

Climate change represents a profoundly concerning phenomenon at the local, national, and international levels, with serious implications for human life, ecosystems, and biodiversity. Adaptation and mitigation of climate change is also one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

With the signing of the Paris Agreement, Albania has entered the new era of the international climate policy process, where all parties collectively aim to keep the global temperature increase at 2°C above the pre-industrial level.

As mentioned above, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, whose mission is to draft and implement policies aimed at protecting the environment, has drafted the General National Climate Change Strategy to support the implementation of EU legislation on the environment and climate.

Regarding adaptation to climate change, MTE has drawn up the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP) in close cooperation with line ministries, within the framework of the Inter-ministerial Climate Change Working Group. The NAP provides a framework for the integration of climate change in the target sectors, as well as establishes an implementation framework mainly through priority actions supported through enabling mechanisms, such as relevant budget, information and inclusion, capacity development and monitoring. It is intended to serve as a strategic umbrella document, rather than a detailed operational plan specifying every action required for effective national adaptation

Therefore, the audit on the topic "Implementation of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change" had as its main objective the evaluation of the implementation of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (NAP). In this way, it was intended to ensure an impartial and objective assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the institutions involved, in terms of implementing the objectives set by the NAP and increasing institutional capacities

As above, this audit project evaluated:

- The effectiveness of the implementation of the NAP monitoring and reporting system;
- Effectiveness of fund management for priority actions undertaken on climate change adaptation;
- The efficiency of the structures set up to implement the NAP.

In conclusion, after reviewing the documentation, focusing the problem, defining the objectives in the study phase, analyzing and testing the evidence during the analytical phase, the group arrived at this audit message:

During the last two decades, the challenge of climate change has been met with a shared responsibility approach in the international negotiation process at the European level, with the aim of promoting an international response to climate change. This includes efforts to promote adaptation measures to combat the harmful impacts of climate change that are nevertheless inevitable. Through the drafting of the National Adaptation Plan, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment aims to take successful measures in order to respond to climate change. However, despite the priority actions set, MTE has not played a sufficiently proactive role in leading or coordinating a comprehensive integration of the NAP process across sectors. Adaptation to climate change, as a relatively new approach, is not yet supported by adequate capacities in the country. A proper monitoring and evaluation system has not been established and most of the climate financing in Albania is highly dependent on the international community and donors. In the following, it is important that MTE takes measures, in order for the NAP process to be more effective, ensuring the implementation of measures and learning lessons periodically.

As mentioned above, in chapter 5 of this audit project "Elaboration of Audit Questions", all the identified problems have been dealt with in detail, generating the relevant recommendations for each of them, in order to increase the quality of the service and the effectiveness of the scheme in guaranteeing the rights of citizens.