

Drin Basin Multi-Stakeholders Conference

10-11 December 2013

Tirana, Albania

Agenda

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

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

Organized by the
Drin Core Group

**For more information, please contact the
Secretariat of the Drin Core Group:**



Athens, Beirut, Tunis
Web: www.gwpmed.org

Headquarters:
12, Kyrristou str., 10556 Athens, Greece
T: +30210-3247490, -3247267, F: +30210-3317127
E-mail: secretariat@gwpmed.org

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Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Climate Change Adaptation in Western Balkans

Rruga "Skënderbej" 21/1
Tirana, Albania/ P.O. Box 2391
E: giz-albanien@giz.de
I: www.giz.de



The organization of the event contributes to the *GEF/UNDP*
*“Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water
Resources Management in the Extended Drin River Basin”
Project*



Day 1 - Tuesday 10 December 2013

13.00 – 13.40

Welcome – Opening Remarks

- *Ms Djana Bejko, Deputy Minister of Environment, Albania*
- *Representatives of Drin Riparians to the Drin Core Group*
- *Mr Hermann J. Plumm, Programme Director, Water Sector Reform; Coordinator Water and Environment, GIZ*
- *Mr Dimitris Faloutsos, Drin Core Group Secretariat/ Senior Programme Officer, Head Southeastern Europe, GWP-Med*
- *Mr Bo Libert, Regional Advisor on Environment, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*

13.40 – 13.45

Introduction to the agenda and purpose of the Meeting

13.45 – 15.15

Session 1: The Strategic Shared Vision and the Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Transboundary Drin Basin (Drin MoU)

Chair: Ms Djana Bejko, Deputy Minister of Environment, Albania

Co-chair: Mr Dejan Panovski, Member of the Drin Core Group

The Shared Vision was adopted by the stakeholders (Tirana, 24 November 2013) and became the objective of the Drin MoU signed by the competent Ministers of the Drin Riparians. The Drin Core Group and its Secretariat will present the past, on-going and planned activities for the implementation of the Shared Vision and the Drin MoU. The Stakeholders will be asked to reflect on actions undertaken and contribute with their ideas and knowledge with regard to the realization of the Drin MoU.

13.45 – 14.00 The Drin MoU; Coordinated action for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin

- *Mr Dejan Panovski, Member of the Drin Core Group*

14.00 – 14.15 Actions for the implementation of the Shared Vision for the management of the Drin Basin and the Drin MoU

- *Mr Dimitris Faloutsos, Drin Core Group Secretariat / GWP-Med*

14.15 - 15.15 Facilitated discussion

Facilitator: Mr Bo Libert, UNECE

15.15 – 15.30

Coffee Break

15.30 – 17.30

Session 2: Actions of the international community for the management of the Drin basin and its sub-basins

Chair: Mr Radosav Rasovic, Member of the Drin Core Group

Co-chair: Mr Hermann J. Plumm, Programme Director, Water Sector Reform; Coordinator Water and Environment, GIZ Office in Tirana

Representatives of donor countries and international organizations active in the Drin Basin and its sub-basins will present on-going and planned initiatives and

projects. A panel discussion with the participation of the audience will follow.

The aim of the session is to identify:

- potential synergies among the activities supported by the international community;
- areas of intervention of transboundary importance;
- areas within the basin that actions supported by the international community can be replicated;
- actions to increase the likelihood of sustainability of the outcomes of the interventions.

15.30 – 16.30 Initiatives and projects supported by development partners

- Initiatives and projects supported by the GIZ

Mr Hermann J. Plumm, Programme Director, Water Sector Reform; Coordinator Water and Environment, GIZ Office in Tirana

- Initiatives and projects supported by the KfW

Mr René Eschemann, Director, KfW in Tirana and Prishtina

- Initiatives and projects supported by the Italian Cooperation

Mr Giacomo Pides, Programme Officer, Italian Cooperation Office in Tirana (tbc.)

- Initiatives and projects supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Frank Wiederkehr, Regional Advisor on Water & Environment, Embassy of Switzerland in Skopje

- Initiatives and projects supported by the UNDP

Ms Eglantina Bruci, UNDP

- Initiatives and projects supported by the UNESCO

Mr Philippe Pypaert, UNESCO

16.30 – 17.30 Facilitated discussion

Facilitator: *Mr René Eschemann*, KfW

The representatives of the development partners will participate in a panel discussion about the strategic objectives of their respective institutions and organizations in the field of river basin and natural resources management as well as about the related initiatives, and how these can contribute in the enhancement of management in the Drin Basin. The identification of synergies will be among the aims of the session. The panel will answer questions from and interact with the participants.

17.30 – 17.40

Wrap up of Day 1

Day 2 - Wednesday 11 December 2013

09.30 – 09.35 Recap of Day 1

09.35 – 11.00 **Session 3: The GEF/UNDP project “Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Extended Drin River Basin”**

Chair: Denis Grabocka, Member of the Drin Core Group

Co-Chair: Representative of UNDP

09.35 – 09.45 Overview of the GEF/UNDP Drin Project and inter-linkages with the Action plan for the implementation of the Drin MoU

- *Mr Bo Libert, UNECE*
- *Mr Dimitris Faloutsos, GWP-Med*

09.45 – 10.05 The content of the GEF/UNDP project “Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Extended Drin River Basin”

- *Mr Andrea Merla, International Consultant, UNDP*

Questions and Answers

10.05 – 11.00 Discussion

The DCG members and the representatives of the project’s implementing and executing partners will answer questions set by the stakeholders. The stakeholders will be asked to reflect on the structure of the project and the strategy proposed for this to achieve the envisaged outcomes.

11.00 – 11.20 *Coffee Break*

11.20 – 15.15 **Session 4: Addressing priority issues and needs regarding the management of the Drin Basin**

Chair: Ms Lindita Morina, member of the Drin Core Group

Co-Chair: Mr Robert Nygard, Sida

11.20 – 13.15 Facilitated discussion in three Working Groups

Three working groups will be discussing issues that have been identified by the Drin Riparians as of significance for the management of the Drin Basin.

The objective is to identify the challenges under each issue as well as the solutions that are currently applied or should be applied. The session will:

- Enable cross-fertilization of the stakeholders on approaches and solutions given in different parts of the basin to address the different challenges and in this way facilitate the creation of the conditions for the replication of the approaches in different parts of the basin.
- Formulate (by using the related input) lines of action under the Drin Core Group hence formulate the activities of the Drin GEF project.

Stakeholders will be divided in 3 Working Groups each one discussing one of the

following topics:

- *Integrated River Basin Management- the implementation of the Water Framework Directive: Main challenges including associated capacity gaps.*
Introductory presentations / Facilitators
 - *Ms Lindita Morina, Member of the Drin Core Group*
 - *Mr Ralf Peveling, GIZ*
 - *Ms Daphne Mantziou, Society for the Protection of Prespa*

- *Monitoring and Information Exchange – Flood prevention and management: Main challenges including associated capacity gaps.*
Introductory presentations / Facilitators
 - *Mr Radosav Rasovic, Member of the Drin Core Group*
 - *Mr Jakob Doetsch, GIZ*

- *Biodiversity and Ecosystems Protection – Protected areas and Wetland management: Main challenges including associated capacity gaps.*
Introductory presentations / Facilitators
 - *Mr Dejan Panovski, Member of the Drin Core Group*
 - *Mr Zamir Dedej, Institute of Nature Protection in Albania*

The conclusions of each WG will be recorded by a Rapporteur and will be later incorporated in the conference report.

13.15 – 14.15 *Lunch*

14.15 – 15.15 Session 4: Addressing priority issues and needs regarding the management of the Drin Basin - *Continued*

14.15 – 14.45 Presentation of the outcomes of the working groups

14.45 – 15.30 Facilitated discussion

A facilitated discussion will be based on the outcomes of the breakout sessions and will aim to highlight the issues that being tackled with priority in the years to come will enhance the sustainability of the management of the Drin Basin at the national and the transboundary levels as well as to highlight the capacity building needs.

15.30 – 15.50 *Coffee Break*

15.50 – 16.30 Public Participation and Awareness raising activities

- *The GIZ will present the activities planned to be organized with the support of NGOs during the Drin Day to be organized in 2014. The stakeholders will be asked to reflect on the presentation*
- *Ms Thomais Vlachogianni, Programme Officer, Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development*
MIO-ECSDE will present activities planned to raise public awareness, enhance knowledge and empower NGOs to protect and conserve freshwater ecosystems in the Drin River Basin

16.30 – 17.00

Stakeholders in the Drin Basin

Mr Cornelius Kienemund, GIZ

The outcomes of an exercise to update the stakeholders mapping in the Drin Basin will be presented

Questions and Answers

17.00 – 17.30

Session 5: Conclusions of the Conference

Chair: Ms Evelina Stamouli, *Member of the Drin Core Group*

Co-chair: Mr Bo Libert, Regional Advisor on Environment, Environment Division, UNECE

17.00 – 17.10 Conclusions of the Conference

Mr Bo Libert, UNECE

17.10 – 17.30 Closing remarks

- *Ms Djana Bejko*, Deputy Minister of Environment, Albania
- Representatives of Drin Riparians to the Drin Core Group
- *Mr Hermann J. Plumm*, Programme Director, Water Sector Reform; Coordinator Water and Environment, GIZ
- *Mr Dimitris Faloutsos*, Drin Core Group Secretariat/ Senior Programme Officer, Head Southeastern Europe, GWP-Med
- *Mr Bo Libert*, Regional Advisor on Environment, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)