

JICA in Divjake-Karavasta national Park (DKNP)

Divjake-Karavasta National Park (DKNP) is a national park located on the shore of the Adriatic Sea spans a territory of 22,230 ha, about 100 km from the capital Tirana. It has a diverse ecological landscape including estuaries, sand dunes, tidal flats, forests, etc., and is a habitat for a variety of wildlife including rare species such as the dalmatian pelican (VU: endangered species II) and the Mediterranean pine. The lagoon within the park was designated as a Ramsar site in 1995.



JICA Technical Cooperation Project at DKNP started from May 2021 for three years under the National Agency of Protected Area (NAPA), the project aims to make a model of conservation and sustainable use of protected areas (PAs) in Albania through ecosystem-based management based on gained experiences from project implementation.

For more detail, please visit JICA web: www.jica.go.jp
 For more details about NP please visit RAPA website: akzm.gov.al



Project for Capacity Building for Improving Ecosystem-Based Management on Divjake-Karavasta National Park

Divjake-Karavasta National Park Management Office, (National Agency of Protected Area (NAPA), Fier Zyrat e Parkut 9022 Divjaka, Lushnje

Tel: (+355) 69 890 0540

Email: dknpmmedia@hotmail.com



JICA TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FOR CAPACITY BUILDING FOR IMPROVING ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT ON DIVJAKE-KARAVASTA NATIONAL PARK

Ecosystem-Based Management to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of Protected Areas

Divjake-Karavasta National Park (DKNP) is a unique place made of a diverse range of landscapes, including marine, coast, lagoons, rivers, forests, hills, and production and residential areas. Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) stands for considering the trade-offs of resources to protect and maintain diversity and productivity, and the services it provides.



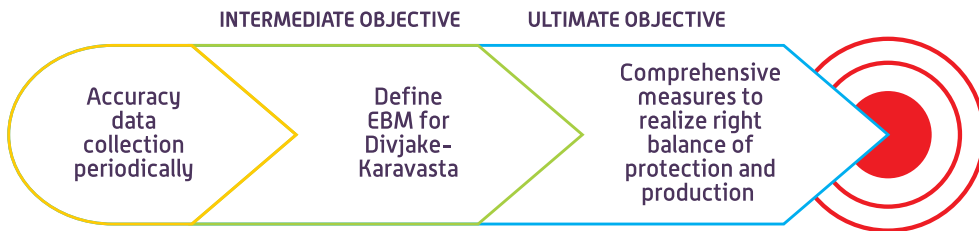
EBM is an integrated management approach that recognizes all interactions within the system, including human interaction, rather than considering single problems, like species or ecosystem services setting apart.

Routines of Ecosystem Management followed by the Project

1 JICA PKDK AND ITS OBJECTIVES

The JICA technical cooperation project in Divjake-Karavasta National Park (DKNP) is a kind of joint task-force by National Agency of Protected Area (NAPA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to promote continuous efforts to improve quality of national park management utilizing available resources within park and surroundings according an ecosystem based management. The purpose of the project is to achieve comprehensive approach to realize right balance of protection and production based on park management plan through active initiative taken by park management committee.

Objectives of the JICA PKDK



Albanian Government has set a legal framework for the park management committee and park management plan. The project aims that activities and results in DKNP could be compiled as a model to disseminate to other National Parks in Albania

2 OUTLINE OF THE JICA DKNP

All stakeholders take a role of management through Management Committee (MC)

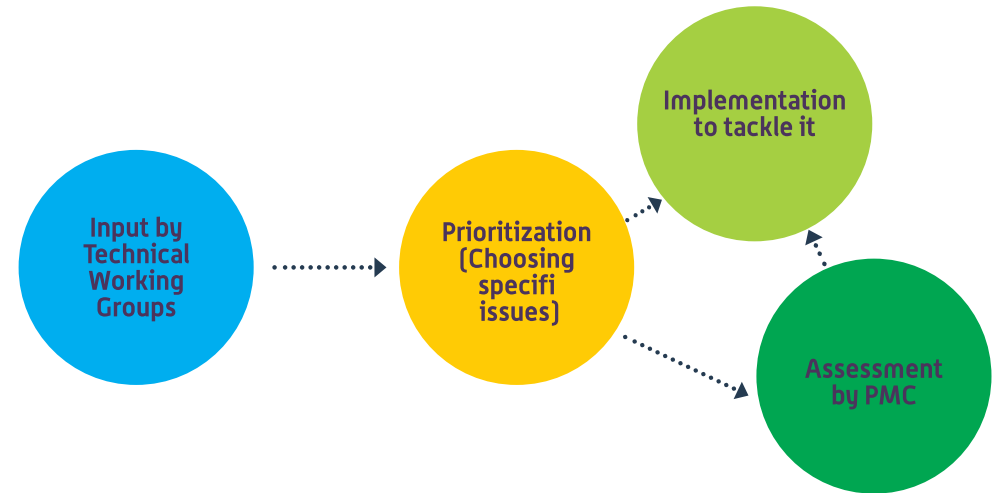
Under the Law no. 81/2017 "On Protected Areas" article 41, there are several decrees and orders to fix the committee and its' members and responsibilities. For instance; Decree of the Council of Ministers No. 593 dated 19.10.2018 point 2 and 4, "On the composition, functioning, duties and responsibilities of the Management Committees of Environmental Protected Areas" and others.

Technical Working Groups support MC to figure out possible measures to specific issues

The project introduces thematic working group facilitated by PKDK

- 1) On bio-diversity conservation
- 2) On sustainable agriculture
- 3) On sustainable fishery
- 4) On environment education & eco-tourism

PDCA cycle by PMC. PMC with PKDK turns the cycle semi-annualy.



PKDK office as secretariat of MC coordinates necessary resources to conduct certain activities (Fig. 2)



- Perform an assessment to understand present status of specific themes of the park and find out the ways to select them
- Choose some of urgent issues to be treated, considering feasibility and priority.

- Implement quality improvement activities through coordination and collaboration with responsible agencies and stakeholders .
- Perform an assessment on progress and outputs .
- Continue to work on the other issues and choose new to be addressed for further improvement.

Expected results in PKDK in framework of Project

OVERALL GOAL:

Conservation and sustainable use of Protected Areas (PA) based on ecosystem management (EBM) are strengthened in Albania.



PROJECT PURPOSE:

A model on ecosystem based management of PAs is developed based on the experiences of DKNP.

Outputs:

1) Better functions of the Management Committee (MC).

The project support the set up of thematic WGs with PMC in cooperation with other related institutions and to organize the MC meetings regularly to confirm activity plans, evaluate their progress, and to provide recommendations based on reports and proposals from related institutions and WGs.

2) Better capacity of DKNP park administration.

The project sets four main targets to develop capacity along with four thematic working groups.

Enhance Biodiversity monitoring



In aims to utilize monitoring results to improve the ecosystem, work will be focused on improving the biodiversity throughout the park, including the lagoon, and the capacity to monitor the ecosystem.

Promote sustainable fishery

The project aims to eliminate any concerns about sedimentation in the waterways connecting the lagoon and open sea to create an environment where fishery resources can be continuously utilized, a survey will be conducted to see how to improve fisheries and the environment within the lagoon.

Promote sustainable agriculture

- 1) Situation Survey and Narrowing Down
- 2) Value Chain and Market Survey
- 3) Planning of Sustainable Agriculture (Short, Mid and Long-term Road Map)
- 4) Preparation of the Short-term Plan based on the Road Map (Work Plan)
- 5) Implementation of the Shot-term Plan (Work Plan)
- 6) Organizing the Trainings
- 7) Progress Monitoring and Preparation of the Final Report

Promotion of Eco-Tourism



Collaborate with tourism sector to seek demands and frame DKNP to be ready for regulate right balance.

Promote Environment Educatio

The concept of environment education in the project is to enhance the value of DKNP as an educational resource, meanwhile strengthening the functions of the Visitor Center, which will also contribute to eco-tourism.



The best exchange system of knowledge and experiences

The Project is going to compile experiences of ecosystem-based management and to organize workshops and seminars.

Supporting mechanism to facilitate the EBM

The “enhancement” corresponds to the three outputs:
(1) enhancement of activities of the Management Committee (MC) and WG operations,
(2) capacity building for implementing park management plans, and
(3) capacity building for data collection and maintenance and public relations.
Accordingly, the EBM management model targeted by the Project must be achieved by these capacity improvement. Each output is also a component of the EBM model and, as such, must be both independently linked to the project purpose and mesh together organically. In this cycle, appropriate ecosystem-based management should be defined and updated throughout project activities by real status of DKNP and participation of stakeholders.

1 TECHNICAL SUPPORTS ALONG WITH WORKING GROUPS

The project applies a model of EBM that must be based on the scientific information/ data obtained from monitoring of all sort of aspects in Divjake-Karavasta national park as well as PDCA cycle on extracted issues and, revision of management plan timely. Thematic working groups involve in this process practically to carry out all the measures what PMC indicated.



Data collection and accumulation are basis to analyze historical trend

2 IMPROVING QUALITY OF ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES IN DKNP



Management meeting of DKNP office is starting-point for all cycle in EBM

DKNP management office is one and only agency to concentrate on work for park. There is limited resources but by increasing its coordination capacity, DKNP office seeks to deal with all related issues of the National Park as the secretariat of the PMC. Management office also seems to be a base of public relation including tourism by collaborating with industry.

3 STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Staff development such as a technical training is an important source for staff of management office to understand EBM and to contribute to improve it through their specialty and proficiency. introduction of thematic skills or services to the DKNP office has been started. They are assigned in specific theme with WG based on their background. Furthermore, the project helps routinization of new services by repeating the cycle of the PDCA.



Training on Bio-Diversity Monitoring

3 SHARING OPPORTUNITIES



Visitor Center is one of significant resources to share the efforts and outcomes of the project

There are many different ways to improve EBM so that sharing practical experiences both inside and outside the DKNP promotes. It is not only education purpose but also in order for the project to compile wide variety of information along the line and for other parks in and out of Albania to get alternative ideas. The project also ready for exchange views and experiences with practitioners who are working on EBM

Current focus and plan for the future.

In May 2021, the project was launched and started to touch upon “work plan” and it was introduced to The first meeting of the Joint Coordinating Committee of the project. The project is now working on forming 4 thematic working groups and create connections among all stakeholders and parties concerned by park management committee as it is the platform for regulate/coordinate/harmonize all.

