

# Simplified Approval Process

## Annex 2a: Logical framework



# LOGICAL FRAMEWORK TEMPLATE

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK				
1. GCF Impact level: Paradigm shift potential (max. 300 words)				
Assessment Dimension	Current state (Baseline)		Potential target scenario (Description)	How the project/programme will contribute (Description)
	Description	Rating		
<b>Scale</b>	Despite its best efforts, the Institute of Geosciences (IGEO) is struggling to meet the expectations placed on a modern National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (NMHS). Albania is the only country in Europe that does not have a dedicated 24/7 NMHS. Hydro-met functions are also dispersed across other institutions, with limited coordination between them. Albania does not have a National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS). There is no truly joined-up multi-hazard early warning system (MHEWS) and there are important gaps – notably, mobile telecommunications – in early warning dissemination. Important capabilities, such as impact-based forecasts (IbF) and forecast-based action (FbA), are absent. International cooperation is limited and sporadic.	<u>Low</u>	Paradigm shift would involve a shift away from current structures and practices – uncoordinated public sector institutions with limited capacities operating in the absence of a shared strategic framework; negligible private sector involvement; limited service innovation or user-orientation; fragmented issuance of early warnings that are of unclear quality and timeliness – to hydro-met and early warning systems that are truly joined-up, inclusive and innovative, that are well integrated into regional and international structures, and that increase the climate resilience of the Albanian population through generation, coordination and effective use of climate information.	The ALBAdapt project is conservatively projected to build the adaptive capacity of ~700,950 direct beneficiaries in Albania's coastal belt, with an additional 1.8 million beneficiaries nationwide. The NMHS will be rejuvenated or restructured, an NFCS established and, for the first time, the national early warning system will be truly multi-hazard and multi-platform. Albania will become an integral participant in the European Meteorological Infrastructure (EMI), to the mutual benefit of the country and the region. Investment decision-making across key sectors, such as agriculture, tourism, energy generation and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), will become climate-informed.
<b>Replicability</b>	The climate data and information generated and disseminated by the NMHS and the (multiple) early warning systems are currently of insufficient quantity, quality, consistency and timeliness to allow reliable replication of benefits across climate-vulnerable sectors and regions. The absence of an NFCS serves to hinder private sector engagement in	<u>Low</u>	If the twelve municipalities of the coastal belt can be demonstrated to successfully leverage the strengthened capacities and structures of the NMHS, NFCS and MHEWS to improve their climate resilience – through implementation of FbA, local adaptation action plans (LAAPs), EbA and other interventions – then the approach could be further replicated in the remaining 49 Albanian	The project design envisages a second phase that will serve to replicate and scale-up EbA investment across the entirety of Albania through an Albanian Development Fund (ADF) EbA financing window. Moreover, the ALBAdapt project can serve as a model for other countries seeking to strengthen and 'join up' their national hydro-met and early warning services, and to couple 'top down' institutional reform with 'bottom up' community-based adaptation support. The project's replicability potential is enhanced by its incorporation of World

	hydro-met service provision, and hence the introduction of a more innovative and consumer-focused approach that can reach a broader set of users while reducing the cost burden on the public sector.		municipalities and across other countries. Fewer than half of countries report being covered by a MHEWS, so the replication potential of the ALBAdapt project is significant.	Meteorological Organisation (WMO) best-practice guidelines and industry standards (e.g. Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) for warning content, 3GPP TS 23.041 for mobile cell broadcasts <sup>1</sup> , etc.) and its coordination with (and support for) multi-country baseline projects, such as the Early Warnings for All Initiative.
<b>Sustainability</b>	The current situation is not sustainable: Albania lacks a legal framework to govern the operations of the NMHS; 95% of manual hydro-met stations need to be replaced or repaired, as do 100% of automatic stations; links between the NMHS and the early warning system need to be strengthened and systematised; IGEO itself reports that current warnings have weak predictive capability; private sector involvement is negligible; and there is little sign of adoption of outside innovations, such as IbF or FbA. Since 2015, a number of assessments, including by WMO, the World Bank, the Austrian Meteorological Service (ZAMG) and MeteoSwiss, have identified the need for fundamental structural reform, which is now reflected in government policy (notably, the National Strategy for Development and European Integration, NSDEI, 2022-2030). But limited technical capacities, budget constraints, institutional fragmentation and limited engagement with regional and international initiatives represent significant barriers to sustainability.	<u>Low</u>	Paradigm shift would involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened capacities of the institutions involved in collecting and processing hydro-meteorological data in Albania and transformation of the institutional underpinnings of the NMHS to enhance clarity of roles and responsibilities, and to facilitate information exchange in a truly 'joined up' system.</li> <li>• Kick-starting the mobilisation of private sector involvement in the provision of climate services, thereby partially detaching service provision from government budget constraints and introducing market discipline (user-oriented focus, dynamic adjustment, profit-seeking motivation) into the hydro-met sector.</li> <li>• Enhanced usability and usefulness of the hydro-met and early warning systems, thereby cementing their importance to policy-makers, local communities and end-users.</li> <li>• Realisation of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) priorities, notably relating to EbA, through improvements to the NMHS, NFCS and MHEWS.</li> </ul>	The ALBAdapt project is assessed as having high sustainability potential. Specific aspects of the project's sustainability strategy include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Institutional reform</i>: e.g. of the NMHS and MHEWS, and creation of the NFCS.</li> <li>• <i>Regulatory reform</i>: development of a Law on Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services and a MHEWS Policy to formalise instrument design, roles and responsibilities, and inter-institutional coordination arrangements.</li> <li>• <i>Capacity building</i>: extensive capacity building programmes relating to the NMHS, NFCS, MHEWS, academia (elective hydro-met modules) and 'last mile' municipalities and communities.</li> <li>• <i>Stakeholder engagement and beneficiary ownership</i>: building support for the project and ensuring that the project meets the needs of the people it is intended to benefit.</li> <li>• <i>Financial sustainability</i>: NMHS staffing, operations and maintenance costs will be formally addressed in the Law on Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services; cost efficiencies through modernisation of the observation network, international partnerships and collaboration, rationalisation of operations, and use (where possible) of open-source software.</li> <li>• <i>Mobilisation of the private sector</i>: to develop climate services targeted at user needs, at limited or no cost to the government.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) Technical Standard (TS).

2.1. GCF Outcome level: Reduced emissions and increased resilience (IRMF core indicators 1-4, quantitative indicators)						
GCF Result Area	IRMF Core Indicators (1-4) <sup>2</sup>	Means of Verification (MoV)	Baseline	Target		Assumptions / Note
				Mid-term	Final <sup>3</sup>	
<u>ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities</u>	<u>Core 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-hazard early warning system (MHEWS) coverage: AlbaMet Alert &amp; National Emergency Broadcast System (NEBS) logs</li> <li>Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs): Public LAAP registry maintained by the Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE)</li> <li>Capacity building programmes: List of participants</li> <li>Forecast-based action pilots: Census data and school records</li> <li>EbA / eco-DRR: replication reports</li> <li>Project fM&amp;E System</li> </ul>	0	0	<i>Direct</i> <b>700,951</b> F: 351,173 M: 349,778  <i>Indirect</i> <b>1,823,325</b> F: 914,343 M: 908,982	Mid-term is 0 because the preparedness activities and the AlbaMet Alert system will not be operational until the second half of the project.
<u>ARA1 Most vulnerable people and communities</u>	<u>Supplementary 2.4: Beneficiaries (female/male) covered by new or improved early warning systems</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MHEWS coverage: AlbaMet Alert &amp; NEBS logs</li> <li>Project M&amp;E System</li> </ul>	0	0	<b>2,524,276</b> F: 1,265,516 M: 1,258,760	Representing 90% of the national population. Baseline is 0 because the existing EWS is not fully operational, as defined by WMO & GCF. Mid-term is 0 because beneficiaries will only be reached when the AlbaMet Alert system is operational.
<u>ARA3 Infrastructure and built environment</u>	<u>Supplementary 3.1: Change in expected losses of economic assets due to the impact of extreme climate-related disasters in te</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced economic modelling results</li> </ul>	0	N/A	Euro 5.1 million per year avoided losses	The computation of this indicator is aligned with the central scenario of the economic analysis detailed in Annex 10 and is based on the methodology described in the

<sup>2</sup> The IRMF Indicators are set out in the [Integrated Results Management Framework](#)

<sup>3</sup> The final target means the target at the end of project/programme implementation period. However, for core indicator 1 (GHG emission reduction), please also provide the target value at the end of the total lifespan period which is defined as the maximum number of years over which the impacts of the investment are expected to be effective.

	<u>geographic area of the GCF intervention</u>					<p>GCF Results Handbook.</p> <p>Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual climate disaster damage in Albania: Euro 25.7 million in nominal terms.</li><li>• Avoidance of annual climate damage costs through deployment of a functional CIEWS: 20% (i.e. Euro 5.1 million)</li></ul> <p>This is a conservative estimate as it uses a historical damage costs baseline: in fact, the frequency and severity of climate hazards are expected to increase in the future.</p>
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## 2.2. GCF Outcome level: Enabling environment (IRMF core indicators 5-8 as applicable)

IRMF Core Indicators (5-8) <sup>4</sup>	Baseline context (Description)	Rating for current state (Baseline)	Target scenario (Description)	How the project will contribute	Coverage
Core Indicator 5: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks for low emission climate-resilient development pathways in a country-driven manner	Despite its best efforts, IGEO is struggling to meet the expectations placed on a modern NMHS. Albania is the only country in Europe that does not have a dedicated 24/7 NMHS. Hydro-met functions are also dispersed across other institutions, with limited coordination between them. Albania does not have an NFCS. There is no truly joined-up MHEWS and there are important gaps – notably, mobile telecommunications – in early warning dissemination.	<u>low</u>	The target scenario is one in which the NMHS and MHEWS legal and regulatory framework is formalised and transparent, where an NFCS exists to facilitate and coordinate the development of innovative climate services, where institutions – including at municipality level – operate in the context of a shared strategic framework, where data-sharing is routine practice, and where warnings are issued centrally across multiple platforms in a coordinated and timely fashion. The Albanian population's climate resilience will be increased through the improved generation, coordination and effective use of climate information.	<p>The project will work with the government and civil society to implement a substantive programme of institutional and regulatory reform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMHS rejuvenation or restructuring will be accompanied by a new Law on Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services to formalise the new arrangements, including establishing formal linkages between the NMHS and the MHEWS.</li> <li>• An NFCS will be put in place.</li> <li>• The current fragmented system of hazard management and early warning systems will be restructured, with the National Civil Protection Agency (NCPA) given the central coordinating role. A MHEWS Policy will be formulated and endorsed that specifies detailed roles and responsibilities of institutions.</li> <li>• Data sharing between</li> </ul>	<u>National level (one country)</u>

<sup>4</sup> The IRMF Indicators are set out in the [Integrated Results Management Framework](#)

				<p>institutions will be enabled (technically and administratively) and institutional standard operating procedures (SOPs) will be agreed and put in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LAAPs will be developed in conjunction with coastal belt municipalities: these will form an integral element of Local Adaptation Plans (LAPs), which are themselves bottom-up constituents of the NAP.</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Core indicator 7: Degree to which GCF Investments contribute to market development/transformation at the sectoral, local, or national level</u></p>	<p>Private sector engagement in the Albanian hydro-met sector is negligible. Climate services – primarily simple weather or hydrological forecasts of limited sophistication and a monthly retrospective e-mail climate bulletin – are provided by a number of state institutions, operating largely in isolation. There is no NFCS to facilitate or coordinate private sector investment. A number of start-up incubators operate in Albania, but none possesses the expertise or experience to support medium, small or micro enterprises (MSMEs) that provide climate products or services.</p>	<p><u>low</u></p>	<p>The target scenario is one in which the private sector provides meteorological, hydrological and climate services and products ('climate services' for brevity) to targeted end-users in climate-sensitive sectors (e.g. agriculture, tourism, renewable energy generation) and contexts (e.g. located in the coastal belt), thereby injecting a heightened degree of user-centric dynamism and innovation to climate service range, quality and delivery, and at limited or no cost to the government.</p>	<p>The project will work with the government and civil society to establish an NFCS, complete with a functional National Climate Information System (NCIS) and User Interface Platform (UIP), to facilitate data and information sharing, and to enable private sector development / co-development of innovative climate services. The Law on Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services will include explicit provisions for the NMHS to share data with private sector actors (on a no-cost and a commercial basis) and the NCIS will contain 'walled garden' areas for commercial services. The project will support climate service business ideation (leading to at least 30 credible,</p>	<p><u>National level (one country)</u></p>

				documented business ideas) and will provide incubation support to three climate service MSMEs (as well as one Albanian incubator using an 'incubation of incubators' model). A structured programme of awareness-raising and capacity building will be implemented within the innovation ecosystem and a digital innovation community will be established for advancing climate entrepreneurship in Albania.	
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### 3. Project/programme specific indicators (project outcomes and outputs)

Project/programme results (outcomes / outputs)	Project/programme specific Indicator	Means of Verification (MoV)	Baseline	Target		Assumptions / Note
				Mid-term	Final	
Outcome 1: Albania has an enhanced NMHS and an NFCS capable of providing weather, hydrological and climate information services in support of policies, plans and priority sectors						
Output 1.1: Enhanced capacities of the NMHS, leading to reliable data for tailored weather, hydrological and climate services	Number of observational stations purchased, rehabilitated or improved	Purchase orders for new stations  Procurement orders for station rehabilitations / improvements  Written NMHS confirmations of station installations and rehabilitations / improvements  Project M&E system	0	20-40	50-70	The number of stations to be purchased, rehabilitated or improved by the project will be confirmed once the observation network concept has been designed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and officially validated (Sub-Activity 1.1.1.2).  The baseline status of the hydro-met observation network has been established through a comprehensive inventory of observation stations (Annex 2f) undertaken in 2023 during



						project preparation.
Output 1.2: An NFCS is established and deployed as a national coordination platform and knowledge hub	Degree to which the NFCS contributes to effective knowledge generation and learning processes, and use of best practices, methodologies and standards	Annual application of the scorecard for the composite index  Project M&E system	<b>5 points</b>  <b>Low:</b> No mechanism for sharing best practices and methodologies among stakeholders	<b>12-15 points</b>  <b>Medium:</b> An NCIS and a UIP are co-designed and implemented	<b>19-30 points</b>  <b>High:</b> The NCIS serves as a sophisticated data repository and workspace for hydro-met stakeholders; an annual UIP event serves to integrate views and knowledge from stakeholders	A composite index based on 5 elements covering the degree of stakeholder engagement, M&E, knowledge sharing and integration of best practices into management decisions has been developed.  Commitment from the NMHS to facilitate the engagement of external stakeholders with the NFCS is needed for the achievement of the targets. Relevant provisions will be included in the Law on Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services.
<b>Outcome 2: A widely-available early warning system and targeted early action services are established - saving lives, livelihoods and reducing climate disaster risks</b>						
Output 2.1: A multi-hazard early warning system is nationally enabled and deployed	Standardised processes, roles and responsibilities of all organisations generating and issuing hydro-met warnings are established and mandated by legislation or other authoritative instruments (e.g. MoUs, SOPs)	MHEWS Policy  Institutions' standard operating procedures (SOPs) and associated quality management systems (QMSs)  AlbaMet Alert platform (part of the National Climate Information System, NCIS)  Project M&E system	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	This indicator is based on UNDRR / WMO best-practice guidance on MHEWS custom indicators. <sup>5</sup>
	Communication and dissemination systems tailored to the different needs of specific groups for climate-related priority hazards	NEBS SOPs and logs  AlbaMet Alert logs  Project M&E system	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	The project will rationalise hazard early warnings such that they are disseminated from two sources: NEBS (TV/radio) for the most serious and/or large-scale hazards, and AlbaMet Alert for lower-priority and/or more localised or targeted hazards. Within

<sup>5</sup> UNDRR and WMO (2022), *Multi-Hazard Early Warning System Custom Indicators and Methodologies for Computation*: <https://www.undrr.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/MHEWS Custom Indicator Methodology.pdf>

						<p>AlbaMet Alert, dissemination mechanisms will include online, e-mail, social media and mobile phone alerts. Use of this range of mechanisms ensures that different groups can be reached: e.g. mobile systems can reach hard-to-alert groups such as youth, outdoor workers (e.g. farmers, construction workers) and tourists.</p> <p>Priority hazards are floods and forest fires: according to the Fourth National Communication, they account for 90% of climate-related hazards in Albania. Both are covered by NEBS and AlbaMet Alert.</p> <p>The computation methodology is the same as for UNDRR / WMO Indicator 4.3.</p>
<b>Outcome 3: Climate-informed decisions for adaptation measures are improved</b>						
Output 3.1: A climate innovation ecosystem to support investment and decision-making for adaptation is established and operational	Number of participants in an open digital innovation community for advancing climate entrepreneurship in Albania	<p>Log of innovation community users (each user has a unique username/password)</p> <p>Project M&amp;E system</p>	0	150	400	<p>Following their participation in awareness-raising and ideation activities (Sub-Activity 3.1.1.1), participants will be invited to join an open digital innovation community, through the existing AlbaniaTech platform. This community will provide a forum for discussion, dissemination of news relating to the climate services sector, networking and innovation promotion. It will also serve as an online gateway to useful and inspiring information (including upcoming events).</p> <p>In the context of this indicator, 'participants' are defined as individuals who are registered</p>

						members of the digital innovation community.
	Number of high-potential climate service business ideas assembled into a portfolio	Portfolio screening and scoring records  Project M&E system	0	10  Of which, 3 are supplied by women entrepreneurs or organisations representing women	30  Of which, 10 are supplied by women entrepreneurs or organisations representing women	A standard template, approximately ten pages in length when completed, will be developed for idea submissions, thereby ensuring that ideas are presented in a uniform, structured manner and with an acceptable level of detail.
Output 3.2: Climate-informed adaptation measures are analysed, developed and ready for implementation	Number of LAAPs completed by coastal municipalities	Public LAAP registry maintained by MoTE  Project M&E system	0	2	12	Additional municipalities, located outside the coastal belt, may develop LAAPs as part of their ongoing or future Local Adaptation Plan (LAP) development processes. Such development will take place outside the project framework. MoTE will maintain an online registry of all LAAPs.
<b>Project/programme co-benefit indicators</b>						
Co-benefit 1: Increase in quality of life due to non-climate hazard warnings	Number of alerts for non-climate hazards issued through the established MHEWS. [as a proxy for the contribution to an increase in quality of life]	National MHEWS alert logs  Project M&E system	0	1	5	<p>The institutional capacities and systems put in place with project support for climate-related hazard early warnings (e.g. modelling and analysis capabilities, decision support tool, warnings disseminated through mobile devices, etc.) can be extended, at limited cost, by national stakeholders to include non-climate hazards, such as earthquakes and air quality. This is considered a co-benefit of the project's focus on climate-related hazards and early warnings.</p> <p>It should be noted that an increase in the number of alerts for non-climate hazards may be a positive side-benefit of the project's activities – and it is in this sense that the</p>

						indicator and targets have been constructed. However, an increase in the number of alerts for non-climate hazards may also arise from extreme circumstances (e.g. extreme seismic activity, extreme air pollution), in which case the number of alerts cannot meaningfully be considered a proxy for increasing quality of life.
Co-benefit 2: Gender-equitable participation in climate innovation	Number of women-led business ideas submitted for incubation support	Portfolio screening and scoring records  Project M&E system	0	3	10	<p>The project's ideation support (Sub-Activity 3.1.1.1) will generate a portfolio of at least 30 climate service business ideas. A standard template, approximately ten pages in length when completed, will be developed for idea submissions, thereby ensuring that ideas are presented in a uniform, structured manner and with an acceptable level of detail. A high level of implicit quality control is expected because of the specialist nature of the field, the types of stakeholders involved in ideation and the consultative (typically, team-based) quality of workshops and hackathons.</p> <p>Business ideas from women entrepreneurs (or organisations representing women) will be encouraged under Sub-Activity 3.1.1.1 and under the Gender Action Plan (GAP) – Intervention 30.</p>

#### 4. Project/programme activities and deliverables

Output	Activities	Description	Deliverables
Output 1.1: Enhanced capacities of the NMHS, leading to reliable data for tailored	Activity 1.1.1: Strengthening the NMHS	Strengthening the Albanian NMHS and developing the regulatory and	D1. A new, enhanced hydro-met sector legal framework on Weather, Climate and

weather, hydrological and climate services		institutional environment for long-term operations and sustainable funding. Activity 1.1.1 also modernises key aspects of the hydro-met system, including investment in new meteorological and hydrological stations, data management and quality control systems. Meteorological and hydrological forecasting capabilities will also be strengthened to deliver on early warning and climate service needs.	Hydrological Services is developed as part of legislation or another authoritative instrument.  D2. Reliable, timely and expanded data from the improved hydro-met observation network is received and stored in the Meteorological, Climatological and Hydrological Database Management System (MCH-DBS, developed by WMO).
Output 1.2: An NFCS is established and deployed as a national coordination platform and knowledge hub	Activity 1.2.1: Establishing and deploying an NFCS	Under Activity 1.2.1, the project will work with national stakeholders to establish an NFCS as an institutional mechanism to coordinate, facilitate and strengthen collaboration among national institutions to improve the co-production, tailoring, delivery and use of science-based climate data, forecasts and services. The NFCS will be designed in line with WMO best-practice guidelines.	D1. 50 key users, from at least five different NFCS stakeholder institutions (universities, NMHS, ministries, NCPA, CSOs and private sector), receive capacity building on the NFCS.  D2. Two annual forums are organised as part of the Albania UIP.
Output 2.1: A multi-hazard early warning system is nationally enabled and deployed	Activity 2.1.1: Deploying a widely available, fit-for-purpose MHEWS	Activity 2.1.1 seeks to put in place a fit-for purpose, people-centred MHEWS that addresses multiple climate hazards in a structured, coordinated and 'joined up' manner. Hazard warnings will be issued through a central platform – AlbaMet Alert – and will be extended to include warnings disseminated to mobile devices. The MHEWS will be designed in line with WMO best-practice guidelines.	D1. Institutional arrangements (including SOPs and QMSs) needed for the successful operationalisation of the MHEWS as a functional, 'joined up' entity are designed and agreed.  D2. A comprehensive capacity building programme for MHEWS institutions, individually and collectively, is implemented.
	Activity 2.1.2: Transitioning towards forecast-based early action in Albania	The restructuring of the MHEWS represents a strategic opportunity to begin the process of moving towards impact-based hazard management, in part as an enabling condition for FbA – and thereby facilitating the government's efforts to avert disaster through preparedness efforts, limit disaster impact by providing more targeted early warnings and accelerating recovery by delivering timely disaster response services to vulnerable citizens. Activity 2.1.2 will develop the capacities and institutional arrangements needed for FbA, develop hazard impact models, pilot FbA in three coastal belt settlements and develop school	D1. The capacities of the NMHS, NTPA, municipalities and other local stakeholders to understand and apply the information from hazard impact modelling and forecasts (with a particular focus on the needs of vulnerable groups) are strengthened.  D2. Emergency management plans are developed for 114 schools in coastal municipalities.

		emergency FbA plans in the twelve coastal belt municipalities.	
Output 3.1: A climate innovation ecosystem to support investment and decision-making for adaptation is established and operational	Activity 3.1.1: Strengthening the innovation ecosystem for climate services	Activity 3.1.1 will support the commercial use of (improved) NMHS and MHEWS data streams through ideation (development of a set of high-potential climate service business ideas) and incubation support to MSMEs. At least 30 business ideas will be generated and documented, and three climate service providers will benefit from incubation support (capacity building, mentoring and grants). A digital innovation community will be supported to advance climate entrepreneurship in Albania.	<p>D1. 30 climate service business ideas (using a standard submission template) are conceived.</p> <p>D2. Three climate services are tested and demonstrated in real-world Albanian settings.</p>
Output 3.2: Climate-informed adaptation measures are analysed, developed and ready for implementation	Activity 3.2.1: Facilitating the identification of adaptation measures and their financing	Activity 3.2.1 will enable territorial stakeholders to use climate information and services in order to make climate-informed decisions about the climate-adapted development of the coastal belt. Extensive stakeholder consultations will be undertaken in each of the twelve coastal belt municipalities to develop LAAPs. These LAAPs will be focused documents that contain prioritised adaptation investment measures. Each LAAP will contain at least one EbA / eco-DRR measure: 5-10 such measures, covering a range of different types of climate hazard (e.g. flooding, landslides, erosion, etc.), will be implemented with project support. Informed by piloting of these measures, an EbA / eco-DRR financing window will be established within ADF to enable future scaled-up investment in nature-based adaptation solutions.	<p>D1. 5-10 EbA / eco-DRR measures, covering a range of different types of climate hazards and sourced from a range of coastal zone LAAPs, are successfully implemented.</p> <p>D2. SOPs for the established financing window, including governance, safeguards and operational modalities, are drafted and approved.</p>

## 5. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation arrangements (max. 300 words)

### Monitoring, reporting and evaluation arrangements

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation arrangements (in addition to the ESAP and GAP) will comply with the relevant GCF policies, as stipulated in the AMA, FAA and project-related Financing Agreements and Implementation Agreements with Executing Entities.

The project will apply a customised results-based monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system. The M&E system will track project inputs, activities and sub-activities, outputs and impacts, as well as associated financial flows across all outputs in all project interventions areas.

This system will be based on:

- GIZ Standard Operating Procedures (“GIZ’s evaluation policy – principles, guidelines and requirements”)
- The project log-frame (see above)
- Implementation timetable (Annex 2b)
- Requirements of the GCF’s Annual Performance Report
- Local and national monitoring systems
- Procedures and requirements of project partners and stakeholders in the CIEWS sector in Albania

The oversight for M&E and reporting lies with GIZ as AE. The GIZ project team in Albania, as EE, will ensure that appropriate monitoring and evaluation procedures are implemented. A digital tool (e.g. a dashboard) for the project M&E system that follows the progress of all results, indicators, activities and deliverables will be developed. This dashboard will also include different modules to monitor the ESAP and the GAP. Access to NCPA will be provided to enable collection of data generated by the implementation of its activities and sub-activities. Additionally, NCPA, as EE, will, in conjunction with GIZ (as EE), supervise implementation and prepare periodic reports on the technical and financial achievements on the relevant activities, sub-activities and tasks under Component 2.

The Project Management Committee (PMC) will be the body responsible for leading the preparation, monitoring and coordination of the Annual Operational Plans and the annual project budget, and discussing monitoring processes and results. Its work will be supported by Project Management Unit (PMU), which will coordinate inputs into the overall annual operational planning of the project. It will also oversee the M&E system, monitoring both the technical and budgetary advancements of the project in alignment with the approved annual operational plan and budget. This includes ensuring the timely execution of activities and providing regular updates to the PMC on progress in this regard.

#### **Recruitment of M&E staff**

At project start, GIZ AE will make available one expert to oversee and coordinate the project M&E and reporting routines. As soon as GCF proceeds become available, the project will recruit a Gender, ESS and M&E (GEM) Specialist. The Specialist will support the management of the M&E system and provide on-the-job training for dedicated M&E experts from the PMU and other relevant stakeholders. In addition, the GEM Specialist will maintain the M&E database, and additional specialist inputs may be required for certain technical areas.

#### **Data collection and frequency**

The PMC will supervise and guide monitoring and evaluation. The PMU will aggregate monitoring reports based on inputs at least every six months and make a summary report available to GIZ’s AE unit at head office, again at least every six months.

#### **Monitoring of Logical Framework indicators**

The Logical Framework contains information about all indicators the project will monitor and report on, their baseline and target values, as well as the ‘Means of Verification’ (MoV) used for this purpose. Further explanations on the indicator itself or its targets are provided in the column “assumptions / notes”, where applicable. The GEM Specialist, in coordination with NCPA and other key project partners, will develop indicator definition sheets for each indicator during the first year of project implementation. During this process, the means of verification, as well as the assumptions presented, will be reassessed and developed in more detail based on the latest information from project implementation and the up-to-date country context. In addition, the indicator-specific responsibilities for data collection and reporting will be defined between the two EEs and the contributions of other key project partners will be agreed upon. The indicator definition sheets will be integrated into the digital M&E tool and shared with key project partners.

#### **Independent monitoring and evaluation studies**

**Mid-term and final evaluation:** GIZ AE will initiate a mid-term evaluation and a final evaluation of the project. GIZ evaluations are carried out by GIZ’s independent evaluation unit. This unit is steered by a corporate unit that is separate from operational business and reports directly to the Management Board. Moreover,

evaluations are conducted with the support of external evaluators. GIZ applies the 'evaluation criteria for German bilateral development cooperation' (2006, revised 2020) on a standard basis in project evaluations. These are based on the six evaluation criteria agreed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, overarching development results (impact), coherence and sustainability. Additionally, the following five GCF criteria will be evaluated: gender equity, country ownership, innovativeness in results areas, replication and scalability, as well as unexpected results.

GCF's evaluation principle of impartial, objective and unbiased and relevance, use and participation: All provisions for upholding the GCF evaluation principles described in Chapter V (a-d) of the Evaluation Policy will be followed (see DAC standards and DeGEval evaluation standards). In line with the UNEG norms, evaluation team members selected by GIZ must not be directly responsible for the policy setting, design or management of an evaluation project. An Interim Independent Evaluation Report and a Final Independent Evaluation Report will be submitted to the GCF as per timeline agreed in the FAA.

GCF's evaluation principle of credibility and robustness: As a matter of principle, GIZ takes care to use an appropriate combination of quantitative and qualitative methods of empirical social research in evaluations. The mix of methods is adapted to the object of the evaluation and the evaluation questions. To ensure robust evidence, GIZ uses a theory-based approach as a minimum standard for its central project evaluations. Contribution analysis has proven to be a suitable design. The aim of contribution analysis is to collect empirical evidence on whether and to what extent contributions to observed changes can be associated with a project. Furthermore, the analysis should increase the understanding and knowledge of what works, what does not work and why.

Projects will be rated based on the six OECD/DAC and on the five GCF evaluation criteria. Each of the OECD/DAC and GCF criteria is rated on a scale of 1 to 100. Using a points system serves to increase the transparency of ratings, whilst enabling better comparability between individual projects.

Results from the mid-term evaluation should be reflected within the project design, to influence upscaling and to improve overall project implementation (adaptive management).