



Call for Applications ADAPT Nature-based solutions Coordination Group (NbS CG) in Albania



Positions title: ADAPT Nature-based solutions Coordination Group (NbS CG) in Albania
independent expert

Duration: April 2020 – October 2022

Duty station: Albania. Travel to NbS CG meeting locations may be required by the assignment. Online meetings are also possible.

Type of appointment: voluntary independent expert; approximately 5-7 days per year.

Closing Date for nominations and applications: 27 April 2020, 23:59 CET

IUCN Contact :

Kristin Meyer
Ecosystem Management Project Officer
IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Tel: +381 11 2272 411
Fax: +381 11 2272 531
kristin.meyer@iucn.org

1. Background

The Western Balkan economies are among the most vulnerable with respect to climate change impacts affecting numerous sectors and domains. Yet, the value derived from employing [Nature-based solutions](#) in response to societal challenges remains underexplored and the benefits compared to conventional engineered solutions are often not recognised. The application of approaches that integrate ecosystems and nature more broadly into climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures are still insufficient and fragmented. Beyond the positive impact on societies and improved management of disaster risks, Nature-based solutions benefit habitats and biodiversity as well as support climate change mitigation and adaptation.

[ADAPT: Nature-based solutions for resilient societies in the Western Balkans](#) addresses these challenges. The project is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and implemented by IUCN. It will run for three years (November 2019–October 2022) and aims to increase ecosystem and community resilience to climate change and environmental

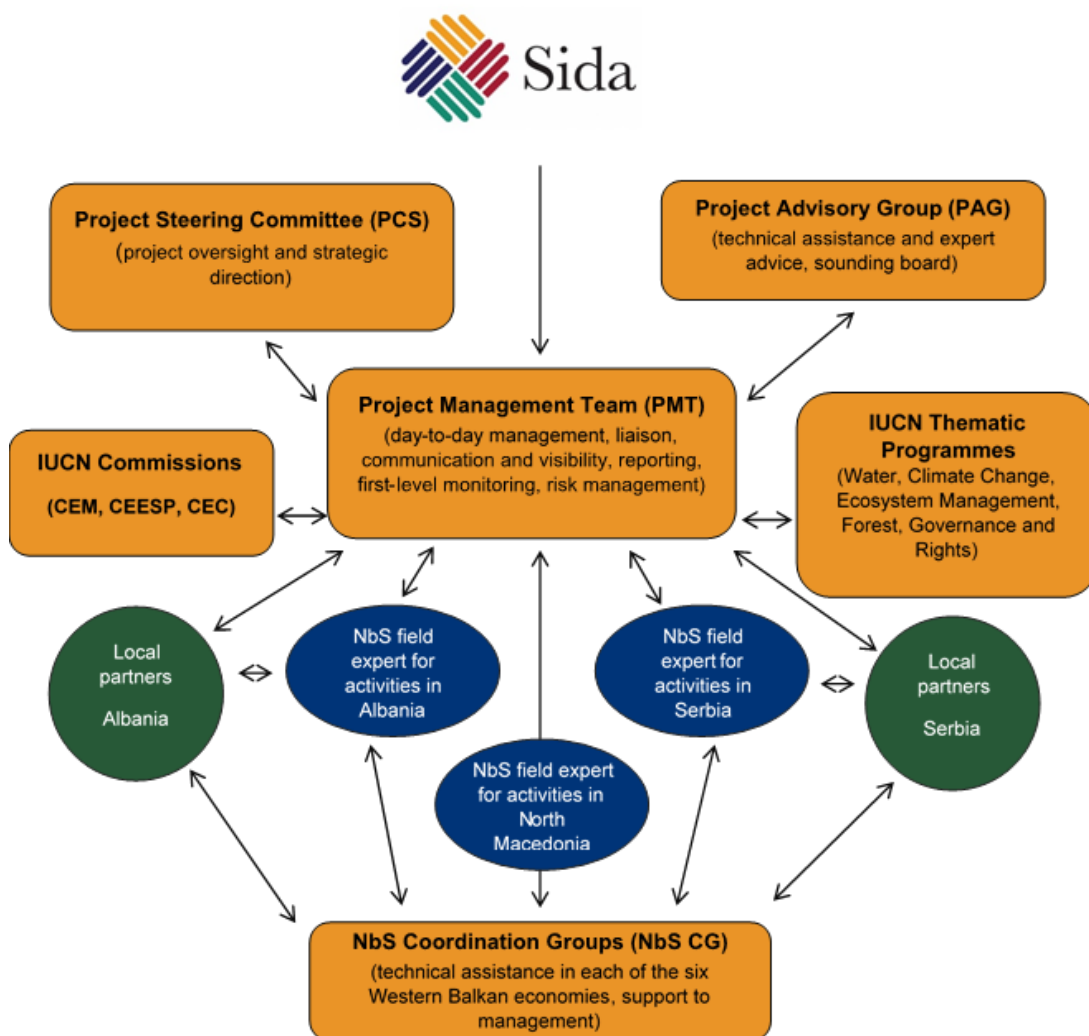
degradation in the Western Balkans. This regional umbrella initiative works with the six Western Balkan economies, regional and local partners.

The goals of the project are:

1. Increasing the knowledge and awareness of nature-based disaster risk reduction solutions among decision makers, natural resource managers and local communities;
2. Integration of Nature-based solutions and equitable climate-smart planning into adaptation and disaster reduction policy; and
3. Implementation of Nature-based solutions for disaster risk reduction and their scale-up.

2. Governance structure of the project

In order to achieve project objectives, ADAPT is establishing a robust interface between science, policy, planning and action at all levels. The various levels of the governance and management structure of the project are created to ensure multiple levels of oversight, effective coordination between different project components and units as well as full transparency of actions and accountability of partners.



Picture 1: Overview of project governance; structure, roles, responsibilities and relationships

3. The role of the Nature-based solutions Coordination Group (NbS CG)

The Nature-based solutions Coordination Group serves as an advisory and regulatory mechanism, with the establishment of six such Coordination Groups, one for each of the Western Balkan economies involved in ADAPT. NbS CG will make connections with other major groups (e.g. those on SDG implementation) at various levels and serve as a bridge to regional activities. The main objective of NbS CG is to enhance cooperation and increase dialogue between relevant sectors and stakeholders at multiple levels, including authorities involved in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, resource managers and experts engaged on climate change adaptation and disaster risks reduction, on the relevance of Nature-based solutions.

NbS CG will play a particularly important role in providing opportunities for different stakeholders to advocate for the integration of Nature-based solutions into policies and strategies of Albania.

Main functions of the Nature-based solutions Coordination Group in Albania:

- Serve as a dialogue forum and coordination mechanism on Nature-based solutions in Albania;
- Review scoping and feasibility studies for Albania;
- Provide advice on pilot sites and Nature-based solutions pilot projects and oversee their implementation in Albania;
- Provide inputs and feedback on Nature-based solutions monitoring and evaluation frameworks;
- Provide advice and guidance on capacity and knowledge gaps and review the training modules to be developed as part of ADAPT;
- Serve as advocates for Nature-based solutions at various levels of governance and provide guidance and recommendations on policy transformation, planning and implementation as well as gender mainstreaming, social inclusion and other governance aspects;
- Support the dissemination of knowledge products related to ADAPT and Nature-based solutions more broadly, supporting awareness raising in Albania;
- Provide input to the development of a methodological guide for the preparation and design of Nature-based solutions projects and advice as to opportunities for follow-up projects and upscaling;
- Oversee the achievement of objectives and streamline activities specific to Albania.

4. Tentative schedule of NbS CG meetings

A total of six one-day meetings are foreseen (two per year) during the three-year project implementation period. They are planned as follows:

Meeting number	Tentative meeting date
1	Between March and June 2020
2	Between August and November 2020
3	Between February and May 2021
4	Between June and September 2021
5	Between February and May 2022
6	Between June and September 2022

5. Membership

Membership of the Nature-based solutions Coordination Group is voluntary and should reflect the breadth of issues to be addressed in Albania, reflecting key priorities. It will be made up of approximately 6 members from Albania, two IUCN Project Team Members and the Nature-based solutions field expert for Albania. The Nature-based solutions Coordination Group will be set up to represent a range of stakeholders, including policy makers, experts (incl. scientists and academia), natural resource managers, civil emergencies, local communities and civil society representatives, and ensure balanced representation in terms of gender, age, sectors, etc. Selected members will serve on the Nature-based solutions Coordination Group for the duration of the project.

2-3 of the six expert position are reserved positions and will be appointed by key partners of the ADAPT project in Albania. The other 3-4 expert positions will be filled through an open call.

In terms of background, the following expertise should be represented:

- A representative of the national authority responsible for climate and disaster risk reduction policy
- A representative of the scientific and research community
- A representative of a nature conservation organisation
- A representative from civil emergencies
- A representative from a women's or rights-based organisation
- A Civil Society Organisation representative
- At least one representative of local communities

At its first meeting in April 2020, selected members will elect a Chair and nominate one member to sit on the ADAPT regional Project Advisory Group.

6. Appointment and applications

Reserved expert positions

All expert members appointed by one of the ADAPT partners in Albania, should submit their credentials (see application form below) and a letter of nomination. Appointed experts are not required to submit references and a letter of motivation.

Open expert positions

All interested and qualified persons are encouraged to submit their credentials and a supporting Letter of Motivation in English addressing and providing evidence for the specific experience and qualifications relevant to the specific expert position along with the Application Form (see below).

All nominations and applications should be submitted by email before **27 April 2020**, to Kristin Meyer, kristin.meyer@iucn.org.

For open expert position, the application should be sent with the subject line: Application NbS CG Albania expert ADAPT

Any application received by IUCN later than the stipulated closing date and time, and any application that is incomplete, will not be considered.

7. Eligibility, selection criteria and process

The eligible candidates must be:

- available to allocate sufficient time for NbS CG work;
- independent from, and free from any conflict of interest (whether actual, potential or reasonably perceived). The selected experts will be required to sign a declaration of no conflict of interest.
- able and willing to serve in an individual expert capacity and provide the best scientific and technical advice, irrespective of views that may be held by any organisation s/he may be affiliated with;
- not impose any additional conditions on his/her participation.

The eligible candidates will be selected based on the information and evidence provided in the application, their experience and qualifications in accordance with relevant IUCN Policies and Procedures. Additional considerations will be given to ensure a balanced selection of the final NbS CG team, again in line with relevant IUCN Policies and Procedures.

The expert applications will be analysed by the ADAPT Project Management Team in collaboration with IUCN Global Programmes. The results of the call for interest and the most suitable applications will be shared with Sida and key project partners. The selected NbS CG will be asked to sign a NbS CG member agreement.

8. Conditions

Working language

The working language in the context of the Action component's implementation is English. Some communication may also take place in local language. Simultaneous translation may be provided at NbS CG meetings.

Time commitment

NbS CG members serve on a voluntary basis. All travel and subsistence costs are covered by IUCN. The time commitment of individual members can range between 5-7 days per year.

Independence and conflict of interest

NbS CG experts should be independent from, and free from any conflict of interest (whether actual, potential or reasonably perceived). The selected experts will be required to sign a declaration of no conflict of interest before taking part in the NbS CG.

Contractual conditions

IUCN is not bound in any way to enter into any contractual or other arrangement with any candidate as a result of issuing this call for applications. IUCN reserves the right to terminate the selection process at any time prior to contract award. By participating in this call for applications, candidates accept the conditions set out in this Call for Applications.

About IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge

and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,300 Member organisations and some 15,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

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APPLICATION TO SERVE AS A NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS COORDINATION GROUP EXPERT FOR THE ADAPT PROJECT

Fill in the form in English and attach supporting materials

Mr/Mrs/Ms	
Full name	
Affiliation	
Nationality	
Work address	
Country	
E-mail	
Phone	

ELIGIBILITY

Mark acceptance of each with an 'X'

I agree/declare that:	Use 'X'
I am available to allocate sufficient time for NbS CG work (see note on the call for applications)	
I am independent from, and free from any conflict of interest (whether actual, potential or reasonably perceived)	
I have read and signed the declaration of no conflict of interest	
I am able and willing to serve and provide the best scientific and technical advice, irrespective of views that may be held by any organisation I may be affiliated with	
I will not impose any additional conditions on my participation	

REFERENCES

Please provide 3 references (names, positions, relationship to your work and contact information), including one recent employer/client.

Referee 1	
Name	
Position	
Affiliation	
Relationship to your work	
Contact information (email, phone)	
Referee 2	
Name	
Position	
Affiliation	
Relationship to your work	
Contact information (email, phone)	
Referee 3	
Name	
Position	
Affiliation	
Relationship to your work	
Contact information (email, phone)	

Please submit this form along with your:

- **CREDENTIALS**, which include but is not limited to short CV focusing on your recent (last 10 years) experience, education, achievements, any awards, membership to relevant professional networks/organisations/bodies or any other supporting materials, as well as a short list of your key publications *relevant to this application*.
- **LETTER OF MOTIVATION**, which addresses and provides information and evidence of any relevant experience and qualifications, as detailed in the Call for Applications (in terms of examples of a relevant situation, task, action, result) as well as the motivation for serving as an expert.
- **SIGNED DECLARATION OF NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST (Annex 1)**

Annex 1:

Declaration of Impartiality

I, the undersigned, **[insert name]**, express my willingness to participate and provide my expertise to the ADAPT Nature-based solutions Coordination Group.

I hereby declare that:

- I have not granted, sought, attempted to obtain or accepted and will not grant, seek, attempt to obtain, or accept any advantage, financial or in kind, to or from any party whatsoever, constituting an illegal or corrupt practice, either directly or indirectly, as an incentive or reward relating to the ADAPT project;
- To my knowledge, I have no conflict of interest in relation to the organisations and actors involved in the ADAPT project. A conflict of interest may arise in particular as a result of economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties, or any other relevant connection or shared interest;
- I confirm that if I discover during my membership in the ADAPT NbS CG that such a conflict exists or might exist, I shall declare it immediately to the Project Management Team at IUCN ECARO. In the case that such a conflict is confirmed by the Project Management Team, I agree that this may result in being released from participating in the NbS CG;
- I shall execute my responsibilities impartially and objectively. I further declare that, to the best of my knowledge, I am not in a situation that could cast doubt on my ability to contribute to the ADAPT NbS CG;
- I shall act honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all dealings, examine the accuracy and sources of all relevant information before allowing it to be used in ADAPT products and advice and comply with all applicable laws and regulations in all dealings relevant to IUCN and ADAPT activities and objectives;
- I shall respect the confidentiality of sensitive information obtained through my membership in the ADAPT NbS CG and not disclose such information to third parties.

Signed:

Name:

Date: