for the implementation of the unified civil emergency number 112 as well as other annual payments of its function and operationality 	NCPA, MoD,	MoI, other line ministries	2023	2026	3.517.500.00 0	3.517.500. 000
4	Support for the establishment of a Civil Protection system in Albania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following all necessary procedures for the approval of the Credit Agreement 2. Construction and equipment of the new NCPA building; 3. Ensuring the supply of tools, vehicles and equipment for the NCPA and the FP&R Service; 4. Increasing the professional training of the FP&R staff; 	NCPA	AICS, GD of FP&RS, 12 FP&R directorate in municipalities-qark centers	2022	2025	3.517.500.00 0	
5	Policies and legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the results of the NCPA document consultancy, developing of the continuity of operations planning (COOP) and the continuity of the Government (COG) in ministries and other security and defense institutions; 2. Development of the methodology for the Civil Emergency Plan at central, qark/region and local level as well as for critical infrastructure, SEVESO and other institutions (according to the relevant obligations arising from the article 23, point 6, letter "dh" of Law 45/2019); 3. Drafting the Methodology/Guideline for Disaster Risk Assessment at Central, qark/region and Local level as well as critical infrastructure 4. Drawing up instructions for the functions of the Disaster Loss Database to help its users; 5. Drafting of instructions, regulations and manuals determined by the consultancy of the National Civil Emergency Plan 	NCPA	MoD and line ministries	2023	2025	58.625.000	58.625.00 0

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6	Development of Priority Operational Standard Procedures of the CP system (UNDP RESEAL)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the results of the NCEP Consultation, conduct a gap analysis of current procedures to develop whole-of-government communication and notification standard operating procedures (SOPs) and their exercise at national, county, municipal, and incident levels; 2. Based on the results of the NCEP Consultancy for the SOP that will be developed in Albania: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Priority identified SOPs developed in consultation with stakeholders and relevant institutions 2.2. Consultation support for SOPs and their approval 	NCPA	UNDP RESEAL	2023	2024	17.889.000	
7	Support the collection and exchange of disaster loss data through DesInventar in NCPA, ministries and central institutions, qarks, and municipalities (UNDP RESEAL)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study of all existing reports regarding the disaster loss data in Albania and identifying existing condition 2. Implementation of disaster loss database 3. Maintenance of database and legal improvements 	NCPA	UNDP RESEAL	2023	2024	11.926.000	
8	Education and public awareness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carrying out a study on incorporating in educational plans and programs of civil protection knowledge, examination if the pre-university level provides knowledge on the protection and prevention of disasters, in accordance with their profile 2. In accordance with the conclusions of the study developing of an action plan to fulfill the legal obligation. 3. Implementation of the action plan for the inclusion in educational plans and programs of knowledge of Civil Protection. 4. Develop a public awareness program on DRR and an action plan 5. Implementation of the public awareness action plan for DRR 	NCPA, MoES	FP&RS local structures	2023	2025	70.350.000	70.350.000
9	Strengthening preparedness capacities through the Civil Protection training program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing of the Civil Protection Training Program based, inter alia, in the new National Civil Emergency Plan and specifically in the relevant NCEP consultancy recommendations. 2. Supporting inter-institutional consultations and approval of training program 3. Implementing of the Civil Protection Training Program 	NCPA		2023	2027	117.250.000	117.250.000
10	Establishing and strengthening the early warning and notification system for forest fires (JICA)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carrying out of a mission by Japanese experts for an assessment of the existing state of the early warning system. Identification of gaps, deficiencies and proposals for improvement 2. Signing of the Technical Agreement for the Technical Assistance of the Government of Japan 3. Project implementation 	NCPA	JICA and donors	2023	2025	469.000.000	
11	Alb-Adapt - "Climate Services for a Resilient Albania"	<p>Component 1 - Climate Information Services</p> <p>Component 2 - Impact-Based Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action Systems</p> <p>Component 3 Climate-informed decisions and investments</p>	MoTE	GIZ, donors and other institutions	2023	2027	5.856.637.500	

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12	Strengthening the Early Warning System	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The purchase of 4 medium-level drones for the 4 Regional Civil Protection centers. 2. The necessary training for the use of drones 3. Identification of other deficiencies considering the following investments or Development of the Early Warning System Checklist 4. In the short term: purchase of software that will assist Nokia's Katwarn-type early warning system 5. Purchase of relevant Licenses for Software, Installation, Integration 6. Forecasting maintenance costs and calculating the corresponding costs for annual fees for companies purchasing licenses. 	NCPA		2023	2027	185.551.643	185.551.643
13	IPA Strategic CBC Albania, Montenegro, Italy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the sustainability of water resources or the sustainability of territories affected by water disasters or both. 2. Capacity building for cross-border resilience, with small investments in infrastructure, for protection from wildfires and possible feasibility studies and any other assessment studies needed according to Albanian and EU legislation. 3. Increasing the sustainability of water resources or the sustainability of territories affected by water disasters or both. 	NCPA	Donors	2023	2025	234.500.000	
14	Strengthening the country's financial preparedness through the adoption of a National Disaster Risk Financing Program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management of government disaster-related contingent liabilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Post-disaster spending transparency and provision of rapid liquidity 1.2. Increasing cost-efficiency of using public finance 1.3. Mobilize private sector capital for managing government liabilities 1.4. Streamline post-disaster financing process 1.5. Increase availability of funding for local governments 2. Access to financial services post-disaster by households, farmers and businesses and the poor <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Earthquake insurance for households 2.2. Access to finance (by farmers, MSMoES) 2.3. Adaptive social protection 2.4. Insurance market development 2.5. Introduction of financial instruments that can strengthen financial and private sector resilience against disasters and climate change 3. Management of financial and private sector's disaster-related risks and mobilization of finance for strengthening resilience (green and sustainable investments) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Increasing resilience of financial and private sector against disasters 	MoFE	WB	2022	2026	53.667.000	
15	Drafting of disaster risk assessment documents at qark level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparation of disaster risk assessment documents at qark level 2. Approval of risk assessment documents at the qark level by the Prefect Institution 	Qark Prefect Institutions	NCPA	2023	2025	314.846.400	314.846.400
16	Drafting and approval of the legal basis for critical infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing and endorsement of the law "On critical infrastructure" ensuring thus full concordance with EU Council Directive 2008/114 of 8th December 2008, "On the identification and designation of European critical infrastructure and the assessment of the need to improve their protection" 2. Developing of all bylaws of the law "On critical infrastructure" paving the way for enhancing the resilience of critical infrastructure and the EU CI Directive implementation 	MoIE	NCPA and line ministries	2023	2024		

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17	Strengthening emergency preparedness and response	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Procurement of emergency response equipment and ICT systems 2. Possible works for operational centers and training centers 3. Development of standard operational procedures 4. Trainings 	NCPA, the structure of the FP&RS at the local and central level	WB	2024	2027	3.577.800.000	3.577.800.000
18	Improving Resilience of Critical Infrastructure and Public Buildings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of first response stations (as well as other selected critical public infrastructure) for disaster resilience (physical and functional) 2. Design of resilient stations/buildings 3. Construction/rehabilitation works 	The public institutions, national and local structures or private subjects that own/administer the selected infrastructures. Construction Institute	WB	2024	2027	4.770.400.000	4.770.400.000
19	Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in the Municipality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trainings 2. Procurement of relevant ICT/GIS systems 	Selected municipalities	Relevant institutions of the Qark Prefect, Mol and NCPA, WB.	2024	2027	357.780.000	357.780.000
20	Improving Disaster Loss Data and Risk Information Management.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of standard operational procedures 2. Procurement of relevant ICT/GIS systems 3. Trainings 	NCPA	WB	2024	2027	357.780.000	357.780.000
21	Rehabilitation of 16 stations of the hydrometeorological network provided within the World Bank project "Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Project" (AL-DRMAP) and which were not rehabilitated within the PRO NEWS Program.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspection of 16 stations to ascertain their real condition and rehabilitation needs 2. Providing the necessary financial resources for the design and implementation of the rehabilitation investment 3. Drafting of the implementation project based on the situation evidenced by the inspections as well as on all the documentation and the experience of implementing the rehabilitation project of 24 stations through the PRO NEWS program 4. Project implementation, supervision, handover 	NCPA dhe IGEO	MoD	2023	2024	62.837.675	62.837.675
22	Strengthening the capacities of the FP&R Service; strengthening volunteerism; strengthening the monitoring capacities of NCPA, a system for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; support for the operational structures of the FP&RS in training and equipment.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness raising and establishing of voluntary organizations; 2. Strengthening technology for operational monitoring; 3. System for collecting and protecting natural disasters loss data; 4. Support for FP&RS operational structures in training and equipment. 	NCPA	FP&RS and AICS	2023	2024	469.000.000	469.000.000
23	Strengthening the preparedness capacities of operational forces through training, exercises and drills	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of trainings for NCPA staff; 2. Provision of firefighting equipment; 3. Strengthening the human capacities of the firefighting forces; 4. Establishing the dog team for the FP&RS 	NCPA	FP&RS and AICS	2023	2024	117.250.000	117.250.000

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24	Provide technical assistance to MoTE for Chapter 27 - Writing and negotiations; and provide technical assistance to MoTE to identify planning needs and support the implementation of strategic planning documents. Phase II, SANE 27	<p>Result No.1 - Ministry and other institutions of Chapter 27 have strengthened the ability to review and negotiations of Chapter 27. According to this result, the program will support MoTE to coordinate the EU negotiation process, especially to prepare answers to official EU review questions, prepare presentations for EC bilateral meetings, prepare negotiating positions and propose actions to close the identified gaps. It will also support MoTE in creating a good process management system to follow the progress of EU negotiations. When required, MoTE will support with the small legal drafting deriving from the NPEI and to meet the obligations from the conclusions of the EC subcommittees. The Sane27 team will be an advisory service for MoTE when needed.</p> <p>Result No.2 - Strategic Planning Needs of Chapter 27, important strategic planning documents for EU negotiations have been prepared and support for their implementation. According to this result, the program will support MoTE in identifying the planning documents needed for EU negotiations, proposing actions to prepare such documents and follow their implementation. It will also support MoTE in the programming of EU IPA funds and other donor funds with the preparation of action documents, ToR, project proposals and other procurement documents.</p> <p>It will provide support in increasing donor coordination for the environmental sector in Albania and creating good mechanisms for planning investment in the environmental sector.</p>	MoTE	Donors	1/9/20 21	21/12/ 2023	257.950.000	
25	Research, development and implementation of a National Incident Management System (NIMS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research phase incorporating a gap and needs analysis of systems, procedures, stakeholders and resources; 2. Design and development of a National Incident Management System framework and Standard Operating Procedures; 3. Design and fit-out of national and regional Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs); 4. Multi-tier national and regional IMS training and development programme for stakeholder agencies; 5. Implementation of Incident Management software platform linked to new or existing ICT platforms. 	National Civil Protection Agency		2023	2024	381.062.500	381.062.500
	Total: Risk management from multi-hazard disasters						28.667.422.878	18.148.174.978

2. Earthquakes

No	Specific Objective	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Improving and restructuring of the Albanian seismological network	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvement of the current monitoring technology of the Albanian Seismological Network; 2. Densifying of earthquake monitoring network stations, and those of strong-motions, for the characterization of the seismic impact in different terrain conditions; 3. Improvement of technology and systematization of the current network at the National Seismic Monitoring Center; 4. Renovation of the current seismological stations. 	MoIE, IGEO	Polytechnic University of Tirana	2023	2025	257.950.000	257.950.000
2	Improving, updating and harmonizing the earthquake risk assessment methodology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An extensive study on modern risk assessments which includes an overview of the situation in the country and an implementation strategy. 2. Trainings with experts in the field for the European Seismic Risk Model for risk assessment at the national and regional level. 3. Analysis and evaluation of the regulatory framework for adapting the frameworks of the institutions responsible for prevention, readiness and response, which include the results of the risk assessment in order to better manage the risk from earthquakes and the sustainable development of the territory. 	MoIE, CI, IGEO, AGS	Polytechnic University of Tirana, NCPA	2023	2025	46.900.000	46.900.000

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3	Database of structural properties of buildings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A data collection system has been created which includes analysis of existing databases (cadastre, data from the legalization process, archives), adjustment of attributes on design properties, database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.). 2. Recommendations have been prepared for the renovation of seismic maps, technical design codes in accordance with EU standards 3. Conduction of seminars and trainings (minimum 3 per year) which include and connect experts available within the system (minimum 100 experts throughout the country). 4. Collection of available attributes for building construction properties in the main cities of the country where the risk of earthquakes is high. 	MoIE, CI, municipalities, Qark Prefect Institutions	NCPA, Mol	2023	2027	923.343.750	923.343.750
4	New building codes according to Eurocode & national annexes prepared (UNDP RESEAL)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparation of national annexes, focusing on Package 2.1 (reinforced concrete building). 2. Updating of the National Guidelines for the implementation of the Eurocode in Albania. 3. Preparation of 4 sets of design guides. 4. Support of regional training of engineers in cooperation with MoIE, NCPA and Prefectures. 	MoIE, CI, IGEO	UNDP	2023	2024	101.371.000	
5	Reinforcement and restoration intervention in the cultural heritage objects "Kruja Castle"	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restoration of Kruja Castle 2. Stabilization of the slope of the northeastern part of Kruja Castle 	MoC, NICH	Donors	2023	2025	773.850.000	773.850.000
6	Measures for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage objects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Architectural and structural design. 2. Restoration, structural reinforcement and improvement of installations. 3. Drafting of the management and business plan. 	MoC, NICH	UNOPS	2022	2024	473.490.675	
7	Raising capacities for seismic risk mitigation in cultural heritage sites through: - Training of masters in the field of restoration and transmission of knowledge on materials and traditional techniques in construction; - Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies; - Improvement of technical design standards in the field of restoration.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Training of masters in the field of restoration and transmission of knowledge on materials and traditional techniques in construction. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Development of Theoretical Sessions for strengthening knowledge on cultural heritage (part of the 6-month module). 1.2. Practical sessions where the practical knowledge will be strengthened in the application according to the specifications of the materials "stone" "woodwork", "plaster" (part of the 6-month module). 2. Compilation of manuals and guides for traditional building typologies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Division of international (2 experts) and national (3 experts) expertise. 2.2. Field workshop involving architecture professionals and students. 2.3. Publications. 3. Improvement of technical design norms in the field of restoration. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. International (2 experts) and national (2 experts) expertise 3.2. Work with technical groups of specialized institutions. 	MoC, NICH		2024	2026	87.937.500	87.937.500

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8	Strengthening the response capacities of the Operational Forces to earthquakes through the establishing of a Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) module.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study for the creation of a new HUSAR module. 2. Carrying out all necessary national procedures necessary for approval and initiation of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO. 3. Carrying out the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO such as communication with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). 4. Carrying out, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, the training activities as well as the final exercise in the presence of the authorities of the European Commission. 5. Carrying out the certification process of the module as well as its registration in the voluntary capacity of the European Emergency Response Capacity 6. Planning the budget and making all the necessary payments for setting up the module as well as other annual payments for its functioning and operation. 	NCPA, MoD	General Directorate of FP&RS	2023	2025	150.560.256	150.560.256
9	Drafting of technical regulations and documents for structural evaluation and recovery of construction works	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updating of legal framework related to evaluating and rehabilitation of existing facilities 2. Drafting use guidelines for evaluating and rehabilitating existing works. 3. Preparation and dissemination of training materials in interest groups 	MoE, CI, Polytechnic University of Tirana, NCPA	Faculty of Civil Engineering, Construction Institute, Donors	2023	2025	293.125.000	293.125.000
Total: Earthquakes							3.108.528.181	2.533.666.506

3. Floods, surges and dam failures

No	Measures/activities	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible institutions (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Increasing the safety of river flood protection, through the rehabilitation/reconstruction of existing embankments and the construction of new structures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting feasibility studies to improve flood protection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Currently, the feasibility study of the Mat River and the Drin and Bune Rivers has been carried out. 1.2. The feasibility study for the rivers Ishëm, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosë is in progress, which is expected to be completed in 2023. 2. Carrying out implementation projects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. The full implementation project for the Mat River is currently underway 3. Budget programming for structural interventions in flood protection works 4. Rehabilitation / Reconstruction and construction of flood protection embankments and erosion protection structures 5. Increasing the operational, maintenance and monitoring capacities of the safety of embankments in the respective structures of MARD and Municipalities 	MARD	Municipalities	2019	2031	33.011.168.000	30.244.336.000

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2	Increasing the safety of irrigation reservoir dams, through the rehabilitation/reconstruction of existing dams	<p>1. Conducting the feasibility study of 626 dams</p> <p>2.1. Currently through the World Bank project the pre-feasibility study for 195 dams has been carried out and meanwhile in the context of WBIF and EU grant funds, the pre-feasibility is expected to be carried out for another 431 dams by the end of 2024</p> <p>2. Conducting a feasibility study</p> <p>2.1. With the completion of the feasibility based on the multicriteria analysis, the dams that will pass in the feasibility study will be prioritized.</p> <p>3. Carrying out implementation projects for the priority group of dams</p> <p>4. Budget programming for structural interventions in dams</p> <p>5. Rehabilitation / Reconstruction of existing dams according to the defined priority</p> <p>6. Establishment / Consolidation and training of Dam Safety Groups for each municipality.</p> <p>7. Coordination of activities on dam safety between MARD-Municipalities-National Committee of Large Dams</p>	MARD	The respective municipalities and Qark Prefect Institutions	2019	2031	20.393.460.000	20.035.680.000
3	Flood risk assessment and early warning	<p>1. Hydrological Analysis AND hydraulic</p> <p>1.1. monitoring of inflows, precipitation, temperatures, evaporation in the territory of Albania .</p> <p>1.2. analysis hydrological flow of rivers .</p> <p>1.3. analysis hydraulics of the spread of aggregates in rivers .</p> <p>2. Forecasting of weather with a space time 10 days</p> <p>2.1. Membership in the Organization European Centre for Medium Weather Forecast ECMWF</p> <p>3. Forecasting of Flooding in the River Vjosa</p> <p>3.1. building of a model hydrological for flood forecasting .</p>	IGEO		2022	2031	140.700.000	140.700.000
4	Drought risk assessment	<p>1. Building a model for the analysis of the water balance in the Seman River</p> <p>1.1. This project aims to build a model that will make a detailed analysis of the water capacity and utilization in the basin. It will also be possible to manage the amount of water to avoid or minimize droughts.</p> <p>2. Analysis of sediment transport in the Seman River</p> <p>2.1. This project aims to assess the sediments transported by the Seman River. The construction of a model which analyzes them depending on rainfall, type of terrain, land use, etc.</p>	IGEO, MARD		2022	2031	58.625.000	58.625.000
5	Mitigation, reduction of possible negative consequences of floods	<p>Drafting of Flood Risk Management Plans for water basins: Vjosa, Seman, Shkumbin, Ishëm and Erzeni;</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The final draft of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Shkodra region (Drini Basin) has been completed. Expected to be approved at the end of 2022; - Preliminary Assessment reports and flood hazard maps for the basins have been developed for Ishëm, Erzen, Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosë, - Damage maps and the document of the Flood Risk Management Plans for these water basins are in process. Expected to be completed in 2023. 	MARD, WRMA		2021	2024	234.500.000	
6	Integrated transboundary flood risk management in the Drin river basin	<p>1. Review of data collection procedures and their quality;</p> <p>2. Assessment of monitoring network requirements for strategic flood risk management;</p> <p>3. Assessment of institutional capacities for monitoring the hydrometric network;</p> <p>4. Operational plan for reporting procedures;</p> <p>5. Assessment of the capacities of the respective institutions for the development of a long-term plan for the development of capacities and training needs.</p> <p>6. Compile a list of options to identify the most economically advantageous for the basin.</p>	MARD, WRMA	UNDP	2019	2024	76.605.468	

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7	Increasing the safety of cultural heritage objects against the risk of floods - "Restoration and construction of the flood protection system of the Lead Mosque (Mehmet Pashë Bushatliu) in Shkodër"	1. Restoration of the Lead Mosque 2. Construction of the piling system for flood protection	MoC, NICH	Turkish Government	2023	2024	469.000.000	
8	Strengthening the flood response capacities of operational forces by complementing the existing FRB and FC flood modules of the EU	1. Performing a study on the current situation of 1/3 national and international modules established through the IPA Floods program as follows: 1.1. "Flood Rescue with Boats/FRB) 1.2. Flood Containment /FC) 2. Performing all the necessary national procedures required for approval and commencement of communication with the European Commission and DG ECHO 3. Performing the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO 4. Conduct, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, of the final training and training activities in the presence of European Commission authorities 5. Conducting the process of certification of full FRB and FC modules as well as their registration in EERC 6. Budget planning and making all the necessary payments for raising modules as other annual payments of its functionality and operationality	NCPA	MoD, Mol, SP	2023	2026	306.568.416	306.568.416
9	Enhancing Flood Risk Management	1. Feasibility studies and design of structural and non-structural flood protection, with a priority on nature-based solutions 2. Construction/rehabilitation works 3. Planning of maintenance and procurement of necessary equipment 4. Training	MARD, WRMA	NCPA, WB	2024	2027	4.770.400.000	4.770.400.000
	Total: Floods, surges and dam failures						59.461.026.884	55.556.309.416

4. Landslides, snowfall and avalanches

No	Measures/activities	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Reinforcement measures in cultural heritage objects - Site management, Interpretation Plan, Design and supervision of works in Kanina Castle, Borshi Castle and Spile Cave, Himare. Structural intervention for the reinforcement of the rocky slopes of Borshi Castle and Kanina Castle.	1. Design/supervision of works 2. Restoration works and interpretation of Kanina Castle, Borsh Castle, Spile Cave 3. Reinforcement of the rocky slope of the Kanina fortress 4. Reinforcement of the rocky slope of Borshi fortress	MoC, NICH	AGS, ADF and WB	2023	2025	333.928.000	

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2	The identification of landslides throughout the country, based on standardized criteria and their reflection on a single map, as well as the creation of a national inventory for landslides, which contains all their data. Monitoring of the most powerful and dangerous landslides for the community	<p>1. The necessary basis for the modern identification and assessment of risk from negative geodynamic phenomena has been prepared, which includes an overview of the situation in the country and serves for the future strategy of perfecting both the current performance and continuity.</p> <p>2. Preparation of proposals for changes in legislation and preparation of regulations, which include the implementation of these studies in urban planning throughout the territory of the Republic.</p>	MoIE, AGS	2023	Onwards	11.725.000	11.725.000
3	Geological-engineering regionalization on a scale of 1: 10,000, for urban planning in the most populated areas of the country, as well as in areas primed for tourist developments.	<p>1. The necessary basis of the studies previously carried out by AGS, which would serve as a basis for the realization of these geologic-engineering regionalization, is ready. What remains is the organization and collection of data in the field through surveys at the relevant scales in order to draw up the relevant regionalization maps at the planned scale.</p> <p>2. Drafting proposals for legislative changes and pre-preparation of regulations, which include the implementation of these studies in urban planning throughout the territory of the country.</p>	MoIE, AGS	2022	Onwards	17.587.500	17.587.500
Total: Landslides, snowfall and avalanches						363.240.500	29.312.500

5. Forest fires

No	Measures/activities	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Strengthening the capacities for fire and flood protection within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the counterpart services of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey)	<p>Component 1: Floods Drafting a Guideline for Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) in accordance with the measures listed in the Guidelines for the implementation of the EU Flood Directive. Assessing existing capacities for FRMPs and river basin management plans (RBMP). 1.1 Capacity building for Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) based on EU Member States' good practices and European Union Flood Directive (EUFD). 1.2 Capacity building for developing common transboundary FRMPs. 1.3 Development of procedures and agreements for newly incorporating of Early Warning systems (EWS) in local/central Emergency Response Plans (ERP). 1.4 Harmonization of FRMP with RBMP. 1.5 Drafting specific procedures for FRMP development and RBMP harmonization.</p> <p>Component 2: Wildfires 2.1 Providing technical support for the development of Forest Fire Risk Assessments (FFRA) and Forest Fire Risk Management capabilities. 2.2 Establishment, equipment, training of Civil Protection Modules of Ground Forest Fire Fighting (GFFF) in accordance with the Commission Decision on EU Civil Protection Modules. 2.3 Establishing Border Crossing (BC) and Host Nation Support (HNS) protocols in line with EU Guidelines on HNS. 2.4 Organizing regional table-top exercises and a field exercise for GFFF modules.</p>	NCPA	The structures of the FP&RS at the local and central level"	2023	2026	117.250.000	

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2	Improving the methodology for fire risk assessment in the territory	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An extensive study on modern risk assessments which includes an overview of the situation in Albania and an implementation strategy for updates to Albania's risk maps that will include wildfires. 2. Workshop for the transfer of knowledge with international (minimum 5) and national (minimum 50) experts on the European model of wildfire risk management at the national and/or local level; 3. Analysis and evaluation of the regulatory framework for the implementation of the results of the risk assessment at all levels with the aim of quality management of the risk from wildfires. 	MoTE, IGEO	NCPA, General Directorate of FP&RS	2023	2025	46.900.000	46.900.000
3	Development of methodology for local fire management plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing an inter-institutional working group for the preparation of the methodology. 2. Study of the supporting legal basis and exploration of the needs for change. 3. Preparation of methodology and preliminary drafts followed by discussion with interested parties. 4. Adaptation and approval of the methodology. 	Municipalities, National Agency of Protected Areas, and MoTE	NCPA, General Directorate of FP&RS	2023	2024	1.407.000	1.407.000
4	Study on the needs for setting up the signaling and surveillance system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study of forest areas with high fire risk in Albania. 2. The study of the needs of human capacities in relation to the monitoring - signaling system at the national level. 3. Study of the costs and financial resources necessary for the establishment and operation of the surveillance-alarming service. 	MoTE, National Agency of Protected Areas, and municipalities	NCPA, General Directorate of FP&RS	2023	2025	2.110.500	2.110.500
5	Strengthening the response capacities of operational forces to forest fires through the EU's Ground Forest Fire Fighting module	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carrying out a study on the current situation of the partial national and international ground fire fighting module (GFFF) created through the IPA FF program on floods and forest fires. 2. Implementation of the necessary national procedures required for approval and initiation of communication with EC and DG ECHO. 3. Implementation of the necessary communication and coordination activities with the European Commission and DG ECHO. 4. Carrying out, in cooperation with the European Commission and DG ECHO, the training activities and the final training, in the presence of the authorities of the European Commission. 5. Carrying out the certification process of the full GFFF module as well as its registration in the European Emergency Response Capacity. 6. Planning the budget and making all the necessary payments for the creation of the module as well as other annual payments for its functionality and operation. 	NCPA, General Directorate of FP&RS	MoD	2024	2027	207.684.925	207.684.925
6	Strengthening operational capacities for aerial firefighting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduction of study on the needs to expand and strengthen Albanian aerial firefighting capacity secured by two aircrafts credited by the Republic of Italy (Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development) while considering whether another aircraft / helicopter is needed. 2. Purchasing of an additional aircraft with the capacity of 3000 liters, suitable for water supply even in small tanks and/or helicopters based on the study conclusions. 3. Planning of the NCPA annual budget having also in mind the funds needed to rent national / international land or air firefighting vehicles. 4. Budget planning of financial resources for the functionality and operability of the firefighting fleet. 	NCPA	MoD	2023	2026	351.750.000	351.750.000
7	Strengthening the technical capacities of the Fire Protection and Rescue Service	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation of the locations, functionality and security of the existing FP&RS stations in the municipality. 2. Based on the conclusions of the evaluation, the drafting of implementation projects for the construction/reconstruction of several priority stations; 3. Construction and reconstruction of the designed stations; 4. Creation of the new National Operational Center of the FP&RS. 	NCPA, General Directorate of FP&RS		2023	2026	257.950.000	257.950.000

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	Total: Forest fires						985.052.425	867.802.425
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6. Technological accidents

No	Measures/activities	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All
1	Setting up a laboratory for measuring Radon	<p>1. A consultation was conducted with experts in the field regarding the necessary equipment for short-term and long-term measurements in soil, water and air in order to establish a laboratory with professional standards that enable the measurement of radon concentration, mainly in areas that present dangerousness from a geological and structural point of view with a special attention to public facilities or to populated areas.</p> <p>2. For this purpose, sensors should be placed in nurseries, kindergartens and schools, or other public structures, mainly in ground floors, basements, garages.</p> <p>In accordance with EU legal frameworks, draft proposals for legislative changes regarding the control of public and private housing, especially ground floors, garages in those areas that pose a risk.</p>	IGEO, Polytechnic University of Tirana, IPH, IANP		2023	2025	18.760.000	18.760.000
2	Expanding the radioactivity monitoring network	<p>1. A network has been created for the collection of data at seven stations, which determine the power of the ambient dose in the air, continuously.</p> <p>2. The radioactivity monitoring network connected to the Radiological Emergency system will be improved and strengthened with 4 new stations.</p> <p>3. All four stations of the monitoring network will deposit data in a single IT system (server) located at NINP - UT.</p> <p>4. Analysis of databases and modeling of its basic data (applications, server, cloud, etc.) will be carried out by NINP -UT.</p>	MoIE, IGEO, National Nuclear Agency, IANP and MoD		2023	2024		
3	Development of a database for the calculation, management and prevention of technical and technological risks, according to sectors	<p>1. Collection and processing of data on the presence of technical and technological risks in hydrocarbon products processing plants, crude oil processing refineries, gas pipelines and oil pipelines;</p> <p>2. Collection and processing of data on the presence of technical and technological risks in mining sector facilities, hydrocarbon product processing plants, database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.).</p> <p>3. Collection and processing of data on the presence of technical and technological risks in the system of dams and reservoirs;</p> <p>4. Database modeling (applications, servers, cloud, etc.).</p>	MoIE, MoTE	Other line Ministries	2023	2030	35.175.000	35.175.000
	Total: Technological accidents						53.935.000	53.935.000

7. Infectious diseases

No	Measures/activities	Measures/activities	Responsible institutions		Time frame		Cost	Financial gap
			Responsible Institution (Leader)	Contributing institution (if any)	Start	End	All	All

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1	Development methodology for biological risk assessment	1. Improvement of the infrastructure of the laboratories. 2. Equipment and machinery for laboratories	NFA		2023	2025	278.175.625	278.175.625
2	Implementation of the biosafety and bioassurance regime through an effective national laboratory network	Objective 1: Assess the level of preparation and implementation of guidelines and/or regulations for national health laboratory biosafety and biosecurity in health, veterinary, food safety and environmental laboratories at national, intermediate and local levels. Objective 2: Address gaps in biosafety and biosecurity guidelines and/or regulations and review them at national, intermediate and local levels. Objective 3: Establish a system for oversight of the implementation of one health biosecurity and biosecurity regime and its continuously testing	IPH	Health Care Services Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, NFA etc.	1/1/2023	15/11/2023	11.926.000	11.926.000
3	Creation of a Public Health Emergency Operational Center at the Institute of Public Health	A functional PHEOC is critical to the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005). Step 1: Creation of regulations, national standards and operational procedures for PHEOC; Step 2. Provision of infrastructure and appropriate equipment for PHEOC; securing equipment and systems; Step 3: Creation of the surveillance system of public health emergencies and their alert; Upgrade of the infectious disease surveillance system (including the biosecurity model of biological risks) Step 4: Build national human capacity for a functional PHEOC by training and exercising. Step 5: Creating national capacities for analytical risk assessment, forecasting and risk reduction.	IPH and MoHSP	Health Care Services Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, NFA etc.	19/1/2022	15/12/2024	83.482.000	83.482.000
4	Creation of curriculum and certification for national biosafety and biosecurity training	Step 1: Preparation of one health curricula on biosafety and biosecurity Step 2: Establish a basic and a continuous cascade training program of one health curricula on biosafety and biosecurity. Step 3: Empower the current one health laboratory workforce by offering the cascade continuous training.	IPH and MoHSP	National Quality Center for Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions, Health Care Services Operator, Local Health Care Unit, Institute of Food and Veterinary Safety, NFA etc. National Environment Authority.	10/11/2022	10/11/2024	23.852.000	23.852.000
	Total: Infectious diseases						397.435.625	397.435.625
	Total of 7 groups						93.036.641.493	77.586.636.450

Annex 4. Partnership with international organizations and institutions and relevant agreements

Albania is a member of:

- UN;
- Council of Europe (EC);
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- World Health Organization (WHO);
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO);
- European Flood Awareness System (EFAS)
- European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS)
- Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)
- Drought Management Center of South-Eastern Europe (DMCSEE).
- EUR-OPA, Major Risks Agreement;
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission/IOC);
- The Albanian Geological Survey is a full-fledged member of the European Geological Survey since 1.01.2015, as well as a member of the International Consortium of Landslides since 2011.

The multilateral agreements and memorandums in force are:

- Memorandum of Understanding, for the Institutional Framework of the Initiative for Disaster Preparedness and Prevention for Southeast Europe (DPPI SEE) approved by the Council of Ministers with DCM no. 1013, dated 22.11.2013. The memorandum was signed by the Albanian side on 28.11.2013 and entered into force on 12.11.2014;
- Agreement between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the governments of other member countries of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for Southeast Europe on host country agreements for the Secretariat of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for Southeast Europe signed by Albania on 20.09 .2018;
- Agreement between the governments of the participating countries of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) on cooperation in aid and response to emergency situations in the field of natural and man-made disasters", approved by Law no. 10 372, dated 10.2 .2011;
- The Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the extended cross-border basin of the Drin, signed by the Ministers of the competent ministries of Water Management and Environment of the countries crossed by the Drin, i.e. Albania, North Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Greece, Kosovo and Montenegro.
- Protocol on multilateral cooperation in the exchange of seismic data between institutions: Department of Geophysics, Faculty of Sciences, University of Zagreb, Croatia; Federal Hydrometeorological Service, Center of Seismology Sarajevo, Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic SRPSKA - Seismology Sector, Banja Luka and Ministry of Civil Affairs of the Federal Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Institute of Geosciences, Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania; Seismological Observatory of Montenegro; Seismological Observatory, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University "SS. Cyril and Methodius" Skopje, North Macedonia and Seismological Service of Serbia;

The bilateral agreements and memorandums in force are:

- Agreement between the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Albania and the Ministry of Public Order of the Republic of Greece, dated 27.05.2006, "On the cooperation between their fire services and the competences they have in this field".
- Agreement between the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Austria dated 27.01.2010, "On mutual assistance in case of catastrophes or major disasters", signed on 27.1.2010, entered into force on 1.7.2011;
- Agreement dated 7.10.2011, between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Croatia "On mutual assistance in case of major disasters and accidents". signed on 7.10.2011, entered into force on 28.9.2012;
- The agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the government of the Republic of Kosovo, "for cooperation and mutual assistance, in cases of natural disasters and other disasters", signed on 2.10.2020;
- The operational cooperation agreement in the field of Civil Protection signed on 28.10.2021 within the framework of the Agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the government of the Republic of Kosovo.
- Agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of Montenegro "for cooperation and mutual assistance in emergencies" signed on 3.7.2018, entered into force on 22.11.2018;
- Memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the field of protection from natural and technological disasters between the General Directorate of Civil Emergencies in the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Albania and the National Directorate of Protection and Rescue of the Republic of Croatia, signed on 23.2.2010, entered into effective date of signature;
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Albania, the Directorate of Fire Protection and Rescue and the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, the General Directorate of the Fire Protection Service, on cooperation in the fields of disaster preparedness and mitigation, signed on 13.10.2015, entered into force on the date of signing;
- The memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Italy for cooperation in search and rescue operations in the Adriatic Sea approved by DCM no. 671 dated 7.12.2001;
- Memorandum of Understanding, "On the Facilitation of Cross-Border Civil Life Transport" ratified by Law no. 9805 dated 17.9.2007;
- Protocol "On the real-time exchange of seismological data" between the Republic of Turkey, the Presidency of Disaster and Emergency Management and the Polytechnic University of Tirana", signed on 1.03.2018.
- Memorandum of Cooperation between the Albanian Geological Service and the Geological Service of the Republic of North Macedonia signed on 14.06.2017;
- Memorandum of Cooperation between the Albanian Geological Service and the Kosovo Geological Service signed on 12.12.2016;

Agreements in process are;

- Agreement between the European Union, one party, and the Republic of Albania, the other party, for Albania's participation in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism;
- The agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia "On cooperation in case of disasters" approved in principle by DCM no. No. 659, dated 29.7.2015;
- Agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on cooperation and mutual assistance in

the field of prevention and elimination of the consequences of natural disasters and man-made accidents;

- Memorandum of Understanding between the Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Turkey, and the National Civil Protection Agency, Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Albania on Disaster and Emergency Management.

Organizations and institutions, partners of the CP system in Albania are:

- UNDP;
- European Commission/EC;
- World Bank/WB;
- NATO;
- U.S. Agency for International Development/USAID;
- Food and Agriculture Organization/FAO;
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/UNESCO;
- World Health Organization/WHO;
- World Meteorological Organization/WMO;
- International Atomic Energy Agency/IAEA;
- World Food Programme/WFP
- United Nations Children's Fund /UNICEF;
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees/UNHCR;
- OSCE;
- World Vision (WV);
- Save the children;
- International Organization for Migrants/IOM;
- International Federation for Red Cross and Red Crescent/IFRC;
- Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development/AICS;
- GIZ;
- JICA;
- Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency - TiKA;
- Embassies of USA, Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey, Netherlands

Annex 5. Inter-institutional technical working group. Roles, responsibilities and legal basis of the main ministries and agencies involved in issues of disaster risk management and civil protection in the country

INTER-INSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP (POLITICAL LEVEL)				INTER-INSTITUTIONAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
No.	Institution	Representative person	Function	Representative person
1	Ministry of Defense	Dallëndyshe Bici	Deputy Minister of Defense	
2	Ministry of Interior	Romina Kuko	Deputy Minister of the Interior	Anastas Meçi
3	Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs	Megi Fino	Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs	Klea Doko
4	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Adela Xhemali	Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy	Ismet Lala
				Iris Gjishi
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National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

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6	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Dhimitër Kote	Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.	Arben Mukaj
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7	Ministry of Education and Sports	Nina Guga	Deputy Minister of Education and Sports.	Jetlir Gjergji
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				Griselda Sulaj
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8	Ministry of Health and Social Protection	Vjollca Braho	Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection	Silva Bino
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				Ylli Hoxha
10	Ministry of Justice	Klajd Karameta	Deputy Minister of Justice	Arber Sanxhaku
				Erjon Ndreca
11	Ministry of Culture	Meri Kumbe	Deputy Minister of Culture	Kozeta Angjeliu
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14	Water Resources Management Agency	Gerta Lubonja	General Director	Margarita Lutaj
15	Institute of Geosciences	Ylber Muceku	General Director	Gjon Rrota
16	Albanian Geological Service	Viktor Doda	General Director	Mehmet Kënga
17	National Territory Planning Agency	Adelina Greca	General Director	Nensi Lalaj
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21	Agriculture University of Tirana	Prof. Dr. Fatbardh Sallaku	Rector	Romina Koto
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22	University of Tirana	Prof. Dr. Artan Hoxha	Rector	Dr. Elona Pojani
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National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

INTER-INSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP (POLITICAL LEVEL)				INTER- INSTITUTIONAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
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24	National Protected Areas Agency	Zamir Dedej	General Director	Holta Copani Kasem Uzuni
25	Albanian Red Cross	Ylli Alushi	President of ARC	Fatos Xhengo
26	National Committee of Large Dams	Arjan Jovani	Chairman	Ermal Kacurri
27	National Forestry Agency	Artur Kala	General Director	Behar Hate
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29	Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics	Brunilda Daci	General Director	Dritan Prifti
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1. The Ministry of Defense

Is the main actor and decision-maker in the development of the DRM system. Currently, NCPA is part of the structure of the MoD. As such, the MoD plays an important role in setting the strategic directions and objectives of the NCPA as well as drafting and overseeing the implementation of the DRR and CP policies. The field of state responsibility of the Ministry of Defense, as well as the powers for its realization, are provided for in law no. 64/2014, "On the powers and authorities of the command and direction of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania", as amended. Article 34, point 1, letter "a" of Law 45/2019 provides that AFs must engage in disaster management cycle operations if other available capacities are insufficient for this purpose, supporting institutions, central and local authorities, and the community. One of the structures under the MoD is the National Center for Search and Rescue. The General Directorate of Material Reserves of the State is subordinate to the MoD.

The activity of MoD is related to all risks and, as the case may be, in all phases of emergency management.

Some of the MoD laws and strategies related to DRM are:

- Law no. 64/2014 "On the powers and authorities of the direction and command of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania";
- Law no. 10 435, dated 23.6.2011 "On search and rescue service in the Republic of Albania";
- Law no. 9224, dated 29.4.2004 "On the Military Meteorological Service";
- "National strategy for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the action plan for its implementation" approved by DCM no. 33, dated 22.1.2020;
- The military strategy of the Republic of Albania approved by law no. 72/2015;
- "Republic of Albania Defense strategy review document " approved by DCM no. 628, dated 25.9.2019.

2. National Civil Protection Agency

Is the main actor in the current CP system configurations in the country. The lead agency is directly responsible for ensuring the development of DRM capacities in the country and the engagement of other key actors in specific functional areas. NCPA coordinates the work for drafting NSDRR, NCEP, and DRA at the central level. NCPA organizes the work

to increase the capacities of civil protection structures at the central and local levels, as well as the training of private and voluntary entities. At the local level, according to article 23, point 4 of law 45/2019, the Agency is organized and functions through the regional civil protection centers.

3. The Ministry of Interior

Is an important actor in the CP system in the country. In addition to public order and security, the Mol is responsible for a) coordination with local self-government units and associations of local elected officials; b) drafting policies, coordination, and supervision of the FP&R service; c) preservation and security of the territory and constructions. The Ministry of the Interior contributes to the management of emergencies through its dependent structures such as the State Police, the General Directorate of the FP&RS; The Local Self-Government Support Agency and the General Directorate of Policies for Local Affairs and Prefectures, and the National Inspectorate of Territory Protection.

Mol activity involves all risks. The main Mol laws and strategies related to DRM are:

- Law no. 108/2014 "On the State Police", amended;
- Law no. 152/2015 "On fire protection and rescue service";
- Law no. 139/2015 "On local self-government", amended;
- Law no. 107/2016 "For the prefect of the region";
- "Cross-sectoral strategy of the fight against Organized crime, Illegal traffic and terrorism, 2013-2020 and action plan for the years 2013-2016" approved by DCM no. 663, dated 17.7.2013, amended;
- National strategy for migration and action plan 2019-2022 approved by DCM no. 400, dated 19.6.2019;
- "Intersectoral strategy of integrated border management 2021-2027 and action plan 2021-2023", approved with DCM no. 1117, dated 16.12.2020".

4. Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

The mission of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs is the drafting and implementation of foreign policies, the technical direction and coordination of the integration process of the Republic of Albania in the European Union, the development and strengthening of economic diplomacy, as well as the protection of the rights of Albanian citizens and Albanian communities abroad.

In a normal state and during a state of emergency, the MoEFA takes care of all international agreements in force and those in process, as well as creating the necessary connections with foreign states, organizations, and structures, which offer assistance of any kind to cope with civil emergencies. MoEFA supports communication with states or international organizations for DRM issues and in particular for cases of receiving or providing international assistance. The activity of the MoEFA is related to all phases of the emergency management cycle and its role is expected to increase within the framework of increased cooperation with the EU CPM, after Albania's membership, and beyond in the framework of the processes of approximation for EU membership.

5. Ministry of Finance and Economy

Stakeholder engagement in DRM is primarily related to the management of financial resources, application of legal customs procedures, and addressing response and recovery needs in private entities, and public and critical infrastructure.

Due to the very institutional characteristics of MoFE, its activity and responsibilities are related to multiple risks in all phases of the emergency management cycle.

The main law of MoFE and related to DRM is Law no. 9936, dated 26.6.2008 "On the management of the budget system in the Republic of Albania", amended;

6. Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

MoIE's mission is to draft and implement the general state policy in the planning and urban development sector, the infrastructure, and transport sector, the telecommunications and postal service sector, the energy sector, and the use of energy and mining resources. , as well as in the industry sector.

Due to the wide scope of state responsibility of MoIE, its commitment is in all stages of the DRM and for many of the risks.

MoIE legislation consists of many laws and by-laws in the fields of energy, transport, industry, urban development, telecommunications, and post, some of which are below:

- Law no. 9918, dated 19.5.2008 "On electronic communications in the Republic of Albania";
- Law no. 118/2012 "On the transport of dangerous goods";
- Law no. 9126, dated 29.7.2003 "On the civil use of explosives in the Republic of Albania", amended;
- Law no. 10 304, dated 15.7.2010 "On the mining sector in the Republic of Albania" as amended;
- DCM no. 811, dated 16.11.2016 "On the approval of the sectoral transport strategy and action plan 2016-2020";
- DCM no. 643, dated 14.9.2011 "On the approval of the national sectoral strategy of water supply and sewerage services";
- DCM no. 480, dated 31.7.2018 "On the approval of the national energy strategy for the period 2018-2030"

7. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The MoARD has a particularly important role that stems from the fact that the guarantee of the protection of the livestock is embodied in the purpose and object of the law "On civil protection" constituting one of its 5 pillars.

MoARD's mission is to design and implement policies in the fields of agriculture, rural development, veterinary medicine, food, and food safety, fisheries, aquaculture, and fruit and vegetable forests.

Some of the main functions of MoARD are below:

Soil protection from erosion; protection of water sources and reserves; protecting animals from diseases and preventing their spread; guaranteeing stability, maintenance and use according to the rules of reservoirs; inspection of optimal conditions of production, storage, trading and use of food, livestock and agricultural products; inspection of conditions of storage, trade and use of plant protection preparations; exercising control at border crossings, to prevent the transmission of diseases in plants and animals; maintenance, monitoring and readiness of the sewage system, ditches, embankments and pumping systems; Rehabilitation of flooded areas.

Some of the laws and strategic documents of the MoARD related to the DRM are listed below:

- Law no. 24/2017 "On irrigation and drainage administration";
- Law no. 9244, dated 17.6.2004 "On the protection of agricultural land", amended;
- Law no. 9863, dated 28.1.2008, "On food", amended;
- Law no. 10 465, dated 29.9.2011, "On the veterinary service in the Republic of Albania", amended;
- Law No. 8681, dated 2.11.2000 "On the design, construction, use and maintenance of dams and dams", amended;

- DCM No. 437, dated 17.5.2017 "On the creation, organization, and operation of the irrigation and drainage directorates of Lezhë, Durrës, Fier, and Korçë";
- DCM no. 147, dated 18.3.2004 "On the approval of the regulation on the safety of dams and dams";
- Order of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development no. 370, dated 11.6.2019 "On the approval of the standard charter of the organization of water users";
- National irrigation and drainage strategy 2019-2031 and action plan approved by DCM no. 345, dated 22.5.2019;
- The national strategy for the integrated management of water resources, 2018-2027, approved by DCM no. 73, dated 7.2.2018;
- Cross-sectoral strategy for rural and agricultural development 2014-2020, approved by DCM no. 709, dated 29.10.2014, amended.
- National fishing strategy 2016-2021 approved with DCM no. 701, dated 12.10.2016;

8. Ministry of Education and Sports

MoES exercises its activity, by the relevant legislation, mainly, but not only, in the areas of state responsibility, as well as any other area of responsibility assigned to it, as follows:

- pre-university education;
- higher education;
- development of sport;
- scientific research.

MoES is a very important actor in the entire emergency management cycle. Specific duties of MoES are defined in Law 45/2019 and NCEP.

The MoES legislation relating to the DRM is as follows:

- Law no. 80/2015 "On higher education and scientific research in higher education institutions in the Republic of Albania";
- Law No. 79/2017, dated 27.04.2017 "On sports", amended.
- The national strategy for education 2021-2026 and the action plan for its implementation approved with DCM no. 621, dated 22.10.2021

Some specific tasks of MoES that can be singled out in the entire emergency management cycle are guaranteeing the safety of educational facilities against disasters, preparing the EOP and training pupils, students, and teaching staff in the event of disasters, and organizing and taking care of the students and students during emergencies, etc.

Due to the very characteristics of MoES, it contributes to the entire cycle of emergency management as well as to all types of disasters.

9. Ministry of Health and Social Protection

The MoHSP has a particularly important role stemming from the fact that guaranteeing the protection of human life is embodied in the purpose and object of the "Civil Defense" law, constituting one of its 5 pillars.

MoHSP has as its mission the drafting and implementation of policies and development strategies in the healthcare sector, it is responsible for the regulation of health care services and the coordination of work between all actors, inside and outside the healthcare system, who contribute and aim to guarantee the constitutional right, defined in Article 55 of the Constitution. It also has the mission of guaranteeing constitutional rights for protection and social inclusion and social care and equal opportunities.

The involvement of MoHSP is in all phases of the emergency management cycle and for all types of risks.

Some of the most relevant DRM laws and strategic documents are listed below:

- Law no. 10 138, dated 11.5.2009 "On public health", amended;
- No. 10107, dated 30.3.2009 "On health care in the Republic of Albania", amended;
- Law no. 147/2014 "On the medical emergency service";
- Law no. 15/2016 "On the prevention and fight against infections and infectious diseases", amended;
- Law no. 121/2016 "On social care services in the Republic of Albania";
- No. 93/2014 "On the inclusion and accessibility of persons with disabilities";
- Law no. 9970, dated 24.7.2008 "On gender equality in society";
- Law no. 10 221, dated 4.2.2010 "On protection from discrimination", amended;
- Strategy for the development of primary health care services in Albania 2020-2025 approved by DCM no. 405, dated 20.5.2020;
- National health strategy 2021-2030 approved with DCM no. 210, dated 6.4.2022.
- The political document "Disability assessment reform in the social protection system and the 2019-2024 action plan for its implementation", approved by DCM no. 380, dated 5.6.2019;
- The national social protection strategy, 2020-2023, and the action plan for its implementation, approved by DCM no. 866, dated 24.12.2019;
- The national strategy for gender equality, 2021-2030, and its action plan, approved with DCM no. 400, dated 30.6.2021;
- The national plan for persons with disabilities, 2021-2025 approved by DCM no. 276, dated 12.5.2021.

10. Ministry of Tourism and Environment

MoTE has a particularly important role that stems from the fact that the guarantee of environmental protection is embodied in the purpose and object of the "Civil Defense" law, constituting one of its 5 pillars.

MoTE's mission is to design and implement policies aimed at environmental protection, protection from climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, protection of nature and biodiversity, sustainable development of forests and pastures, water quality monitoring, as well as drafting and implementing policies for tourism.

MTE, due to its area of state responsibility, has a multiple roles in the DRM system. Its activity is based on:

- Law no. 57/2020 "For forests";
- Law no. 10 431, dated 9.6.2011, "On environmental protection", as amended;
- Law no. 8906, dated 6.6.2002 "On protected areas"
- Law no. 91/2013 "On strategic environmental assessment";
- DCM no. 814, dated 31.12.2018 "For the approval of the policy document for forests in Albania, 2019-2030";
- Law no. 162, dated 4.12.2014 "For the protection of air quality in the environment", amended;
- DCM No. 290, dated 30.4.2004 "On the approval of the national strategy for the management of fires in forests and pastures";
- The document of strategic policies and the national plan for integrated waste management, 2020-2035, approved with DCM no. No. 418, dated 27.5.2020;

- "National plan for air quality management" approved by DCM no. 412, dated 19.6.2019;
- "Strategic document and national plans for mitigating greenhouse gases and adapting to climate change" approved by DCM no. 466, dated 3.7.2019;
- "Environmental intersectoral strategy", approved with DCM no. 847, dated 29.11.2007;

11. Ministry of Justice

The Ministry of Justice is the body responsible for the implementation of the policy of justice, in search of respect for the Constitution, the laws, the realization and protection of dignity, human rights, and fundamental freedoms, and contributes to the prevention of violations of the law, by and function of the requirements of democratic development and European integration of the Republic of Albania.

The Ministry of Justice acts based on Law 45/2019 and other legislation related to its field of action in the DRM.

The activity of the MoJ is related to issuing legal acts related to the DRM as well as other activities during the phases of the emergency management cycle related to dependent institutions such as the General Directorate of Prisons.

12. Ministry of Culture

MoC has a particularly important role stemming from the fact that guaranteeing the protection of cultural heritage is one of the 5 pillars embodied in the purpose and object of the "Civil Defense" law.

MoC engages in the prevention, facilitation, and reconstruction of cultural objects as well as in preserving the values of cultural monuments affected by the emergency. During emergencies, measures are taken to protect the lives of spectators, the population, cultural values, and monumental and museum objects.

The activity of MoC is related to the following legislation:

- Law no. 27/2018 "On cultural heritage and museums";
- DCM no. 420, dated 15.6.2022 "On taking measures to preserve cultural heritage in cases of natural disasters and armed conflicts";
- The national strategy for culture, 2019-2025, approved with DCM no. 903, dated 24.12.2019.

13. Water Resources Management Agency

The Water Resources Management Agency is a public legal entity subordinate to the Prime Minister and was created with DCM No. 221 dated 26.4.2018 "On the organization and operation of the Water Resources Management Agency", amended.

The Agency's mission is the good governance of water resources to fulfill all vital needs, keeping in mind the sustainability of ecosystems, promoting the competitiveness of uses, and prioritization towards economic profitability. The Agency is organized and operates by and in implementation of Law 111/2012, "On integrated management of water resources", as amended. WRMA's activity is mostly related to hydrological risks. The agency is organized at the central level and the water basin level through the water basin administration offices, and its branches, by the water basins approved by the decision of the Council of Ministers.

WRMA legislation and strategies particularly related to DRM are:

- DCM No. 1015, dated 16.12.2020 "On the content, development, and implementation of the national water resource management strategy, water basin management plans and flood risk management plans";
- DCM No. 221 dated 26.4.2018 "On the organization and operation of the Water Resources Management Agency", amended;
- The national strategy for the integrated management of water resources, 2018-2027, approved by DCM no. 73, dated 7.2.2018.

14. Institute of Geosciences

It is a research and scientific institution established by Order No. 371, dated 28.7.2011 of the Minister of Education and Science "for the creation of the Institute of Geosciences and Energy, Water and Environment (IGEWE), at the Polytechnic University of Tirana". IGEO is an important actor in the field of knowledge development and understanding of existing and potential disaster risks. IGEO has been identified as national monitoring and warning structure for meteorological, hydrological, and seismological activity in Albania. IGEO is part of the Polytechnic University of Tirana. IGEO provides information to NCPA and other institutions, agencies, and structures through the "National Center for Forecasting and Monitoring of Natural Hazards" and the "National Center for Monitoring Seismic Activity". Also, IGEO provides continuous information and cooperates with other civil emergency structures at the local level in analyzing and monitoring the situation, as well as regular information.

The activity of IGEO is related to geological, hydrological, atmospheric and biophysical risks

15. The Albanian Geological Service

Is the technical and scientific advisory institution under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy and carries out activities in the field of earth sciences in the territory of the Republic of Albania. The activity of AGS is based on law 111/2015, "On the Albanian Geological Service", which defines the relations between this institution and other public and private parties.

The activity of AGS and its responsibilities are mostly related to geological risks.

16. National Territorial Planning Agency

It is an authority with responsibility for planning, depending on the ministry responsible for matters of planning and development of the territory. Its mission is to contribute to the sustainable development of the territory guided by well-planned strategies and medium and long-term development programs; to ensure the implementation of the law and by-laws in force that guarantees the good planning of the territory; as well as to support the professional dialogue in the field of territorial planning, spreading the knowledge gained during her experience in this field. In this framework, NTPA designs in cooperation and coordinates the processes of drafting territorial planning documents, as well as ensures coordination between territorial planning authorities, both horizontally (between institutions of the central government) and vertically (between local institutions central). Also, NTPA leads, coordinates, and coordinates the activities for the modernization of the planning model and the promotion of innovative practices in urban design and planning.

The Legal Framework for the creation of NTPA is Law 107/2014 "On Planning and Development of the Territory", as amended, and DCM No. 427, dated 08.06.2016 "On the Organization and Functioning of the National Territorial Planning Agency".

For the very institutional characteristics of NTPA, its activity and responsibilities are related to multiple risks, mostly in the relief/mitigation and recovery phases.

17. Institute of Public Health

The activity of IPH is based on law no. 10 138, dated 11.5.2009 "On public health", as amended.

IPH under MoHSP is the National Center in the field of public health and its mission is the development and application of the prevention and control of diseases, injuries, disabilities, environmental health-damaging factors, and the development and application of health promotion, in close cooperation with national and international agencies/organizations/organizations.

The IPH is responsible for:

- Informing, advising and supporting the Ministry of Health in the design of policies and strategies in the field of public health;
- Provision of expertise;
- Realization of independent studies and production of information, based on facts; Participation in the formation of human resources in public health.

Some of the laws and strategic documents with which the activity of IPH is related are:

- Law no. 10 138, dated 11.5.2009 "On public health", amended;
- No. 10107, dated 30.3.2009 "On health care in the Republic of Albania", amended;
- Law no. 15/2016 "On the prevention and fight against infections and infectious diseases", amended;
- Law no. 121/2016 "On social care services in the Republic of Albania";
- Law no. 8025, dated 9.11.1995 "On protection from ionizing radiation", amended.
- National health strategy 2021-2030 approved with DCM No. 210, dated 6.4.2022.

18. Directorate of the Coordination Unit of Development Programs and Strategic Planning in the Department of Development, Financing and Assistance Program under the Prime Minister's Office.

SASPAC was created with DCM no. 642, dated 29.10.2021 "On the creation, organization and operation of the State Agency for Strategic Programming and Aid Coordination".

SASPAC is a public budget legal entity, subordinate to the Prime Minister. SASPAC's mission is the coordination of foreign aid for development programs and projects, assisting decision-making structures for the drafting of the NSDI and monitoring its implementation, providing methodological support in the drafting of cross-sectoral and sectoral strategies, to harmonize them with NSDI, as well as monitoring their implementation, coordinating the administration process of projects of national interest, providing support to state administration institutions for increasing capacities in the field of development programs and projects.



Resilience Strengthening in Albania - RESEAL Project, UNDP in Albania.