



Enabling
& Transboundary Cooperation
& Integrated Water Resources Management
in the extended **DRIN RIVER BASIN**



Terms of Reference for organizing the DRIN DAY celebration 2021

In the framework of:

Memorandum of Understanding
for the Management of the Extended Transboundary Drin Basin

GEF Project “Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in
the Extended Drin River Basin”

March 2021

The Coordinated Action for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Drin basin (Drin CORDA) is supported by the GEF Drin Project. The latter is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) through GWP-Mediterranean (GWP-Med), in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). GWP-Med serves as the Secretariat of the Drin Core Group, the multilateral body responsible for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Disclaimer: The document adheres to the UN rules and policies regarding the names and international status of countries and/or other geographical areas etc. The use of characterizations, names, maps or other geographical statements in this document in no way implies any political view or positions of the Parties which are executing and implementing the Project.

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The Drin Memorandum of Understanding

Coordinated action at the Drin Basin level has been absent until the development of the Shared Vision for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin and the signing of a related Memorandum of Understanding (Tirana, 25 November 2011) by the Ministers of the water and environment management competent ministries of the Drin Riparians i.e. Albania, Republic of North Macedonia, Greece, Kosovo* and Montenegro. This was the outcome of the Drin Dialogue coordinated by the Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and UNECE.

The main objective of the Drin MoU is the attainment of the Shared Vision: *“Promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore, to the extent possible, the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin”*.

The **ultimate goal** of the work in the Drin Basin is to reach a point in the future where the scale of management lifts from single water bodies to the hydrological interconnected system of the Drin Basin, eventually leading from the sharing of waters among Riparians and conflicting uses, to the sharing of benefits among stakeholders.

The Drin Coordinated Action

A process called the “Drin CORDA”, Drin Coordinated Action for the implementation of the Drin MoU, was put in place after the signing of the latter.

Following the provisions of the Drin MoU an institutional structure was established. It includes:

- The **Meeting of the Parties**.
- The **Drin Core Group** (DCG). This body is given the mandate to coordinate actions for the implementation of the MoU.
- Three **Expert Working Groups** (EWG) to assist the DCG in its work:
 - Water Framework Directive implementation EWG.
 - Monitoring and Information exchange EWG.
 - Biodiversity and Ecosystem EWG.

The **DCG Secretariat** provides technical and administrative support to the DCG; Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med) serves by appointment of the Parties through the MoU as the Secretariat.

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

An Action Plan was prepared to operationalize the Drin CODA. This has been subject to updates and amendments in accordance with the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Drin MoU and the DCG. The DCG and its Secretariat guides the implementation of the action plan while its implementation is currently being supported by the Global Environment Facility[†] (GEF); see below.

The GEF Drin Project

The GEF supported Full Size Project “Enabling transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the extended Drin River Basin” (GEF Drin Project) is aligned in content, aims and objectives with the Action Plan and the activities under the Drin CODA.

The objective of the project is to *promote joint management of the shared water resources of the transboundary Drin River Basin, including coordination mechanisms among the various sub-basin joint commissions and committees*. Albania, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo and Montenegro are the Project beneficiaries.

The GEF Drin Project is structured around five components:

- Component 1: Consolidating a common knowledge base
- Component 2: Building the foundation for multi-country cooperation
- Component 3: Institutional strengthening for Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM)
- Component 4: Demonstration of technologies and practices for IWRM and ecosystem management
- Component 5: Stakeholder Involvement, Gender Mainstreaming and Communication Strategies

The Project is implemented by UNDP and executed by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) through GWP-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); GWP-Med is responsible for the realization of the Project. The Drin Core Group is the Steering Committee (SC) of the Project.

[†] www.thegef.org

Background: The Drin Day

The Drin Day is celebrated each year in the period around **5 May (official Drin Day)** in all sub-basins of the extended transboundary Drin Basin under the auspices of the Drin CODA and the Drin Core Group. The celebration of the Drin Day is established by a decision of the Drin Core Group.

The overarching aim of the Drin Day events is to raise the awareness of local communities and the wider public on the importance of the sustainable management of the Drin River Basin and its ecosystems and to raise awareness amongst the wider public about the declining state of the environment of the Drin watershed and coastal areas and of the benefits of adopting an integrated multi-country approach to their management. The specific objective is to inform and raise awareness amongst specific categories of stakeholders about the aims of the project as well as the Drin's resources and the necessary action needed to move towards sustainable management of the Basin.

The events will act as vehicles to expand people's understanding, and especially of youth, on the intrinsic values of habitats and species of the region and promote concrete, comprehensive and continuous actions towards the safeguarding the biodiversity of the Drin River Basin and its invaluable ecosystem services.

Activities will take place in the week of 3-8 May 2021.

CALL OF INTEREST

The Drin Day events will be organized in partnership with NGO or Civil society organizations in the following Drin Riparians: Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Montenegro. One NGO or Civil Society organization will be selected per Riparian Country, four in total.

It is requested that NGO , group of NGOs and Civil society organizations interested to organize Drin Day events, submit an Application Form in which they describe the events that they propose to organize, the actions to be undertaken, the outputs and the envisaged outcomes.

The following terms of reference should be followed in the preparation of the applications:

Type of Activities:

Please note that this year, the focus of the activities should be on Celebration of the 10 years of the Drin Process and signing of the DRIN Memorandum of Understanding (Tirana, 2011) for the coordinated management of the Drin Basin .

Targets:

The proposals should aim to enable the achievement of the following targets:

- The engagement and raising of awareness on the topic addressed of as many people and sectors as possible in two or more Riparians.
- Extensive coverage by electronic media and press.
- Official institutions participate in the opening of the events, i.e. representatives of local authorities, ministries etc.

Activities:

The Drin Day events may include any of the following (the list is indicative and the NGOs applying for support under this call should use these for inspiration):

- ✓ Joint organization of interactive workshops for youth promoting the actions taken for protection of the entire Drin River Basin.
- ✓ Joint organization of field trips for groups of youth to the Drin River Basin, which could include actions in the Drin related freshwater bodies, etc.
- ✓ Joint organization of a seminar/meeting with emphasis on ways to address knowledge sharing of the Drin River Basin and its invaluable ecosystem services.
- ✓ Joint organization of environmental exhibitions/competitions with pictures, videos, presentations, drawings and essays or projects implemented by students inspired by the Drin River actions.
- ✓ Launching a survey to capture the views and perceptions of citizens living along the Drin River Basin on protecting the region and use the results as a mean to raise awareness.
- ✓ Combining the theme with activities relating to Education for Sustainable Development, aiming to supply youth with simple tips on sustainable behaviors and choices in relation to the entire protection in the Drin River Basin.
- ✓ Launching an awareness raising campaign on social media in order to promote diversity of actions for protection of the environment and water resources in entire Drin Basin.
- ✓ Etc.

Audience:

The events should aim to enable the involvement of representatives and staff of the following stakeholders:

- Institutions including Ministries or other high level governmental authorities;
- Entities/ Regional or Local Government Bodies/ Authorities; River Basin District Agencies; Protected Area Authorities;
- State owned utilities;
- Private sector (land owners, navigation, industry) including their Chambers; Tourism Agencies/Boards;
- NGOs, Civil society;
- Local communities;
- Media;

- Educational institutions;
- People living in the Drin Basin

Application:

The Application should include the following sections:

- Introduction: [Provide here a brief description about the NGO that prepares the application and the Partner NGO(s). You may include in an Annex more extensive descriptions of the applying NGOs.]
- Outcomes: [Describe here the outcomes to be achieved through the proposed activities.]
- Activities: [Describe here the activities to be implemented, the methodology to be followed and actions undertaken for their implementation.]
- Outputs: [Describe here the outputs/products to be developed/prepared through the activities proposed.]
- Detailed financial budget as an Annex to the Application Form

The selection criteria are the following:

ON/OFF requirements (if not met proposal will be rejected with no further evaluation)

1. Interested applicants should be NGO, group of NGOs or Civil Society organizations based in one of the countries of focus.
2. Experience of the applicant in carrying out similar activities - at least 1 similar activity.
3. Minimum Establishment period of the applicant should be at least 2 years proven through official establishment documentation (e.g. not after 15/03/2019)

Evaluation Criteria: All criteria carry equal weight.

1. Relevance of Activities proposed as per ToR.
2. Proposals should contain educational, awareness raising and field activities related to the focus/theme of the Drin Day celebrations.
3. Anticipated Outreach (Expected number of people engaged within the suggested activities)
4. Anticipated Location (size of area influenced by the suggested activities due to engagement and raising of awareness on the topic addressed)
5. Anticipated Visibility (electronic Media-Press and social media coverage)
6. Provision of a communication plan for the proposed activities
7. In kind contribution/co-financing

Financial Support:

An amount of **5.000 USD** is available as seed funding to support the organization for each selected proposal. One proposal per riparian country will be selected. This amount includes all other costs, income taxes and any other amount payable or cost that may be required for the completion of the work/service. All payments except the advance payment shall be upon reception and acceptance/verification of the deliverables. Of the 5.000 USD at least half the amount will be used for costs related to promotional activities.

Eligible promotional costs include:

- costs for filming and/or broadcasting of the Drin Day events in order to enhance impact;
- costs for printing material;
- costs for purchasing eco-promotional products giving out a biodiversity protection and diversity related message, bags made of organic cotton to replace single use plastic bags, binoculars for bird watching etc.

Payment Terms

Before each instalment the successful Applicant will invoice :
GWP-MED/MIO-ECSDE (VAT No EL 097813422)

- 60% (3.000 USD) advance payment.
- 40% (2.000 USD) after the successful implementation of the activities and the acceptance of deliverables and related expenses by GWP-MED.

Indicative timeline of actions and deliverables:

The successful applicants should be able to deliver the deliverables included in the indicative list below following the timeline.

Deliverables	Corresponding Tasks and steps for preparation	Date of delivery
1. Agenda of activities in English and in local languages	1. Preparation of a draft Agenda in English with the program of activities to take place and delivery to GWP-Med.	2 April 2021
	2. Incorporate comments by GWP-Med and preparation of final draft Agenda in English. 3. Translation in country language(s) and printing of a number of copies as necessary.	6 April 2021
2. Invitations to Mayors, representatives of local and regional authorities, cabinet of respective Ministries	1. Preparation of draft Invitation.	2 April 2021
	2. Comments from GWP-Med incorporated, Translation of invitation to country language(s).	6 April 2021
	3. Sending out invitations to Mayors, representatives of local and regional authorities, cabinet of respective Ministries.	13 April 2021
3. Material to be printed / produced	1. Preparation of the draft text / design etc. and delivery to GWP-Med;	6 April 2021
	2. Incorporating comments by GWP-Med and making necessary changes;	13 April 2021
	3. Production and distribution of the materials.	3 May 2021
	4. Delivery of electronic copies and hard copies to GWP-Med.	12 May 2021
4. Engaging media of local and national level	1. Invitation of media to events;	28 April 2021
	2. Sending information note for the Drin Day 2021 celebrations to TV news, newspaper and web portals;	1 May 2021
	3. Uploading video on YouTube and disseminating it through social media;	5 May 2021
5. Implementation of activities for the Drin Day 2020	DRIN DAY CELEBRATION EVENTS	5 May 2021 (Wednesday)
	1. Providing information to GWP-Med about activities of the Drin Day 2021 including photos as well as number of participants in	5-6 May 2021

6. Press release	<p>events, results of activities in numbers etc.;</p> <p>2. Finalization of the press release by GWP-Med;</p> <p>3. Translation of final press release to country language(s);</p> <p>4. Sending press release after the Drin Day 2021 celebrations to TV news, newspaper and web portals;</p>	8 May 2021
Reporting	<p>1. Delivery of Report to GWP-Med including:</p> <p>a. brief description of activities;</p> <p>b. Provision of a comms package of at least 30 high resolution photographs from the activities planned cleared of rights and in accordance with GDPR prerequisites</p> <p>c. all material and deliverables 1 – 6 above;</p> <p>d. proof from media coverage including articles in the press, TV coverage and web articles;</p> <p>e. photos from the Drin Day celebrations;</p> <p>f. Provision of at least 3 quotes from participants on the issue of Human and Nature (1 quote to be from an official institution on the GEF Drin Project)</p> <p>g. any video produced.</p> <p>h. Financial Report providing supporting documentation</p>	14 May 2021

Timeframe

This activities should be implemented on 5 May (main event) 2021

NOTE:

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE SITUATION WITH THE PANDEMIC (COVID-19), ACTIVITIES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE DRIN DAY 2021 MAY BE POSTPONED FOR LATER THAN SCHEDULED IN THE TOR, DEPENDING ON WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ALLOW ORGANIZATION OF THE PUBLIC EVENTS.

ANNEX : SUSTAINABILITY

A **sustainable event** is one that is designed, organized and implemented with a view to minimizing its ecological footprint and maximizing its positive impact on society. To reduce the general impacts of our events or their ecological footprint, we should therefore always consider the life cycle when we organize an event, in order to identify the points that will have a bigger negative impact on the environment.

Below are listed some useful tips that should be used wherever applicable in order to minimize the ecological footprint of our event to the extent possible.

Sustainability target	How
Reduce energy use and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Select venues and accommodation that implement energy efficiency measures, comply with green building standards and/or use renewable energy sources. ✓ Choose locations and venues minimizing local and long-distance transportation needs for participants and products. ✓ Where long-distance travel is unavoidable, offset GHG emissions. ✓ Apply energy-saving office practices during the organisation and hosting of the event.
Reduce materials consumption and waste generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minimize materials provided to participants and used by service providers (e.g. caterer, exhibitors), before, during and after the event. ✓ Avoid the use of disposable items, use pre-used/ recycled and reusable/recyclable products and reduce packaging needs to a minimum ✓ Separate and recycle waste where possible.
Reduce water use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Select venues and accommodation that implement water conservation practices and use water-efficient appliances. ✓ Implement water-conscious measures such as avoid bottled water and re-filling glasses only upon request.
Reduce indirect environmental impacts on air, water and soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minimize the need to transport food and other products and favour local organic food. ✓ Use products manufactured with or containing fewer harmful substances, such as chlorine-free paper and non-toxic cleaning products.

Increase the social benefits for all involved

- ✓ Involve local and regional level as much as possible by, for example, recruiting local people (social integration), supporting SMEs (catering, energy, cleaning, IT supply, family- run accommodation), and showcasing successful local projects.
- ✓ Contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and the core ILO Conventions through compliance with labour standards, and requiring social integration (reducing unemployment), Fair Trade products and social criteria along the supply chain.
- ✓ Assure security and health aspects (e.g., noise level).