



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



Terms of reference:

*Technical support at the Drin Riparian level on
Biodiversity for the preparation of the Causal
Chain Analysis and the Strategic Action Program*

In the framework of the:

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”

November 2018

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.

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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, The Former Yugoslav Republic of 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.

Article 3 of the Drin MoU indicates that the Parties should undertake concrete actions to address problems identified as affecting sustainable development in the entire Drin Basin in one or more of the Sub-Basins. Article 3 further describes the areas of concern and the Goals that should be attained through action.

In its Article 4, the Drin MoU identifies short-, medium- and long-term priority actions to address the Goals identified under Article 3. The preparation of an Integrated Drin Basin Management Plan in accordance to the EU Water Framework Directive, is the long-term objective.

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.

The GEF Drin Project

The GEF supported 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 Drin MoU and the activities under the Drin Corda.

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 in 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 the 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.

The GEF Drin Project within its Component 1: “Consolidating a common knowledge base” carries out a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) to:

- Identify and assess transboundary -including water and other natural resources as well as environmental management- problems.
- Assess the environmental impacts and socio-economic consequences of each problem.

The TDA Report comprise the following:

- (i) TDA Synthesis Report.
- (ii) Thematic Reports -as Appendices to the above- including the analytical work done to substantiate the findings included in the TDA Synthesis Report:
 - a. Biodiversity and Ecosystems;
 - b. Hydrology/Hydrogeology;
 - c. Pollution;
 - d. Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus;
 - e. Institutional and Legal Setting;
 - f. Socioeconomics.

The TDA identifies the immediate, underlying and root causes of the problems through a Causal Chain Analysis. Thus, it provides the necessary information that will enable Drin Riparians to discuss and decide on the issues that will be addressed with priority as well as to negotiate and formulate a Strategic Action Programme to address the problems and their causes.

The **GEF TDA-SAP methodology** is used for the development of the TDA (<http://iwlearn.net/manuals/tda-sap-methodology>).

The Strategic Action Program will be developed under Component 2: Building the foundation for multi-country cooperation and will include the list of goals, targets, interventions and related indicators.

The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) is a politically negotiated document. This document is intended to link national and regional commitments to shared efforts made by the participating countries. The content of the SAP should not overlap or be in conflict rather be aligned and complement the already planned activities as part of the countries' effort as part of the EU accession process.

The SAP development will be participatory, making use the already established Drin Institutional Framework, the inter-ministerial meetings as well as the well-established Drin Community of Practice. The participatory process will ensure that the opinions of stakeholders regarding the management issues and needs in the Drin Basin are taken into consideration in the SAP preparation.

The SAP will be developed using as basis the priority transboundary problems as these are described in the TDA as well as the TDA recommendations.

The SAP will be developed with contribution of the following:

- The Drin Core Group (DCG).
- The three Expert Working Groups (EWGs) that assist the Drin Core Group in its mission to coordinate the implementation of the Drin MoU:
 - o EWG Biodiversity and Ecosystems;
 - o EWG Monitoring and Information Exchange;
 - o EWG Water Framework Directive Implementation.

The EWGs comprise officially appointed members from the Drin Riparians and will ensure that the SAP integrates technical knowledge available to the Riparians and reflects the priorities of the Riparians.

- The line Ministries of the Riparians represented in the Drin Core Group.
- The Inter-ministerial Committees (IC).
- Team of National Experts (TNE) that were involved also in the preparation of the Thematic Reports of the TDA.

The DCG will be the body that will be providing guidance for the development of the SAP.

Objective

Under the supervision of the Project Coordinator (PC) the Expert will provide technical support for the development of the Causal Chain Analysis and the Strategic Action Program for the Drin Basin.

Requested Services

The Expert will undertake the tasks as described below:

1. Review the revised version of the Thematic Report on Biodiversity (that will be provided by GWP-Med) and provide input in the form of written add-ons, suggestions, comments, etc.
2. Participate and contribute to the validation Causal Chain Analysis and Strategic Action Program meeting that will take place in Athens on 4 and 5 December 2018. The expert is expected to contribute actively in the work during the meeting to:
 - a. validating the Transboundary Priority Problems falling under the area of her/his expertise in the Extended Drin basin and their (root) causes.
 - b. identifying a first set of Targets, Interventions and related indicators under each of the Transboundary Priority Problems identified through the CCA discussion above. This

will provide input to the International Consultant that will prepare the Strategic Action Program and be used in the Focus Group Meetings discussions to take place in the beginning of 2019 in each of the Drin Riparians.

3. Review the final Causal Chain Analysis (that will be provided by GWP-Med) and provide input in the form of written add-ons, suggestions, comments, etc.
4. Review the first draft SAP (that will be provided by GWP-Med) and provide input in the form of written add-ons, suggestions, comments, etc.
5. Participate and contribute to the Strategic Action Program (SAP) Action Planning Workshop that will take place during March-May 2019 (two days, date to be defined) in one of the Drin Riparians (place to be defined). The Expert is expected to:
 - a. Attend an in-depth training on the TDA/SAP, that will be provided during the Workshop.
 - b. Contribute in during the workshop to review the draft set of Targets, Interventions and related indicators under each of the Transboundary Problems included in the first draft SAP. The first draft SAP will be prepared by the SAP International Consultant using input produced by the Strategic Action Plan meeting (Athens on 4 and 5 December) and the Focus Groups meetings to take place in the beginning of 2019 in each of the Drin Riparians.
6. Review the second draft SAP and provide input in the form of written add-ons, suggestions, comments, etc.

Contract Price, Deliverables and Schedule of Payment

The fee for this assignment is 2,500 USD. 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 other payments shall be upon reception and acceptance/verification of the deliverables, as laid out in the table below.

DELIVERABLES / TASKS	DEADLINE	PAYMENT STRUCTURE
1. Input to the revised Thematic Report using MS Word tools (track-changes, comments etc.). 2. Contribution in the Causal Chain Analysis and Strategic Action Program meeting that will take place in Athens on 4 and 5 December 2018, as described in section Requested Services above. 3. Input to the final Causal Chain Analysis using MS Word tools (track-changes, comments etc.).	10 December 2018	50%
4. Input to the first draft SAP using MS Word tools (track-changes, comments etc.). 5. Contribution to the Strategic Action Program (SAP) Action Planning Workshop that will take place during March-May 2019 (two days, date to be defined) in one of the Drin Riparians (place to be defined), as described in section Requested Services above. 6. Input to the second draft SAP using MS Word tools (track-changes, comments etc.).	30 May 2019	50%

Duration of the Contract

The overall duration of the contract will be maximum 7 months.

Travel Requirements - Location of the Assignment

The expert will participate in two meetings: one meeting to take place in Athens on 4 and 5 December 2018 and one meeting to take place March-May 2019 (date to be defined) in one of the Drin Riparians (place to be defined). For the rest of the tasks she/he will work from a place of her/his preference.

All related expenses for the participation of the Expert to the two workshops (Transportation, Accommodation, Food) are going to be covered by GWP-MED.

Qualification and Experience

a. Education

A university degree in biology, ecology or equivalent.

b. Work Experience

- Minimum 6 years of professional experience in the field of biodiversity, ecosystems, nature resources management
- Experience on assessment of the state of biodiversity and ecosystems
- Experience in nature and biodiversity monitoring and reporting
- Experience on ecosystem services, assessment and analysis would be an asset.

c. Key Competencies

- Good understanding of the EU Directives related biodiversity, and habitats
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Experience from similar projects on biodiversity assessment at transboundary context will be an advantage

Terms and Conditions

- The language of the deliverables/outputs is English.
- The Expert is expected to work closely with the PCU.
- The PCU will provide the Expert with the following, needed for effective and timely implementation of the assignment tasks:
 - Project related documentation (TDA, TDA thematic reports etc.);
 - Logistical and translation support during the missions.

Selection Criteria

Technical Criteria - max. 100 points:

- Criteria A – Education as indicated under the ToR section entitled “Qualification and Experience” (max points: 30)
- Criteria B – Work Experience as indicated under the ToR section entitled “Qualification and Experience” (max points: 60).
- Criteria C – Key Competencies as indicated under the ToR section entitled “Qualification and Experience” (max points: 10).