

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024
Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 9759	Umoja WBS: SB-009076.01-06, 11232
SMA IPMR ID: 199018	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000619
Project Short Title: Macedonia GEF6 SLM Project	
Project Title: Promoting Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Through Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework, Capacity Building and Restoration of Most Vulnerable Mountain Landscapes	
Duration months planned:	48
Duration months age:	48
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Europe
Countries:	North Macedonia
GEF Focal Area(s):	Land Degradation
GEF financing amount:	\$ 3,662,545.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 30,063,295.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2020-05-19
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2022-07-20
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2020-09-18
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2021-06-30
Date of First Disbursement:	2020-09-28
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 878,545.00

Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 727,649.00
Midterm undertaken?:	No
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2023-09-30
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2024-06-30
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2025-06-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2026-03-31
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2025-12-31

1.2 Project Description

The objective of this project is to develop and strengthen the national policy and institutional capacities for sustainable land management (SLM) and to contribute to achieving the national and degradation neutrality target with integrated landscape management in north-western mountainous ecosystems of North Macedonia. The goal of the Project is to reduce the effects of land degradation and land use pressures on natural resources in the mountain landscapes. UNEP's Regional Office for Europe (ROE- Geneva and Vienna Programme offices) is the executing agency of the project, while the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP) is the main national partner and Municipalities of Arachinovo, Gazi Baba, Jegunovce, Lipkovo, Saraj and Zhelino as local partners. The project is also working closely with other national partners such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, PE National Forests and PE for Pasture Management. The project aims to achieve its objective through three main components.

Component 1 (Strengthened legal and institutional framework and capacity building for SLM and SFM) aims at analysing the current legal, institutional and capacity needs of land management sector including key opportunities and threats to achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) at national scale in North Macedonia; support in development of a Soil Protection Law, as well as a Soil Protection Strategy with Guidelines for Establishing Soil Quality Monitoring Programme; land utilization and ecosystems services valuation for forest and grasslands ecosystems in the pilot sites in the north-western part of North Macedonia; updates of the "Local Environmental Action Plans" of targeted municipalities to include sustainable land management (SLM) considerations and ecological approaches for erosion control.

Component 2 (Implementation of sustainable land and forest management practices for reducing the effects of land degradation in three pilot sites in the most vulnerable mountainous region (testing and demonstration in selected pilot sites in the most vulnerable mountainous regions, as basis for lessons learned, replication and up scaling) focuses on increasing the practical experience and knowledge of SLM and SFM methods and approaches and to facilitate uptake of SLM/SFM measures, which will eventually lead to reductions in land degradation and enhance ecosystem services. The project focuses on the issue of soil erosion, as one of the dominant types of land

degradation mostly caused by torrent rains, flooding and human activities including poor agricultural practices, inappropriate forest management, illegal loggings and forest fires.

Component 3 (Knowledge management and public awareness) is expected to improve the understanding of the benefits of SLM/SFM and LDN practices to scale up the SLM/SFM/LDN for future activities and sites. It will bring together the results of the project, more efficient approaches to rehabilitation of degraded land and sustainable land management and LDN approaches by private sector land developers and users.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Ecosystems Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	UNEP's Regional Office for Europe (ROE) - Vienna Programme Office
names of Other Project Partners	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of North Macedonia
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Johan Robinson
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Ersin Esen
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	George Saddimbah
UNEP Support Assistants	Charles Imbezi
Manager/Representative	Harald Egerer
Project Manager	Sonja Gebert
Finance Manager	Obinna Okafor
Communications Lead, if relevant	Alejandro Laguna Lopez

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Nature action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	PoW 2019-2020-Subprogramme 3: Healthy and Productive Ecosystems
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature: (iv) Increase in territory of land- and seascapes that is under improved ecosystem conservation and restoration
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	Outcome 4 - Environment and Climate Change, Output 4.2 Natural Resources
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally 15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
3.1- Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration	0 ha	2 050 ha	2 050 ha	0 ha
3.2- Area of forest and forest land under restoration	0 ha	400 ha	400 ha	0 ha
4- Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)	0 ha	12 550 ha	12 550 ha	0 ha

Implementation Status 2023: 4th PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	4th PIR	MS	MS	M
FY 2023	3rd PIR	MS	MS	M
FY 2022	2nd PIR	S	MS	M
FY 2021	1st PIR	MS	MS	L
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

The project's progress pace is slow. The project will have a midterm review in Sept 2024. This assessment will provide further guidance on the actions to be taken to speed up the project.

The goal of the Project is to reduce the effects of land degradation and land use pressures on natural resources in the mountain landscapes in North Macedonia. As part of the project's overall goal, the following activities have been accomplished:

- Local consultants contracted to support the overall coordination of the project,
- Consultation meetings were conducted on a regular basis with the local UNEP team, GEF Operational and UNCCD Focal Point, MOEPP CBD FP and other MOEPP representatives, as well as with local partners for implementation of separate project activities,
- The First Project Steering Committee was held on 1st March 2024, to discuss the progress of project activities, upcoming plans and overcoming the challenges.
- Local partner for drafting the Soil protection Law was contracted and a first draft of the Law is prepared. An inter-institutional expert working group is established, and an official announcement regarding the preparation of the law has been published on the MoEPP website.
- ToR for the Development of Soil Protection Strategy and Guidelines for Establishing Soil Quality Monitoring Programme is prepared, and approved by the MoEPP. There is an ongoing procedure for contracting of the Local partner.
- A Program for afforestation was developed for the planned pilot sites and for additional three pilot sites.
- Established communication and cooperation with the Public Enterprise National Forests to conduct the afforestation work on the state forest land under their management.

In the frame of Component 1, the following activities has been accomplished:

Output 1.1.1 “Analysis of the ongoing legal, institutional and capacity needs of land management sector including key opportunities and threats to achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) at national scale in North Macedonia”, is completed and approved by MoEPP, and made available to the local and national government. The following documents have been produced:

a) Stakeholders’ engagement plan; b) Report/minutes from the first stakeholders’ engagement meeting regarding the process of drafting the law); c) Report on the current legal and institutional framework in the country relevant to soil protection, sustainable land management (SLM) and land degradation neutrality (LDN); d) Roadmap for development and adoption of the Soil Protection Law; e) Report/minutes from the second stakeholders’ consultation meeting (to present the results of the legal and institutional framework, discuss the roadmap, and present the structure with discussions on the scope of the law); f) Functional analysis on soil protection, SLM and LDN in North Macedonia (what each chapter of the draft law should contain); g) Guidance on demonstrating and scaling up SLM and LDN best practices.

Output 1.1.2 “Development of Soil Protection Strategy and Guidelines for Establishing Soil Quality Monitoring Programme completed and made available for adoption”: TOR for Development of Soil Protection Strategy is prepared and finalized in consultations with local partners and approved by MOEPP. There is an ongoing procedure for contracting of the Local partner.

Output 1.1.3 “Land utilization and ecosystems services valuation for forest and grasslands ecosystems in the pilot sites in the north-western part of Macedonia”: Based on the evaluation findings, a Synthesis Report was prepared (for the targeted municipalities Zhelino, Saraj, Arachinovo, Lipkovo, Jagunovce and Gazi Baba), together with separate maps for the project area for each of the pilot municipalities. The final deliverables will be promoted and further distributed in the upcoming period and during the entire project duration.

Output 1.1.4 “Support in the Development of the Law on Soil Protection”: The first draft of the Soil Protection Law is prepared and shared with MOEPP. An official announcement regarding the preparation of the Law was published on MOEPP website, and an Expert working group on the Soil Law was established with a MOEPP decision (signed on 29 May 2024).

Output 1.1.5 “Local Environmental Action Plans (LEAPs) of targeted municipalities are revised and updated, to include sustainable land management considerations and ecological approaches for erosion control”: The final versions of the LEAPs for the pilot municipalities (Arachinovo, Jagunovce, Saraj and Zelino) have been shared with MOEPP, and approved. Synergy activities report and Erosion protection and torrent waters for Municipality of Lipkovo is also prepared and delivered to MOEPP and approved. The LEAPs are undergoing translation into Albanian.

Output 1.2.1. “Relevant national and municipal resource managers capacitated in SLM and SFM practices, ecosystem services and use of economic instruments”: TOR is prepared and a local partner is identified. There is an ongoing process of contracting the selected local partner. The Capacity Building Trainings in Türkiye is scheduled for

the second week of September (08-15 September 2024). There is an ongoing consultation with the Türkiye/Directorate for Combating Desertification and Erosion on developing the training programme module/s.

Output 1.2.2 “Strengthened National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) to coordinate institutions, engage with local communities and manage information flows for better integration of SFM/SLM and LDN aspects”: Following the presidential and parliamentary elections in North Macedonia (April-June 2024), a new NCSD is expected to be established, when the communication is expected to reconvene.

In the frame of Component 2, the following activities has been accomplished:

Output 2.1.1 “SFM and SLM guidelines are prepared and made available to national and local authorities and all interested stakeholders, providing an effective framework for reforestation, afforestation, restoration and conservation activities”: Within the scope of this output, consultants have been engaged to support the revision and update of the national LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality) targets, as well as the National Drought Management Plan. These documents will serve as a baseline of further development of the Soil Protection Strategy, and updating the Draft National Action plan to Combat Desertification, but also contribute to development of the guidelines and effective framework for re/afforestation activities.

Output 2.1.2 “SFM practices and priority actions for afforestation are implemented to accelerate optimized use of forest and non-forest land by communities and local government on 5 000 hectares at pilot sites”: A Program for afforestation of 6 pilot sites on 400 ha is prepared. Furthermore, a TOR with specifications for afforestation activities is being finalized, following several consultation meetings with the Public Enterprise National Forests and the Public Enterprise Pasture Management. A Memorandum for cooperation between UNEP, MOEPP and PE National Forests has been drafted.

Output 2.1.3 “SLM practices to address priority LD and deforestation issues tested, demonstrated and locally validated on 10 000 hectares to achieve local LDN targets”: Revision of the Drought Management Plan and suggestions for inputs/revision of the Draft National Action Plan to Combat Desertification is completed. Furthermore, the lessons learned from the planned Türkiye training, as well as NCSD-related upcoming trainings, are expected to be the baseline to conduct the trainings under Output 2.1.3 on testing of SLM practices (to be implemented by the end of the project). The SLM trainings are expected to train 100 representatives from the PEs and state institutions, 400 participants from other stakeholders and at least 100 local farmers is adopting/piloting SLM practices on an area of 50 ha. Local partner identified in collaboration with MOEPP.

In the frame of Component 3, the following activities has been accomplished:

Output 3.1.1 “Production of knowledge management products made available to national and local stakeholders, based on training and exchanges under Outcome 1.2 and best practice arising from Outcome 2.1 to ensure SLM/SFM and LDN”: This activity is ongoing, and depends on the finalization mainly of Outcome 1.2 and Outcome 2.1.

Output 3.1.2. "Communication strategy and outreach campaign designed and made available to targeted national and local stakeholders, with an emphasis on ecological and economic benefits of sustainable management of land and forests of North Macedonia, including establishment of web-based national SLM/SFM and LDN knowledge management hub": The project developed a Project Communication Strategy, for stakeholders' engagement throughout the implementation of all project activities. This Strategy is shared and approved by MOEPP. TOR for starting of SLM/SFM outreach campaign/s and development of promotional materials was drafted and approved by MoEPP. The development of the web-based communication hub is being discussed together with the institutional communication tools on SLM/SFM/LDN. An initial communication has been made with SCOUTS regarding their possible involvement through the 'Borenka' programme during the afforestation activities, to include project visibility and raise awareness on SLM/SFM/LDN.

Output 3.1.3 "Development of three bankable project proposals made available to national authorities, for replication of sustainable land and forest management practices in other regions identified as vulnerable": This output will be implemented during 2025, following the deliverables of all components and specific stakeholders' needs.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 33,725,840
Actual to date:	10,280,000
Progress	<p>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning has provided UNEP with office space for the project needs. Furthermore, the Ministry is continuously supporting the project execution with dedicated engagement and monitoring the implementation of the planned activities, field work activities, awareness raising events and public consultation processes. MOEPP expertise and guidance is crucial for political and operational execution of the project, especially during the development of the Soil Protection Law and Strategy, during project deliveries, such as the LEAPs for targeted municipalities, the ecosystem services valuation for forest and grassland ecosystems at the pilot sites and similar. The Ministry actively participated in preparing the Afforestation program and maintained daily communication with the UNEP team.</p> <p>In addition, the targeted municipalities have been communicated during the preparation of the LEAPs and the ecosystem valuation services, through their engagement in working groups and meetings. This increases the level of knowledge and upscaling the received results and recommendations in the operations at local and national level, as well as awareness raising.</p>

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2024-03-01
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p>Knowledge management sharing and raising public awareness of SLM/SFM/LDN targeting stakeholders at both national and local levels forms part of all project components and is carried out with particular support from the scientific community, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, as well as non-governmental organizations that can directly contribute to proactive engagement of stakeholders.</p> <p>Regular meetings are being held with the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (CBD, UNCCD/GEF Operational Focal Points), as well as with local partners on the status of implementation of planned activities. Frequent coordination meetings with Faculty of Forestry, Public Enterprise National Forests and Public Enterprise Pasture Management, especially for the implementation of C2 activities, are being organized.</p> <p>The activities under component 3 are expected to increase the access to information on the project, possibility for different stakeholders to access and contribute to the quality of deliverables and increase the knowledge on SLM/SFM/LDN challenges and opportunities.</p>

2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	No
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	The project is in line with UNEP's commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment and takes into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of both men and women. Also, the project is consistent with the GEF Policy on Gender Equality (GEF/C.53/04, October 2017), and is also in line with the UNCCD, which recognizes the important role of women and of all individuals with expertise on desertification, land degradation and drought. The developed project Communication strategy includes gender mainstreaming tools in line with SDGs with focus on increasing the understanding of land degradation issues and impacts. Activities with reference to promotion of gender equality have been included in the selection of local partners, out of which 75% women are managing NGOs.

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage? No If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN? N/A
New social and/or environmental risks	Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period? No If yes, describe the new risks or changes? N/A
Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period? No If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken? N/A
Environmental and social	

safeguards management	In all project activities, a transparent process has been used, involving all stakeholders and respecting gender equality. Regarding social protection measures, all stakeholders are treated equally, regardless of different nationality, gender, or other categorization.
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2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	There is not yet any knowledge product to be shared.
Main learning during the period	<p>The project has experienced a slow pace of progress. Identifying the root causes of these delays and addressing them promptly is crucial. Regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure timely completion of tasks. The scheduled midterm review in September 2024 will be a pivotal moment for the project. It is essential to utilize this review to reassess timelines, reallocate resources if necessary, and establish clear, actionable steps to accelerate progress.</p> <p>Regular consultation meetings with UNEP, GEF, UNCCD Focal Point, MOEPP, and local partners have been instrumental in aligning efforts and addressing challenges collaboratively. The First Project Steering Committee meeting on March 1, 2024, was successful in discussing project progress and future plans. Continual engagement of the Steering Committee is vital for strategic oversight and guidance.</p> <p>Establishing an inter-institutional expert working group and publicly announcing the law's preparation have been crucial steps for transparency and inclusivity.</p> <p>Engaging stakeholders in the development and approval process ensures buy-in and relevance of these strategic documents.</p>

2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	<p>The first public awareness campaign is ongoing through Activity 1.1.4, aiming to raise public awareness on Soil Protection and Soil Protection Law, some of the shared stories are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Shared Official announcement, published on MOEPP website regarding the preparation of the Soil protection Law</u> • <u>On 27.March 2024, near the Bogoslovec wind park, Sveti Nikole, with the symbolic planting of seedlings, the preparation of the Law on Soil Protection in the Republic of North Macedonia and the action for afforestation of 400ha were promoted.</u>
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<https://www.facebook.com/ipecc.org/posts/pfbid0Q3hDweyQJQ4uVtXCgCrZvf5ccTWbp8i2MNxYrXE8zwxZcxmF5bF8vdmIU2sHBmWel>

- Post on start of the Drafting Law on Soil Protection in the Republic of North Macedonia:

ENG language <https://www.facebook.com/ipecc.org/posts/pfbid02jFJrw377TA8LaQjd3PW4wrEwuAaUyehaUegfhGNyW7d9Gndajn96CtMCgCsm2DhQl>

MK Language <https://www.facebook.com/ipecc.org/posts/pfbid02qoMq6KapBJ4ngdiVjMTnTWvzajbKWnzqFMA4VDbkhMhRee6LvWGzzVFDG5qBtrNXl>

MOEPP website:

- On 29 April 2024 Official announcement was published on MOEPP website regarding the preparation of the Soil protection Law

<https://www.moep.gov.mk/nastani/%d0%b8%d0%b7%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%81%d1%82%d1%83%d0%b2%d0%b0%d1%9a%d0%b5-%d0%b7%d0%b0-%d0%b7%d0%b0%d0%bf%d0%be%d1%87%d0%bd%d1%83%d0%b2%d0%b0%d1%9a%d0%b5-%d0%bd%d0%b0-%d0%b8%d0%b7%d1%80%d0%b0%d0%b1%d0%be/>

- Announcement on MOEPP website related to the drafting the Soil protection Law, and afforestation of 400ha forest land.

https://www.moep.gov.mk/nastani/%d1%88%d1%83%d0%ba%d0%be%d0%b2%d0%b0-%d1%9c%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b5-%d0%b8%d0%b7%d1%80%d0%b0%d0%b1%d0%be%d1%82%d1%83%d0%b2%d0%b0-%d0%b7%d0%b0%d0%ba%d0%be%d0%bd-%d0%b7%d0%b0-%d0%b7%d0%b0%d1%88%d1%82%d0%b8/?fbclid=IwY2xjawEUb0FleHRuA2FbQlxMQABHXegXpvUVag5AR4yFnstHbp3FSjEH19IjFQ1z0fUs3PLOY1EDXWSc53Oyw_aem_ul5eNJ5bTeD7Q7ZGw8YRxQ

3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
To develop and strengthen national policy and institutional capacity for sustainable land management (SLM) and to contribute to achieving the national and degradation neutrality target with integrated landscape management in north-western mountainous ecosystems of North Macedonia		Weak political or institutional will to make necessary changes will prevent the application of SLM and SFM practices on the ground		Analysis of the ongoing legal, institutional and capacity needs of land management sector including key opportunities and threats to achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) at national scale in North Macedonia completed and made available to the national and local government	40%	Plan for stakeholders' involvement and communication developed; Report on current legal and institutional framework in North Macedonia developed, Road Map to a Law on soil protection developed and Functional analysis and Guidance on demonstrating and scaling up SLM and LDN best practices developed. All deliverables approved by MoEPP. Delivered first draft of the Soil protection Law.	MS
Outcome 1.1.: National authorities address gaps and weaknesses in the land use and	Number of Government Strategy, Legislation developed	No specific strategy for soil	Report on existing legal, institutional	National Soil Protection Strategy	20%	Local partner Identified, TOR for Development of Soil Protection Strategy is finalized in consultations with local	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
land degradation policy, legal and regulatory framework to accelerate the achievement of land degradation neutrality		protection	and capacity needs of land management sector	approved		partner and MOEPP, approved by MOEPP. Ongoing contracting procedure.	
		No specific legislation on protection of soils	Updated Local Environmental Action Plans (LEAPs)	LEAPs updated	LEAPs updated	LEAPs for pilot municipalities (Arachinovo, Jagunovce, Saraj and Zelino), Synergy activities report and Erosion protection and torrent waters for Municipality of Lipkovo are finalized and shared with MOEPP. Ongoing translation of the documents into Albanian language	S
			Drafted Soil Protection Strategy	Soil Protection Law drafted	50%	The first draft of the Soil Protection Law is prepared and shared with MOEPP, an announcement was published on MOEPP website regarding the preparation of the Law, and Expert WG was established with a MOEPP decision (signed on 29 May 2024). Ongoing consultative processes on the Law	S
Outcome 1.2: Trained national and municipal resource managers to integrate SLM/ SFM in LDN, in coordination with the NCSD	# of trained and capacitated NCSD members	NCSD has limited capacity, limited participation of important stakeholders, limited coordination between the	MOEPP: 22 5 NCSD members trained	MOEPP 30 100 experts trained	40%	TOR is prepared, local partner identified, ongoing conclusion of SSFA with the selected local partner. Capacity building Trainings in Türkiye: scheduled for the second week of September (08-15 September 2024). Continuous coordination with the local partner and the General Directorate of Combating desertification and erosion within the Ministry of Forestry and	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		members of NCS				Water Affairs from the Republic of Turkey on finalising the training programme module. Currently, a new National Development Strategy is under final consultation and adoption with the national authorities. It is expected to bring restructuring the NCS and its operations, to support the implementation of this and other national planning documents and policies. In consultation with MOEP, these trainings are to be postponed until the adoption of the strategy and the mentioned institutionalization.	
Outcome 2.1: Local governments in North Macedonia apply practical methods, approaches and practices for halting or reversing land degradation and deforestation beyond the pilots	Forest land under SFM (ha) under afforestation actions	~9,000 ha of forest and forest land have been lost annually 0 ha under SFM practices; There are no specific guidelines for undertaking SFM in project sites	Guidelines for SFM reforestation for the targeted municipalities prepared; SFM approaches (based on developed SFM guidelines) for additional 5 000 ha of forest and forest land	Practical application of field afforestation activities at selected bare land or severely degraded forest and additional 5 000 ha of forest and forest land is under SFM	40%	ToR developed in consultation with MOEP and Local expert was engaged. Revision and Update of the national LDN targets is ongoing and will serve as baseline for the preparation of the Soil Protection Strategy, and updating of the Draft National Action plan to Combat Desertification in addition, consultations with MOEP on developing ToR for Expert to develop Guidelines on SLM and SFM for reforestation, afforestation, restoration and conservation is ongoing. Afforestation programs for 6 pilot sites on 400 ha is prepared. Based on the prepared afforestation programme, TOR with	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
			determined			specifications for afforestation activities is being finalized, following several consultation meetings with PE. National forests, regarding the afforestation, and PE for pasture management.	
	Area of land under sustainable land management (ha) under SFM ;# of farmers testing SLM practices	0 ha - Farmers do not apply sustainable land management and climate smart agricultural practices in pilot municipalities	500 local farmers involved in the questionnaires by year 1; At least 100 local farmers tested SLM practices	10 000 ha of land under SLM	30%	Revised Drought Management Plan and suggestions for inputs for revision of the Draft National Action Plan to Combat Desertification is prepared. Ongoing is preparation of ToR on Land Management Study and Action Plan and development of national training on SLM practices	MS
	# of municipal action plans updated (LEAP)	Municipalities have no systematic plans with local land users to prevent or reverse erosion threats; Limited local level knowledge or	2 LEAPs revised and updated	5 LEAPs revised and updated	5 LEAPs revised and updated	LEAPs for pilot municipalities (Arachinovo, Jagunovce, Saraj and Zelino), Synergy activities report and Erosion protection and torrent waters for Municipality of Lipkovo are finalized and shared with MOEPP. Ongoing translation of the documents into Albanian language	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		understanding of SLM methods or approaches					
Outcome 3.1: Private sector, land developers and users apply SLM/SFM best practices for mitigating erosion and degradation applicable for North Macedonia	Community, stakeholder and societal knowledge and understanding of benefits of SLM/SFM improved	Few targeted knowledge products based on best practice for SLM and application of LDN principle available	At least 300 people (out of which, at least 50% women) have taken notice of, or participate in, at least 3 targeted awareness raising activities and/or materials	At least 500 people (out of which, at least 50% women) have been given opportunity to take notice of, or participate in, a variety of targeted awareness raising activities and materials and benefits from SLM/SFM	10%	Ongoing coordination with MOEPP for public awareness activities and depends on the finalization of Outcome 1.2 and Outcome 2.1	MS
		Few stakeholders have knowledge products on SLM/SFM and LD		At least 50% of the communication and awareness raising products delivered by the project will be focused	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
				towards women			
		No Web-based national knowledge management hub for SLM/SFM and LDN available to scientific institutions, public and private sector			20%	This activity is discussed together with the institutional communication tools on SLM/SFM/LDN. Ongoing are communication with MOEPP on developing of the communication and information hub and developing of ToR.	MS
	Three new project proposals for application of SLM/SFM developed	No well-developed SLM/ SFM project proposals for submission to donors prepared	One bankable SLM/SFM project proposals prepared	Three bankable SLM/SFM project proposals prepared and being discussed with potential donors	0%	Planned to be implemented in the next reporting period, following the deliverables of all components and specific stakeholders' needs.	MS

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Strengthened legal and institutional framework and capacity building for SLM and SFM	Output 1.1.1.: SLM approaches mainstreamed into revised legal framework and land management planning processes	2022-03-31	100%	100%	Revised legal framework and land management planning processes	S
	Activity 1.1.1.1. Analysis and identification of gaps in the relevant primary and secondary legislation in the land management sector in the country	2021-12-31	100%	100%	Local partner Institute for Policies in Environment and Climate Change selected and SSFA signed on 10-Jun-2022. Functional analysis and Guidance on demonstrating and scaling up SLM and LDN best practices prepared and approved by MoEPP.	S
	Activity 1.1.1.2. Analysis, identification of gaps and different responsibilities of relevant stakeholders in the land management sector	2021-12-31	100%	100%	Functional analysis and Guidance on demonstrating and scaling up SLM and LDN best practices prepared and approved by MoEPP.	S
	Activity 1.1.1.3. Conduct meetings and workshop with relevant stakeholders to discuss results from the performed analysis under 1.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.2 and present proposals for improvements, taking into consideration gender balance and inclusion of vulnerable groups and ethnic and religious minorities	2021-12-31	100%	100%		S
	Activity 1.1.1.4. Prepare report with recommendations for improvements in the identified legal and institutional framework	2022-03-31	100%	100%	Plan for stakeholders' involvement and communication developed and approved by MoEPP.	S
	Activity 1.1.1.5. Clarify and define individual and joint stakeholder responsibilities, especially in regards to SLM and SFM decision making mechanisms and responsibilities	2022-03-31	100%	100%	Stakeholders' engagement and communication plan was prepared.	S
	Output 1.1.2: Development of Soil Protection Strategy and Guidelines for Establishing Soil Quality Monitoring Programme completed and made available for adoption	2025-09-30	10%	20%	Delays in the implementation due to appointment process of new National technical project coordinator, parliamentary and president elections in the country	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 1.1.2.1. Analysis of the existing national and local policy documents to impact SLM and SFM, major related environmental problems, steps taken so far and reasons for strategy development	2024-09-30	20%	30%	Activity partially conducted through Output 1.1.1TOR developed and shared with MoEPP and approved. Consortium of local partners for implementation of the activity is agreed with MoEPP. In the reporting period was suggested increase of budget on this activity and was discussed and agreed on the PSC meeting.	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.2. Preliminary national stakeholders' consultations to discuss major problems and results under 1.1.2.1, taking into consideration gender balance and inclusion of vulnerable groups and ethnic and religious minorities	2024-12-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.3. Develop sections on LD in correlation with other sectors and impacts, mechanisms for measuring soil quality and effectiveness of remedial actions	2025-03-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.4 Consultation with national stakeholders to discuss proposed actions and best management practices	2025-03-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.5. Draft Soil Protection Strategy	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.6. Develop guidelines for establishing soil quality monitoring programme	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Activity 1.1.2.7. National stakeholders' consultations to discuss 1.1.2.6 and development of final version of the Strategy, taking into account gender balance and inclusion of minorities	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Output 1.1.3: Land utilization and ecosystem services valuation for forest and grasslands ecosystems in the pilot sites in the north-western part of North Macedonia, completed and disseminated	2024-12-31	50%	90%	Land utilization and ecosystems services valuation for forest and grasslands ecosystems in the pilot sites (municipality of Zhelino, Saraj, Arachinovo, Lipkovo, Jagunovce and Gazi Baba) completed, in addition a Synthesis	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					Report was prepared together with separate maps for the project area for each of the pilot municipalities. The final deliverables will be promoted and further distributed in the upcoming period and during the entire project duration.	
	Activity 1.1.3.1. Determine through stakeholder consultation which SLM options are to be assessed for land utilization and ecosystem services	2022-09-30	100%	100%	Local partner selected and SSFA signed with Macedonian Ecological Society on 15-Jun-2022.	S
	Activity 1.1.3.2. Preparation of studies on (a) Scenario characterization and biophysical & economic data and (b) Scenario analysis and valuation – within a scope of application of land utilization and ecosystem services	2023-06-30	70%	100%	A List of threats and pressures was created, and the expert team identified ecosystem type/s within each municipality	S
	Activity 1.1.3.3. Organizing of Stakeholder validation workshop on the application of land utilization and ecosystem services and preparation of final version on scenario analysis and valuation	2023-09-30	100%	100%	Validation workshop for Development of Ecosystem services (ESS) for the Municipalities of Lipkovo, Arachinovo, Gazi Baba, Saraj, Zhelino and Jegunovce was held on October 4, 2022, whereas the experts' workshop was organized on 25-Nov-2022.	MS
	Activity 1.1.3.4. Publications (translation, design and printing) of scenario analysis and valuation study on the applications of land utilization and ecosystem services	2024-06-30	70%	80%	All developed documents (Synthesis report on Land utilization and ecosystem services valuation for forest and grasslands ecosystems in the pilot sites in the north-western part of North Macedonia”, and Factsheets on Ecosystem services for each pilot site/municipality) were delivered to	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					MoEPP for final approval. These documents will be translated in Albanian, whereas a summary will be provided in English.	
	Activity 1.1.3.5. Dissemination of Scenario analysis and valuation study on the application of land utilization and ecosystem services	2024-12-31	50%	50%	Ongoing communication with the pilot sites/municipalities for organizing educative workshop on Promotion and distribution of publications with scenario analysis and valuation study on the applications of land utilization and ecosystem services.	MS
	Output 1.1.4: Support in the Development of the Law on Soil Protection	2024-12-31	20%	30%	Some progress has been made in the development of the Soil Protection Law, including the completion of the working thesis and structure, establishment of an expert team, preparation of the first draft, and ongoing consultative meetings and workshops.	MS
	Activity 1.1.4.1. Conform an inter-institutional steering group to guide and supervise the development of the Law, taking into consideration the existing international and national policies, regulations and treaties	2024-06-30	30%	100%	Working thesis and structure of the LSP were completed. This activity was followed by a series of experts' meetings The working group on the Soil Law was established with a MOEPP decision (signed on 29 May 2024) – first session expected by mid-August.	MS
	Activity 1.1.4.2. Establishment of an expert team to work on the development of the Draft Law, taking into account gender balance	2022-12-31	100%	100%	A local partner was selected and contracted to support the Development of the Soil Protection Law (Institute for Policies in Environment and Climate	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					Change-IPECC). Expert team was established (involving soil expert, legal, erosion, pedology, climate expert, etc.)	
	Activity 1.1.4.3. Develop Draft Law on Soil Protection	2024-09-30	20%	60%	Ongoing. The first draft version of the law is prepared and shared with UNEP and MOEPP in March 2024.	S
	Activity 1.1.4.4. Carry out necessary workshops, meetings, national consultations to present and discuss the Draft Law on Soil Protection, taking into account gender balance and inclusion of minorities	2024-12-31	20%	40%	Several consultative meetings with the expert team were organized by the local partner related to the development of the law. In the next period additional workshops, consultative meetings are planned to be organized.	MS
	Activity 1.1.4.5. Preparation of all necessary documentation and submission of the Draft Law to relevant legislation authorities for official processing and adoption of the Law	2025-06-30	10%	20%	Ongoing. On 15/03/2024 announcement was published on MoEPP website regarding the preparation of the Law on Soil Protection.	MS
	Output 1.1.5: "Local Environmental Action Plans" of targeted municipalities are revised and updated, to include sustainable land management considerations and ecological approaches for erosion control	2024-12-31	50%	90%	There is significant progress in revising and updating the Local Environmental Action Plans (LEAPs) for targeted municipalities, with final versions delivered to MOEPP and translation into Albanian currently underway.	S
	Activity 1.1.5.1. Selection of expert team to work on the development of the "Local Environmental Action Plans"	2021-03-31	100%	100%	Local partner contracted: Milieu Kontakt MK (MKM) with an expert team to support the development of the Local Environmental Action Plans (LEAPs)	MS
	Activity 1.1.5.2. Draft "Local Environmental Action Plans", taking into	2021-09-30	80%	100%	LEAPs for the targeted municipalities	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	account gender balance, local capacities and institutional budgets				(Arachinovo, Lipkovo, Saraj, Zhelino, Jegunovce) were drafted, including the sustainable land management and ecological approaches for erosion control and torrent waters for the Municipality of Lipkovo.	
	Activity 1.1.5.3. Stakeholders workshop to discuss developed draft "Local Environmental Action Plans"	2022-12-31	80%	100%	The LEAPs are shared with MOEPP and the municipalities. In parallel, meetings are being organized with each to discuss the findings. Received comments were integrated and LEAPs are finalised and delivered to MOEPP	MS
	Activity 1.1.5.4. Final "Local Environmental Action Plans" updated and lessons learned	2021-12-31	80%	95%	Deliverables: LEAPs for pilot municipalities (Arachinovo, Jagunovce, Saraj and Zelino), Synergy activities report and Erosion protection and torrent waters for Municipality of Lipkovo are finalized and delivered to MOEPP. Ongoing is translation into Albanian language of the documents.	MS
	Output 1.2.1: Relevant national and municipal resource managers capacitated in SLM and SFM practices, ecosystem services and use of economic instruments		0%	40%	Has progress in the organisation of the Capacity Building training in Turkiye (planned for 8-15 September 2024) is prepared and a local partner is identified. There is an ongoing process of contracting the selected local partner. Preparation of ToR for national trainings is in process, and local partner is selected.	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 1.2.1.1. Assessment of capacities at national and local level to identify the needs and challenges of relevant stakeholders in adopting SLM/SFM approaches	2024-09-30	0%	60%	Preliminary discussions were held with relevant national governmental institutions regarding their needs for capacity building in the context of sustainable land and forest management. During these meetings, potential participants for the capacity building training in Turkey were identified. Further details will be identified during the development of the training programme.	S
	Activity 1.2.1.2. Based on the results of 1.2.1.1, develop Training Program, to fit the capacity needs assessment	2024-09-30	0%	30%	Ongoing communication process between UNEP, MoEPP, UNCCD Secretariat and the General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion within the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change in Turkey for development of the Training Program (locations for field visits, topics, logistic arrangements etc.). The first draft concept of the Capacity building training is prepared. Local partner is selected in coordination with MOEP. Next steps are finalisation of the concept and organization of the planned trainings.	S
	Activity 1.2.1.3. Selection of training teams depending on the model of training and stakeholders	2024-09-30	0%	30%	Potential participants for the capacity building training in Turkey were identified. Final selections will follow based on the capacity needs assessment.	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 1.2.1.4. Implementation of the Training Program, taking into consideration gender balance	2024-12-31	10%	40%	The first round of trainings is planned to be conducted the second week of September 2024.	MS
	Activity 1.2.1.5. Identification and addressing of information gaps and flows for carrying out SLM and Identification and addressing of information gaps and flows for carrying out SLM and SFM approaches	2024-12-31	10%	30%	Discussions with representatives from institutions - members of the National Council for Sustainable Development were conducted related to the common SLM/SFM/LDN needs and their involvement in the capacity building trainings. The identification and addressing information gap and flow for carrying out SLM/SFM approaches are to be concluded during the next reporting periods, throughout the implementation of the Training Program.	MS
	Output 1.2.2: Strengthened National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) to coordinate institutions, engage with local communities and manage information flows for better integration of SFM/SLM and LDN aspects	2025-06-30	0%	20%	Significant progress has been made in discussions with representatives from institution members of the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), regarding their participation in capacity-building trainings. However, challenges persist in implementing specific activities due to an ongoing institutional restructuring process. Once the new NCSD is established, these activities will be initiated.	MS
	Activity 1.2.2.1. Strengthen NCSD capacities on SLM and SFM approaches, through thematic meetings and workshops	2025-06-30	10%	20%	Discussions with representatives from institutions - members of the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) were conducted. A organized	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					meeting with the cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister responsible for economic affairs and the NCS D chairperson was organized. Further discussions with MOEPP on the implementation of this activity will follow in the upcoming period. The new National Development Strategy is under final consultations and adoption with the national authorities. It is expected to bring restructuring of the NCS D and its operations, as well as to support the implementation of this and other national planning documents and policies. Consequently, and in consultation with MOEPP, these trainings are to be postponed until the adoption of the strategy and the mentioned institutional restructuring.	
	Activity 1.2.2.2. Field visits for NCS D members to facilitate engagement with local communities	2025-06-30	0%	30%	Discussions with representatives from institutions - members of the National Council for Sustainable Development were conducted related to the common SLM/SFM/LDN needs and their involvement in the capacity building trainings. Specific activities will follow once the National Development Strategy is adopted, and the mentioned institutional restructuring happens. In addition, member institutions of the NCS D will	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					participate in the first capacity building training in September 2024	
	Activity 1.2.2.3. Develop mechanism for gathering and sharing information between NCS members	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Activity 1.2.2.4. Develop recommendations for revising national policies relevant to the land management sector	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	
	Output 2.1.1: SFM and SLM guidelines are prepared and made available to national and local authorities and all interested stakeholders, providing an effective framework for reforestation, afforestation, restoration and conservation activities					
	Activity 2.1.1.1. Establish technical advisory working group with representatives from concerned stakeholders	2024-03-31	80%	100%	National expert identified in close cooperation with MoEPP. A technical advisory working group for implementation of the prescribed actions in the ToR is established and meetings with the MoEPP are organized.	
	Activity 2.1.1.2. Select expert team to work on the development of the guidelines based on data gathered through questionnaires and analysis of other relevant documentation	2024-03-31	80%	100%	Expert team selected and working with MOEPP and other relevant stakeholders, to revise and update the national LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality) target setting report and develop the guidelines.	
	Activity 2.1.1.3. Develop draft guidelines and effective framework of reforestation/ afforestation activities	2024-06-30	50%	70%	Database for preparation of the guidelines was provided. The existing LDN report was analysed and gaps for improvements identified. Some of the new degradation trends of the land have been assessed through the existing (published) data. The drivers of land	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					degradation, described in the existing LDN Report were analyzed and prepared, as well as the approach/methodology for their development and assessment. The existing legal and institutional analysis, connected with LDN have been analyzed and updates are ongoing. Further data collection – ongoing.	
	Activity 2.1.1.4. Workshop and meetings to discuss the developed guidelines with relevant stakeholders taking into consideration gender balance and inclusion of vulnerable groups and ethnic and religious minorities	2025-03-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	
	Activity 2.1.1.5. Final guidelines and effective framework developed	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	
2	Implementation of sustainable land and forest management practices for reducing the effects of land degradation in three pilot sites in the most vulnerable mountainous region (testing and	2025-06-30	0%	30%	Progress has been made in engaging of consultants to support the revision and update of the national LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality) targets, as well as the National Drought Management Plan. These documents will serve as a baseline of further development of the Soil Protection Strategy, and updating the Draft National Action plan to Combat Desertification, but also contribute to development of the guidelines and effective framework for re/afforestation activities.	MS
	Activity 2.1.1.1. Establish technical advisory working group with representatives from concerned stakeholders	2024-03-31	80%	100%	National expert identified in close cooperation with MoEPP. A technical	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
demonstration in selected pilot sites in the most vulnerable mountainous regions, as basis for lessons learned, replication and upscaling)					advisory working group for implementation of the prescribed actions in the ToR is established and meetings with the MoEPP are organized.	
	Activity 2.1.1.2. Select expert team to work on the development of the guidelines based on data gathered through questionnaires and analysis of other relevant documentation	2024-03-31	80%	100%	Expert team selected and working with MOEPP and other relevant stakeholders, to revise and update the national LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality) target setting report and develop the guidelines.	S
	Activity 2.1.1.3. Develop draft guidelines and effective framework of reforestation/ afforestation activities	2024-06-30	50%	60%	Database for preparation of the guidelines was provided. The existing LDN report was analysed and gaps for improvements identified. Some of the new degradation trends of the land have been assessed through the existing (published) data. The drivers of land degradation, described in the existing LDN Report were analyzed and prepared, as well as the approach/methodology for their development and assessment. The existing legal and institutional analysis, connected with LDN have been analyzed and updates are ongoing. Ongoing is further data collection.	MS
	Activity 2.1.1.4. Workshop and meetings to discuss the developed guidelines with relevant stakeholders taking into consideration gender balance and inclusion of vulnerable groups and ethnic and religious minorities	2025-03-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Activity 2.1.1.5. Final guidelines and effective framework developed	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Output 2.1.2: SFM practices and priority actions for afforestation are implemented to accelerate optimized use of forest and non-forest land by communities and local government on 5 000 hectares at pilot sites	2025-06-30	0%	50%	Significant progress in finalizing of the Program for afforestation of 6 pilot sites on 400 ha is prepared. Furthermore, a TOR with specifications for afforestation activities is being finalized, following several consultation meetings with the Public Enterprise National Forests and the Public Enterprise Pasture Management for the implementation of the afforestation programme and a Memorandum for cooperation between UNEP, MOEPP and PE National Forests has been drafted.	MS
	Activity 2.1.2.1. Select expert team to work on the identification and implementation of priority actions	2023-12-31	70%	100%	A national expert was contracted based on the TOR consulted with MOEPP, for preparation of afforestation programs for three pilot sites, including the selection of species, planting techniques, and cultivation measures and overall contribution to the UNEP national project team in implementing activities related to Sustainable Forest Management Practices. Due to the natural conditions on the ground and arid and poor soil conditions, difficult access to the afforestation sites, occupational health and safety aspects, land property issues, the engaged expert proposed to develop a detailed and expanded	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					afforestation plan for three additional locations. As final delivery, Preparation of afforestation programs for 6 pilot sites, selection of species and planting techniques and cultivation measures is prepared.	
	Activity 2.1.2.2. Discuss and select possible pilot sites with national and local stakeholders, including types of species for reforestation/afforestation	2023-12-31	70%	100%	For the three initially planned pilot sites (wider area of the village Strachince, Lipkovo Lake, and Zheden Mountain), meetings with the Public Enterprise National Forests and field visits with its branch offices on the pilot sites were conducted. During these meetings, the forest management plans were discussed, and an analysis of national and separate forest-unit management plans was conducted. Micro-locations for afforestation were selected based on the prepared analysis. Additionally, an analysis was performed on settlements and areas not included in the forestry bases of the PE National Forests. The two analyses covered several key aspects: Selection of tree types, shrubs, and other species for afforestation, Recommendations for soil preparation and processing, Handling of seedlings and recommendations for planting techniques, Suggested types and qualities of seedlings, Detailed work	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					plans for the identified planting seasons. The same process was done for the newly proposed pilot sites: Golashec, Goceva Gora, and Bogoslovec. During the Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting held on 1st March 2024, six suggested pilot sites for afforestation were discussed, and five of them were approved. However, due to the complexity of the pilot site, it was decided that the Zelino pilot site would not be afforested.	
	Activity 2.1.2.3. Establishment of work plan for implementation of SFM practices	2024-03-31	10%	100%	A detailed work plan for the implementation of SFM has been developed in consultation with PE National Forests, shared with MoEPP and approved.	S
	Activity 2.1.2.4. Implement SFM practices and priority actions on selected sites, involving local communities, taking into account gender balance and inclusion of minorities	2025-12-31	0%	20%	ToR and Memorandum of cooperation are drafted, ongoing are coordinative meetings with the PE National forests regarding the afforestation activities and finalisation of the contract.	MS
	Activity 2.1.2.5. Implement SFM practices and priority actions on selected sites, involving local communities, taking into account gender balance and inclusion of minorities	2025-12-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Output 2.1.3: SLM practices to address priority LD and deforestation issues tested, demonstrated and locally validated on 10 000 hectares to achieve local LDN targets	2025-09-30	5%	20%	Progress in finalizing of the Drought Management Plan and suggestions for inputs/revision of the Draft National Action Plan to Combat Desertification . Furthermore, the lessons learned from	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					the planned Turkiye training, as well as NCS-related upcoming trainings, are expected to be the baseline to conduct the trainings under Output 2.1.3 on testing of SLM practices	
	Activity 2.1.3.1. Selection of expert team to work on the implementation of SLM practices	2024-06-30	20%	100%	A national consultant was engaged based on the agreed TOR with MOEPP to review and update of the Drought Management Plan necessary for revision of the draft National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, further feed the national LDN report and will set the baselines for the development of the Soil Protection Strategy. In addition, in consultations with MOEPP (connected with the training activities under Output 1.2.1-1.2.2) was selected expert team to work on the implementation of SLM practices. Following the findings of the needs assessment (Output 1.2.1), the capacity-building training (CBT) developed and implemented (first sessions in Turkiye), all knowledge and experience gained is planned to be replicated at central and local governmental level, with involvement of local communities in testing/piloting SLM activities on forest and pasture lands.	S
	Activity 2.1.3.2. Establishment of inter- organization advisory working	2024-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	group					
	Activity 2.1.3.3. In consultation with concerned stakeholders, determine the pilot sites to test and validate SLM practices	2024-09-30	50%	50%	Initial pilot sites are discased and determined.	MS
	Activity 2.1.3.4. Develop Land Management Study and Action Plan	2024-12-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
	Activity 2.1.3.5. Workshops with national and local authorities and representative of targeted municipalities to present and discuss the study under 2.1.3.4	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 2.1.3.6. Practical testing and validation of applicable SLM practices on identified pilot sites, with involvement of local communities and taking into consideration gender balance	2025-06-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 2.1.3.7. Presentation of results during national stakeholder workshop	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period	MS
3 Knowledge management and public awareness						
	Output 3.1.1: Production of knowledge management products made available to national and local stakeholders, based on training and exchanges under Outcome 1.2 and best practice arising from Outcome 2.1 to ensure SLM/SFM and LDN	2025-12-31	0%	0%	This Output is ongoing, and depends on the finalisation of Outcome 1.2 and Outcome 2.1	MS
	Activity 3.1.1.1. Development of user-friendly handbook on land and forest management practices, applicable in the country and taking gender balance into consideration	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 3.1.1.2. Stakeholders workshop to discuss the developed handbook	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 3.1.1.3. Design, translation, printing and dissemination of the developed handbook	2025-12-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Output 3.1.2: Communication strategy and outreach campaign designed and made available to targeted national and local stakeholders, with an emphasis on ecological and economic benefits of sustainable management of land and forests of North Macedonia, including establishment of web-based national SLM/SFM and LDN	2025-06-30	20%	60%	Project has been made in developing of the Communication Strategy, for stakeholders engagement throughout the implementation of all project activities and approved by MOEPP. TOR for starting	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	knowledge management hub				of SLM/SFM outreach campaign/s and development of promotional materials was drafted and approved by MoEPP. Ongoing is awareness raising campaign related to the development of the Soil Law. The development of the web-based communication hub is being discussed together with the institutional communication tools on SLM/SFM/LDN. An initial communication has been made with SCOUTS regarding their possible involvement through the „Borenka” programme during the afforestation activities, to include project visibility and raise awareness on SLM/SFM/LDN.	
	Activity 3.1.2.1. Develop Communication Strategy taking into consideration gender balance	2022-03-31	95%	100%	Project Communication strategy was developed and agreed with MOEPP, including gender mainstreaming tools in line with SDGs. The strategy includes a project visual identity, and encompasses several components: purpose of the strategy, communication objectives, communication tools, target audiences and stakeholders, key messages, languages, communication flowchart, Activity Plan, monitoring and evaluation. The strategy is adopted on the first PSC meeting.	S
	Activity 3.1.2.2. Organization of outreach campaigns (direct and	2025-12-31	40%	50%	One overall ToR for this activity has	MS

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	indirect dissemination mechanisms) with involvement of local communities and taking into consideration gender balance				<p>been developed and approved by MOEPP. The first public awareness campaign is ongoing through Activity 1.1.4, aiming to raise public awareness on Soil Protection and Soil Protection Law. The second campaign will be conducted through Activity 1.1.2, which focuses on the development of a Soil Protection Strategy and Guidelines for Establishing a Soil Quality Monitoring Programme. Additionally, for the third campaign, a local partner has been selected, and ongoing are consultations for the development of the ToR. Communication is established with SCOUTS for possible their involvement through the 'Borenka' programme during the afforestation activities, kids' participation and provide project visibility and raise awareness on SLM/SFM in LDN. The outreach campaigns will provide high-quality informative videos, written articles, PR text for electronic and written media, video clips, viral videos, and educational materials for kids. These materials will reflect the best project activities, with a focus on preparedness needs, possibilities, and the critical importance of an early warning and</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					public alert system.	
	Activity 3.1.2.3. Connecting with related national networks and regional initiatives, for possible experience sharing and organization of experience exchange study visits	2025-03-31	30%	40%	In cooperation with MOEPP, UNCCD Secretariat and UNEP project team, was organized the Interregional Thematic Workshop on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) for representatives of the Annex IV and V of the Convention. The main objective of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for the participants to strengthen their capacities in combating DLDD through sharing knowledge and best practices on gender-responsive land-related issues and SLM. The project, along with this workshop, supported the celebration of the World Drought and Desertification Day (June 17, 2023) under the motto #HerLand.HerRight. During the reporting period initial communication was established with the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development (SWG RRD) responsible for coordination of the Western Balkan Soil Partnership for possible collaboration. UNEP' NT Project coordinator is involved in the Regional Inclusive Biobased Entrepreneurship Solutions (RIBES) Multi-actor Transformative Forums (MTFs) in Western Balkans.	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	Develop web based communication and information dissemination hub/site	2025-06-30	0%	20%	This activity is discussed together with the institutional communication tools on SLM/SFM/LDN. Ongoing are communication with MOEPP on developing of the communication and information hub and developing of ToR.	MS
	Output 3.1.3: Development of three bankable project proposals made available to national authorities, for replication of sustainable land and forest management practices in other regions identified as vulnerable	2025-09-30	0%	0%	This output will be implemented during 2025, following the deliverables of all components and specific stakeholders' needs.	MS
	Activity 3.1.3.1. Develop three bankable project proposals, taking into consideration gender balance and inclusion of vulnerable groups and ethnic and religious minorities	2025-09-30	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS
	Activity 3.1.3.2. Analysis of the results and capture lessons learned for replication in other regions	2025-12-31	0%	0%	Planned for the next reporting period.	MS

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Substantial	Substantial
3 Implementation schedule	Substantial	Substantial
4 Budget	Moderate	Moderate
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Low	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	Low	Low

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Risk 1: Insecurity and political unrest may result in considerable delays and postponement of project implementation	All Project outcomes and outputs	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	Remains the same
Risk 2: Lack of attention by National	Outcome 1.1 and 1.2.	M	M	M	M	S	M	S	↑	In the current PIR. some activities

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Government institutions because of other priorities (in particular possible start of negotiation with EU for integration)										were postponed and with delays due to governmental and presidential elections. Now, the current political situation in North Macedonia is stable, and we expect that it won't significantly impact on the project implementation
Risk 3: Administrative challenges emerging during setting up policy platform for SLM coordination between the sectors.	Outcome 1.2. and 3.1	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	Remains the same
Risk 4: Rehabilitation of disused and abandoned land surfaces may encounter resistance from landowners (public and private) and political figures	Outcome 2.1	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	↑	Remains the same
Risk 5: Insufficient knowledge about modern technologies and technical approaches, such as GIS, remote sensing, computer modelling, environmental valuation, cost-benefit analysis, and social impact assessment	Outcome 2.1.	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	Remains the same
Risk 6: Unclear roles of stakeholders in the execution of the project may result in lack of commitment/buy-in from local communities and therefore may result in failure of demonstration projects	Outcome 1.1, 1.2 and 2.1.	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	=	Remains the same
Risk 7: Climate change impacts (e.g. increased flooding; more severe droughts; forest fires) may negatively affect project activities for ecosystem restoration and effective SLM practices	Overall								=	Remains the same

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Risk 8: Poor monitoring of environmental, social and economic impacts after the project implementation	Overall	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	Remains the same
Workflow Risk: Delays in project activities and expenditures as well	Overall	N/A	H	M	M	M	H	M	↓	New National Technical Project coordinator was engaged. there is a progress in implementation of the activities especially in communication and contracting of local partners.
	overall	N/A	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Risk1: Insecurity and political unrest may result in considerable delays and postponement of project implementation	The current political situation in North Macedonia is stable. but the potential for a spontaneous upsurge is real. The project team will provide continuous monitoring of the security and political situation in the country and update the Steering Committee on a regular basis. There is sufficient	Following the parliamentary and presidential elections. the political situation is stabilizing. The 1st PSC was organised in March 2024.	The PMU will continue to monitor the security and political situation on a regular basis. The PMU will continue to foster and maintain communication. especially with the key local partners.	Until the end of the project.	UNEP. MOEPP. Local partners

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	time for adequate response actions and adjustment in project strategy.				
Risk 2: Lack of attention by National Government institutions because of other priorities (in particular possible start of negotiation with EU for integration)	The project will emphasize the advantages of its intervention not only toward meeting global goals. but also the EU acquis.	There is an ongoing process on development of the Soil Protection Law and Strategy. that will be taking into consideration the country's needs. but also obligations stemming from the international agreements and the latest developments on soil protection at EU level. The project team and local partners are making further efforts to raise the awareness and interest on the LD challenges and SLM/SFM/LDN approaches among local and state authorities and communities.	There is upcoming capacity building events and training for the Institutions that have role in SLM/SFM to expand the knowledge. practices and to contribute to the goal of achieving the national LDN in harmonization with EU legislation.	Until the end of the project.	UNEP. MOEPP. Local partners
Risk 3: Administrative challenges emerging during setting up policy platform for SLM coordination between the sectors	The project will focus on previously identified goals regarding land management. which are necessary to be	Close and fruitful cooperation with the concerned local partners is fostered.	Organization of thematic trainings for national and municipal resource managers to integrate SLM/SFM in LDN	Until the end of the project	UNEP. MOEPP. Local partners

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	implemented according to national strategic documents.				
Risk 5: Insufficient knowledge about modern technologies and technical approaches. such as GIS. remote sensing. computer modelling. environmental valuation. cost-benefit analysis. and social impact assessment	The project will support training and coordination with the central government to support the introduction and use of new technology. as well as the transfer of knowledge and skills from the extension services of the central government to the new staff in local (municipal) governments. Also. the project will pursue coordination and development of training modules with other ongoing projects of similar topic.	The update of the National LDN targets and the Drought Management Plan set the baseline for development of the Soil Protection Law and Strategy. An afforestation program for 6 pilot sites to cover 400 ha is prepared. The first training is planned to be organised the second week of September 2024. All these and upcoming activities consider the latest SLM/SFM developments and knowledge.	Capacity building events and trainings for the Institutions that have role in the management of SLM/SFM.	Until the end of the project	UNEP. Local partners
Risk 7: Climate change impacts (e.g. increased flooding; more severe droughts; forest fires) may negatively affect project activities for ecosystem restoration and effective SLM practices	Integrated land use plans will include hazard mitigation measures to minimize the impacts of droughts (e.g. through better water management and adoption of drought tolerant crops). to reduce	Following the research and afforestation findings. the PSC has approved afforestation activities on the selected pilot mountain areas i.e. area of Lipkovo lake. Strachinci. Goceva Gora. Bogoslovec and	Involvement of localcommunities indevelopingManagement plans(including guidebook)and validation of the pilot sites measures for implementation of effective SLM practices. Organization	Until the end of the project	UNEP. Local partners

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
	the risk of forest fires (through education and improved enforcement regarding the intentional setting of fires). and to reduce the threat of flooding (through improved land management and retention / restoration of vegetative cover).	Golashec. The planned on-ground activities will demonstrate viable methods and approaches for addressing LD. improving SLM and reversing deforestation trends (through SFM) to ensure reducing the adverse effect of climate change.	of thematic workshops for overarching lack of community support for performing local –level interventions with special focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment and the differences. needs. roles and priorities of all men and women.		
Risk 8: Poor monitoring of environmental. social and economic impacts after the project implementation	The Project will strengthen capacities of major stakeholders for environmentally sound practices in sectors competing for land area and natural resources.	Gender oriented communication strategy is developed to guide the process of communication with special focus on increasing understanding of land degradation issues and impacts. the benefits of SLM/SFM approaches in increasing production and income. the low cost of SLM and SFM practices. SLM/SFM best practices to be implemented on the around and sharing the results of activities undertaken within the	Organization and delivery of materials to targeted stakeholders. i.e. SLM/SFM guidelines will be delivered directly to local authorities etc. Policy documents, new legislation (with explanations of its implications and practical application), will be delivered to national and local institutions and local landowners/users, support groups and educational facilities. Following the afforestation activities. PENF is expected to monitor	Until the end of the project.	UNEP. Local partners. main project beneficiaries

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
		project targeted at both local and national stakeholders.	and report on the progress of activities on the ground. PENF will oversee monitoring and implement silviculture measures after the project implementation. The experience gained throughout the project is expected to be replicated in different parts of the country after the project implementation.		

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks. Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks. Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	Yes
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	Yes
Other:	No

Minor amendments

There have been some revisions of the project budget to adjust to the increased costs for development and negotiations of the Soil Protection Strategy, with Guidelines for Establishing Soil Quality Monitoring Programme.

Furthermore, based on the findings of the Afforestation Program, there has been a revision of the afforestation sites. Mainly, the afforestation is planned to be implemented on the following locations: Lipkovo Lake, Strachinci, Golashec, Goceva Gora and Bogoslovec, keeping the initially planned afforestation area.

Both proposals for changes have been presented and approved at the first Project Steering Committee meeting organized in March 2024.

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
	Extension				
	Amendment & Extension				

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Aracinovo	42.023853	21.561557		Land degradation	Afforestation activities
Gazi Baba	42.046616	21.531706		Land degradation	
Lipkovo	42.157009	21.585986		Land degradation	
Jegunovce	42.07287	21.120275		Land degradation	
Saraj	41.999581	21.327996		Land degradation	
Zelino	41.985419	21.065021		Land degradation	
Sveti Nikole (Bogoslovec)	41.773360	22.021864		Land degradation	
Demir Kapija	41.413183	22.255862		Land degradation	
Gevgelija (Golashec)	41.235833	22.485000		Land degradation	

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

EUROPE / Western Balkan / Republic of North Macedonia / <https://www.geonames.org/718075/north-macedonia.html>

[Annex any linked geospatial file]