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*Towards Safe, Reliable
and Sustainable Services*



NIPS PROJECT

WATER NEGOTIATIONS AND INVESTMENT PLANNING SUPPORT (AKUM/SIDA01)



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Outline of the Presentation

- Objectives of the project
- Tasks & Activities implemented
- Partners and Stakeholders
- Results attained
- Timing of implementation

Objectives of the Project

To provide technical assistance to the **Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy** and to the **National Agency of Water Supply, Sewerage and Waste Infrastructure (AKUM)** for:

1. The **development of key strategic documents** for the water sector, and
2. **Increasing their capability to implement investment policy** in the water sector.

The NIPS Project supports **Albania's negotiations** with the EU regarding **Chapter 27** of the *acquis*.

The Project is organized in 6 Tasks:

Task 1	Prepare report on agglomerations, sensitive areas and WSZ
Task 2	Prepare directive-specific implementation plans
Task 3	Prepare a national strategy for sludge management
Task 4	Prepare an investment programme for water supply and waste water
Task 5	Legal drafting to complete the transposition of relevant directives
Task 6	Development of capacity to support implementation

Task nr. 1

Report on Agglomerations, sensitive areas and WSZ

The task 1 had the scope to draft a comprehensive report presenting in detail:

- a) **Identification and delineation of agglomerations and of sensitive areas** in accordance with Council Directive 91/271/EEC on urban waste water treatment (UWWTD),
- b) **Identification of water supply zones** in accordance with Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water for human consumption (DWD).

The final report resulting from this task is the essential basis for the preparation of the:

- Directive-Specific Implementation Plans (Result 2),
- National Sludge Management Strategy (Result 3) and
- Investment Programme (Result 4)

Task nr. 2

Directive specific implementation plans

- o The **Directive Specific Implementation Plans** (DSIPs) consist of all measures required to deliver compliance with the **EU UWWTD** and **DWD** within the context of the WFD.
- o The DSIPs will support the Chapter 27 of EU Accession negotiations process
- o Realistic planning is essential to providing a credible negotiating position
- o They present the gap between the standards and the existing situation, define the hard (infrastructure) and soft (technical assistance) measures to close the gap, propose the implementation approach, the schedule for investments and an estimation of the transition period that Albania will need to complete the process.
- o Two DSIP working groups have been set up by the project, composed by Albanian relevant institutions and coordinated by AKUM

Task nr. 3

National Sludge Management Strategy

- o The task 3 aims at updating the sludge management policy in Albania, running in parallel with the wastewater treatment DSIP
- o Increasing the level of wastewater treatment in Albania will reduce water pollution that is currently being caused by the discharge of untreated sewage.
- o o The **National Sludge Management Strategy** developed by NIPS provides an action plan for the integration of sludge management planning into the wastewater development process
- o The strategy defines the technical, financial, legislative and administrative requirements to enable practical application of the new approach

Task nr. 4

Investment Programming

- o The DSIPs generated a Long List (until 2034) and a Short List (until 2027) of measures required for Albania to be in compliance with the relevant directives
- o Under Task 4, the Long- and Short Lists will be elaborated in a **Financial Programme**, to enable the identification of preparation resources, institutional requirements and financial planning
- o The Programme aims at enabling the national authorities to plan investment preparation resources in advance (in accordance with the Short- and Long- lists of measures)
- o The Programme contains a funding gap analysis, and affordability criteria to support the requests to cover the plan of investments for the EU *acquis* transition periods

Task nr. 5

Legislation to complete transposition to DWD and UWWTD

- o The compliance of the DSIPs require the development of new legislation (i.e.: laws or secondary legislation) and amendments to existing national legal documents
- o The Task 5 developed a list of actions related to the legislative framework required to implement Water sector policy.
- o After coordination with MIE and all relevant institutions, a **plan of legal assistance** has been developed, containing a **Roadmap for the legislative transposition**
- o All of the relevant legislative gaps have now been identified and well-integrated into the work on the DSIPs (Result 2) and the NSMS (Result 3)

Task nr. 6

Capacity Development to support the DSIPs

- o The Water Sector requires the largest amount of public investment within EU Chapter 27 (the largest chapter of the *acquis*) and adequate capacities and different technical skills) of the Albanian administrative institutions.
- o The Task 6 aimed at assessing the capacity and capability requirements of the project's institutional partners, in line with the measures identified by the DSIPs and the NSMS
- o A **Training need Assessment** (targeted to all Water Sector institutions) and a **Capacity Development Plan** (focused on AKUM) defining the capacity building measures, improving the coordination among the water institutions, and the functioning of the system
- o **Capacity building actions**, supporting AKUM staff in the bilateral screening process with EU, were also performed

Stakeholders' engagement and project visibility

- o **Workshops, Seminars and Visibility events** for Stakeholders' involvement have been organized along the project implementation, for all tasks
- o The Workshops involved the relevant water institutions in the process of data sharing, development of strategies and measures, and for the validation of the final outputs
- o The Seminars aimed at informing the relevant stakeholders at both National and International levels about the DSIPs and the other NIPS- strategic documents, to share the approach, results, to ensure information and coordination for the Water sector policy
- o **Visibility Material** realized and distributed during Stakeholders' Seminars and events

Key institutions involved in NIPS Project activities

The **Ministry of Tourism and Environment** and its executive Agency **AKUM** are the main beneficiary and Partner Institutions of the NIPS project

NIPS Project also coordinated with all competent authorities for DWD, UWWTD, NSMS:

- The Ministry of Health and Social Protection
- The National Water Authority - ERU
- The Agency for Water Resource Management - AMBU
- The Water Supply and Sewerage Companies and SHUKALB
- The Ministry of Tourism and Environment and its National Environment Agency (NEA)
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Project Results

Result 1	Prepared report on Identified agglomerations for waste water, water supply zones and sensitive areas
Result 2	Developed Directive Specific Implementation Plans (DSIPs) for the UWWTD and DWD
Result 3	Developed a National Sludge Management Strategy
Result 4	Developed an Investment Programme for water supply and waste water collection and treatment 2021-2027 and 2028-2034
Result 5	Drafted Legislation to enable the completion of the transposition of DWD and UWWTD
Result 6	A Capacity Development Plan to support the implementation of the DSIPs

DW-DSIP: Identified Measures

- Water quality monitoring including laboratory equipment
- Establishment of sanitary protection zones
- Water treatment and disinfection facilities
- Replacement/Rehabilitation of distribution network including service connections
- Construction of new-rehabilitation or extension of springs and wells
- Extension of water supply network
- Rehabilitation of Transmission mains, Pumping Stations, Reservoirs
- Prioritization of WSZs according to: Size of WSZs, Tourism, Water quality compliance
- Capacity building, legal acts and bylaws for improving water quality, water resource protection, access to information and public involvement

DW-DSIP: Summary of Implementation Plan

N°	Type of Investment	Total Cost	Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term
1	Water Production facilities	45.05	8.96	31.62	4.47
2	Water treatment and disinfection facilities	18.14	4.38	13.76	0.00
3	Water supply network	1,036.09	226.55	454.99	354.56
4	Laboratory Equipment	4.80	4.80	-	-
ST-1	Total Net Capital Investment Costs	1,104.08	244.69	500.36	359.02
E&C	Engineering and Contingencies	276.02	61.17	125.09	89.76
ST-2	Total Capital Investment	1,380.10	305.86	625.46	448.78
LPI	Legal, Policy and Institutional Measures	78.00	36.00	26.00	16.00
GT	Grand Total Capital Investment and Legal, Policy and Institutional Measures	1,458.1	341.86	651.46	464.78
	Average yearly Capital Investment Amounts	56.08	56.98	65.15	46.48

UWWT-DSIP: Identified Measures

- Completion of 2 WWTPs currently under construction, Rehabilitation of 3 existing WWTPs and Construction of 100 new WWTPs
- Capacity extension and/or treatment level upgrade of 22 WWTPs
- Construction of 150 new main transport collector/interceptors
- Replacement of mechanical equipment every 15-20 years to ensure process reliability and efficiency (including energy efficiency)
- Create an accredited national laboratory for UWWTD compliance monitoring and to analyze samples of technological waste water analysis discharged by industries
- Rehabilitation of 1,489 km of sewer network within 121 agglomerations
- Extension of the sewer network by 2,719 km in 165 agglomerations
- Capacity building, legal acts and bylaws for the reorganization of sewerage services

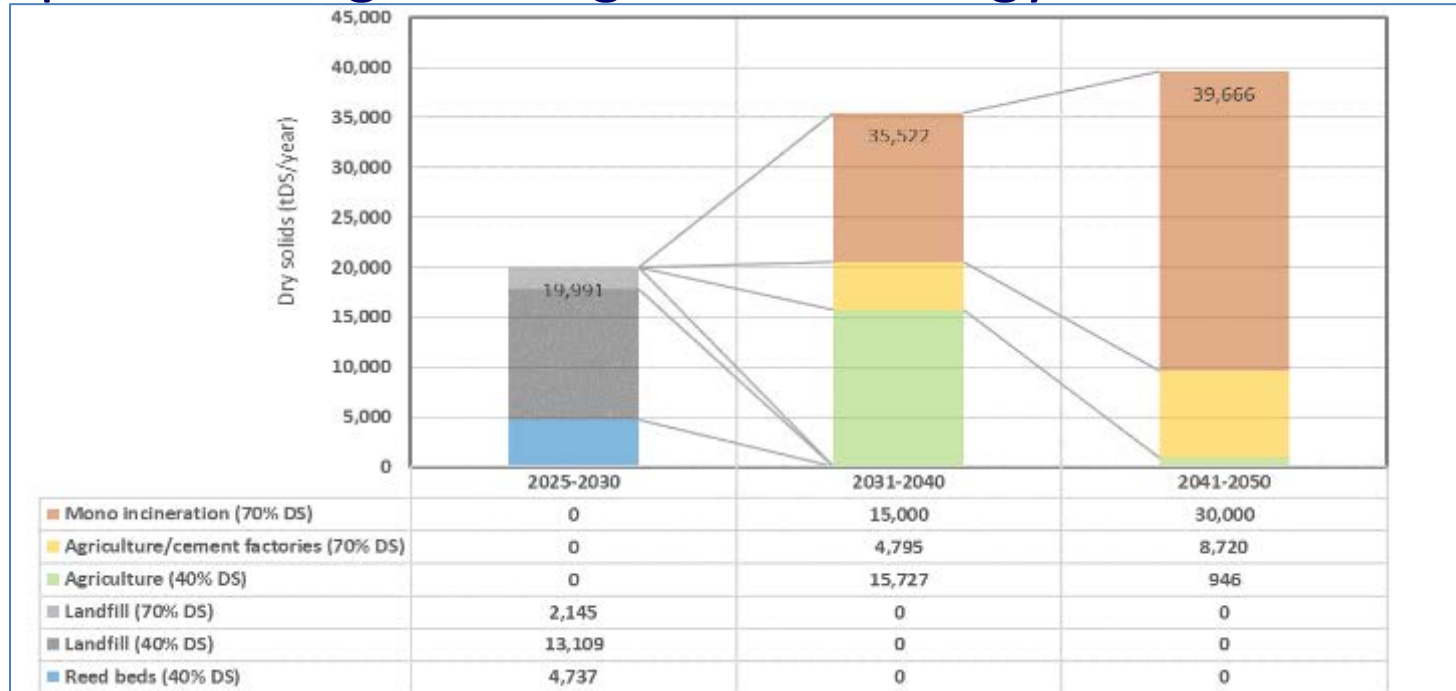
UWWT-DSIP: Summary of Implementation Plan

N°	Type of Investment	Total Cost	Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term
1	Wastewater Collection	1,196.91	219.04	549.89	427.99
2	Wastewater Treatment	670.14	139.59	326.78	203.78
3	Laboratory Equipment	1.00	1.00	-	-
ST-1	Total Net Capital Investment Costs	1,868.06	359.62	876.67	631.77
E&C	Engineering and Contingencies	467.01	89.91	219.17	157.94
ST-2	Total Capital Investment	2,335.07	449.53	1,095.83	789.71
LPI	Legal, Policy and Institutional Measures	19.5	8.8	10.7	0.0
GT	Grand Total Capital Investment and Legal, Policy and Institutional Measures	2,354.57	458.33	1,106.53	789.71
	Average yearly Capital Investment Amounts	90.56	76.39	110.65	78.97

Proposed Sludge Management Strategy

- 1.) Short term – disposal at sanitary landfills
- 2.) Medium term
 - sludge use in agriculture
 - sludge co-incineration in cement companies
- 3.) Long term – mono-incineration
 - Proposed: 1 mono-incinerator > Tirana-Durres corridor
 - 2 phases: 15,000 t DS/y > 2031 and extension to 30,000 t DS/y > 2050

Proposed Sludge Management Strategy



Sludge Management Strategy – implementation plan

Facility	Stage	2023-30	2031-40	2041-50
Landfill	operate			
Anaerobic digestion	design			
	install/operate	where possible		
Solar drying	design			
	install/operate	where possible		
Agricultural use	preparation			
	install/operate			phasing out
Co-combustion (cement companies)	preparation			
	operate			
Mono-Incinerator	preparation/design			
	install/operate		Phase 1	Phase 2

Overview of Project Implementation

- o The Project started in **April 2021** for a duration of **30 months**, until October 2023
- o In order to continue the support to MIE and AKUM during the EU Accession process, **an extension of the project was agreed.**
- o The Project will continue its activities **until December 2024**, with the implementation of two additional tasks:
 - **Task 7: Guidelines for Prioritisation of Investment Projects**
 - **Task 8: Supporting AKUM to manage the bilateral screening process**

Task nr. 7

Guidelines for prioritization of investment projects

- o Prioritisation of financing and Albanian institutional capacity is essential to the effective implementation of the DSIPs developed by NIPS project
- o Under Task 7, the NIPS experts will develop a set of guidelines to coordinate and communicate investment planning with local self-governments, other national institutions and international partners
- o The Guidelines must show how investment priorities can be justified by alignment with national policy and EU accession as well as being understandable for a range of stakeholders

Task nr. 8

Supporting AKUM to manage the bilateral screening process

- o Task 8 foresees a technical assistance service to AKUM to apply the Water NIPS results during the EU's negotiations process for Wastewater and Drinking Water
- o The bi-lateral screening is underway and the next months are expected to require continued clarification of technical information; it is to the benefit of both Albania and the EU to establish an accurate basis for negotiations of DWD and UWWTD
- o Along this period, the pool of NIPS expertise will support AKUM to cover the expected technical questions relating to EU accession and approximation for the Drinking Water and Wastewater sub-sectors

The NIPS Project Website

- o The **project website is: <https://nips-albania.net/>**
- o The Website is regularly updated presenting key information about the project and the uploading of relevant documents
- o In addition to the publicly accessible pages, the website offers password-protected access to all **project reports** and **working group documents** (upon request)
- o Regular news are published, also including news on the workshops and Seminars, and all new documents produced by the NIPS tasks

For more information on the NIPS Project:




Water Negotiations and Investment Planning Support

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WATER NEGOTIATIONS AND INVESTMENT PLANNING SUPPORT AKUM/SIDA01

Thank you for your attention!
Faleminderit për vëmendjen!