PROJECT
FACT
SHEET

URBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ENHANCEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE DRIN RIVER BASIN THROUGH INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (BIODRINI)

Context

This project is part of the Cross-Border Programme Albania-Kosovo IPA II. Its overall objective is the protection of the environment and the enhancement of biodiversity along the Drin River Basin. The action will be implemented in the municipalities of Kukës, Has and Tropoja in Albania and in the municipality of Rahovec in Kosovo. The environmental resources and biodiversity of this area are not adequately valorized. This action will analyze the environmental situation of area and provide measures from international best practices to enhance the area's environmental resources and biodiversity through sustainable interregional socio-economic development. Local capacities on river basin management and biodiversity protection and conservation will be improved, and awareness raising activities will be carried out to influence behavioral changes and increase local ownership towards biodiversity. These common actions between the cross-border municipalities for the protection and conservation of ecosystem services will be interrelated with mutual socio-economic development actions, therefore the project will also help boost economic cooperation between the neighbouring countries.



Project Objectives

This project's specific objectives are to:

i) Contribute to the protection and conservation of nature and biodiversity in the Drin River Basin through the integrated management of watershed;

ii) Promote the environmental benefits of the Drin River Basin to ensure the sustainability of biodiversity conservation efforts;

iii) Improve the water quality of the Drin River Basin through the installation of solid litter traps in several identified areas along the river bed.

Expected Deliverables

- Report on the current biodiversity status of the Drin River Basin;
- Report on the impact of human activities in the Drin River Basin;
- Gap analysis report on the institutional and legal framework related to the integrated management of river basins;
- An Integrated Watershed Management Plan, with an environmental monitoring plan, for both sides of the project area;
- Installation of 4 litter traps and GoPro cameras for monitoration, along the Drin River Basin;
- Organization of a Summer School for students of environmental science and biology on the "Natural values of the Drin River Basin";
- Creation of a website assigned to the project activities and other biodiversity activities related to it.

GENERAL INFORMATION

DONORS:
European Commision

PARTNERS:
- Municipality of Rahovec
- Kukës Regional Council
- Urban Research Institute (URI)
- Association for Environmental Protection and Clean-up of Kosova (PAMKOS)

DURATION:
07/03/2022 - 17/02/2023

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About URI

Since 1999, the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society Foundation, etc.

Albania – Kosovo
IPA Cross Border Cooperation Programme

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