

## PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SLM) IN ALBANIA THROUGH INTEGRATED RESTORATION OF ECOSYSTEMS

### Context

Land degradation is a significant threat to Albania's socio-economic and environmental well-being. This project was designed to support the widespread adoption of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) activities in the country, by supporting integrated landscape management planning that takes into account development needs as well as environmental services.

The project addressed key elements of land degradation in Albania in accordance with the objectives of the UNCCD National Action Programme (NAP), with a focus on deforestation, improper soil management and inappropriate crop management.

### Project Objectives

This project's specific objectives were to support:

- i) Revision of the existing legislative and institutional framework on land management and capacity building;
- ii) Awareness raising on the issue of land management;
- iii) Institutional capacities development at both national and local levels.

### Deliverables

- Land management legislation assessed, including a gap analysis with EU legislation, and recommendations adopted into a new land management law;
- Three workshops with main stakeholders, 4 quarterly Inter-Ministerial meetings and 10 meetings with communities organized, to facilitate interaction between local communities and members of Committee
- Several mechanisms for information gathering and sharing between Committee members and other relevant institutions at both national and local levels developed;
- Training Needs Assessment Report developed;
- Report with findings from the Decentralization Strategy for Territorial and Administrative Reform, detailing the shift in responsibilities on land management developed;
- Report on Economic Instruments for stimulating Investments in land production developed;
- Communication Strategy prepared;
- SLM Planning training materials prepared and trainings delivered;
- TV spot prepared and broadcast on national TV on World Soil Day and International Day of Forests;
- Local communication platforms established.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

##### DONORS:

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

##### PARTNERS:

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Ministry of Tourism and Environment
- Municipality of Kolonja
- Urban Research Institute (URI)

##### DURATION:

01/10/2018 - 30/04/2019

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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.

