

## TERMS OF REFERENCES

### Transboundary Water Resources Management International Expert

<b>Program Title:</b>	Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo (IWRM-K)
<b>Post Title:</b>	Transboundary Water Resources Management International Expert
<b>Duty Station(s):</b>	Home-based with a short mission to Kosovo and 1 study visit to selected transboundary river basin
<b>Duration of contract(s)</b>	Five months upon signing of the contract
<b>Estimated workload:</b>	35 expert-days
<b>Indicative start date:</b>	15 February 2023
<b>Budget:</b>	EUR 30,000

#### **PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

The Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo Program (hereinafter referred to as "IWRM-K" or the "Program") is implemented by the Consortium of Skat Consulting Ltd., Switzerland, and the Environment Agency Austria (EAA), thanks to funding provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Government of Kosovo. Its main goal is to build long-lasting water resources management capacities at national and river basin levels in line with Kosovo's socio-economic and political priorities, as well as the needs of future sustainable development. It aims to help replace the current fragmented approach with a more comprehensive, and highly participatory approach of managing water resources, aligned with the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD).

The overall goal of the IWRM-K is to establish a functionally integrated water resources management framework for the protection, quality, sustainable use, and equitable allocation of water resources, thus contributing to the improved socio-economic well-being and population health, preserved resources, and reduced risks of internal and transboundary water-related conflicts.

The IWRM-K concentrates its efforts on creating the enabling environment for the envisaged transformation of Kosovo's water resources management through: (i) Support to the development of institutional capacity for IWRM; (ii) Preparation of a coherent planning and technical documentation base to inform future measures and water resource management decisions (e.g., River Basin Management Plans<sup>1</sup> (RBMPs), other country-level policies, strategies, and plans); (iii) Support to knowledge and skills development of (young) water professionals whilst facilitating relevant job creation; and (iv) Public awareness-raising on environmental issues and creating stakeholder participation mechanisms in water resources management.

Kosovo is already part of some initiatives dealing with water resources management including in a transboundary context (e.g., Drin River Basin Transboundary Cooperation Platform; Adaptation to Climate Change through Transboundary Flood Risk Management in the Western Balkans)<sup>2</sup>. This has

<sup>1</sup> Kosovo is a landlocked country featuring four main river basins: Drini i Bardhë, Ibër, Morava e Binçës and Lepenc. The country's waters are unevenly distributed in space and time that is expected to exacerbate over the next decades, making all Kosovo basins water stressed. The stress levels are expected to grow in the future in light of the climate crisis and the increased demand for water for agriculture, industrial operations, mining and urban centres. The management of water resources in Kosovo becomes even more challenging considering the transboundary character of its four river basins.

<sup>2</sup> <http://drincorda.iwlearn.org/drin-river-basin/introduction>

Caption:

Description:

