



Draft Agenda

for the

Nexus Consultation Meeting in Albania

To be held online, on 14 December 2020, 9.30 am – 3.00 pm

In the framework of the project

“Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Southeastern Europe, through the use of the Nexus approach”

*funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA),
the operational unit of Austrian Development Cooperation,*

implemented by the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)
in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Participants will receive connection guidelines for the Zoom platform ahead of the meeting.

Simultaneous interpretation will be available between English and Albanian.

09.00 – 09.30 *Test calls for participants to ensure good connection quality*

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| 09.30 – 10.00 OPENING SESSION |
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Welcoming Addresses

- Ms. Simone Ungersboeck, Head of Tirana Office, Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
- Ms. Ornela Çuçi, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Environment
- Ms. Gerta Lubonja, General Director, Water Resources Management Agency, Albania
- Ms. Fioralba Shkodra, Head of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Albania
- Mr. Vangelis Constantianos, Executive Secretary, GWP-Med

Moderator: Mr. Tassos Krommydas, Senior Programme Officer, GWP-Med

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| 10.00 – 10.30 SESSION 1: The National Nexus Assessment for Albania |
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The objectives, outline and approach of the Nexus Assessment for Albania will be presented and discussed.

10.00 – 10.05 **Nexus approach to natural resources management**

- Ms. Annukka Lipponen, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNECE

10.05 -10.10 **Introduction to the SEE Nexus Project and its objectives in Albania**

- Mr. Tassos Krommydas, Senior Programme Officer, GWP-Med

10.10 – 10.20 **Outline and approach of the Nexus Assessment for Albania**

- Mr. Mevis Struga, Programme Officer, GWP-Med

10.20 – 10.30 **Discussion**

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| 10.30 – 13.40 SESSION 2: Nexus sectors: Current status, Policy objectives and interdependencies from a sectoral perspective |
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Representatives of Institutions and Agencies from Nexus-relevant sectors will briefly present:

- the current status and trends regarding the sector, including key pressures, challenges and targets,
- the related Strategic Documents (strategies, plans etc.) including how they take into consideration any cross-sectoral interdependencies.

In each case, an open discussion will follow among participants, aiming to:

- share perspectives how the sector affects and is affected by others
- identify and discuss key interlinkages and pressing intersectoral issues, and prioritise them

- iii. discuss key barriers or gaps in terms of capturing synergies or managing trade-offs with other sectors
- iv. discuss possible solutions and how they can be translated into feasible actions, linked to actual policies, and identify priority ones

Moderator: Mr. Mevis Struga, Programme Officer, GWP-Med

10.30 – 10.55 Management of Water resources

- Introduction: Mr. Arduen Karagjozi, Director of Strategic Management, Water Resources Management Agency
- Insights: Nexus-related insights from the implementation of the EUSIWM Project (Ms. Vjola Saliaga, National Project Coordinator - EUSIWM Project)
- Discussion

10.55 – 11.20 Water Supply and Sanitation

- Introduction: Ms. Lindita Sotiri, Director of Development Programs in WSS, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
- Insights: The importance of energy efficiency in the sustainability of water utilities (Ms. Elisabeta Poci, Deputy Executive Director, Water Supply and Sewerage Association)
- Discussion

11.20 – 11.45 Energy sector

- Introduction: Mr. Gjergji Simaku, Director of Renewable Energy Policy, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
- Insights: The interface of hydropower / flood management in the Drin basin (Mr. Klodian Zaimi, PUT, Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment)
- Discussion

11.45 – 11.55 *Coffee break*

11.55 – 12.20 Agriculture and Irrigation

- Introduction: Mr. Arben Mukaj, Irrigation and Drainage Dpt, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Insights: Smart irrigation/nature-based solutions in agriculture in Albania (Ms. Nam Jioung, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO))
- Discussion

12.20 – 12.45 Forestry and Biomass

- Introduction: Mr. Kliti Starja, Director of National Forestry Agency
- Insights: Wood biomass value chain in Albania (CNVP)
- Discussion

12.4530 – 13.10 Environmental Protection

- Introduction: Ms. Klodiana Marika, Head of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Directory, Ministry of Tourism and Environment
- Discussion

13.10 – 13.30 Women's role in the sustainable management of natural resources

- Introductory presentation and next steps on gender under the Project: Ms. Fiorela Shalsi, Senior Gender Advisor, GWP-Med

13.30 – 14.00 Lunch break**14.00 – 14.55 SESSION 3: Identifying and financing solutions with cross-sectoral benefits**

- *Introduction - Nexus solutions and investments: Ms. Annukka Lipponen, UNECE*
- *Identification for priority nexus interventions in the ADA Nexus Project: Mr. Tassos Krommydas, GWP-Med*

Representatives of International Financing Institutions invited to discuss innovative financing arrangements for Nexus solutions, including climate financing, relevant to Albania

- *Instruments for financing multi-sectoral projects and programmes at European Investment Bank, EIB: Alessandro Bragonzi, representative for Albania, Kosovo¹, and North Macedonia; and Ms. Lijana Jancauskiene, from the water sector department, EIB*
- *Albania's Green Climate Fund Country programme: Ms. Z. Vokopola, Urban Research Institute*
- *Discussion*

14.55 – 15.00 CLOSING SESSION

Recap of the proceedings and outline of key outcomes and next steps.

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Independence Declaration