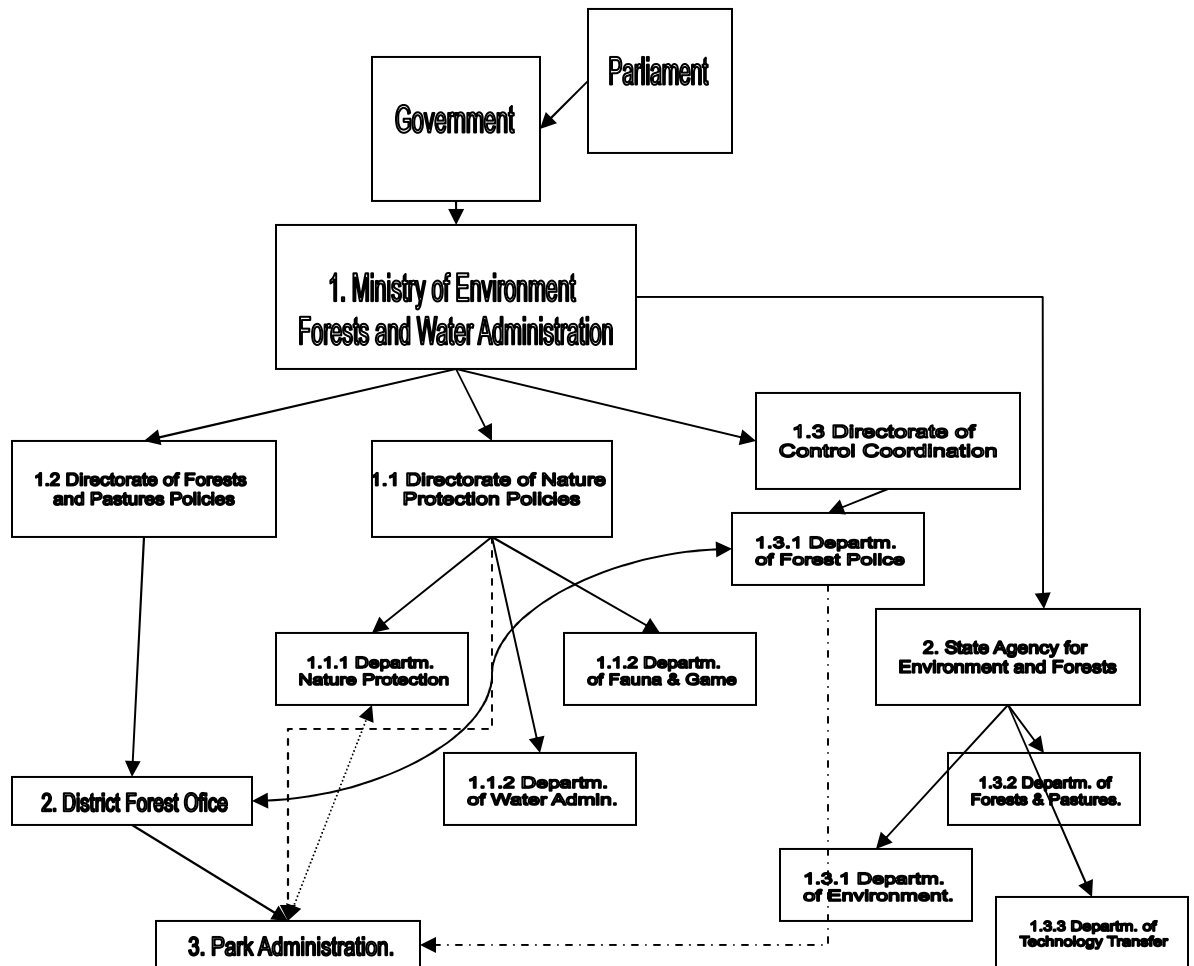


Albania: Institutions responsible for CBD PoWPA implementation



1. Ministry of Environment Forests and Water Administration

Mission of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration (MoEFWA) is to draft and propose policies, strategies and action plans for the protection and administration of the environment, forests, waters and fisheries in order to achieve sustainable development, and to improve the quality of life and enable the country to join the European Union. The accomplishment of this mission is carried out through participation, initiation and coordination of the activities that lead to long term developments and wellbeing, by protecting the nature and raising the awareness of the public opinion.

The MoEFWA's main tasks include: implementing relevant national policies, defining priority environmental and forestry investments, development of national research programs in the environmental field, and, coordinating environmental protection-related activities of the other ministries and local authorities. The MoEFWA may propose measures for the protection and preservation of the environment, forestry and water resources and is responsible for the implementation of water policy and forestry policy.

1.1 Directorate of Nature Protection Policies

Directorate of Nature Protection Policies participates and is responsible for the drafting of strategic documents like, strategies, national plans and programs for the areas of nature protection. It follows up the implementation of the laws and by-laws that deal with the protection and administration of the natural resources and biodiversity; take measures and prepares the necessary conditions that make possible the implementation of the legal requirements. DNPP prepares projects for laws and by-laws for specific aspects of the nature protection, biodiversity, protected areas and water administration and follows up the procedures for the approval of these documents by the high government institutions. It directs and coordinates the activities in the protected areas and the activities in the 6 river basin areas, in cooperation with other directories follows up the issues connected with the permitting, licensing and hunting activity, and identifies the measures and rules for the protection from desertification and land degradation, organizes the check up for their implementation.

1.1.1 Department of Protected Areas

- Establish rules and criteria and plan measures necessary for the classification, management of existing protected areas and protection of biodiversity.
- Identifies and follows the procedure for the designation of new protected areas
- Gives suggestions on the protection level to be implemented on protected areas all over the country.
- Develop action plans for protected areas
- Assist and supervise the preparation of management plans for protected areas.
- Develop action plans for the protection of soil from erosion
- Adopt measures for protecting cave biodiversity in cooperation with other scientific institutions.
- Update the national database on protected areas

1.1.2 Department of Fauna & Game

- Identify rules and measures for the management of wild fauna and flora and identifies endangered or threatened species.
- Adopt rules and measures for the protection of wildlife and the preservation of natural habitats.
- Develop action plans and assist the preparation of management plans for the protection of endangered species.

- Establish rules for game and hunting activities and supervises the hunting activities all over the country.

1.1.3 Department of Water Management

- Serve as a secretariat of the National Water Council, organize meetings and supervise implementation of respective decisions
- Prepares and update the national inventory of water resources
- Review request for use of water resources in accordance with the decision of the NWC.
- Follow up the implementation of international agreements on water resources.
- Establish rules for the management of water resources in Albania.
- Assist in the preparation of the legal framework dealing with water resources.
- Assist and supervise Local Water Agencies administration on the protection and management of water resources.

1.2 Directorate of Forests and Pasture Policies

Directorate of Forests and Pasture Policies is responsible for the preparation and implementation of the policies for the development of the sector of forests and pastures. It takes active part in drafting and drafts the programs for the development of the sector of forests and pastures, programs that are defined in conformity with the legal framework and the sustainable management of the forests and pastures. DFPP plans and follows up the periodical drafting of the plans for the inventorying and preservation of the forests, pastures, flora and wild fauna, and prevention of the diseases and damaging factors.

1.2.1 Department of Forest and Pasture Management

- Assist and supervise the preparation of guidelines for forest and pasture management and inventory.
- Assists in the preparation of legal framework for the management of forests and pastures
- Organize, and supervise the management and inventory of forests and pastures resources.
- Prepare and update the register and documentation of the national forest and pasture fund (cadastre).
- Control the update of forest and pasture fund from the forest offices in the districts.
- Organize the GIS for evaluation and monitoring of forest and pasture resources
- Organize the supervise the mapping process for forest and pasture resources including protected areas, game populations and hunting sites and prepares respective maps.
- Cooperate with e Real Estate Registration Unit for the registration of forest and pasture resources.
- Develop criteria and rules for and supervises the sustainable management of pastures.

1.2.1 Department of Forest and Pasture Resources

- Develop and supervise implementation of policies and programs for harvesting forest resources,
- Supervise the implementation of interventions (investments) in the forest resources and report on their effectiveness on improving the conditions of forests,
- Supervise the implementation of plans for sustainable harvesting of forest resources,
- Develop plans and supervise implementation of activities for forestation and improvements of degraded forest areas,
- Develop criteria and supervise the collection of non wood forest products.

1.2.1 Department of Communal Forests and Pastures

- Develop policies and strategies for the development of communal forestry in cooperation with local government units
- Develop and implement plans for transferring forest and pasture resources to local government units
- Assist in the preparation of legal framework for communal forestry and the transfer process.
- Cooperate with local government units to ensure sustainable use and management of forest and pasture resources;
- Monitors the implementation of projects dealing with the transfer of forest and pasture resources to local government units.

1.3 Directorate of Coordination and Control

Directorate of Coordination and Control organizes and coordinates the control at the central and local level for the implementation of the legal framework in the areas of environment, forests and fisheries. It keeps evidences for the subjects that are issued permits and checks that the conditions and requirements of the permits are respected and take measures for issuing fines and other legal sanctions for the subjects that do not respect the legal requirements. DCC follows and is responsible for the fines and penalties collection, through cooperation with other central and local government institutions. It coordinates the activity of the forest police in the center and in districts and takes the appropriate measures to prevent fires and illegal logging in the forests. It takes appropriate measures and is responsible for the prevention of forest and pasture fires, and coordinates and organizes joint controls with the inspectorates and regional environmental agencies.

1.2.1 Department Environmental Inspectorate

- Control and ensure compliance of all activities having an impact on the environment.
- It keeps evidences for the subjects that are issued environmental permits and checks that the conditions and requirements of the permits are respected
- Take measures for issuing fines and other legal sanctions for the subjects that do not respect the legal requirements.
- Follows and is responsible for the fines and penalties collection, through cooperation with other central and local government institutions.
- Coordinates and organizes joint controls with other inspectorates and regional environmental agencies.

1.2.1 Department of Forest Police

- Enforce legal requirements on forest and pastures and hunting activities;
- Take measures for issuing fines and other legal sanctions for the subjects that do not respect the legal requirements in activities within forest and pasture areas;
- Identify and monitor subject involve in illegal activities in forest and pastures and hunting;
- Coordinates activities and organizes joint controls with state police, fiscal authorities and other enforcement agencies to enforce laws and regulations on forest, pasture and hunting activities;

2. State Agency for Environment and Forests

SAEF is responsible for environmental monitoring in Albania. It provides expertise and specialized services for the Ministry of Environment Forest and Water

Administration on issues of environmental monitoring, biodiversity protection, sustainable management and use of natural resources, etc. It assists in the preparation of strategic documents and policies related to environment and use of natural resources. It provides guidance and expertise in the preparation of guidelines for forest and pasture management plans and support technology development and transfer for environment and forestry.

2.1 Department of Environment

2.1.1 Head of department (1)

2.1.2 Specialists (4)

2.1 Department of Forest and Pasture

2.1.1 Head of department (1)

2.1.2 Specialists (4)

2.1 Department of Technology Transfer

2.1.1 Head of department (1)

2.1.2 Specialists (3)

2. District Forest Office

It is responsible for implementing policies and strategies for the development of forestry sector at the district level. DFO is responsible for the management and protection of forest and pasture resources within the district boundaries.

2.1. Department of Forest and Pasture Management

It is responsible for the management of forest resources within district boundaries

- Supervise the management and inventory of forests and pastures resources of the district.
- Prepare and update the register and documentation of the district forest and pasture fund (cadastre) and report to the DFPP.
- Supervises the sustainable management of pastures.
- Supervise the implementation of interventions (investments) in the forest resources of the district,
- Supervise the implementation of plans for sustainable harvesting of forest resources in the district,
- supervise implementation of activities for forestation and improvements of degraded forest areas,
- Supervise the collection of non wood forest products.
- implement plans for transferring forest and pasture resources to local government units
- Cooperate with local government units to ensure sustainable use and management of forest and pasture resources;

2.1.1 Park Administration

The administration of the protected areas is the site based management structure responsible for the implementation of the management plan and protection programs for the protected areas, including administration and preservation of nature monuments, in line with dispositions of the law "On protected areas" and special rules for visitor management. The administration of PAs control business activities that are allowed within the protected areas and take necessary measure to limit or stop activities that conflict with the scope and management objectives of the protected area. The administration of PAs undertake measures to halt or avoid as soon as possible harvesting natural resources in the area in order to provide for the maintenance of ecological, geomorphologic and aesthetic characteristics on which the establishment

and the status of the protected areas is based. It should foresee and implement interventions on prevention and control of insects and diseases that cause damages to forests or water bodies within the territory of the protected areas and halt implementation of projects and activities that conflict with the management plan of the area.

2.1.1.1 Director of Administration (1)

Ensure the overall management and protection of the protected areas and provides guidance and supervises the management expert and rangers in performing their duty

2.1.1.2 Management specialists (2)

It is responsible for the management and protection of natural biological resources as well as historic, cultural, archeological and religious values of protected areas

2.1.1.3 Rangers (4-12)

Ranger service is essential to safeguard protected areas. One ranger could take care on approximately 2000 ha but this could vary between protected areas depending on special features and management objectives and requirements of each protected area
Please highlight overlapping responsibilities among and within institutions/levels if any.