



## **Workshop on the Institutional Development Plan**

**Center for Social Enterprises**

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Improved Implementation of the EU Floods Directive  
through Harmonization of National Legislation and  
Preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans

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# Stakeholder engagement and public participation plan

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## PRESENTATION CONTENT

- Purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation Plan
- Description of stakeholders by categorization according to influence and interest
- Existing solutions for inter-institutional coordination and data and information management
- Approaches for stakeholder engagement
- Discussion questions



## Purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation Plan

- 🕒 To ensure transparency, inclusiveness and compliance with EU and national policies for efficient and sustainable flood risk management
- 🕒 To foster collaboration among key stakeholders to maximize the project's impact
- 🕒 To improve informed decision-making and ownership (on the decisions) by the affected parties and the community
- 🕒 Public involvement encourages practical and acceptable solutions

**The plan will be updated regularly and based on feedback from stakeholders!**



- **Stakeholder categorization by influence/interest**

Големо влијание – Голем интерес	Големо влијание - Мал интерес
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✚ Министерство за животна средина и просторно планирање (Сектор за води при Управата за животна средина)</li><li>✚ Министерство за земјоделство, шумарство и водостопанство (релевантни организациски единици) – АД Водостопанство, Управа за хидрометеоролошки работи и ЈП Национални шуми</li><li>✚ Министерство за локална самоуправа и Центри за развој на планските региони</li><li>✚ Министерство за здравство</li><li>✚ Министерство за транспорт</li><li>✚ Центар за управување со кризи</li><li>✚ Дирекција за заштита и спасување</li><li>✚ Општини (градоначалници и општински совети, релевантни организациски единици на општинската администрација, општински јавни претпријатија/комунални служби, територијални противпожарни единици)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✚ Приватен сектор (инженерски и градежни компании, осигурителни компании, стопански комори)</li><li>✚ Агенција за супервизија на осигурување</li><li>✚ Медиуми</li></ul>



### Мало влијание – Голем интерес

- ✚ Научни и академски институции (универзитети и истражувачки центри специјализирани за хидрологија и еколошки науки)
- ✚ Граѓанско општество (граѓански еколошки организации, групи од граѓанското општество фокусирани на намалување на ризик од катастрофи)
- ✚ Засегнати заедници и жители во подрачја подложни на поплави – подрачја со потенцијално значителен ризик

### Мало влијание – Мал интерес

- ✚ Генерална јавност



## FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT – INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### Centralized competencies (national level):

- **Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning** – Leading institution for integrated water management, ecological monitoring and strategic planning in the field of environment
  - Supervises permits, management with data and planning for floods (Sector for water)
  - Coordinates through river basin management councils and the National Water Council
- **MAFWE** – Manages with irrigation, drainage and hydrometeorological systems
  - Through the Administration for water management and UHMR
  - Supported by J.S.C. Water management (operational management) and P.E. National forests (solutions based on nature)
- **Ministry of Health** – Monitors water quality and manages health risks, especially during floods



## Operative and emergency intervention

- **Center for management with crises (CUK)** – Early warning and coordination in emergency situation
- **Directorate for protection and rescue (DZS)** – Implementation of emergency measures

## Decentralization and local inclusion

- **Municipalities** – Implement defense from floods, maintenance of aquatic infrastructure in populated areas and preparation for extraordinary conditions
  - Supported by **public communal enterprises (JKP)**
- **MLS** – Coordinates development on the system on local self-government and regional development
- **ZELS** – Representative of municipalities in the context of local policies and financial support



## Others key actors

- **Ministry for transport** – Competent for communal activities and infrastructure
- **AD ESM** – Manages with hydro-accumulations (prevention from floods)
- **ASO (Agency for supervision on insurance)** – Potential partner for mechanisms for financing on risk

## Horizontal support

- **Academic and scientific institutions** – They provide research and professional support
- **Civil organizations** – Raise awareness and strengthen the resilience of communities
- **Media** – They support public informing and communication about floods risks



## Project platform for operational communication and coordination

### Purpose and activities:

- Support to implementation of project activities
- Determining the scope, purpose and composition of the Working Groups (WG) and Designated (Task Force) Groups (TG)



## Specific consultation and coordination topics for **Working group1 (WG 1)**:

- Assessment of the level of implementation and enforcement of national flood management legislation and compliance with the EU Floods Directive
- Amendments and supplements to the existing Water Law
- Subsidiary legislation to ensure full transposition and implementation of the amendments to the law
- Directive Implementation Plan (DSIP)

**WG 1** is composed of appointed persons from institutions with competence in the field of legal aspects of flood management, namely: MoEPP (EU and Water Sectors), CUK, DZS, UHMR and J.S.C Vodostopanstvo.



## Specific consultation and coordination topics for **Working group2 (WG 2)**:

- Preliminary flood risk assessments for all (10) river basins
- Flood hazard maps and flood risk maps for all river basins
- Torrent and landslide mapping

**WG 2** is composed of appointed persons from institutions with competence in the field of technical aspects of flood management, namely: MoEPP (Water Sector), CUK, DZS, UHMR and J.S.C. Vodostopanstvo.



## Specific consultation and coordination topics for **Working group3 (WG 3):**

- Plan for implementation of system for early warning from floods

**WG 3** is composed of appointed persons from institutions with competence in flood early warning systems, namely: MoEPP (Water Sector), CUK, DZS and UHMR.



## Specific consultation and coordination topics for **Designated (Dedicated) Group 1:**

- Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation Plan
- Institutional Development Plan

**DG 1** is composed of representatives of: MEPP (Water Sector), CMC, SSO, UHMR, AD Vodostopanstvo and ZELS.

## Specific consultation and coordination topic for **Designated (Dedicated) Group:**

- Планови за управување со ризици од поплави за сите речни подсливови

**DG 2** is composed of representatives of: MEPP (Water Sector), CUK, DZA, UHMR, J.S.C. Vodostopanstvo and ZELS.



## Existing interinstitutional coordination platforms for integrated management with the waters in the country

### National Water Council (NWC)

- Established pursuant to Article 219 of the Law on Waters as a consultative body for water resources management
- Objective: harmonization of different interests, coordination and proposal of measures for water protection and improvement of the water management system
- Composed of 9 members appointed by the Government, representatives from:
  - MoEPP, MoH, MoT, MoE, MoAFWE, ZELS
  - Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts
  - Civil society organizations (CSO)
  - River basins councils



## National Water Council (NWC)

- Competent for reviewing and giving opinions on:
  - Draft laws and by-laws/acts related to water management
  - Implementation of laws
  - National Water Management Strategy, River Basin Management Plans and other related plans and programs
- Provides opinions and proposes measures and regulations
- MoEPP (Water Sector) provides expert, administrative and technical support
- **Since the adoption of the Later on Waters, it has rarely been used for substantive consultations and policy-making**
- **It is intended to function through technical staff rather than senior representatives from ministries**



## River Basin Management Councils (RBMCs)

- Established to prepare and monitor River Basin Management Plans
- Provide opinions and proposals on water management priorities
- Formed by the Government upon proposal of the MoEPP
- Members are representatives from:
  - MoEPP, MAFWE, MoH, MoT
  - Municipalities, consumer associations, water management entities
  - Water communities, water service providers, industry and CSOs
- The number of members depends on the size and activities in the river basin
- The MoEPP may establish additional councils for the management of parts of a river basin
- The MEPP provides expert, administrative and technical support
- **The SURS have been established, but are not yet functional!**



## Crisis Management and Civil Protection Framework

### Steering Committee (SC) - Coordination body for crisis management

- High-level government body for steering the Crisis Management System (CMS)
- Ensures rapid and coordinated response in crisis situations, including floods
- Composed of key ministers (interior, health, transport, defence, foreign affairs) and the head of the Assessment Group
- May include additional ministers, state officials, MPs and representatives from the Office of the President
- The Prime Minister appoints a lead member for operational management during a crisis
- Coordination at local level is led by mayors – in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity and localised response



## Procedure for declaring a state of crisis

- Initiated by:
  - Members of the MC
  - Head of the Assessment Group
  - Director of the Crisis Management Center (CMC)
- MC makes recommendations to the Government
- Government makes a legal decision and activates a response



## Linking Crisis and Water Management Systems

### Implementation and legal obligations

- All actors in the QMS (ministries, municipalities, public enterprises, etc.) are obliged to implement the decisions of the QMS
- Responsibilities include::
  - Emergency action
  - Risk prevention and early warning
  - Continuous inter-institutional coordination
- Success depends on timely and accurate exchange of data on hazards and vulnerabilities



## Need for systems integration!

- Due to more frequent and severe floods, a stronger link between the WMS and the integrated water management system is needed
- WMS provides rapid responses and real-time data
- The water management system provides long-term planning, infrastructure and coordination with stakeholders
- **Better alignment will strengthen resilience and efficiency in flood preparation and response!**



## Managing relevant data

### National Environmental Information System

- Established in accordance with the Law on Environment; coordinated by the MoEPP
- Objective: ensuring reliable, accessible data and integrated management of environmental data and information
- The MoEPP is responsible for:
  - Annual, biennial and quadrennial reports on the state of the environment
  - Coordination with institutions that have relevant data, as well as with local self-government units and other stakeholders



## Key responsibilities of National Environmental Information System

- **Macedonian Environmental Information Center (MICEZ):**
  - Manages NIES and the State Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System (20+ stations)
  - Areas of work: environmental media, air quality, data analysis, modeling, IT infrastructure
  - Challenges: insufficient staff (especially IT) and inconsistent reporting from institutions
- **Spatial Information System Service::**
  - Working with geospatial and statistical environmental data



## Additional institutions and systems

- UHMR is responsible for implementing hydrometeorological activities, which include tasks related to the development and operation of hydrometeorological monitoring, research on the atmosphere, climate, water and soil, coordination, communication and cooperation for timely reporting in the implementation of hydrometeorological monitoring and research with state institutions responsible for prevention, early warning, response and crisis management at the national and local levels; as well as timely dissemination of information on weather, climate and water.



## Additional institutions and systems

- **Center for management with crises (CUK):**
  - Uses its own Geographical informational system (GIS)
  - Collects and processes geospatial and relevant data for crises from multiple institutions
  - The institutions are legally obliged to deliver data in electronic format
- **Directorate for protection and rescue (DZS):**
  - Maintains a database of natural disaster risks and hazards
  - Supports national and local risk assessments and response plans

### Key points:

- Integration of environmental and disaster data is key to effective risk management
- Inter-institutional cooperation and interoperability of systems are needed



## Stakeholder engagement throughout the project cycle

- Working Group (WG) and Task Force (TF) meetings
- Workshops and trainings
- Other information sharing and consultation events
  - Public hearings on the flood risk assessment, hazard and risk maps and PURP
- Field visits and meetings with local stakeholders
- The project website, newsletters and email updates will serve to inform all relevant stakeholders about the progress of the project.
- Engagement through social media will be aimed mainly at the general public.



## Stakeholder engagement in the preparation of a FRMP

### Key principles

- Flood risk management plans (FRMPs) must ensure **active public participation and stakeholder engagement**

### Key points for stakeholder engagement

- Defining the flood challenge
- Setting objectives
- Identifying risk reduction measures
- Assessing the impacts of measures
- Evaluating and prioritizing proposed measures



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is the list of stakeholders optimal or are there stakeholders that are left out?
2. Is there a need for better synchronization of water management systems (including flood risks) and crises (including the protection and rescue of citizens and property)?
3. What is your experience with creating and sharing relevant data and information for flood risk management with other institutions and stakeholders?
4. What do you think are the key risks associated with stakeholder engagement within this project, but also more broadly and related to the functioning of the flood risk management system?



Thank you for your attention.