

SNV ALBANIA

Collaborative Forest Management

SNV-WB PROJECT

Natural Resources

Development Project

Building the Capacity of new and existing
Forest and Pasture User Associations

Annual progress report - 2007

January 2008



SNV ALBANIA

Connecting People's Capacities

SNV's mission is provision of technical assistance with the aim of alleviating poverty and improving governance in developing countries. SNV Albania's main aim is to assist Albania to further develop and implement its decentralisation process and to support good local governance that facilitates sustainable poverty alleviation and supports Albania's effort to enter into the European Union.

In this, the crucial importance of the interaction between local government and civil society organizations (as well as the private sector) through both their co-operation and the countervailing power is recognized. SNV Albania will use its expertise to enhance the dialogue between authorities and citizens to avoid exclusion and to result in better services for the citizens. To do so SNV Albania is focusing on capacity development of our partner organisations.

SNV started its activities in Albania in 1993. SNV has activities in three areas: Diber, Fier and Korça. SNV provides advisory services to increase capacities, knowledge and sustainability of its clients: Local Government (Communes, Municipality, Qarku), Civil Society Organisations and Private Sector, based on their requests. In general SNV works in long-term partnerships, however also short-term services are provided. Through the SNV Albania's office in Tirana dissemination of experiences and networking are assured, as well as advisory services delivered to national level clients. SNV's main focus areas are on Responsive and Accountable Local Governance, Collaborative Forests Management, Market Access for the Poor and Sustainable Tourism.



Connecting People's Capacities

Diber Portfolio:

Tel: +355 218 2642/ 218 3953

E-mail: diber@snvworld.org

Fier Portfolio:

Tel. + 355 342 0302/ 342 0304

E-mail: fier@snvworld.org

Korça Portfolio:

Tel: +355 825 0982/ 825 3104

E-mail: korca@snvworld.org

Tirana Portfolio:

Tel: +355 4 247 601/ 4 255 803

E-mail: tirana@snvworld.org

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List of acronyms

AFP	- Albanian Forestry Project
CF / CFM	- Communal Forest / Communal Forest Management
DFPP	- Directorate of Forest and Pasture Policies
DFS	- District Forest Service
DGFP	- (former) Directorate General of Forests and Pastures
FUA / FPUA	- Forest (and Pasture) Users Association
GEF	- Global Environment Facility
MEFWA	- Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration
NFA	- National Forest Users Association (also: "National Federation")
NRDP	- Natural Resources Development Program (also: "WB project")
NTFP	- Non Timber Forest Products
PMT	- Program Management Team of the WB project
RF	- Regional Federation (of Forest Users)
SIDA	- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNV	- Netherlands Development Organisation
WB	- World Bank

1 Project details

<i>WB project ID:</i>	PO82375
<i>Project title:</i>	Natural Resources Development Project in Albania - Building the Capacity of new and existing Forest and Pasture User Associations
<i>Implementation:</i>	Netherlands Development Organisation – SNV
<i>Project period:</i>	4 years – 1st July 2006 till 1st of July 2010
<i>Financial contribution:</i>	WB/SNV with total project sum 1,57 million,- USD
<i>Main partners:</i>	Directorate of Forest and Pasture Policies (DFPP)
<i>Focus area:</i>	Albania

2 Introduction

The Government of Albania has received a credit from the World Bank and grants from the GEF and SIDA, totalling approximately US\$ 20 million, to finance the Natural Resources Development Project. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration (MEFWA) has overall responsibility for the Project, and the Directorate for Forest and Pasture Policy (DGFP) is responsible for the implementation of the Project through its Project Management Unit (PMU).

The first component of the project will strengthen and scale up the community-based approach to forest and pasture management developed under the Albania Forestry Project (AFP), which closed in 2004. Within this component SNV will implement capacity-building measures and priority actions to improve the governance of forest and pasture resources, as defined under assignment A.3.1.

As requested in the agreement between NRDP and SNV this annual report covers the period January-December 2007 and it covers the activities of the capacity building program financed by NRDP as agreed in the Inception Report and as a logic continuation of SNV own activities in communal forestry.

3 Background

The transfer of user rights of forests and pastures to communes and villages has started since 1998. 138 Forest Users Associations (FPUAs) were established during the Albanian Forestry Project and 80 new FPUAs will be established during the Natural Resource Development Project for the management of these communal forests and pastures. In some Qarks, Regional Federations are being created aiming at representing the interests at regional and national level of forests users. At national level, Regional Federations are organized by the National Association of Forests Users.

Despite their improvement in organization, FPUAs still need to increase their capacities to improve their economic situation, influence legislation for communal forests and be able to organize better the management of communal forests at village level. These organizational structures, especially the Regional Federations, should be able to give special training services to FPUAs and communes regarding the property rights, the legal status, internal procedures, communication and cooperation, financial and technical management, to have a sustainable management of communal forests and improve the functioning of the FPUAs themselves.

This report marks the start of the second full year of activities in capacity building for forest users associations in communal forest. 2007 encountered a slow progress due to delays in the contracting/implementation of NRDP and was characterized by many WB missions were SNV also participated. Nevertheless SNV caught up with the delays and concluded agreements with 10 out of 12 regional federations and delivered trainings in all of these regions.

The capacity building activities SNV realized during 2007 includes: the development of a database for baseline M&E, including a capacity building monitoring system; a management system for FPUA/federations; a GIS database for communal forestry; and training program of regional level trainers and regional and national representatives of the associations. SNV has developed several training modules: 5 modules have been finalized along with the NRDP capacity building program and are being implemented for FPUAs. The modules tackle both the organizational aspects of the associations and the technical know-how of communal forestry management.

SNV advisors together with an army of local trainers at communal level and local capacity builders at regional level hit the field to deliver trainings (mainly awareness trainings) and visited 120 communes and approximate 1000 villages, covering approximately 55% of all communes planned in the

project. So far, despite slow pace of the NRDP project implementation, the long process of transfer of forest and pasture lands to the communes and lack of regulation and provisions in the forest law, taxes and fees to fully implement the forest strategy regarding communal forest management; we are satisfied with the work done so far with the Regional Federations and National Forest Association.

4 Planning

For the year 2007, activities are carried according to the technical proposal and specific work plans developed for each federation. Special attention were given to the activities that are related with the development of training modules, training of trainers and delivering of trainings at village level according to the training program presented in inception report. Two first months have been more preparatory phase and full training started in the second half of the year.

During the year 2007 it was estimated that 1,067 advisory days (divided: 825 SNV contribution and 242 WB contribution) will be spend, equivalent to 366,000 USD (298,500 USD SNV and 67,500 USD WB) advisory costs (including salary, direct advisory related costs (transport, per diem, etc.) and management fees). For the reimbursable costs, a reservation of 88,000 USD is been made for program support for the 2007 year period.

All the activities are carried out according to the work plans as below:

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Directorate of Forest and Pasture Policy	Strengthening FPUA's capacities to be effective and sustainable in the management of communal forests and pastures	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop one module on training of trainers 2. Develop a series of modules on the specific training needs 3. Build up a regional pool of local trainers 4. Evaluating and reporting <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of program and materials for a training of trainers, publication of 7 training modules on awareness trainings, organizational development and technical issues, organizing an Intersession Day for local trainers, quarter reporting, financial audit and participation in WB missions. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	252	213	15.600 Euro	11.786,08 Euro
<p>Remarks:Result measurement done in June and January (output). Outcome evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment might be possible on revising the pasture management guidelines and finishing technical modules with help of an international consultant.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
National Forest Association of Forest and Pasture Users	<p>Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.</p> <p>Strengthening of networking and communication channels between FPUA's and Federations at all levels.</p>	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish new federations in those regions where the FPUA's exists 2. Deliver training on specific topics (financial self-sustainability, lobbying and advocacy, other..) 3. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all Federation members 4. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the national association 5. Benchmarks / baseline information system of all existing FPUA's in Albania. 6. Building institutional linkages/exchanges at regional and national level <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of 3 federations, registration of 3 federations, 45 local trainers in trained, 11 Local capacity builders at regional federations, FPUA's contacts list database, monitoring system for trainings, conference on forest land and user rights, communal forest fires study, FPUA's Newspaper, house style and gender audit and collaboration with WB Mission, PMT/NRDP and AITTP. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	120	102	8.400 Euro	3.305,25 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output (2) and Outcome evaluations up to date. Future follow up assignment might include organizing a seminar on fire prevention/ control and training of federations in the use of the baseline/ monitoring database.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Diber Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	<p>Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.</p> <p>Strengthening the Federations of Forest and Pasture Users Association at regional and communal level toward taking ownership in managing their communal forests.</p>	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUA's at regional level 5. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all FPUA's members 6. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation 7. Organize specialized trainings on strategic issues <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Zall- Dardhe, Kastriot, Sllove, Tomin, Melan, Baz, Kala e Dodes, Rec, Ulez, F.Bulqize, Komesi, Shupenza, Ostren, Gjorice, FPUA's self assessment in Kastriot and Reshen, advisory services provided to Lezha and Shkoder Federation, general meeting and elections held and actively participated in WB missions. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	122	167	6.240 Euro	3.287,56 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output (2) evaluations up to date. Outcome still pending. Future follow up assignment might be in developing self-sustainable capacity building services for FPUA's and Communes.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Kukes Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	<p>Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.</p> <p>Strengthening the Federations of Forest and Pasture Users Association at regional and communal level toward taking ownership in managing their communal forests.</p>	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUA's at regional level 5. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all FPUA's members 6. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Surroj, Kalis, Ujmisht, Bushtrice, Gjinaj, Bujan, Fierze, Malzi, Fajza and Golaj, FPUA's trainings in Shishtavec, Terthore, Fajza, Malzi, Fajza and Golaj, advisory services provided to Puka Federation and supported AITTP in making the inventory for forest property transfer. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	104	118	4.680 Euro	3.696,80 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output evaluation done in July. Output and outcome still pending. Future follow up assignment might involve more persons as local capacity builders.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Korca Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	<p>Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.</p> <p>Strengthening the Federations of Forest and Pasture Users Association at regional and communal level toward taking ownership in managing their communal forests.</p>	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUA's at regional level 5. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all FPUA's members 6. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Gore, Pirg, Proger, Cerave, Miras, Hociisht, Miras, Barmash, Novosele, Voskopoje, Mollaj, Mollas, Qender, Cerave, Moglice, Leskovik and advisory services provided to Elbasan Federation. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	104	124	4.560 Euro	8.136,56 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output evaluation done in July. Output and outcome still pending. Future follow up assignment must involve more persons as local capacity builders to work in Gjirokaster.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Shkoder Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Kastrat, Postribe, Anamalit, Gruemire, Shale, Vau i Dejes, Shllak, Vigmmel, Shkrel, Gur i zi, gender audit done in Gur i zi and participated in a survey of nuts in Shkoder/Puka. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	64	47	3.360 Euro	4.324,80 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment might involve organization strengthening of the federation board members (specially clarifying the role of the president).</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Lezha Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Orosh, Rubik, Kacinar, Rreshen, Blinisht, Kolsh, Zejmen, Kallmet, Milot, Kthelle, Ungrej and Balldren and participated in the advisory practice training for local capacity builders. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	89	70	3.120 Euro	4.664,31 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment might start activities as a local capacity builder in the district of Miredita.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Puka Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Qerret, Blerim, Rrape, Qafa e Malit, Iballe, Gjegjan and Fierze, FPUA's trainings in Qerret, Qelez and Blerim and organized a regional board meeting. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	65	47	3.120 Euro	3.649,48 Euro
<p>Remarks: Output evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment might start activities as a local capacity builder.</p>					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Tirana-Durres Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUAs at regional level 5. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Baldushk, Zall Bastar, Shengjergj, Manez, Ishem, Cudhi, Nikel, Ishem, Bubq, Berzhite and Vaqarr, establishment of the federation and organized a regional board meeting and elections. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	76	73	4.920 Euro	3.041,64 Euro
Remarks: Output evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment might start activities as a local capacity builder.					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Berat-Vlora-Fier Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUAs at regional level 5. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all FPUAs members 6. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Lumas, Bogove, Aranitas, Kozare, Sinje, Roshnik, Gjerbes, Cepan and Vertop. 			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	73	29	4.920 Euro	5.457,21 Euro
Remarks: Output evaluation done in December. Future follow up assignment might include strengthening the board members of the federation.					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Elbasan Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver training on awareness to all forest & pasture villages 2. Deliver training on specific topics to FPUA's 3. Deliver specialized trainings to FPUA's, Commune and DFS 4. Deliver technical trainings to FPUAs at regional level 5. Organize a general meeting with the participation of all FPUAs members 6. Organize board meetings and facilitate a self-assessment of the federation <p>The specific activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village awareness trainings in Sult, Lenie, Pishaj, Kushove, Gjinar, Zavalin, Tregan, Stebleve, Hotolisht, Labinot Mal, Paper, Stravaj, Rajce, Lunik, Lenie, Porocan, Skenderbegas, Shushice, Labinot Mal, Paper and Perparim. 			

Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2007	December 2007	102	61	6.960 Euro	8.167,80 Euro
Remarks: Output evaluation still pending. Future follow up assignment must start activities as a local capacity builder (2).					

Client	Assignment	Short description			
Gjirokaster Regional Federation of Forest Users Association	Increase the knowledge and understanding on methods and practices in communal forestry and identification of ways to adapt and put these methods into practice at local level.	<p>The aim of the assignment is:</p> <p>1. None</p> <p>The specific activities included:</p> <p>-</p>			
Start date	End date	Advisory days		Budget	
		Planned	Realized	Planned	Realized
Jan 2008	December 2008	52	6	3.240 Euro	0,00 Euro
Remarks: Need to start assignment in 2008.					

5.1. Baseline information database for communal forestry

SNV has requested ECAT to give support on developing a baseline study for the forestry sector in Albania (SNV assignment with the National Forest Association as part of the NRDP project). More specifically this request is worked out through the following specific objectives of this cooperation: Collect and develop a GIS based information system on existing socio-environmental information in Albania, and develop an MS Access based database for the monitoring / evaluation system of the Capacity Building Program. By the end of 2007 this database was completed and we could start training the National Association and Regional Federation in how to update and maintain the database. Also institutional linkages are established with DFPP and INSTAT to share relevant information to monitor the impact of the capacity building program.

5.2. Financial Auditing SNV-WB project

At the beginning of 2007, stating expenditures versus budget, as well as commitment versus disbursement was audited by an international auditing company KPMG. The auditing company presented a report and certified all expenses were made in line with the objective of the project and following SNV guidelines. This report was presented also to DFPP/PMT.

5 Activities realized

5.3. Editing and publication of 5 training modules

During the period of January to March SNV has completed the writing and editing of one training of trainer's module. The content of this training modules are basic theoretical concepts of communication and feedback, adult learning, group facilitation and conflict management, as well as leadership, participation and gender, and will be used to train local trainers at FPUA level. Also 4 different modules for an awareness campaign on communal property transfer, implementation of management plans and development of forest-based economies and organizational self-assessment have been developed. These materials include leaflet, presentation charts, manuals, certificates and posters. A selected editorial and publishing house is designing and printing 5 different publications used as training materials. Other 4 publications are in the process of being edited and translated. As soon as this are finished we plan to start the development of 3 new training modules for year 2008, including the development of a website for the NFA were all publications could be found.

5.4. Design of a house-style for NRDP Capacity Building Program

After a workshop with all SNV advisors involved, over 15 advisors with different expertise ranging from forestry, private sector development and governance, criteria for publications and elements of a unique house-style were defined for the Capacity Building Program. Over the next years it is expected to publish a range of multi-media materials including manuals, CD-ROMS, videos, posters, leaflets, PowerPoint presentations, software, posters, readers, case-studies, etc SNV in consultation with partners of the project, National Forest Association and DFPP/PMT, and with selected publish house defined the house-style and other publishing modalities. A common commission is established which will monitor all the process.

5.5. Establishment of 3 new regional federations

With support of the National Association of Communal Forest Users and executives of FPUAs 3 new federations have been established in different regions or Qarks (Skodra, Tirana-Durres, Lezha). Other federations that were created in 2006 (Puka, Elbasan, Berat) are being supported in the process of registering themselves in the court and electing new board members. Some preliminary activities are developed on establishing of Gjirokastra federation.

5.6. Signing of Agreements and Work plans with 9 Federations

After a process of identifying the progress of the NRDP management plan implementation, a list of communes was defined where the Federations and SNV will concentrate their capacity building activities this year. The guiding principle was to align the activities of PMU with capacity building activities in the regions we are working. For this year it is expected to deliver trainings in approximately 128 communes and 1085 villages, covering 60% of all communes according to agreements and work plans signed with 9 federations.

5.7. Contracting of Korca, Kukes, Diber Federation and National Association as Local Capacity Builders

Following the “themel” principle, Korca, Kukes, Diber Regional Federations and National Association have signed an agreement with SNV to provide assistance and advice to FPUA’s and newly formed Federations in the implementation of the Capacity Building Program. Federations will act as capacity builders for FPUAs and their members by becoming effective local trainers that will build the capacities of FPUAs, Communes and Villages. Over 190 advisory days have been sub-contracted to LCBs who will work in close cooperation and coordination with SNV.

5.8. Training of local trainers of Tirana-Durres

A special training program to strengthen the training skills of 3 local trainers of Tirana-Durres federation have been prepared since no person of these regions could participate in the training of trainers organized early this year. This was delivered by a multidisciplinary group of SNV advisors.

5.9. Delivering of trainings

The awareness training program contains NRDP objectives, transfer process and preparation of management plans, community participation, traditions and legal framework related to the users rights and forest management, roles and responsibilities of forests villages commissions and FPUA’s, communes and DFS. It is delivered according to their stage of involvement in NRDP implementation and using the same list of communes / FPUA’s identified in collaboration with the Regional Federations and NRDP Project Management Team.

The progress 2007 of the implementation of training program is shown in bellow table:

Training Team	Region/Qark	FPUA's/Communes	Period
SNV Diber & Fed Diber	Diber	Zall-Dardhe, Kastriot, Slllove, Tomin, Melan, Baz, Kala e Dodes, Rec, Ulez, F.Bulqize, Komesi	Jan - June
		Shupenza, Ostren, Gjorice	July - December
	Shkoder	Kastrat, Postribe, Anamalit, Gruemire, Shale	Jan - June
		Vau i Dejes, Shllak, Vigmnel, Shkrel, Gur i zi, Pult, Kelmend	July - December
	Lezha	Orosh, Rubik, Kacinar, Rreshen, Blinisht, Kolsh, Zejmen	Jan - June
		Kallmet, Milot, Kthelle, Ungrej, Balldren, Selite	July - December
SNV Tirana & Nat. Assoc	Tirana/Durres	Ishem, Bubq, Berzhite, Vaqarr,	Jan - June
		Baldushk, Zall Bastar, Shengjergj, Manez, Ishem, Cudhi, Nickel, Manez	July - December
	Berati/Fier	Lumas, Bogove, Aranitas, Kozare	Jan - June
		Sinje, Roshnik, Gjerbes, Cepan, Vertop,	July - December
SNV Tirana & Korca Fed Korca & Nat. Assoc	Elbasan	Sult, Lenie, Pishaj, Kushove, Gjinar, Zavalin, Tregan, Stebleve, Hotolisht, Labinot Mal, Paper	Jan - June
		Stravaj, Rajce, Lunik, Lenie, Porocan, Skenderbegas, Shushice, Labinot Mal, Paper, Perparim, Kodovajt	July - December
SNV Korca & Fed Korca	Korca	Gore, Pirg, Proger, Cerave, Miras, Hocisht, Miras, Barmash, Novosele, Voskopoje, Mollaj,	Jan - June
		Mollas, Qender, Cerave, Moglice, Leskovik, Hudenisht, Dardhas	July - December
SNV Kukes & Fed Kukes	Kukes	Malzi, Fajza, Golaj	Jan - June
		Surroj, Kalis, Ujmisht, Bushtrice, Gjinaj, Bujan, Fierze, Tropoje,	July - December
	Puka	Qerret, Blerim, Rape, Qafa e Malit	Jan - June
		Iballe, Gjegjan, Fierze	July - December

5.10. Delivering implementation awareness trainings

For villages and communes that have their forest management plan developed and are in the process of implementation, a special training program is prepared to strengthen their capacities in rules and regulation of NRDP, organization structure and FUA responsibilities, participation and gender, membership rights and responsibilities and DFS / commune role .

However due to delays in the implementation of various NRDP activities we have put most of these planned trainings “on hold”

until the Project Management Team starts implementing the management plans in order to pair with NRDP activities. These implementation awareness trainings have been delivered to the following communes.

Training Team	Region/Qark	FPUA's/Communes	Period
SNV Diber & Fed Diber	Diber	Zall- Dardhe, Kastriot, Slllove, Tomin, Melan, Baz, Kala e Dodes, Rec, Ulez, F.Bulqize, Komesi	Jan - June
		Shupenza, Ostren, Gjorice	July - December
SNV Kukes & Fed Kukes	Kukes	Malzi, Fajza, Golaj	Jan - June
		Shishtavec, Terthore, Fajza	July - December
	Puka	Qerret, Qelez, Blerim	July - December

5.11. Organizational Self-Assessment of FPUA Kastriot and Reshen

The functioning of FPUA's is one of the main focus points on the natural resource development project. Therefore it is very important that they know how to function and how to play their role in the community. The organizational self-assessment is carried out for the benefit and self-reflection of the FPUA itself only. The tool is prepared by SNV advisors, based on existing OAT and adapting it to the Albanian context regarding communal forestry and FPUA's. Both these FPUA's had more than three year's existence. We expect in the next months to continue with the organizational self-assessment in other existing FPUA's.

5.12. Regional Federation Board meeting in Puka

Forest Federation of Puka district established last year is relatively new compare to Diber and Kukes Federations. Board meeting of Puka Federation with support of SNV discussed on current situation in their district, progress made till now in awareness process in communes involved in NRDP, their needs, lobbying activities and situation on NRDP implementation. Carbon sequestration activities and some gaps of mini projects were in the table for discussion. Their concern on activities planned on carbon sequestration activities is the same as in other regions and they presented them to NRDP team in Tirana. For some of their concerns they got solutions and for the others the process is going on.

5.13. Work plan evaluations with 11 SNV Clients

In line with our contracts with the regional forest user's federation, 11 evaluations have taken place with 11 of SNV clients who had received SNV advisory days during all year

2007. The “Output” and “outcome” evaluation evaluated not only the progress, but also the quality of SNV services. The evaluation took place with federations of Kukës, Puka, Dibër, Shkodra, Lezha, Korça, Elbasan, Tirana-Durrës, Berat, National Forest Association and DFPP/PMT. All clients evaluated SNV advisory as very satisfactory (above 17 out of 20).

5.14. Gender Audit of Awareness Trainings NRDP

A special audit was organized in Shkodër to identify what are some of the main barriers/reasons that influencing the low number of women participation in the trainings delivered so far during the NRDP project. A small SNV team accompanied the local trainers in a village in Guri i Zi and through a rapid rural appraisal and individual interviews assessed the situation. From the report and discussion with local trainers during a workshop in Voskopojë, a series of recommendations to involve more women participation were drawn, ranging from issues such as way of invitation, place and time selection, cultural barriers, trainers composition, etc..

5.15. Coaching to local trainers

As part of the local trainers training and as a continuation of the training of trainers provided early this year, all local trainers have been receiving monthly coaching by SNV advisors or LCB's from the Federations. Through SNV and the Federations many of their difficulties and concerns have been brought up to the DFPP management team. In November a special reflection session in Voskopojë was developed where all local trainers (around 40 nationwide) shared and discussed their experiences and learning's in the field aiming to improve their skills, but also to make suggestions to PMT and SNV in how to improve our activities within NRDP.

5.16. Developing of advisory skills for LCB's

In line of transferring responsibility and ownership of the NRDP project to local actors in communal forestry, SNV is following a strategy of increasingly involving a pool of professionals from the regional federations in SNV advisory practice to our Clients. During the second half of 2007 around 10 skilled professionals accompanied SNV with coaching local trainers and advising communes and FPUA's in the implementation of NRDP. As part of the development of their professional career their progress is weekly monitored and evaluated by SNV advisors, who work closely with them. In November, special and intensive 4 day training is developed with focus on the facilitation skills advisory practice of LCB's.

5.17. Training in coaching skills to SNV Advisors

The objective for the training is that the participants perceive coaching and the communication principles that underlie it as an interesting and important element of the work of an SNV Advisor. Besides learning more about coaching and how to communicate, reflexion on NRDP activities and suggestions were made to PMT and SNV in how to improve our coaching activities within NRDP.

5.18. Facilitation Team Retreat NRDP Team

In October a special workshop was facilitated by DFPP and SNV to prepare recommendations to the Special World Bank Mission planned in November 2007 and survey the constraints and opportunities of the work, roles and responsibilities of all project actors for the success of the Natural Resources Development Program. The results of this workshop were presented to the ministry, SIDA and WB as input on recommendation how to improve the management and implementation of the NRDP project.

5.19. Reporting to the Project Supervision Mission

SNV presented to WB project supervision mission of May and November 2007 the activities realized during 2007 for implementation of the capacity building program at all levels. The mission was satisfied with the outputs of SNV and asked for more support to PMT especially regarding property and user rights, taxes and fees, gender, pasture management and impact monitoring/baseline. SNV has agreed to introduce in its training activities at the local level with the FPUAs, as well as at the regional and national level with the regional coordinators and federation of FPUAs.

5.20. Assist writing project proposal WB-AITTP

As agreed during a mission of WB, SNV offered to assist the Agency of Inventory and Transfer of Public Properties to develop a project proposal for the World Bank under NRDP. After long discussion with the Agency and Ministry of Interior, SNV and AITPP have reached to an agreement and work plan to offer technical assistance to organize seminars and trainings to some pilot regions/communes staff directly. This will be realized under SNV/SIDA framework with the intend to raise this experience to a project proposal on national level (all regions) under WB/DRDP, which may include hiring advisory staff, public relations and advertising, lobby and advocacy and information technology (almost finalized). SNV supported

AITPP to organize a 3 days workshop in Kukes region from 20-22 November with communes that have not finished inventory of public properties.

5.21. Design the output and outcome indicators for NRDP Baseline

Together with URI and the PMT team a special workshop was organized to design the architecture of the monitoring and evaluation based on the expected impact, outcomes and outputs described in the project proposal document and provide Urban Research Institute feedback so that they can conclude their assignment by the end of 2007. With collaboration of the World Bank the logical framework of the project was updated and new input, output and outcome indicators were defined.

5.22. Revising the pasture management guidelines for NRDP management plans

Another requirement of the WB mission was to adapt existing practices to farmer pasture management systems in line with the current situation and needs of local users (farmers and their communities). An international consultant is being hired to revise the communal management plan guidelines for forest and pastures, to help NRDP in the development of a series of technical criteria for improving pasture management practice, with special focus on gender. The consultant will need to work in partnership with NRDP, Federations and our SNV advisors.

5.23. On-going study on the impact of fires on communal forests

The purpose of this study is to gather information on the occurrence of forest fires, exposure and risks analysis between forests areas managed under communal forest vs. forest areas that have not been transferred by the state. This information would be important to measure the effect that the increase of forest management and participation of local communities have had on fire prevention and control. The study report will be delivered and discussed with actors/partners.

After preparation of trainings modules and other support activities during first quarter of the year, SNV started intensively in the rest of the year, with many activities in the field in coordination with most of the federations. An extra SNV advisor has been contracted as from 1 April 2007 to start up the implementation of the capacity building program. SNV started implementation of training program according to the selected and approved communes by DFPP/PMT and it was in line with scope and timeframe of the program. SNV was on schedule and no mayor set backs have happened. But there were complains from some FPUAs and communes regarding to delays and other procedures in contracting process that apparently caused the challenge to match up the implementation activities of PMT with capacity building activities have not been reached. After November WB supervision mission Still there and a lack of good coordination and communication with the PMT staff field activities and little involvement of local actors such as communes, FPUAs, DFS and Federations.

6 Outputs

Some important achievements were:

- GIS database at commune level designed for communal forestry (environmental, social and economic information)
- Management System database designed for FPUAs and Regional Federations.
- Address list database of contact persons, trainers, board members, etc.. for FPUAs and Regional Federations.
- Capacity Building and training activities monitoring system for FPUAs and Regional Federations
- Financial audit report of SNV-WB project by KPMG
- 120 FPUAs and 1080 villages in 10 different regions received training on awareness program at village and commune level.
- 23 FPUAs and 200 villages received training on implementation awareness program at village and commune level
- 3 newly establish Regional Federations of Forest Users (Shkodra, Lezha, Tirana-Durres)
- 3 newly registered Regional Federations of Forest Users (Elbasan, Puka, Berat)
- Training of Trainers module completed
- 4 Training modules for village and FPUAs completed

- House-style defined for NRDP Capacity Building Program
- 11 different agreements signed with the Regional Federations of Shkodra, Lezha, Korca, Elbasan, Puka, Kukes, Diber, Berati, National Association with their respecting working plans (see annexes)
- 3 Regional Federations are working as Local Capacity Builders and providing advise to 6 different regions
- Main issues, concerns, best experiences and practices etc. related with FPUAs functioning and communal forest and pastures management are regularly reflected in "Kurora e Gjelber" news paper.
- 2 FPUA's have done an organizational self-assessment
- 1 Regional Federation has realized a board meeting
- 3 Regional Federations, 1 National Association and DFPP have evaluated of their work plans
- 3 Local Trainers have been completed training in Tirana-Durres
- 43 Local trainers of FPUA's have received coaching and are delivering trainings
- 5 Training modules have been edited and are designed for publication.
- 1 Agreement and work plan has been signed with AITTP
- 1 Gender audit has been realized in Shkoder federation and 1 Gender Action Plan prepared
- 2 Trainings are being organized for LCB's and local trainers
- 1 Training coaching & communication organized for SNV Advisors
- 2 Recommendation lists for improving NRDP management (both PMT team as local trainers FPUA's).
- 1 Aide Mémoire NRDP évaluation mission
- 1 Logical Framework for NRDP with Impact / Outcome indicators list
- 1 Terms of Reference for international consultant pasture management
- 1 National study is being done on fires and communal forestry

8 Financial report

OVERALL BUDGET 2007 (USD)

	PLANED	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
Budget SNV	\$298,500	\$57,138.25	\$126,819.25	\$78,712.50	\$80,970.38	\$343,640.38	115%
Budget WB	\$155,500	\$21,250.21	\$34,988.08	\$46,649.29	\$44,759.36	\$147,646.94	95%
Total budget	\$454,000	\$78,388.46	\$161,807.33	\$125,361.79	\$125,729.74	\$491,287.32	108%

TOTAL ADVISORY COSTS 2007

	PLANED	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
Budget SNV	\$298,500	\$57,138.25	126,819.25	\$78,712.50	\$80,970.38	\$343,640.38	
Budget WB	\$67,500	\$16,662.75	21,783.75	\$14,819.50	\$11,048.13	\$64,314.13	
Total budget	\$366,000	\$73,801.00	\$148,603.00	\$93,532.00	\$92,018.50	\$407,954.50	111%

PROGRAM SUPPORT

	PLANED	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
1. Needs assessments/ follow-up/review	\$3,000	\$2,306.08				\$2,306.08	
2. Situational analysis	\$2,000					\$0.00	
3. Training of trainers	\$2,500		\$3,040.96			\$3,040.96	
4. Preparations training modules	\$2,500		\$2,952.49	\$1,379.40	\$1,080.05	\$5,411.94	
5 Awareness programs (village level)	\$35,000	\$1,483.33	\$6,625.73	\$14,828.11	\$25,645.69	\$48,582.86	
6. Org & Technical training/coaching FUAs	\$40,500	\$798.05	\$585.14	\$12,817.95	\$6,265.45	\$20,466.59	
7. Monitoring/Evaluation	\$2,500			\$2,804.33	\$720.06	\$3,524.39	
Total program support	\$88,000	\$4,587.46	\$13,204.33	\$31,829.79	\$33,711.24	\$83,332.82	95%

ANNEX 1

Overview of Work Plans for the Year 2007

Name of Client	Planned Days 2007	Workplan days 2007	1st Q days	2nd Q days	3rd Q days	4th Q days	Total days	Realized vs Planned
DFPP	252	423	14	108	22	69	213	84%
National Association	136	120	37	38	10	18	102	75%
Tirana-Durres	80	76	4	7	39	23	73	92%
Berat-Vlore-Fier	58	73	1	5	14	9	29	50%
Elbasan	113	102	7	16	21	17	61	54%
Korce	74	104	32	31	36	26	124	168%
Gjirokaster	52	0	4	-	1	1	6	12%
Diber	101	122	66	54	24	22	167	165%
Kukes	76	104	38	37	35	8	118	156%
Shkoder	54	64	1	12	16	18	47	87%
Puke	21	65	4	11	31	1	47	220%
Lezhe	50	89	21	31	13	5	70	139%
Assignments	1,067	1,342	229	349	262	217	1,058	99%

Name of Client	Planned Budget 2007	Workplan 2007	1st Q spent	2nd Q spent	3rd Q spent	4th Q spent	Total spent	Realized vs Planned
DFPP	\$20,800.00	\$47,513.03	\$2,306.08	\$6,083.66	\$4,343.10	\$3,456.95	\$16,189.80	78%
National Association	\$11,200.00	\$15,870.70	\$798.05	\$494.93	\$1,653.61	\$2,541.40	\$5,487.99	49%
Tirana-Durres	\$6,560.00	\$11,157.46	\$506.41	\$93.07	\$1,094.65	\$2,622.87	\$4,317.01	66%
Berat-Vlore-Fier	\$4,800.00	\$10,625.65		\$712.13	\$3,367.61	\$2,720.65	\$6,800.39	142%
Elbasan	\$9,280.00	\$14,025.03	\$36.49	\$2,173.19	\$4,652.06	\$4,586.66	\$11,448.40	123%
Korce	\$6,080.00	\$15,474.45	\$46.32	\$967.10	\$4,788.22	\$5,709.95	\$11,511.58	189%
Gjirokaster	\$4,320.00	\$0.00					\$0.00	0%
Diber	\$8,320.00	\$14,921.79		\$1,625.51	\$1,869.73	\$1,044.60	\$4,539.84	55%
Kukes	\$6,240.00	\$13,388.95	\$62.47	\$643.27	\$2,897.63	\$1,537.28	\$5,140.65	82%
Shkoder	\$4,480.00	\$8,415.02			\$1,911.84	\$4,305.81	\$6,217.65	139%
Puke	\$1,760.00	\$7,257.56	\$52.17		\$3,113.04	\$1,955.08	\$5,120.29	291%
Lezhe	\$4,160.00	\$12,054.22	\$779.48	\$411.46	\$2,138.30	\$3,229.98	\$6,559.22	158%
Assignments	\$88,000.00	\$170,703.86	\$4,587.47	\$13,204.33	\$31,829.79	\$33,711.24	\$83,332.82	95%

ANNEX 2

Budget for the Year 2008

OVERALL BUDGET 2008 (USD)		PLANNED 2008				
	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
Budget SNV	50,500	58,000	58,000	48,500	215,000	68%
Budget WB	25,000	27,000	26,000	25,000	103,000	32%
Total budget	75,500	85,000	84,000	73,500	318,000	100%

TOTAL ADVISORY COSTS 2008 (795 days)						
	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
Budget SNV	50,500	58,000	58,000	48,500	215,000	83%
Budget WB	10,000	12,500	12,500	10,000	45,000	17%
Total budget	60,500	70,500	70,500	58,500	260,000	100%

PROGRAM SUPPORT						
	I	II	III	IV	TOTAL	
1. Needs assessments/ follow-up/review	1,000	1,000	1,000		3,000	
2. Situational analysis					-	
3. Training of trainers	1,000				1,000	
4. Preparations training modules	1,000	1,000			2,000	
5. Awareness programs (village level)					-	
6. Org & Technical training/ coaching FPUAs	12,000	12,500	12,500	12,500	49,500	
7. Monitoring/Evaluation				2,500	2,500	
Total program support (WB only)	15,000	14,500	13,500	15,000	58,000	100%