


Albania

(Third National Report)

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A. REPORTING PARTY

Contracting Party	Albania
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Date of submission	25.01.2007

Information on the preparation of the report

Box I.

Please provide information on the preparation of this report, including information on stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the report.

Applied methodology in preparation of Third national report for Albania

Applied methodology was developed by the national CBD responsible body according to the particularities of Albania: institutional framework, legislative, recent developments, educated manpower's potential and socio-economic state of the country. Methodology was based on the fact that was recognized at the very beginning of Report's preparation, which is that Albania doesn't possess mechanisms for the CBD's implementation but is trying to be active in different field in relation to the financial support and expertise available.

Establishment of the administrative framework for the realization of the preparatory activities were the starting point of the expert group informed about the CBD and national activities, which were to explore and collect basic data on mechanisms and activities related with the CBD's implementation, as well as on all stakeholders that could influence this process. The activity was developed during the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Phase II, project implemented through the World Bank.

Special care by the preparatory process for the III National Report was taken to invite following representatives:

- Governmental authorities;
- Scientists related with the biodiversity and nature's conservation problems;
- Structures in charge for the protected area's management;
- NGO's active in the field of biodiversity management.

According to the applied methodology, the draft report was sent to them with the request of suggestions and comments. Also the workshops and meeting during this period was used for debating the draft report. The last workshop was held on 11th January 2007 in "Mondia Hotel" Tirana. After opening statement of the chairman (national CBD co-ordinator), it has been shown presentation on CBD, its past, present and future, as well as its objectives, means etc. This introduction was made by national CBD co-ordinator, too. During all the meetings very constructive discussion among the participants has evolved. All of them took part in it by expressing its own opinion, mainly on obstacles and implementation possibilities. Furthermore, discussed was general state of biodiversity in Albania and options to improve it. One could hear many, even opposite, opinions. This was an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences between institutions and NGO's involved in biodiversity management on one side, and on the other, of the government.

List of stakeholders:

No	Name and Surname	Institution
National sub committee for biodiversity issues:		
1.	Pellumb Abeshi	MoE
2.	Zamir Dedej	MoE
3.	Taulant Bino	MoE

4.	Ferdinand Bego	Museum of Natural Sciences
5.	Liri Dinga	Botanical garden
6.	Genti Kromidha	Forestry sector
7.	Murrat Xhulaj	Faculty of Nature Sciences
Other		
8.	Aleko Miho	Faculty of Nature Sciences
9.	Efigjeni Kongjika	Institute of Biological Research, AAS
10.	Alfred Mullaj	Institute of Biological Research, AAS
11.	Roland Kristo	MoE
12.	Arjana Koca	MoE
13.	Elvana Ramaj	MoE
14.	Nihat Dragoti	MoE
15.	Valbona Paluka	Moa
16.	Sajmir Beqiraj	Faculty of Nature Sciences
17.	Mersin Mersinllari	Faculty of Nature Sciences
18.	Anila Papristo	Faculty of Nature Sciences
19.	Lulezim Shuka	Faculty of Nature Sciences
20.	Jani Marka	Faculty of Nature Sciences
21.	Juli Shllaku	NGO urban planning
22.	Ani Koci	National Biosafety Program
23.	Spase Shumka	Biodiversity EA II
24.	Linda Selfo	Biodiversity EA II
25.	Sulejman Sulce	Faculty of Agriculture, TAU
26.	Kastriot Korra	Faculty of Veterinary, TAU

B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

Box II.

Please provide an overview of the status and trends of various components of biological diversity in your country based on the information and data available.

Biodiversity status in Albania

Albania is a small country located in South Eastern Europe. It has borders with Serbia and Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and Greece and covers an area of 28,748 km². From the fertile coastal plain on the Adriatic Sea, the land rises into hills and mountains to the North (Albanian Alps) and East (Korabi Mountain). Small rivers traverse the country. Although Albania is rich in water resources, 33% of the catchments areas are situated outside its national borders.

Albania is distinguished for its rich biological and landscape diversity. This diversity is attributable to the country's geographic position as well as geological, hydrological, climatic, soil and relief characteristics. The mountainous terrain combined with steep cliffs creates ideal conditions for maintaining and protecting a large number of ancient species, some of which are endemic or subendemic. The high diversity of ecosystems and habitats (marine and coastal ecosystems, wetlands, river deltas, sand dunes, lakes, rivers, Mediterranean shrubs, broadleaf, conifers and mixed forests, alpine and subalpine pastures and meadows, and high mountain ecosystems) offers rich habitats for a variety of plants and animals. There are around 3,200 species of vascular plants and 756 vertebrate species. There are 27 endemic and 160 subendemic species of vascular plants. Approximately 30% of all European floras occur in Albania. The high Albanian forests maintain communities of large mammals such as wolf, bear, lynx, and wild goat, and also characteristic bird communities.

Coastal lagoons and large lakes inside the country are important areas especially for wintering migratory birds. There are annually met around 70 waterfowl and water bird species with a total population of 180,000 individuals in Albania during the winter. Albania is also an important crossroad for the migration of birds, bats, and insects.

There are some 91 globally threatened species found in Albania. These include the Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*), Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*), and the Sturgeon (*Acipenser sturio*) for which Albania is a country of particularly critical importance.

Albania possesses a rich flora, with about 3300 native vascular plant, or 30 percent of 11000 species known from Europe, thus a rich flora compared to its small territory area. About 800 plant species, i.e. 22% of all Albanian flora are found only on the Balkan Peninsula, giving it a Balkan character as well.

There are estimated about 30 endemic plant species and having in regard the intraspecific taxones their number becomes about 150 while 180 species are subendemic to Albania, Yugoslavia and Greece. The paleoendemics are distinguished between endemic plants, where included relicts with very ancient origin such as *Wulfenia baldaccii* are Degen in Shtegu i Dheneve (Albanian Alps), *Forsythia europea* Degen & Bald. in serpentines rocks, *Gymnospermium shqipetarum* Papparisto & Qosja in Kruja and Shmil (Elbasan), while from neoendemics we can mention *Lunaria telekiana* (Maja e hekurave), *Crepis bertisceae* (Tropoje), *Petasites doerfleri* (Bjeshket e Namuna), and *Leu-*

cojum valentinum subsp. *Vlorense* Pap. & Qosja, (Jonufer-Vlore), *Aster albanicus* subsp. *paparis-toi* Pap. & Qosja (Divjake) etc.

Albania is considered the important road of floristic emigration in Balkan Peninsula. Geographical position of Albania, where pass the boundary that divides countries with central European climate from Mediterranean climate countries, the varied relief with a great deal of microclimates, have served as isolation zones with an active speciezation of new vegetation forms.

Flora of Albania is distinguished for its Mediterranean character. So Mediterranean floristic element (sensu lato) is composed of about 24% of species from which 8% are eurimediterranean, 7% stenomediterranean, 2% atlantic-mediterranean, 1.5% turanian-mediterranean, 1.3% mediteranea-oro-fite etc.

European floristic element occupied a considerable place as well in the composition of Albanian flora, with about 18% of its flora. The principal place is occupied of southern European species (5,5%) and of south-eastern Europe (4, 5%). From other floristic elements we could mention those of euroasiatic (14%), eurosiberian (4%) etc.

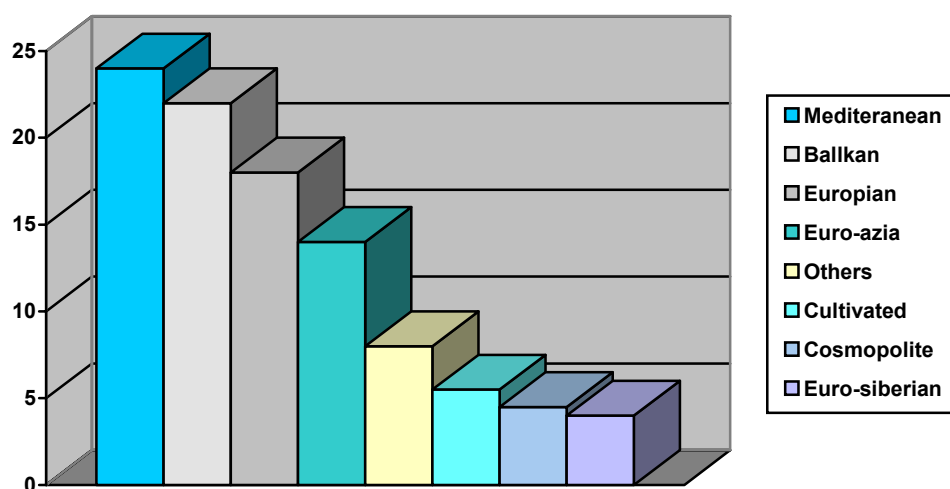


Fig.1 Floristic spectrum of Albanian Flora

Flora of Albania contains plants of Terciar period (relict plants) and species of flora of different countries as well, that are broadly distributed in our country. To clarify the connection of Albanian Flora with those of other countries, the special importance have those plant species that achieve their distribution boundary in Albania.. The studies carried out for this purpose have indicated that Albania has more strong floristic connection with those of northern countries. More than 550 species of these countries have their southern boundary in Albania. These plant species more frequently occur in the beech and alpine zone and are more distributed in the Northern Albania till mountain of Tomor.

The connections of Albanian flora with those of southern countries are weaker and are realised not only through Greek flora, but through elements of Mediterranean flora as well, which have their northern boundary in Albania.

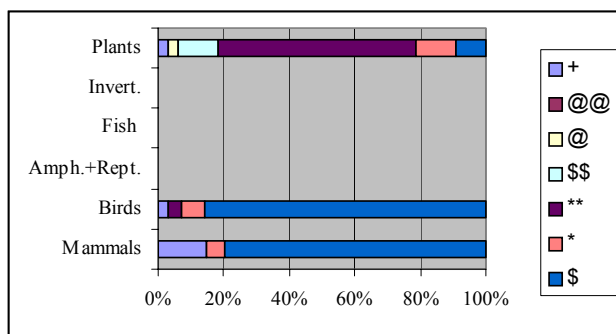
The number of these plant species that realize that connection is about 150. They are more distrib-

uted in the Mediterranean shrub zone, in the south of line Tomor-Guri i Topit, Mali i Thatë. Some of these species such as: *Trifolium auranticum* Boiss. et Spruner, *Halophila stipulacea* (Forsk) Asch., etc. have their northern boundary in the southern Albania (along the line Sarandë-Delvinë-Nemërçkë).

Flora of Albania is distinguished for its Mediterranean character. So Mediterranean floristic element (sensu lato) constitutes about 24% of species, from which 8% are eurimediterranean, 7% stenomediterranean, 2% mediterranean-atlantic, 1.5% mediterranean-turanian, 1.3% mediterranean-orofite etc.

The Forest Fund is structured as follows:

1. High forests: 471,150 ha (65,095,000 m³)
 - Conifers: 175,170 ha (18,897,000 m³)
 - Broadleaves: 295,980 ha (46,198,000 m³)



2. Coppice: 304,010 ha (10,953,000 m³)
3. Shrubs: 254,800 ha (7,407,000 m³)

The main criterion is "European importance". Occurrence of threatened species (from the CORINE lists) or threatened or sensitive habitats is the criterion for the CORINE site selection. A site has European importance if at least one of the species or biotopes from the CORINE lists can be designated with one of the following signs:

- ** - the site is the location of more than 1% of the European population of a species, or biotope, or is one of 100 or less locations of this species or biotope in Europe;
- * - the site is one of five or less locations of the species or biotope in the region;
 - one of the 100 most important sites of the particular species or biotope in Europe;
 - one of the five most important sites of the particular species or biotope in the region;
 - one of the 100 most important sites of the species in Europe from the regional lists of fish, invertebrates, plants or biotopes;
 - one of the five most important sites of a species from the regional lists of fish, invertebrates, plants or biotopes in the region.
- + is used for species or biotopes observed in the past and not confirmed for many years.

Criteria records

Relative criteria records for different taxonomic groups

Site designation categories

Site designation categories were taken from Albanian legislation

CODE	DESCRIPTION (Al)	ENGLISH DESCRIPTION
01200300	ZM me perdorim te shumfishte	PA with multiple use
06200200	Rezevat naturor i menaxhuar	Managed Nature Reserve
09300300	Rezevat shkencor	Strict Nature Reserve
01300301	Park Kombetar	National Park
03100101	Pejsazh Tokesor dhe Detar i Mbrojtur	Landscape/Seascape Protected Area
0B30011	Monument Natyror	Natural Monument
0C20010	E pambrojtur	Unprotected

Tab. 2 Designation categories of Albania

Table of the PA until 2005

Criteria for additional species

The CORINE threatened species list was complemented with an Eastern Adria species list. To this list the F.R.O. of Macedonia, Albania and Slovenia proposed species which are endangered or vulnerable according national red lists. For invertebrates and plants only endangered species were considered. The national species lists were cross-checked and some species were deleted.

For assessment of threatened species in Albania we used published Red list of Threatened and Rare Plant Species in Albania (Vangjeli J, Ruci B, Mullaj A, 1995) and Threatened Plants, Plant Communities and Animals (APPNEA, APBAA, AAB). Endangered (E) and vulnerable (V) species in Albania were added to the CORINE lists only in the groups that are well known and with enough published data. Among these are vascular plants and all groups of mammals, in the group of invertebrates are noticed butterflies (*Macrolepidoptera*), land and fresh water molluscs (*Mollusca*). We included in the list 118 species and subspecies of invertebrates, 70 species and subspecies of fishes, 40 species and subspecies of amphibians and reptiles, 215 species and subspecies of birds, 38 and subspecies species of mammals, and 1028 plant species and subspecies.

Selected sites

In the project altogether 79 sites have been selected. They are distributed in all regions of the country. The largest sites include existing and proposed protected areas and extensive forest areas. The distribution of the sites is shown in figure 4.

Digital site boundaries

The digitisation of boundaries started with preparing the raster ground layers of topology, digital orthophoto, Land sat TM and other spatial databases from Albanian Survey.

The hierarchical rules for digitisation of sites boundaries were:

1. protected areas and proposals of protected areas
2. experts proposals

3. sites beside protected areas
4. other.

The boundaries were checked to make sure that the Biotope site boundaries are inside the boundary of Albania. The general compatibility and relevance of the data were checked. Overlaps between sites (two sites partly covering each other) were extracted. The completeness of the site data was ensured by checking that all sites recorded into the Biotopes database had been digitised. Non-closed polygons, dangling lines and missing centroid points were corrected.

Priority Setting

1. Please indicate, by marking an "X" in the appropriate column below, the level of priority your country accords to the implementation of various articles, provisions and relevant programmes of the work of the Convention.

Article/Provision/Programme of Work	Level of Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
a) Article 5 – Cooperation	X		
b) Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use		X	
c) Article 7 - Identification and monitoring		X	
d) Article 8 – <i>In-situ</i> conservation	X		
e) Article 8(h) - Alien species			X
f) Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions			X
g) Article 9 – <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation			X
h) Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity		X	
i) Article 11 - Incentive measures			X
j) Article 12 - Research and training	X		
k) Article 13 - Public education and awareness		X	
l) Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts		X	
m) Article 15 - Access to genetic resources			X
n) Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology			X
o) Article 17 - Exchange of information		X	
p) Article 18 – Scientific and technical cooperation		X	
q) Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits			X
r) Article 20 - Financial resources			X
s) Article 21 - Financial mechanism			X

t) Agricultural biodiversity			X
u) Forest biodiversity	X		
v) Inland water biodiversity		X	
w) Marine and coastal biodiversity		X	
x) Dry land and sub humid land biodiversity			X
y) Mountain biodiversity		X	

Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)																		
3 = High Challenge									1 = Low Challenge									
2 = Medium Challenge									0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome									
N/A = Not applicable																		
Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	1	3	1	1	2	1	3
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	3
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
g) Loss of traditional knowledge	2	3	1	2	2	3	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	0	2	0	2	2

h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	1
i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	1	0	1	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	3	1
j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	3	2	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3
k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	2
l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	2	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	3
o) Lack of benefit-sharing	2	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	3
p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	3	3	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
r) Lack of effective partnerships	3	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3
s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	1
t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	3

u) Poverty	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2
v) Population pressure	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2
w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	3	1	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	2	1
x) Lack of capacities for local communities	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	1	1	2
y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3
z) Weak law enforcement capacity	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	3
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
bb) Others (please specify)	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	1

2010 Target

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VII/30, annex II, decided to establish a provisional framework for goals and targets in order to clarify the 2010 global target adopted by decision VI/26, help assess the progress towards the target, and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box III.

Goal 1	Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.		
Target 1.1	At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>NEAP/NBSAP/BIODIVERSITY/AIMS:</p> <p>Protection and sustainable management of biological, geological and landscape diversity.</p> <p>The National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) is the basic document presenting the Government's policy and general programs in the environmental sector. The NEAP was first prepared with assistance from PHARE and the World Bank in 1994. It was revised in 2001 (covering the period 2002 – 2005) through an extensive consultative process involving a large number of stakeholders organised into thematic work groups. The main issues identified through the NEAP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of policies and programs; ○ Improvement and completing the legal framework; ○ Institutional strengthening and capacity building; ○ Public awareness rising. <p>Priority investments are to focus on watershed management, forestry, flood control, solid waste management, water supply, sewage systems and urban management. However, the revised NEAP does not set out priorities. Moreover, although each proposed activity in the NEAP is costed; most funds have only been requested and not secured. An inter-ministerial committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, has been set up to enable implementation of the revised NEAP.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		NBSAP
c) Marine and coastal	X		NBSAP
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/ NBSAP /Green Strategy/: Establishment of new and enlargement of current protected areas

f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X		
Please provide details below.			
Mostly the target had been included in the programs for protected areas, forest, etc.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
There is no corresponding progress regarding the aim achievement.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Total surface of protected areas			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Arrive in 2010 with a total surface of protected areas as 15 % of National territory			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box IV.

Target 1.2	Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X		
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan/MEASURES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of an adequate protection program for 15-21% of the Albanian territory; - Protection of overall natural heritage in accordance with IUCN standards; - Preparation of a program for sustainable management of endemic and rare sites; Preparation of a program for sustainable management of high-mountain areas and transboundary lakes			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		NBSAP
c) Marine and coastal	X		NBSAP

d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/NBSAP/Green Strategy/: Establishment of new and enlargement of current protected areas
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
Development strategy in Albania/ NBSAP/Forest sector/Aims:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sustainable use of biodiversity ➤ Establishment of sustainable forest management in Albania, including rational forest management and protection of biodiversity 			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Lack of corresponding progress related to aim achievement.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Permanent reduction forest-based area trend (NBSAP and Development strategy in Albania).			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
The stop of illegal logging in the country.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box V.

Goal 2	Promote the conservation of species diversity
Target 2.1	Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	
NEAP/ NBSAP AIMS:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of the actual state of biodiversity from the aspect of endangerment ➤ Establishment of a bio monitoring system 	
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).	

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
Development strategy/ NBSAP /Forest sector /Reform aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improvement of nature reserves area protection of domestic, rare and potentially endangered game animals Mostly this have been incorporated in the action plan for hunting activities.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
-			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Inadequately developed by-laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inadequate financial support ➤ Insufficiently developed management and monitoring system 			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box VI.

Target 2.2		Status of threatened species improved	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP / NBSAP/AIMS/:			
➤ Assessment of biodiversity from the aspect of endangerment and landscape diversity			
➤ Evaluation of the biodiversity trends and elaboration of the AP			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es)			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box VII.

Goal 3	Promote the conservation of genetic diversity		
Target 3.1	Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/ NBSAP/AIMS:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Creation of a national gene bank for domestic plants and animals ➤ Promotion of the genetic values of studies 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box VIII.

Goal 4	Promote sustainable use and consumption.		
Target 4.1	Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/ NBSAP /AIMS:			
➤ Sustainable biodiversity management			
➤ Development of adequate methodology for sustainable management of natural resources			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		NBSAP
c) Marine and coastal	X		NBSAP
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/ NBSAP FOREST MANAGEMENT/Aims: Sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
Development strategy in Albania/ NBSAP/Forest sector/Aims:			
➤ Establishment of sustainable forest management in Albania, including rational forest management and biodiversity protection			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Absence of adequate progress related to the aim achievement			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
-			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			

- A conflict of interests of different development policies
- Weak financial support for project implementation concerning forest area protection

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

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Box IX.

Target 4.2	Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/BIODIVERSITY/MEASURES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preparation of a program for sustainable management of floristic and faunistic elements (Ohrid Lake, Prespa lake, Karavasta lagoon, Narta lagoon etc) ➤ Preparation of a program for integrated management of the coastal Adriatic zone ➤ Preparation of a program for sustainable management of high-mountain areas 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/ NBSAP/FOREST MANAGEMENT/AIMS: Sustainable forest management and biodiversity preservation
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN Albania/FORESTRY/			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishment of sustainable forest management in Albania, including rational forest management and biodiversity protection 			
National Council for Nature and Biodiversity (NCNB) was created in the year 2000 by a decree of the GoA, and it was chaired by the deputy Prime minister. This inter-ministerial Council was to be re-			

sponsible for monitoring the implementation of the BSAP. The Council held two meetings and approved concerned documents. However, it was overtaken by events – notably the establishment of the Ministry of Environment – and has since not been active. NCSA project will assess and further contribute to this process as appropriate.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Lack of adequate progress in implementation

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Permanent reduction forest-based area trend (Development strategy in Albania, Forest sector)

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Stop the illegal hunting and logging

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box X.

Target 4.3		No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/ NBSAP/AIMS:			
➤ Protection from biological terrorism			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			

c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
-	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	
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Box XI.

Goal 5	Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.		
Target 5.1	Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP/ AIMS:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protection and balanced management of biological, geological and landscape diversity; ➤ Ecological classification of ecosystems in Albania as a precondition for sustainable biodiversity 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water	X		
c) Marine and coastal	X		
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/NBSAP/FOREST MANAGEMENT/AIMS: Rehabilitation of degraded forest ecosystems
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and			

strategies?	
a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
Policy related in Albania: the National Strategy for Conservation of Biodiversity and Action Plan is the main document that is looking in this direction.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continuous rehabilitation of forests ➤ Improvement of forest protection 	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
The aim is undergoing implementation phase	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
Reduction of forest area	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
Existence of institutional framework problems	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XII.

Goal 6	Control threats from invasive alien species.		
Target 6.1	Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP AIMS:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishment of a monitoring system 			
NEAP/ NBSAP /MEASURES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Systematic inventory of invasive species of plants, animals in accordance with the international standards with a special overview of the level of invasivity, spread and threat to domestic funds 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	

d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
-			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box XIII.

Target 6.2	Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	

d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
-			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XIV.

Goal 7	Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.		
Target 7.1	Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	

d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X		
Please provide details below.			
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF Albania/NBSAP/Forest sector/Priorities: Reduction of impacts of global climate change by establishment of ecological balance between vegetation and environmental pollution			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
-			

Box XV.

Target 7.2	Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X		
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT/AIMS AND MEASURES: ➤ Preparation of a program for stabilization and gradual diminishing of acid and green house gasses			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	

c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
-			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box XVI.

Goal 8	Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.		
Target 8.1	Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS:			
- To put biodiversity in place with function in development of Albania			
The point is also reflected to the Constitution. According to the Constitution, every citizen in Albania is entitled to "an ecologically healthy environment for present and future generations" as well as "access to information on the state of the environment". The Constitution also requires the "rational exploitation of forests, waters and pastures based on the principle of sustainable development".			
The Law on Environmental Protection (2002) forms the basis for environmental management in Albania. The law addresses the prevention and reduction of pollution, sustainable management of natural resources, monitoring, how to define pollution levels. It provides binding provisions for environ-			

mental impact assessment and the implementation of the polluter pays principle.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS Rehabilitation of degraded forest ecosystems
f) Mountain		x	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X

Please provide details below.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF Albania/FORESTRY:

- Improvement of forest management system;
- Improvement of forest protection

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

The aim has been partially achieved

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Expansion of the forest protected areas and other type (Mountain and water areas)

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

non-realized plans concerning protected areas management

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

-

Box XVII.

Target 8.2	Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X

Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP/MEASURES:			
➤ Preparation of programs and standards for sustainable use of biological resources in order to income generation and poverty reduction in Albania			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest	X		Forest strategy
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box XVIII.

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/BIODIVERSITY/AIMS:			
➤ Conservation and sustainable management of cultural heritage in its natural environment			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
-			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
-			

Box XIX.

Target 9.2	Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box XX.

Goal 10	Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.
Target 10.1	All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X

b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP /MEASURES:			
➤ Preparation of a national strategy and action plan of management of genetically modified organisms (GMOs);Creation of a national gene bank for domesticated plants and animals			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
-			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
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Box XXI.

Target 10.2	Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No	X		
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	X		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>There is no policy or legal instrument for controlling access and use of forest species genetic resources. Attempts are being made to prepare a law that defines the rules for access uses and benefit sharing of genetic resources.</p> <p>No legal instrument currently covers intellectual property rights over the old cultivars and land races. At the institutional level the responsibilities are not clearly defined.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
-			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
-			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

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Box XXII.

Goal 11	Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.		
Target 11.1	New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS:			
➤ Involvement in international projects and foundations			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		x	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
-			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
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V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

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VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
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VII) Please provide any other relevant information.
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Box XXIII.

Target 11.2	Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Several steps towards the accession to CHM development has been made at various levels.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
The transfer of technology to developing countries is becoming an issue in the context of the increasing level of official development aid. In Albania, no specific analysis of the influence of intellectual property rights on meeting the commitments has been completed.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
-			

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

-

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

-

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

-

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VI/9, annex, adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. The Conference of the Parties considered the Strategy as a pilot approach for the use of outcome oriented targets under the Convention. In decision VII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets into the reporting framework for the Third National Reports. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box XXIV.

Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS:	
➤ Preparation of an inventory of biodiversity	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Subject oriented activities have not been initiated	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Decree of the government for plant species protection, Publication of the red book, species database, the flora of Albania, etc	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Lack of data available	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
➤ Lack of an inventory of species through local and international projects in Albania,	
➤ Lack of awareness on significance of a species inventory	
➤ Low level of environmental education by bodies responsible for the respective area	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXV.

Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/MEASURES:	
➤ Assessment of the current state of endangered plants and animals	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Aim-based activities have not been commenced	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Many projects on management and conversation of natural resources; Red List of Albania etc	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Progress has been satisfactory	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Precondition of conversation status assessment is an inventory, which has not been carried out in Albania.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVI.

Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS: -Development of adequate methodology for sustainable management of natural resources	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Albania is currently undergoing initial stage in order to achieve the respective aim.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Development of methodology for assessment of the current state of biodiversity	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Methodology for assessment of the actual state of biodiversity has successfully been applied in establishment of new protected areas (Prespa, Butrinti, Llogara)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of adequate support for scientific researches; ➤ Low level of results achieved 	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVII.

Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/MEASURES:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparation of an adequate protection program for 15-20% of the Albanian territory in accordance with IUCN criteria and preparation of a strategy and action plan for balanced protection ▪ Preparation of a program for sustainable management of high-mountain areas and transboundary lakes ▪ Preparation of a program for integrated management of the coastal zone (Adriatic and Ionian) 	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishing of new protected areas ➤ Applying of new criteria and of protective measure of existing protected areas ➤ Establishing of Emerald network 	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Albania is currently undergoing the initial phase in order to achieve the respective aim	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Decree of the government for new protected areas, Ramsar site, etc.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Progress has been considered unsatisfactory (only minor areas are under adequate protection regimes)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of financial resources and human capacities	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVIII.

Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/MEASURES:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preparation of programs for sustainable management of flora and fauna (via plans for conservation of Ohrid lake, Prespa lake, Shkodra lake, Karavasta Lagoon, Narta lagoon etc) ➤ Preparation of a program for sustainable management of alpine and subalpine zones, and transboundary lakes ➤ Preparation of a program for integrated management of the coastal zone (Adriatic and Ionian) 	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Single programs:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Feasibility Study of the Prespa Park and Transboundary Diagnosis on Shkodra Lake 	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
During the last two years, numerous activities have been undertaken in order to achieve the respective aim	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Creation/Designation of areas of special importance	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Progress has been noticeable, but not sufficient one.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Financial means required for establishment of new and management of the existing protected areas have not been systematically ensured yet.	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXIX.

Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXX.

Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>In-situ</i>.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXI.

Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>Ex-situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
NEAP/BIODIVERSITY/AIMS:	
➤ Natural heritage protection in accordance with the IUCN criteria	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXII.

Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXIII.

Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXIV.

Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXV.

Target 12. Thirty percent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXVI.

Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXVII.

Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/BIODIVERSITY/AIMS:	
➤ Improvement of ecological education and information	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
➤ Several projects to raise public awareness in coordination with the NGOs,	
➤ Projects of local environmental action plan in many communes and regions mostly supported by REC Tirana	
➤ North Shkodra - Kukes Action Plan/REC Tirana	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Several projects are currently undergoing implementation phase	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
➤ In 2004 a set of new Environmental law was adopted in the Albanian Parliament. The new law on Nature Protection and Law o Biodiversity has followed	
➤ Financial support to the NGOs	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Progress is evidential, but not satisfactory.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Lack of education of bodies responsible(Lack of trained staff), Lack of environmental education curricula, insufficient organization and financial aid/support to the NGOs	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXVIII.

Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XXXIX.

Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
NEAP/NBSAP/AIMS: ➤ Establishment of a monitoring system based on the by laws and provisions issues by MOE	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Law on nature protection; law on Biodiversity	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Albania is currently undergoing the initial phase in achieving the respective aim	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Rulebook on establishing and managing of information system for nature protection and monitoring	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Establishment of a network that will coordinate work between the staff and institutions is very slow	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Fragmentation and lack of activity correlation in establishment of a network	
VII) Any other relevant information	
-	

Box XL.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) Constraints encountered in implementation.

Even Albania has been a Party to the Convention on biodiversity for some years, it has not given many opportunities to carry out actions towards the implementation.

The very first positive result has been achieved in preparation of the NEAP and other documents related to Biodiversity. The chapter that handles biodiversity issue comprises problem identification and analysis, the aims of biodiversity management and adequate measures for their achievement.

Hence, in the process of achievement of the goals of the strategic plan of the Convention, progress towards the 2010 target and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the outcomes are not attained to the extent required.

The causes of the current state are numerous:

- Lack of satisfactory biodiversity inventory
- Deficiency of clear financial policy for management of biodiversity
- Unbalanced land management
- Excessive exploitation of natural resources
- Pollution
- Intentional or accidental introduction of new species
- Water-drainage of habitats
- Illegal trade in endangered species

Ecosystem Approach

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties has affirmed that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the Convention (decision II/8). The Conference of the Parties, at its fifth meeting, endorsed the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance and recommended the application of the principles and other guidance on the ecosystem approach. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties agreed that the priority at this time should be facilitating implementation of the ecosystem approach. Please provide relevant information by responding to the following questions.

3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹ Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	X
d) Yes, substantially implemented	

4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but development is under consideration	
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	X
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	

5. Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, within the country	
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	X

6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	

¹ Please note that all the questions marked with have been previously covered in the second national reports and some thematic reports.

Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.

The Integrated River basin management and Integrated Coast management has been some of the actions led by Ministry of Environment (MoE) and supported by foreign donors.

7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness rising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness rising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

Exchange of info and management practices has been pursued in the specific transboundary areas like Ohrid, Prespa and Scadar lakes. The cooperation with FYROM, Greece and Montenegro was developed at the satisfactory level.

8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

The ecosystem approach of biodiversity conservation and studying was applied considerably into the national policies and legislation and for implementation activities and their adaptation to local, regional and national levels. The threats for the biodiversity were discussed separately for each ecosystem because if their negative influence might lead to an irrevocable loss of the biodiversity in a particular ecosystem, elsewhere the impact of the threat might be mitigated, changed and even made favourable.

Institutions with methodological, technical and scientific capacities to implement the CBD and provisions regarding the wetlands are available.

A new set of environmental laws (Law on Environment, Law on Protected Areas and Law on Biodiversity) includes development and strengthening of institutional framework and capacity building for integrated management implementation.

C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 5 – Cooperation

9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	
d) Yes, regional and/or sub regional cooperation (please give details below)	X
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<p>- Currently Albania has been involved into several regional projects, "Lake Ohrid Conservation Project", "Integrated Prespa Park management" Project, Lake Shkodra Integrated Management, several activities on Adriatic coast etc, where apart of Albania, FyROM, and Greece are participating countries. Albania has a bilateral partnership with the Italy, Greece, Austria, Slovenia, FYR of Macedonia and other countries. The international projects between the governments of Republic of Albania and of the above countries are developed usually on the basis of signed Memorandum of understanding.</p>	

10. Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but consultations are under way	
c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.	
<p>Within the project "Lake Ohrid Conservation Project", it has been pursued the Regional agency dealing with water body management.</p>	

11. Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)

a) No	
b) No, but steps are under consideration	
c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)	

Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.

The process of Stabilisation and association is now following several harmonising actions.

Box XLI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Currently, Albania had difficulties applying the ecosystem approach in biodiversity management and in implementation of the Convention. Nor major actions neither measure are taken for that purpose. However, the respective ecosystem approach has a long tradition in applying into scientific researches. Taking this into consideration, the ecosystem approach will be introduced into practice, carrying out the appropriate actions and measures.

Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

12. Has your country put in place effective national strategies, plans and programmes to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention? (Goal 3.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant strategies, plans and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the strategies, plans and programmes for implementing the three objectives of the Convention.

NBSAP has been prepared and approved by 2000. Also the sectorial strategy like forest, wetlands, water etc., are taking into account the three objectives of the Convention.

13. Has your country set measurable targets within its national strategies and action plans? (decisions II/7 and III/9)

a) No	
b) No, measurable targets are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but measurable targets are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, reports on implementation of relevant targets available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets set within national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), developed in 2000 in accordance with the international Convention on Biological Diversity, is the first document of this type created within Albania. The National strategy defines the main directions for development of biodiversity protection in the country.

Priority investments are to focus on watershed management, forestry, flood control, solid waste management, water supply, sewage systems and urban management. However, the revised NEAP does not set out priorities. Moreover, although each proposed activity in the NEAP is costed; most funds have only been requested and not secured. An inter-ministerial committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, has been set up to enable implementation of the revised NEAP.

14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) No, but priority actions are being identified	X
c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below)	

Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

The National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action plan includes many concrete activities, connected with biodiversity conservation, to be implemented by the different periods of coming years.

According to the Plan, the main activities for achieving the country's biodiversity conservation are as follows:

- Drafting of acts and normative documents, creation of monitoring systems, cadastre of the protected areas and geographic-information systems;
- Institutional strengthening of biodiversity conservation in-situ;
- Restoration and maintenance activities related to the restoration of habitats and to conservation of endangered species and of their genetic resources;
- Strengthening of the scientific base for biodiversity conservation;
- Information, education and training.

15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity represents a part of development strategy

16. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)

a) Yes	X
b) No	

I) If **YES**, please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses

(a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species	X
(b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas	
(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	
(e) Transboundary movement	This with respect to the further new developments not only to biodiversity points, but also human health (Avian flew).

II) If **NO**, please briefly indicate below

(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	(NBSAP) and needs on AP and monitoring are planed
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(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	Cooperation is in place
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Biodiversity and Climate Change

17. Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	X
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	
The previous WB project of the Albanian Forestry and the new one on the National Framework for Climate Change are directly related to the Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	

18. Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.	
Is just in the begging but the good coordination that exist between the respective structures is a positive indicator for the starting process.	

Box XLII.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
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Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

19. ♦ On Article 7(a), does your country have an ongoing programme to identify components of biological diversity at the genetic, species, ecosystem level?

a) No	
b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below)	X
c) Yes, complete programmes at ecosystem level and selected/partial inventories at the genetic and/or species level (please specify and provide details below)	

Further comments on ongoing programmes to identify components of biodiversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Monitoring at the species level has been partly established for key plant and animal groups in Albania:

- The changes of the commercially important forest species is made:
 - The evaluation of the forest ecosystems has been done through the World Bank Albanian Forestry project. The health status of the tree species is determined annually by means of measure of the degree of defoliation, determination of the colour of the leaves, physiologic and other measures of single trees of the respective species.
- The changes in the number of the local vertebrate species and of the migratory birds are monitored as follows:
 - The number of the vertebrate species, mostly hunting ones, is estimated through the annual counting, carried out mainly by the state forestry directorates and organized hunters and fishermen.
 - The winter bird census made regularly for Ohrid and Prespa Lakes (7years) and not in continuously level for other water bodies including lakes and lagoons.
 - The number of the migratory birds is estimated trough the annual winter-spring counting, carried out mainly by members of nationals and international NGOs.

The monitoring at the ecosystem level takes place only in certain ecosystems within protected areas, for example the Prespa National Park, etc.

The determination of the activities that threaten the biodiversity and the monitoring of those ones, for which this is compulsory, is the main function of MoE and its Regional Environmental Agencies. Such responsibilities are undertaken also by the institutions that govern the socio-economical sectors in the country and which use the biological resources of the wild nature, or pollute the nature by production, construction, transport, etc. MoE controls the activities of these institutions and their divisions as well as similar activities of the rest physical or juridical persons in the country by means of direct control/overview, the Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures and other mechanisms.

A methodical issue in organization of biological monitoring is developed by MoE and CARDS EU StEMA Project.

The partnership of Albania in the field of determination of indicators, monitoring and assessments as well as the joint case studies is developed mostly with Greece. The partnership projects regard mainly the water ecosystems (Micro Prespa lake and Devolli River).

20. On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?

a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)	X (10%)
b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)	X
c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes)	

Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

- The campaigning monitoring at the genetic level of the some fish species is carried out mostly for the scientific purposes. For the species and ecosystems the monitoring is organised with the state budget and is following a good process with the scientific institutions. The budget spent annually for the bio-monitoring is about 50.000 US\$.

21. On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below)	X
f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below)	

Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.

Monitoring of biodiversity, land degradation and water quality has been performed via work program of MoE and implemented by the scientific institutions like the Institute of Biological Research, Institute of Soil Studies, Institute of Forestry and Pastures Research. A methodical issue in organization of monitoring is developed by MoE and CARDS EU StEMA Project

22. On Article 7 (d), does your country have a mechanism to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes and coordinate information collection and management at the national level?

a) No	
b) No, but some mechanisms or systems are being considered	
c) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are being established	X
d) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, a relatively complete system is in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the coordination of data and information collection and management.

Within the Laws on environment the legislation a rulebook on establishment and management of information system for nature protection and monitoring has been adopted.

23. ♦ Does your country use indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity? (decision III/10)

a) No	X
b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)	
c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	
d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	

Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.

The MoE in collaboration with the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) Tirana were developed the Environmental Indicators set mostly based on the CBD and European Environmental Agency.

Box XLIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Generally speaking, the monitoring of biodiversity has not been conducted in Albania at all level. As a result there is a lack of sufficient data. However, a number of individual projects is currently undergoing the implementation phase, while new legislative framework is to be established aiming at the implementation of the Convention on biodiversity.

Considering these facts, it might be concluded that Albania contribution towards achievement of the Convention's strategic plan, of the progress of targets for 2010 and of achievement of Millennium development goals has been progressing. On the other hand, indisputable efforts are provided to harmonize its legislation and practice with requirements as defined by the Convention and its respective harmonized program.

Decisions on Taxonomy

24. Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)

a) No	X
b) No, but a plan is under development	
c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below)	

Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.

The taxonomic investigations in Albania are at different stage of development. Most of the taxonomic groups of animals and plants are basically investigated. The research data are collected in 4 volumes of "Fauna of Albania".

Basic evaluation for the state of the taxonomic investigations in the country has been made during the elaboration of the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan, 1999. The evaluation has been actualized in via different studies made through foreign support relate to specific areas like Lakes Ohrid, Prespa, Shkodra and forest ecosystems. Priority directions and needs for further investigations are determined for each group, but national taxonomic plan of operation according to the requirements of CBD is not yet developed. The investigations are carried out based on the annual working plans of academic institutes and universities. Classical as well as state of the art methods are applied at the development of the taxonomic schemes.

No activities are undertaken regarding the initiative for global taxonomy. Albania will need technical, as well as financial support for applying of this initiative.

25. Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.

The collections of plants and the herbariums at the Institute of Biology, AAS, Botany garden- Tirana, Universities, fulfil a role of national plants collections.

The animal collections of National Museum of Natural Science-Tirana University FNS, Institute of Fishery Durres and the Zoo-Tirana fulfil a role of National animal collections

26. Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.

The experts working at the Institute of Biological Research and Universities are the main asset of the country in this field. Graduate and Post graduate studies at Biology Department of the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Tirana provide and increase capacity of taxonomic research.

27. ♦ Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) No, but steps are being considered	
c) Yes, for some institutions	
d) Yes, for all major institutions	

28.*² Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessments)	
d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)	
Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.	
We start looking for the cooperation with GTI but until now no major results had been achieved.	

29. * Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.	

² The questions marked with * in this section on Taxonomy are similar to some questions contained in the format for a report on the implementation of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Those countries that have submitted such a report do not need to answer these questions unless they have updated information to provide.

30. * Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	

Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.

31. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)	
h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)	
i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.

Albania has not developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work within the Convention. However, the taxonomy programmes have been developed as result of scientific work in certain fields, including forest biodiversity, wet and sub-humid areas, inland water biodiversity, mountain biodiversity and protected areas.

32. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?


a) No	X
b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide details below)	

f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.	

Article 8 - *In-situ* conservation
[excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)]

33. ♦ On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are being identified	
c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.	
NEAP/NBSAP/BIODIVERSITY/MEASURES: The law on Protected Areas, 2004, and the new law on Biodiversity, 2006, stipulates the purpose, regime of protection and use of the protected areas, the procedures for their designation and changes within them. The law sanctions plural property of forests, lands and aquatic areas within protected areas, as well as those that are exclusive state property. Through the Protected Areas law the Ministry of Environment (MoE) assumes responsibility for the management, the commissioning of maintenance activities and the guarding of protected areas that are exclusive property of the state; and responsibility for the management and control of activities in the other protected areas. The law introduces management plans for protected areas. Secondary legislation listed below is connected with the practical implementation of the Protected Areas law in different directions.	

34. ♦ On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?	
a) No	
b) No, but legislation is being developed	
c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.	
The Law on Biodiversity is a full package towards the protection of endangered species and populations.	

35.  On Article 8(l), does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant processes and categories of activities being identified	X
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the regulation or management of the processes and categories of activities identified by Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity.

Numerous Acts are adopted by the National Parliament/or CM concern biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of the biological resources in different economical sectors of the country:

- Green strategy act;
- The Strategy for forest conservation;

The implementation of these acts as well as of the special ecological acts is assigned to separate sectors. The overview of the obedience to the sector and ecological laws is assigned to MoE.

Box XLIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation

Albanian contribution in implementing in-situ conservation is not satisfactory according to the potentials and needs required. However, the accession process to the EU standards recognizes the needs for conservation activities. It might be assumed that such activities are to be taken in our country after the following issues have been addressed:

- Establishment of Emerald sites (project in place),
- Classification of habitat types in accordance with habitat and EUNIS classification,
- Habitat identification whose protection requires conservation measures.

Constraints encountered in implementation of this Article are numerous. First of all, there is a conflict of interests between short-term benefit-sharing and benefit-sharing through conservation of species and habitats, as well as insufficient political support for conservation implementation.

Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))

36. Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (decision VII/28)	
a) No (please specify reasons)	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.	
Within the national environmental action plan, NBSAP is offering a spatial and a time framework has been defined in selecting protected areas.	

37. Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.	
In the recent years, Albania has undertaken certain activities aimed at establishment of new protected areas. Therefore, a series of studies on wetlands are of Narta and Orikum, Lake Shkodra, Kune-Vaini Wetland System, Shebenik-jabllanica, etc., is being prepared—areas of significant importance.	

38. Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) Not applicable	
c) No, but relevant actions are being considered	
d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.	
The projects on Integrated Coast management, Narta lagoon Program of MedWet, the Butrinti complex assessment etc, are considering the network of protected areas.	

39. Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.	
The National Park of Llogora and the Nature Reserve of Karaburun intend to have a seascape as part of the protection.	

40. Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development	X
c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)	
Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.	
The EIA is covered by the law on Environmental Impact Assessment (year 2002) which includes assessment of impacts of strategic documents on environment (SEA), and the law on Environmental Protection. In the legal system of Albania, the issue of liability for damage to the environment is not sufficiently applied (in the framework of criminal, administrative and civil liability). For example, there is no specific compulsory insurance for the compensation of damages to the environment in various emergency cases.	

41. Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below))	x
d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.	
Law on protected areas and law on Biodiversity protection have been adopted by the Parliament. Environmental management at entity level represents a potential barrier that impedes effective management of protected areas. There is a by law (Decision) on creation of the PA administration.	

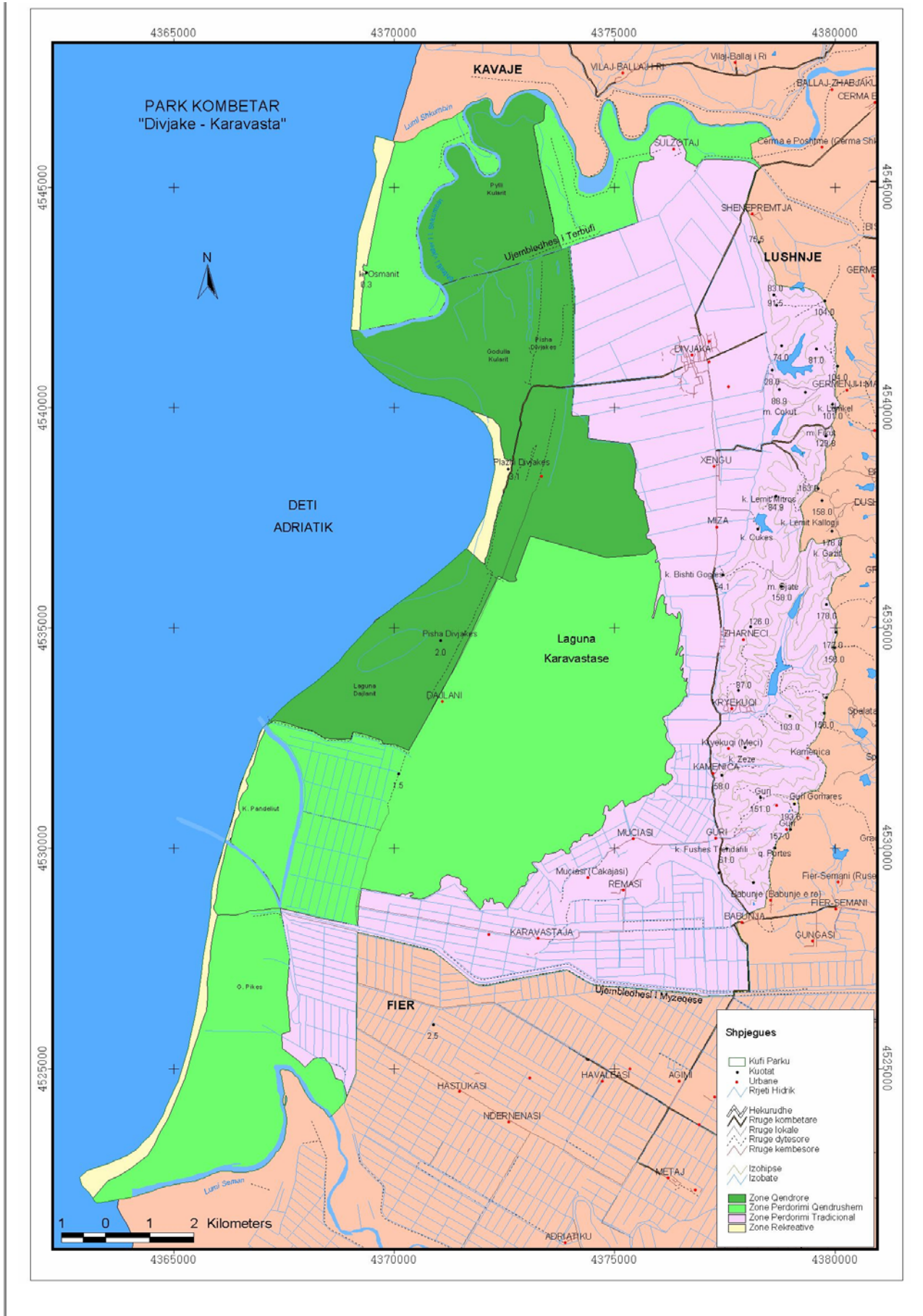
42. Has your country undertaken national protected-area capacity needs assessments and established capacity building programmes? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, a basic assessment undertaken and some programmes established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, a thorough assessment undertaken and comprehensive programmes established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on protected-area capacity needs assessment and establishment of capacity building programmes.	
<p>The main focus of the GEF WB Project Biodiversity Enabling Activity II Related to the Assessment of Capacity Building needs to Address the Priorities of Albania's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan intended is to prepare a national working plan (including the institutional framework) and a strategy for increasing the protected area. This document will assist the authorities and other stakeholders that administrate protected areas in compliance with overall national objectives in the field of environment and the recommendations of CBD. More specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist in the planning of protected areas and their integration into all sectors by providing strategic advice to policy makers; • To develop tools for strengthening the capacities and effectiveness of protected area managers through the provision of guidance, working plans and information; and • To give guidelines for increasing the surface of the protected areas. 	

43. Is your country implementing country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant plan is under development	X
c) Yes, relevant plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant plan is being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on implementation of country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas.	
Law on Environment is foreseeing the funds trust establishment, but still they are no applied.	

44. Is your country implementing appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant methods, standards, criteria and indicators are under development	
c) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use and some international methods, standards, criteria and indicators in use (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance.

Based on the IUCN criteria's there is developed the zonation concept and all other issues related to management and administration of the PA. (See the map below for the NP of Divjaka)



Box XLV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.


The reply corresponds Box XLIV

Increasing the surface of protected areas is one of the main objectives on biodiversity protection of the MoE and the last 5 years (2000-2005) the surface have been doubled. The management of those areas is still not on the requested level, due to the lack of financial resources and the not adequate policy of the Directorate General of Forestry and Pastures.

Article 8(h) - Alien species

45. Has your country identified alien species introduced into its territory and established a system for tracking the introduction of alien species?

a) No	
b) Yes, some alien species identified but a tracking system not yet established	X
c) Yes, some alien species identified and tracking system in place	
d) Yes, alien species of major concern identified and tracking system in place	

46.  Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?

a) No	
b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, for most alien species (please provide details below)	

Further information on the assessment of the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species.

This priority is coming from the NBSAP, Protected Areas law and is an important element in the pursued from the Ministry of Environment policy in the management of the protected areas and protection of the biodiversity out of them.

In the different fields e.g. forestry the problems with the introduction of alien species are partially addressed.

With the available human resources, the basic responsible institutions – Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and Food have relatively good ability to control and to take adequate decisions regarding the prevention of the introduction of alien species.

47. ♦ Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under consideration	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

The provisions of the Law on Environment and law on Biodiversity are the basic pillars to the prevention.

48. ♦ In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed, or involved itself in, mechanisms for international cooperation, including the exchange of best practices? (decision V/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation	
c) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation	
d) Yes, multilateral cooperation	

49. ♦ Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species? (decision V/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the use of the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches in work on alien invasive species.

50. Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	

Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	

52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review under way	
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	

53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	

54. Is your country collaborating with trading partners and neighbouring countries to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity in ecosystems that cross international boundaries? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)	
Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighbouring countries.	
Some collaborative actions via Custom services are initiated with border countries.	

55. Is your country developing capacity to use risk assessment to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA)? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development	
c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.

56. Has your country developed financial measures and other policies and tools to promote activities to reduce the threats of invasive species? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development	
c) Yes, some measures, policies and tools are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures and tools are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of financial measures and other policies and tools for the promotion of activities to reduce the threats of invasive species.

Box XLVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Albanians contribution in implementation of the Article 8 of the Convention is considered very low. Main reason is to be found in:

- Lack of engagement of experts
- Lack of public awareness through public actions

Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

GURTS

57. Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTs.	
<p>The financial resources for the fulfilment of the requirements of the Convention and the national measures in this direction are rather limited. Especially limiting are the financial resources of the Local Self Government. The qualified staff working on the implementation of Article 8 of the Convention in the central is extremely insufficient and lacking in the Local Self Government.</p> <p>At the individual level, traditional knowledge about biodiversity is present and applied in many activities connected with the use of biodiversity informally in families. Development of professional careers of individuals in the field of the application of traditional knowledge may be achieved through PhD studies at universities and participation in special courses.</p> <p>During the implementation of the National Biosafety Framework different activities were organised with the purpose to raise awareness among the farmers and relevant stakeholders.</p>	

Status and Trends

58. Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered	
c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken)	
Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.	

Akwé:Kon Guidelines

59. Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	
Further information on the review.	

60. Has your country used the Akwé:Kon Guidelines in any project proposed to take place on sacred sites and/or land and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the projects where the Akwé:Kon Guidelines are applied.	

Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

61. Has your country undertaken any measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to be effectively involved in decision-making related to the use of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes being developed	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities.	

62. Has your country developed appropriate mechanisms, guidelines, legislation or other initiatives to foster and promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision making, policy planning and development and implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at international, regional, subregional, national and local levels? (decision V/16)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are under development	X

c) Yes, some mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.	
Development of action plan mechanisms has been carried out at the regional level. Local Action Plans (LEAPs) has been initiated by REC. Biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage issue has been treated in the respective action plan, under which the assessment of the current state of biodiversity has been carried out, and measures for sustainable use of natural heritage have been defined as well. The action plans being equally based on public accession into decision-making process.	

63. Has your country developed mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work? (decision V/16, annex)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of women of indigenous and local communities in all elements of the programme of work.	
Effective and active participation of women being promoted through the scope of NGOs.	

Support to implementation

64. Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes	X

65. Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings)	
Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.	

66. Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?	
a) No	
b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the support provided.	

Through the Protected Areas law the Ministry of Environment (MoE) assumes responsibility for the management, the commissioning of maintenance activities and the guarding of protected areas that are exclusive property of the state; and responsibility for the management and control of activities in the other protected areas. The preparation of the management plans are based on the local participatory process.

Box XLVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Actions in relation to capacity building and involvement of indigenous and local communities have not been taken to the extent required. Mechanisms that provide involvement of and financial support to local and indigenous communities have not been adequately elaborated. Hence, the outcomes in implementation of the respective Articles of the Convention are not appropriate ones.

Impending actions to be taken in Albania refer to collection, conservation and use of traditional knowledge, capacity building and involvement of local and indigenous communities in implementation of the Convention.

Article 9 - *Ex-situ* conservation

67. On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures adopted for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.

In the NBSAP in Albania, wider priority is given for preservation of species *in situ*. *Ex situ* preservation is applied in more restricted cases, when creation of gene banks, breeding in captivity, recovery of old domestic sorts and animal races and plants are concerned. Sometimes it is the only way to recover extinguished species. The country disposes of specialists (Genetic Bank TAU, Institute of Biological Research) and in some extend of technical base for realization of *ex-situ* preservation, but the limiting factor for deep application of this activity appears the insufficient financial resources in economy in transition.

68. On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.

Substantial measures are undertaken for regulation of *ex situ* conservation of the biodiversity components in the country. The law on Environment, Law on Protected areas and Law on Biodiversity Act provides such measures.

Several tasks, relevant to the activities concerning the creation and maintenance of new *ex situ* and gene banks collections, as well as technical aspects are included in the NBSAP.

69. On Article 9(d), has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for *ex-situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in-situ* populations of species?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for *ex-situ* conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and *in-situ* populations of species.

The general priorities in the conservation of plant and animal genetic resources are:

- Establishment of *ex situ* facilities and institutions (seed banks, experimental, units for preservation of the collections, etc.);
- Establishment of resources and possibilities for planting, selection and study, etc. (herbaria, arboreta, nurseries etc.);
- Maintenance of sufficient minimum numbers of the endangered by extinction breeds, strains and agricultural animal lines;
- Construction of national reserves for domestic animal breeds endangered by extinction;
- Establishment of a National Gene Bank.


Box XLVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.


Activities on ex situ conservation have been completely outdated according to the economic situation of institutions responsible.

Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

70.  On Article 10(a), has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making?

a) No	X
b) No, but steps are being taken	
c) Yes, in some relevant sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integrating consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making.

71.  On Article 10(b), has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures adopted relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.

Law on Environment, Law on Protected areas and Law on Biodiversity of Albania are providing adequate measures to minimize impacts on biodiversity by using biological resources.

72. On Article 10(c), has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

73. On Article 10(d), has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.

74. Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way	
c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below)	

Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Currently via the GEF World bank project implemented by the Directory for the Nature Conservation policy at the MoE has been pursued the incentives and the basic frame prepared.

75. ♦ Has your country implemented sustainable use practices, programmes and policies for the sustainable use of biological diversity, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation? (decision V/24)	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.	


76. ♦ Has your country developed or explored mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)	
a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	
Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.	
There are specific provisions at the law on Protected areas, where the involvement of the private sector and NGOs is foreseen, but still no actions at the ground.	


77. Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	
Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	

78. Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	

c) Yes, some technologies developed and transferred and limited financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many technologies developed and transferred and significant financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development and transfer of technologies and provision of financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	

Biodiversity and Tourism

79.  Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?	
a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)	
d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review	
Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.	
<p>The EIA is covered by the law on Environmental Impact Assessment (year 2002) which includes assessment of impacts of strategic documents on environment (SEA), and the law on Environmental Protection. The tourism is part of the economic activities foreseen for considering.</p> <p>The MoE is the central body of the state administration for EIA. An investor finances EIA processes; public institutions fund the EIA processes from stage budget resources. For the purpose of information dissemination, the following are used: the Bulletin of MoE information system of EIA and information workshops – public hearings (but they do not specifically focus on the issue of the assessment of biodiversity loss).</p> <p>The MoE keeps a list of authorized or licensed persons for the assessment of impacts on the environment. However, registration in the list is not required for the execution of the expert activities in the assessment of impacts on environment. In order to gain technical capability there is training and additional retraining available. There are no specialized courses for the assessment of impacts on biodiversity. Certificates for the assessment of impacts on biodiversity are not issued or required.</p>	

80.  Has your country provided educational and training programmes to the tourism operators so as to increase their awareness of the impacts of tourism on biodiversity and upgrade the technical capacity at the local level to minimize the impacts? (decision V/25)	
a) No	X
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please describe below)	
Further comments on educational and training programmes provided to tourism operators.	

81. Does your country provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management? (decision VII/14)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered	X
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments in the capacity-building and financial resources provided to indigenous and local communities to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management.	
There has been implemented several programs via GTZ on promotion of the tourism at the remote areas. The Program on support of tourism in Thethi and Prespa area. Other donors including GEF SGP Tirana and SNV were involved too.	

82. Has your country integrated the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the development or review of national strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, and other related sectoral strategies? (decision VII/14)	
a) No, but the guidelines are under review	X
b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies	
c) Yes, a few principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	
d) Yes, many principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	
Further information on the sectors where the principles of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development are integrated.	

Box XLIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:
a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Mechanisms for sustainable use of biodiversity have not been established in Albania. On the other hand, an intensive devastation of primary ecosystems has started aimed at short term benefit-sharing. The existing legislative framework is offering adequate tools in relation to the respective issue, in the field of sustainable recourse use. A great constraint in sustainable use of biodiversity represents the

lack of ecosystem approach in management, caused by a low level of environmental education and awareness at the level of decision making.

Article 11 - Incentive measures

83. Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The chapter about "Financial Resources and their Use" of the law on forest defines the financial responsibilities for the forest property as follows (Art. 35): "The forest service is responsible for the administration of the property and of the incomes realized by the economic activities in the forest and pasture sector, according to the dispositions of this law and other legal and sub-legal acts in force". According to the law (Art. 36): "The financial sources of the forestry sector shall be provided by: i) Budget of the Republic of Albania, ii) Internal sources; iii) Different donors and grants.

These sources are further specified as follows: (Art. 37): "The internal sources of forests and pastures are provided by: i) Sale of timber, fuel wood, hunting, pastures, forest and non-forest products and other related services; ii) Leasing or transfer in use of forest and pasture surfaces; iii) Giving professional licenses; iv) Technical assistance and projects designed by the forest service person; v) Fees, fines and sequestrations; vi) Incomes obtained by renting parts of infrastructure, buildings or other means in the property of the forest service; vii) Incomes generated by taxes and fees obtained through tourist activities, hotels, restaurants, sport activities, etc., in the state forest fund (including protected areas).

Based on the sources of income listed above, the Forest law provides clear structures for the distribution of the funds. It stipulates that "incomes created in forests and pastures, public property shall be divided between the state budget and DGFP according to the legal dispositions in force. They shall be kept in a special bank account." (Art. 38) They shall be used as follows (Art. 39): a) Salaries and social insurance of the forest staff; b) operational costs; c) Investment in forests, pastures, protected areas and forests with special functions. Internal sources are used for investments in forests, pastures, protected areas. At national level, 30 % of the income generated remains in the state budget (out of which probably 10 % are provided for the Ministry of Agricultural). The remaining 70% are returned to DGFP for investment.


84. Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.

Albania has developed ambitious plans for the conservation and sustainable use of various ecosystems, including water (inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems). Agriculture is also included in plans. But, insufficient allocation of financial resources at the systemic level combined with the lack of experience causes the institutions do not work effectively. Environment protection units should be established in all main sectoral ministries, and expert knowledge, including that of biological diversity, should be strengthened in the Government offices. The international community should provide training, including workshops on relevant topics proposed by the Government.

In the area of incentive measures there is a permanent lack of experts. Universities and postgraduate courses do not offer studies in this area.

85.  Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives? (decision III/18)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place	
d) Yes, many programmes are in place	

86. Does your country take into consideration the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures as contained in Annex I to decision VI/15 when designing and implementing incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision VI/15)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

87. Has your country made any progress in removing or mitigating policies or practices that generate perverse incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity? (decision VII/18)

a) No	
b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way	X
c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	

Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.

Laws, regulations, decisions that contain provisions for compensations for the restriction of common cultivation to support nature protection and for financial contribution for the maintenance of favourable conservation status of species and natural habitats do not exist. Compensation for damages caused by protected animal species is not foreseen by the existing legislation. Attempts for establishing financial support and incentives for short periods of time have been made within projects with

such budget lines. Unfortunately, incentives to support traditional ways of use and practices that are compatible with conservation and sustainable use of biological resources are still far beyond the reality. In addition, mechanisms such as Agriculture Banks or Nature Fund are not in place yet.


Box L.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Mechanisms for sustainable use of biodiversity have not been established in Albania. On the other hand, an intensive devastation of primary ecosystems has started aimed at short term benefit-sharing. The existing legislative framework is offering adequate tools in relation to the respective issue, in the field of sustainable recourse use. Considerable progress is achieved via 2010 targets. Contribution towards MDG are achieved.

Article 12 - Research and training

88.  On Article 12(a), has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components?

a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the programmes for scientific and technical education and training in the measures for identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

A National Strategy for Science and Technology is being implemented under supervision of Ministry of Education and Science.

The concept of research and development within the framework of the MoE up to 2005 includes also research and development in the area of nature conservation among its priorities. The concept, however, has not been applied in practice. Market mechanisms for creating attractiveness from all stakeholders in terms of resources and availability for research both for scientific institutions and NGOs are not yet in place.

Generally, the area of science and research is coordinated by the Ministry of Education and Science (Moses). Under the auspices of the Moses, the Committee of Science and Technology has been established.

At the individual level there are not sufficient resources for the implementation of research needs. There is need for more professional training and employment in the area of research. There is lack of experts with managerial skills.

89. On Article 12(b), does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The MoE and the Moa identify the scientific tasks which need to be addressed in the area of biodiversity within a framework of NBSAP.

A number of Research institutions take part in the research that contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, such as research institutions of Academy of Sciences (i.e. BRI), Universities (i.e. MNS, Botanical Garden, Department of Biology of the Faculty of Natural Sciences), research institutions within the Moa (i.e. FPRI, FRI). Non-governmental organizations (such as Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania (PPNEA), Albanian Society for the Protection of Birds and Mammals (ASPBM), Albanian Association of Biologists (AAB), Albanian Herpetological Society, etc., are also involved in the research

90. On Article 12(c), does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the use of scientific advances in biodiversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Project implementation with international partners in Albania contributes to:

- Development of databases using GIS software,
- Introduction and application of new methods for establishment of a ecological network
- Introduction of new technologies in genetic researches

Box LI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

There is within country a tradition in research of biodiversity at all levels, thus educated and trained staff is capable to take over the research and consultancy function in projects on biodiversity. Anyway, Albania contribution concerning this issue is still low, due to the lack of financial support for research and inventory projects.

Article 13 - Public education and awareness

91. Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development	
c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.	
<p>Environmental Education (EE) strategy and programs are being developed and implemented in Albania within the system of education, as part of intra-curricular or formal EE, under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Science. Inside we find elements of biodiversity protection.</p> <p>The Albanian Constitution and a number of laws guaranty the right of citizens to the access to information in general.</p> <p>Albania is a signatory to the Aarhus Convention, which is already ratified by the Albanian Parliament.</p> <p>Some information and promotion materials with focus on nature and landscape protection are published so far. Some titles (such as guides for educational trails, various brochures and leaflets about protected areas, plants, animals etc.) are published in the framework of foreign projects or with support from other non-state resources.</p> <p>Several training projects related with Aarhus Convention have been operating in Albania, aiming at facilitating both the understanding and practical use of useful mechanisms provided by this Convention.</p> <p>At the individual level there are sufficient capacities for public education and awareness.</p>	

92. Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex to decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.	
<p>Some universities and faculties participate in the implementation of EE actively and are also involved in national and international education projects. The faculties of natural sciences and agricultural faculties are increasing the number of compulsory courses with curricula focused on the conservation and wise use of biodiversity, agrobiodiversity as well as its individual components and other tasks</p>	

arising from the implementation of the CBD.

However, there is insufficient staffing and technical equipment, and promotional material. Cooperation between nature conservation organizations and schools in the area of EE is not systematic. There are no linkages between school and after school education programs for nature conservation. Within curricula EE is driven by the personal interest and commitment of individual teachers.

Educational trails and educational sites in protected areas (especially National Parks) are not yet developed.

NGOs play very positive role in EE as they are able to prepare and implement grant schemes aimed at EE. There is an EE Strategy prepared by Albanian NGOs, supported by MKOE.

93. Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.

There are magazines with regularly published information on biodiversity in Albania, and other topics that are focused on increase of public awareness and education. However, these activities are not a result of a programme of work of Albania related to promotion of its values.

Masmedia and newspaper are used for the communication with the public. The MoE use also the projects and meeting for this purpose.

94. Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	x

Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.


This is mostly in close relation to various NGOs that are implementing different communication and education programs at the local level. The main donors in this direction are GE SGP Tirana, EURONATUR, REC Tirana etc, and WB projects like Ohrid Conservation Program through its component dedicated to Public awareness.

95. Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.	

96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.	
Again this is directly related to the NGOs activities.	

97. Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.	
NGOs play very positive role in EE as they are able to prepare and implement grant schemes aimed at EE. There is an EE Strategy prepared by Albanian NGOs.	
Albania is active on the regional level even through the project implemented (MedWet, Prespa, Ohrid and Shkodra Lake) but also with the participations in the meetings either o the European level or outside the continent.	

98. Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?	
a) No (please specify reasons below)	X
b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.	

99.  Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	

100. Is your country communicating the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in the implementation of your national CEPA programmes and activities? (decision VII/24)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.	


Box LII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Development of public awareness and communication is not corresponding to the problem identification extent. Besides a great number of individual actions and projects focused on increase of public awareness, there is still a lack of permanent mechanism for maintenance and finance of the respective activities. Consequently, Albanian contribution to progress towards the 2010 target, to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic plan of the Convention and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is still far from the requirements.

Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts


101.  On Article 14.1(a), has your country developed legislation requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, legislation is still in early stages of development	
c) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, review of implementation available (please provide details below)	

Further information on the legislation requiring EIA of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biodiversity.

The EIA is covered by the law on Environmental Impact Assessment (year 2002) which includes assessment of impacts of strategic documents on environment (SEA), and the law on Environmental Protection.

In the legal system of Albania, the issue of liability for damage to the environment is not sufficiently applied (in the framework of criminal, administrative and civil liability). For example, there is no specific compulsory insurance for the compensation of damages to the environment in various emergency cases. Legal regulations, which would introduce a more effective system of assessment of natural resources, are also missing.

102.  On Article 14.1(b), has your country developed mechanisms to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanisms developed to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity.

103. On Article 14.1(c), is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction?

a) No	
b) No, but assessment of options is in progress	
c) Yes, some completed, others in progress (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside your country's jurisdiction.

Ohrid and Shkodra have a bilateral agreement and for Prespa Lake a trilateral agreement. Out of Ohrid lake that the agreement of cooperation had been approved for the protection of the lake and the establishment of a joint structure, the others two agreements are not very advanced and are still not implemented.

104. On Article 14.1(d), has your country put mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your territory to biological diversity in the territory of other Parties or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place based on current scientific knowledge	

105. On Article 14.1(e), has your country established national mechanisms for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.

There is a Law on Transboundary Lakes that is oriented directly to the considering the impacts to environment and biodiversity, being oriented by ESPO convention.

106. Is your country applying the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes and in Strategic Impact Assessment as contained in the annex to decision VI/7 in the context of the implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14? (decision VI/7)

a) No	
b) No, but application of the guidelines under consideration	X
c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below)	
d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below)	

Further comments on application of the guidelines.

Specific provisions at the Law on Biodiversity are related to the EIA practices. Furthermore the by laws and guides has to be developed.

107. On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify the measures)	

Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.

The new Act on EIA presumes that the regional environmental agencies (REAs) will implement activities related to EIA. According to the new act, a proponent will continue to be responsible for payments for EIA. A legal or natural person who is responsible for the development of a strategic document covers the costs connected with the assessment of impacts of the strategic documents upon environment.

108. Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being developed	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.

In the last years Albania has adopted a set of environmental laws dealing with particularities of biodiversity. The respective set defines a range of measures that would prevent damage to biodiversity and habitats. But the most significant in this regards is the new law on biodiversity.

109. Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)

a) No	X
b) No, but cooperation is under consideration	
c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.

Albania is being involved into several regional projects on integrated management of transboundary areas. This refers to the Ohrid lake, Prespa Park and Shkodra Lake, where apart of our country the cooperation with Greece, Macedonia and Montenegro is secured. The implementation of the mentioned programmes contributes strengthening of national capacity, which will be involved into preparation process of legislative and administrative measures.

Box LIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Up to this period of significant results have been achieved concerning the reduction of impacts on biodiversity. Beside that there is still pressure upon biodiversity caused by economy transition, unstable economic situation and social movements of population. Nevertheless, a new set of environmental laws provides potentials for establishment of environmental impact assessment mechanisms. The process for obtaining an environmental permit will be obligatory for all economic subjects of country itself, resulting in establishment of a mechanism for reduction of impact on biodiversity.

Thus, a great contribution is being expected regarding this issue.

Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

110. Has your country endeavored to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of Article 15?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the efforts taken by your country to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms.

At the present moment the access to genetic resources and technologies is regulated by the specific provisions of the Law on Environment and other specific laws that are applied to the newly obtained, invented or improved crop cultivars or to the new races, lines or hybrids of farm animals;

This issue had been covered in the prepared draft of the Biodiversity law. The genetic resources can be used from other countries as well but on the basis of prior consent in a written form about the conditions and the way for mutual benefit sharing.

111. Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Parties, in accordance with Article 15(6)?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties.

112. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and of the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources, in accordance with Article 15(7)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the type of measures taken.

The transfer of technology to developing countries is becoming an issue in the context of the increasing level of official development aid. In Albania, no specific analysis of the influence of intellectual property rights on meeting the commitments has been completed.

113. In developing national measures to address access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, has your country taken into account the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on national measures taken which consider the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing as set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.	

114. Is your country using the Bonn Guidelines when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing and/or when negotiating contracts and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing? (decision VII/19A)

a) No	X
b) No, but steps being taken to do so (please provide details below)	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Please provide details and specify successes and constraints in the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines.	

115. Has your country adopted national policies or measures, including legislation, which address the role of intellectual property rights in access and benefit-sharing arrangements (i.e. the issue of disclosure of origin/source/legal provenance of genetic resources in applications for intellectual property rights where the subject matter of the application concerns, or makes use of, genetic resources in its development)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential policies or measures have been identified (please specify below)	X
c) No, but relevant policies or measures are under development (please specify below)	
d) Yes, some policies or measures are in place (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive policies or measures adopted (please specify below)	
Further information on policies or measures that address the role of IPR in access and benefit-sharing arrangements.	


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116. Has your country been involved in capacity-building activities related to access and benefit-sharing?	
a) Yes (please provide details below)	X
b) No	
Please provide further information on capacity-building activities (your involvement as donor or recipient, key actors involved, target audience, time period, goals and objectives of the capacity-building activities, main capacity-building areas covered, nature of activities). Please also specify whether these activities took into account the Action Plan on capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing adopted at COP VII and available in annex to decision VII/19F.	

Box LIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
Albania has not undertaken actions aimed at mechanism development in implementation of this Article of the Convention.

Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology

117.  On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.	

118. On Article 16(3), has your country taken measures so that Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative arrangements are in place	
g) Not applicable	

119. On Article 16(4), has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of Government institutions and the private sector of developing countries?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further information on the measures taken.

The transfer of technology to developing countries is becoming an issue in the context of the increasing level of official development aid. In Albania, no specific analysis of the influence of intellectual property rights on meeting the commitments has been completed.

Box LV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The same as provided in Box LIV

Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

120. Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.	

121. Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures being considered	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.	
Albania is currently undergoing the initial stage in accessing the international and development of national "Clearing house mechanism". Development of mechanism for scientific cooperation, technical and technological information exchange based on the assessment of the actual state represents one of the key priorities for the further progress of the state itself.	

122. Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	X
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.	

123. Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	X
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.	

124. Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.	
In accordance to the Law on environment, by laws on Monitoring and an information system for nature protection and monitoring, an information system will be established within the MoE, collecting and storing relevant information. However, there is still a lack of measure identification required for technology transfer and cooperation.	

125. Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a few measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.	

Box LVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Adequate measures for technology transfer, cooperation and introduction of new technologies aimed at implementation of the Convention have been initiated. National Clearing House mechanisms are at the stage of Development, while information technology is being introduced through by-laws.

Article 17 - Exchange of information

126. On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

127. On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, and repatriation of information and so on?

a) No	
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17 (2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	


Box LVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Albania has achieved a great progress in information exchange. Although the contribution in implementation of this Article is not considered very high, a great progress is noticeable in the country itself, due to a number of several programmes. The activities generally they contribute to the implementation of this article.


Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

128.  On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?


a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation.

The technical and scientific cooperation in the field of biodiversity conservation has a high priority in Albania. The policy of Albania is highly oriented towards international technical and scientific cooperation for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. This has been demonstrated through numerous of initiatives to involve national scientific institutions into a great number u of international projects of the respective area.

129.  On Article 18(4), has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant methods are under development	
c) Yes, methods are in place	

130.  On Article 18(5), has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide some examples below)	
Examples for the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention.	

131. Has your country established links to non-governmental organizations, private sector and other institutions holding important databases or undertaking significant work on biological diversity through the CHM? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) No, but coordination with relevant NGOs, private sector and other institutions under way	X
c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions	

The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

132. Has your country further developed the CHM to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) Yes, by using funding opportunities	
c) Yes, by means of access to, and transfer of technology	
d) Yes, by using research cooperation facilities	
e) Yes, by using repatriation of information	
f) Yes, by using training opportunities	
g) Yes, by using promotion of contacts with relevant institutions, organizations and the private sector	
h) Yes, by using other means (please specify below)	
Further comments on CHM developments to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation.	

133. Has your country used CHM to make information available more useful for researchers and decision-makers? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.

Albania currently undergoing the development of a "clearing house mechanism"

134. Has your country developed, provided and shared services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of the CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions? (decision V/14)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify services and tools below)	

Further comments on services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions.

The establishment of the national Clearing House Mechanism for the biodiversity is a main responsibility of the Ministry of Environment. An interim Clearing House Mechanism for implementation of Convention on Biodiversity through the financial and technical support of EEA was established and operated during 1999-2002 in the Ministry of Environment, where different documents and reports on biodiversity including summary reports on state of biodiversity were loaded.

Box LVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Albania is facing a problem of a not satisfactory information flow. Given that national Clearing House mechanism in way of its development, one might conclude that contribution in implementation of this Article is very low. Causes of such problems are that scientific and technologic information exchange does not meet appropriate requirements or lack of support to scientific-research projects, use and exchange of information.

Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

135. On Article 19(1), has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation are in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy and subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place	

136. On Article 19(2), has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access by Parties, on a fair and equitable basis, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

Box LIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Biotechnology field has not been developed to the extent required. The handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits has a high priority in Albania. The country's resources for meeting the obligations and recommendation made in Article 19 of the CBD are limiting.

Article 20 – Financial resources

Box LX.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.	
a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries	Very difficult to calculate but the approximate value is from 600 000 to 800 000 US\$ per year
b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies)	Average of 1,5 million US\$
c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	0.5 million US\$
d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies)	0.5 million US\$
e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	No any estimation
f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies)	No any estimation
g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity	N/A

Box LXI.

Please describe in detail below any major financing programmes, such as biodiversity trust funds or specific programmes that have been established in your country.
<p>From the state budget the main resources are the Ministry of Environment, Directorate General of Forest and Pastures (DGFP), Ministry of Public Work, etc. The main investments for nature protection are made by the forest institutions, and the MoE are dealing mostly with the policy and the monitoring. Albania has and is participating in a number of regional projects including the <i>Lake Ohrid Management (WB)</i>, <i>'Determination of Priority Actions for the further elaboration and Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea'</i> (UNEP), and <i>Conservation of Wetland and Coastal Ecosystems in the Mediterranean Region</i> (UNDP). MedWet Coast, the GEF Small Grand Programme, etc.</p> <p>With support from GEF PDF funds, Albania is party to the preparation of several GEF full sized project, including the <i>Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Transboundary Prespa Park region</i> (UNDP), <i>Lake Scadar Integrated Ecosystem Management (WB)</i>, and <i>'Integrated Water and Ecosystems Management Project'</i> (WB). Design and implementation of these projects is showing the commitment of the GoA and to fully cooperate with other countries in fulfilling objectives and obligations towards global environmental concerns.</p>

137. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 20(1), has your country provided financial support and incentives to those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, incentives only (please provide a list of such incentives below)	
c) Yes, financial support only	
d) Yes, financial support and incentives (please provide details below)	
Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.	

The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

138. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 20(2), has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfil the obligations of the Convention?	
a) No	
b) Yes (please indicate the amount, on an annual basis, of new and additional financial resources your country has provided)	
Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.	

The next question (139) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

139. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 20(2), has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable it to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfil the obligations of the Convention?	
a) No	X
b) Yes	

140. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector? (decision V/11)	
a) No	X
b) No, but procedures being established	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on processes to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector.	

141. Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)

a) No	X
b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.	
Law on environmental protection is looking towards the fund of the Albanian tax exemptions for legal subjects/entities whose initial is biodiversity protection investment.	

142. Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes (please provide results of review below)	
Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.	

143. Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)

a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	
Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.	
Over 42% of the territory of Albania is covered by forest. Issues on forest biodiversity and sustainable use of forest resources in country area have been integrated into strategic document (Development strategy and Poverty reduction). Also in the tourism strategy the biodiversity is taken into account.	

144. Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes	

The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

145. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.	
A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	
d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	
h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and sub humid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	

m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	
Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.	

The next question (146) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

146. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which areas your country has applied for funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from developed countries and/or from other sources. The same area may have more than one source of financial support. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

Areas	Applied for funds from		
	GEF	Bilateral	Other
a) Preparation of national biodiversity strategies or action plans	X		
b) National capacity self-assessment for implementation of Convention (decision VI/27)	X		
c) Priority actions to implement the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision V/9)			
d) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)		X	
e) Development of national strategies or action plans to deal with alien species (decision VI/23)			
f) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation, establishment and maintenance of <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation facilities (decision V/26)			
g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19)			X
h) Preparation of national reports (decisions III/9, V/19 and VI/25)	X		
i) Projects for conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity (decision IV/4)			
j) Activities for conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity (decision V/5)			
k) Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision VI/26)	X		

l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative			
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity			
n) Others (please specify)			

Further information on application for financial support.

With support from GEF funds, Albania is party to the preparation of several GEF full sized project, including the *Conservation of Wetland and Coastal Ecosystem in Mediterranean Region (MedWet Coast)*, *Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Transboundary Prespa Park region (UNDP)*, *Lake Skadar Integrated Ecosystem Management (WB)*, and '*Integrated Water and Ecosystems Management Project*' (WB). Design and implementation of these projects is showing the commitment of the GoA and to fully cooperate with other countries in fulfilling objectives and obligations towards global environmental concerns.

Box LXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Albania has not achieved much success in relation to the development of financial mechanisms. However, it is obvious that both the national and the international resources for the purpose are limited, since there is no significant success in the field so far. Hence, there are no mechanisms developed for preparation, realization and participation in projects financed by international funds. On the other hand a small number of opportunities used for the purpose of implementation of the articles of the Convention concerning financial mechanism development.

D. THEMATIC AREAS

147. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the thematic programmes of work of the Convention (marine and coastal biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands and mountain biodiversity).						
3 = High Challenge			1 = Low Challenge			
2 = Medium Challenge			0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome			
N/A = Not applicable						
Challenges	Programme of Work					
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and sub humid lands	Mountain
(a) Lack of political will and support	1	3	3	2	n/a	2
(b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	1	3	3	3	n/a	3
(c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	1	2	3	3	n/a	3
(d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	1	2	2	2	n/a	3
(e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	1	1	2	1	n/a	2
(f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	1	2	2	2	n/a	3
(g) Loss of traditional knowledge	1	3	2	3	n/a	3
(h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	1	2	3	1	n/a	1
(i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	1	2	2	2	n/a	2
(j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	1	3	2	3	n/a	3
(k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	1	3	2	3	n/a	3

(l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	1	3	2	3	n/a	3
(m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	1	3	2	2	n/a	2
(n) Lack of economic incentive measures	1	3	2	3	n/a	3
(o) Lack of benefit-sharing	1	3	2	3	n/a	1
(p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	1	3	3	3	n/a	3
(q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	1	3	3	3	n/a	2
(r) Lack of effective partnerships	1	3	3	2	n/a	3
(s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	1	2	n/a	2	n/a	2
(t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	1	1	3	2	n/a	3
(u) Poverty	1	3	3	2	n/a	1
(v) Population pressure	1	1	3	3	n/a	1
(w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	1	3	3	3	n/a	1
(x) Lack of capacities for local communities	1	1	3	2	n/a	3
(y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	1	3	2	3	n/a	3
(z) Weak law enforcement capacity	1	1	2	1	n/a	3
(aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	1	0	2	2	n/a	3
(bb) Others (please specify)	1	0	2	0	n/a	0

Inland water ecosystems

148. Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (decision VII/4)				
Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans		X		
b) Wetland policies and strategies		X		
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	X			
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity		X		
Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work				
During the development of the projects and activities for the wetlands areas in Narta and Orikum, National Park of Prespa, National Park of Butrinti, National Park of Karavasta, Lake Ohrid, etc, special attention is paid to the features of the individual inland water ecosystems, to the specific ways of their protection, management and sustainable use. The incorporation of the objectives is partly met.				

149. Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (decision VII/4)	
a) No	X
b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed	
c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets	
d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed	
Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).	

150. Is your country promoting synergies between this programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level? (decision VII/4)

a) Not applicable (not Party to Ramsar Convention)	
b) No	
c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation	X
d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	
Further comments on the promotion of synergies between the programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level.	

151. Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4)

Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?			X
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?		X	
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?	X		
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?	X		
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?	X		

Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.

Projects and activities on monitoring (Based on the law) and water quality are currently undergoing initial implementation phase covering the area Albania(STEMA EU and MOE).The following items are to be defined within the respective project: physical-chemical water characteristics by standard parameters, biological water characteristics according to the identification of the structure of the living communities and indicators, that will serve as a basis of for the father monitoring.

Hydro-meteorological Institute and Institute for health protection are responsible for water quality monitoring.

152. Has your country promoted the application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems? (decision VII/4)

a) No, the guidelines have not been reviewed	X
b) No, the guidelines have been reviewed and found inappropriate	
c) Yes, the guidelines have been reviewed and application/promotion is pending	
d) Yes, the guidelines promoted and applied	

Further comments on the promotion and application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.

Box LXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

National strategy and action plan for biodiversity have been approved by 1999 in Albania. This has consequently contributed to the implementation of the Convention in the country. Some programme of work have been developed and implemented into the strategy and development of certain areas. Hence, state's contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to progress toward the 210 target is at growing level.

Marine and coastal biological diversity

General

153. Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (decisions II/10 and IV/15)	
a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas	X
b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas	X
c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below)	X
d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment	X
e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas	
f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment	X
g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices	X
h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below)	
i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below)	X
j) Others (please specify below)	
k) Not applicable	
Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.	
<p>Marine and coastal biodiversity along the Adriatic and Ionian coastline, are treated in the NBSAP and in the other strategic documents like the SAP BIO (Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan) prepared on the Mediterranean scale but with the contribution of national document prepared by the national experts.</p> <p>Several plans on proclaiming Marine PA are in way.</p>	

Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

154. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.	

The legal bases are introduced in the country legal frame.

155. Has your country implemented ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources, for example through integration of coastal management and watershed management, or through integrated multidisciplinary coastal and ocean management?

a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of application of the ecosystem to management of marine and coastal resources.

There is in way of its implementation the EU Integrated Coastal management project. Several actions within access to nature resources, planning and integration foreseen to be undertaken. Also the MedWet Coast project is implementing an integrated approach.

Marine and Coastal Living Resources

156. Has your country identified components of your marine and coastal ecosystems, which are critical for their functioning, as well as key threats to those ecosystems?

a) No	
b) Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	X
c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress	
d) Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)	
e) Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of assessment, monitoring and research relating to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as key threats to them

The coastal wetlands and the Posidonia meadows are part of this exercise even with site diagnosis or monitoring process.

157. Is your country undertaking the following activities to implement the Convention's work plan on coral reefs? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

Activities	Not implemented nor a priority	Not implemented but a priority	Currently implemented	Not applicable
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs				X
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders				X
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments				X
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services				X
e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns				X
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists				X
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching				X
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality				X
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats				X
j) Others (please specify below)				x

Please elaborate on ongoing activities.

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Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

158. Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.	
a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many)	
b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders	X
c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place	
d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development	X
e) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place	
f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities	
g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses	
h) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment.	
i) Other (please describe below)	
j) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.	

Mariculture

159. Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.	
a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments	X
b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management	X
c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control	
d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level	
e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.	
f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch	
g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture	X

h)	Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polypoids.	
i)	Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity	X
j)	Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques	
k)	Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch	X
l)	Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques	
m)	Not applicable	
Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.		
In the area of Butrinti, Saranda, Vlora and Shengjini (planned) a mariculture system is being developed with domestic types of mussels and native fish species.		

Alien Species and Genotypes

160. Has your country put in place mechanisms to control pathways of introduction of alien species in the marine and coastal environment? Please check all that apply and elaborate on types of measures in the space below.	
a) No	X
b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below)	
c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below)	
d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below)	
e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of activities relating to prevention of introductions of alien species in the marine and coastal environment, as well as any eradication activities.	

Box LXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

This priority is coming from the NBSAP, Protected Areas law and is an important element in the pursued from the Ministry of Environment policy in the management of the protected areas and protection of the biodiversity out of them. In the different fields e.g. forestry the problems with the introduction of alien species are partially addressed. With the available human resources, the basic responsible institutions – Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Moa) have relatively good ability to control and to take adequate decisions regarding the prevention of the introduction of alien species.

Agricultural biological diversity

161. Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (decisions III/11 and IV/6)

a) No	X
b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.	

162. Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (decision V/5)

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)	
Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the <i>In-situ</i> and <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.	
The management, conservation and sustainable use of the agrosystems, together with some ecosystem types from the rest ecosystem groups, is implemented in the Agriculture branch in the system of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security. The activities are coordinated and controlled at the national level. Until now there is no much work done on this issue.	

Annex to decision V/5 - Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

Programme element 1 – Assessment	
163. Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)	
c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)	
Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.	

164. Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).	
The Green Strategy (2002) in some of its provisions has particular orientation to the biodiversity components.	

165. Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessment is under way	
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	
Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.	
The work is based on occasional studies and evaluations implemented by NGOs.	

166. Has your country been monitoring an overall degradation, status quo or restoration/rehabilitation of agricultural biodiversity since 1993 when the Convention entered into force?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, no change found (status quo)	
c) Yes, overall degradation found (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, overall restoration or rehabilitation observed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on observations.	

Programme element 2 - Adaptive management	
167. Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.	

Programme element 3 - Capacity-building	
168. Has your country increased the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders, to manage sustainable agricultural biodiversity and to develop strategies and methodologies for <i>In-situ</i> conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity)	X
Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.	
The agricultural practice and structure was completely changed after the '90. Nowadays the agriculture is facing the structure, organisation, low level of mechanization etc.	

169. Has your country put in place operational mechanisms for participation by a wide range of stakeholder groups to develop genuine partnerships contributing to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified	
c) No, but mechanisms are under development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place	

170. Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified	
c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development	
d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please specify below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.

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Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming

171. Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?

a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified	
d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.

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172. Is your country supporting the institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms for the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity in agricultural strategies and action plans, and its integration into wider strategies and action plans for biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) Yes, by supporting institutions in undertaking relevant assessments	
c) Yes, by developing policy and planning guidelines	
d) Yes, by developing training material	
e) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local levels	
f) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes.	

Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.

173. In the case of centres of origin in your country, is your country promoting activities for the conservation, on farm, *In-situ*, and *Ex-situ*, of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture, including their wild relatives?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on of the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their centre of origin.

Box LXV.

Please provide information concerning the actions taken by your country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

Box LXVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Programme of work for Agricultural biological diversity has not been developed.

Forest Biological Diversity

General

174. Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?	
a) No	
b) Yes, please describe the process used	
c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process	
d) Yes, please describe lessons learned	
e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work	X
Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes	
<p>After the new circumstances the management, conservation and sustainable use of the forest ecosystems, together with some ecosystem types included among, is implemented in the Directorate of Forest Policy (MoE). The activities are coordinated and controlled at the national level. The ecological legislation of the country (acts, etc.) is respected in view of the biodiversity conservation. The Biodiversity issues are partly incorporated.</p>	

Box LXVII.

Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.
<p>The Forestry Strategy in relation to the forestry sector of Albania defined the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To promote forest management system through information system, establishment of a monitoring system, carrying out inventories, ensuring the participation of all stakeholders ➤ Continuous rehabilitation of forests, through sanitation, demining, prevention measures against the adverse impacts, preparation of long-term programmes for reconstruction of low-productive forests ➤ Improvement of forest protection, by establishment of permanent principles for sustainable biodiversity, increase forest openness, carry out property transformation, application of international standards, forest certification ➤ improvement of special forest products usage ➤ Communal forest considerations <p>However, development strategy in the respective sector is not a harmonisation result with the programme of work of the Convention.</p>

Box LXVIII.

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.
<p>According to the existing practice, indigenous and local communities were not widely and methodically involved into the implementation of this and other programmes of work.</p>

Box LXIX.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

There is a lack of capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

Box LXX.

Please indicate how your country has collaborated and cooperated (e.g., south-south, north-south, south-north, north-north) with other governments, regional or international organizations in implementing the programme of work. Please also indicate what are the constraints and/or needs identified.

There is a considerable increase of cooperation between Albania and other governments, regional and institutional organizations in relation to the implementation of the programme of works.

Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing

175. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?

a) No (please provide reasons below)

X

b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)

c) Yes (please provide details below)

Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).

Albania has not ensured any capacity nor management mechanisms for implementation of integrated forest management.

An attempt is in way via GEF Integrated Prespa Park Project.

176. Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions
b) No	x	Please provide reasons below

		<p>The major threats identified in relation to forest ecosystems have been identified within Forestry strategy of Albania:</p> <p>Damages caused by the policy of forest use, illegal cutting, illegal logging, insufficient technical equipment, etc.</p> <p>However, it is necessary to mention the lack of adequate mechanisms to respond to the most frequent impacts such as illegal logging and usurpation of forest land.</p>
<p>Further comments on measures to reduce threats to, and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).</p>		

177. Is your country undertaking any measures to protect recover and restore forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p>
b) No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please provide reasons below</p> <p>All priority actions envisaged in forest sector of development strategy of Albania are undergoing.</p>
<p>Further comments on measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).</p>		

178. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p>
b) No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Please provide reasons below</p> <p>There are several attempts via Communal Forest and local actions implemented under the support of the WB.</p>

Further comments on the promotion of the sustainable use of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

179. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken
b) No	x	Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the promotion of access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources. (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets)

Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment

180. Is your country undertaking any measures to enhance the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	x	Please provide reasons below Lack of financial and human resources.

Further comments on the enhancement of the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	x	Please provide reasons below Lack of financial and human resources.
Further comments on review of socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	x	Please provide reasons below The same as provided in 177.
Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		

Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring

183. Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below Lack of financial and human resources.

Further comments on characterization of forest ecosystems at various scales (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Traditionally, there are differences in forest and biological approach on characterization of forests in Albania. That was case also into considerations of the PA concept that currently changed. It is necessary to introduce ecosystem approach into forest management system integrating forest and biological practices.

184. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve knowledge on, and methods for, the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below Albania has not provided any respective measures and actions due to the lack of implementation of the Convention's programme of work. A study for the illegal logging was undertaken with recommendation for improvement.

Further comments on improvement of knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below The same as provided in 184.

Further comments on the improvement of the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Currently, a considerable change in recognition of biodiversity key role and forest function has been marked and best illustrated through many events and media as well. However, such a change has not initiated any concrete actions, especially those at the state level.

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Forest Inventory realised vi WB Albanian Forestry Project. A full document and mapping is realized.
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the improvement of the infrastructure for data and information management (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The monitoring of the forest ecosystem is part of the overall monitoring system in Albania leaded by MoE

Box LXXI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Programme of work on forest biodiversity has not been developed in Albania????.

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

187. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (decisions V/23 and VII/2)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.

188. Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.

189. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below) | X |
| c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.

The focal points for the two conventions are sited in the same Directorate that increase the possibility of synergy. Unfortunately sometime the cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food is not at the maximum level.

Programme Part A: Assessment

190. Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dry land biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessment is ongoing	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.

Programme Part B: Targeted Actions

191. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)

a) No	X
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.

192. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?

a) No	X
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)	

Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.

Box LXXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Programme of work on Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands has not been developed in Albania.

Mountain Biodiversity

Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

193. Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity

For more than three years based on the governmental decision there is in place active the Agency MADA (Mountain Areas Development Agency). This body is using the Governmental and WB funds and up to now it mostly was oriented to the poverty reduction in the remote areas.

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	X
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity

Some measures have been implemented mostly by MADA on the protection of forest, water courses, agriculture field, etc.

Through taking measures on PA and expanding of the net there has been achieved a considerable progress.

195. Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	X
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems	
Some actions supported by GEF Small Grand Program, namely projects dedicated to mountain tea (<i>Syderitis rhoeseri</i>), <i>Betula pendula</i> , <i>Gentiana lutea</i> , and <i>Origanum vulgare</i>	

196. Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources	

Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing	
197. Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed	
c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.	

198. Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity	
<p>Currently MoE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collaborating with Euronatur and IUCN Cat specialist Group is preparing a MoU with Macedonian side in order to preserve the Lynx balcanicus a flag specie, where the mountain areas are putted at the high priority; - collaborating with British Universities and other actors a Park of Peace is in way of its proclamation, where the high mountains and alpine pastures are the main asset to preserved; - cooperation between Montenegro and Albanian NGOs for the Peace Park in the maintain north part of Albania called "Bjeshket e Namuna". 	

Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing	
199. Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity	
<p>Albania has taken certain measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity, which are not defined as comprehensive one. Valuable data were collected via WB Forestry project and currently the nature Resource project is highly oriented to those areas. There still is insufficient finances to support scientific researches, insufficient awareness on the significance of the mountain biodiversity, lack of implementation of the programme of work.</p>	

200. Has your country taken any measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity	
A conference dedicated to Development of the Mountain areas and Biodiversity Conservation was	

organized by the MoE during the year 2005 and recommendation had been drafted.

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems

Box LXXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

A Programme of work on Mountain biodiversity has not been developed in Albania.

E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

202. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.

The Albanian was deputy and now Chairing the Council of Europe Committee of the Biological Diversity and Landscape. He is representatives Albania also on the PEBLDS as member of Bureau. We took part actively in the meeting organised for the preparation of the Convention meeting

203. Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.

Albania has been oriented towards comprehensive cooperation with countries in the region (Italy, Greece, FYR Macedonia, and Montenegro). However, in addressing the implementation issue of the Convention, Albania hasn't given many opportunities to cooperate with the respective countries.

What might be considered a priority in Albania is a full cooperation between the entities. There is no unique legislation at state level to enhance the implementation of the Convention on biodiversity, nor there did any develop mechanisms and structures for carrying out certain programs of work.

The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

204. Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) No, but programmes are under development

c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)

d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)

Further comments on support for the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes.

205. Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

X

b) Yes

206. Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

X

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms.

Box LXXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of the above decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Meanwhile the implementation of all aspects the Convention in Albania has still to last, the country has

developed cooperation with the countries in the region (Italy, Greece, FYR Macedonia, and Montenegro) and it is gradually developing a process within the country itself. Furthermore, the implementation of international documentation requires establishment and maintenance of continuous cooperation between the respective bodies. From that aspect, Albania within its capacities contributes to the Strategic plan of the Convention, 2010 goals and Millennium Development Goals.

F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

Box LXXV.

Please provide below recommendations on how to improve this reporting format.

Based on that Albania has passed the preparation of the NBSAP, preparation of I and II National Reports and lack of well developed mechanisms for implementation of the Convention on biodiversity, work on the format for the third national report has particularly contributed to:

- Set of mechanisms in the process of Stabilisation and Association in regard to biodiversity at the particular and environment generally.
- clear definition of guidelines that has to be furthermore applied
- identification of a wide spectrum of possibilities for development of national instruments and mechanisms
- Specific orientations towards the process of harmonization and approximation.

What we can suggest to be improved is the length of the format (about 150 pages) that should be shortened.