

Macedonia **Eco-DRR** Newsletter

Capacity Building For ECO-DRR Through Sustainable Forest Management In MACEDONIA _ Nov 2017 - Dec 2023

Capacity building project for ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) through sustainable forest management

The goal of this Project is to develop Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) model against floods, landslides, soil erosion, and forest fires by the utilization of multiple forest functions. With the increasing natural disaster risks around the world, expectations for Eco-DRR have risen in recent years.

Draft hazard maps were discussed

Through the Project, hazard maps showing the estimated damage zones in Radovish, one of the pilot sites of the Project, are planned to be created. In North Macedonia, maps such as hazard maps are not widely available. Therefore, the Project plans to create hazard maps that show the areas where flooding is expected to occur and places to keep in mind when evacuating in the event of a disaster, in order to promote understanding among residents and reduce disaster risks.

In May 2022, Project Experts presented the draft hazard maps to the Head of Department for Analysis, Assessment and Strategic Planning of the Crisis Management Center (CMC), Director of the CMC Radovish, the Officer of Disaster Prevention Department, Radovish City, and the Director of Protection and Rescue Radovish, for feedback. Opinions about the location of the Disaster Response Headquarters and how to evacuate in the event of a disaster were also shared. Each participant is strongly aware of the importance of hazard maps, and hopes that these will be effectively utilized in Radovish.

These hazard maps will be improved through continuous discussions and are planned to be completed by Spring 2023. After completion, a seminar is planned to be held with the participation of representatives of residents to help them understand the hazard maps properly and take appropriate evacuation actions in case of emergency.

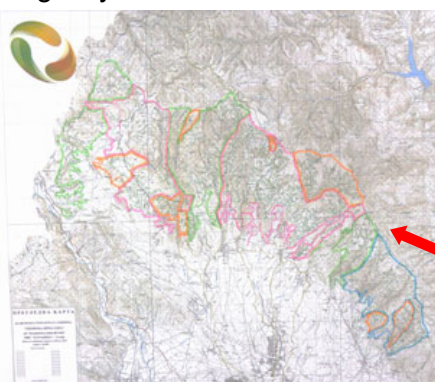


Presentation of the draft hazard maps

Zoning was conducted

Forests have multiple functions such as wood production, environment conservation, water regulation and sediment disaster prevention. However, in order to enhance these functions, it is essential to classify the functions that should be emphasized for each area besides conducting conservation activities and forest management. This process to classify the forest by function is called "zoning".

The classification of forests functions to be applied to the project sites was created after reviewing the legal system in North Macedonia as well as a classification of protected forests based on examples in



Zoning map of the Skopska-Crna-Gora FMU



- Water regulation
- Mountainous disaster prevention
- Environment Conservation
- Production of wood

Japan. So far, zoning maps have been created at three locations: Radovishka-Oraovicka Reka FMU, Topolka-Karabunishte FMU and Skopska-Crna-Gora FMU. These zoning maps were also used to select the target areas for the conservation works at the pilot sites.

Forest management methods for each category of functions will be continuously discussed among the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE) and Public Enterprise National Forests (PENF), by referring to the case of Japan.

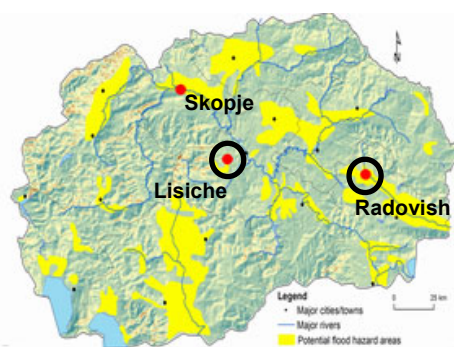
Conservation Work is Underway at Two Pilot Sites

From fall 2021, the dispatch of Project Experts to the field has resumed in earnest, and conservation construction works and tree planting works, which were difficult to carry out remotely, are being proceeding with at two pilot sites.

In the Kodjalia North Site in Radovich, stone terracing works were conducted along the contour lines of the slope, so as to prevent the sudden inflow of water from bare mountains in the upstream of Radovich city during heavy rains. And along with the terracing works, nursery trees were planted. In addition, in order to prevent sediments from flowing downstream through the valley, construction of a gully plug, which is made by stuffing stones into steel baskets, is also underway.

In Lisiche, Chashka City, the same type of gully plug is being constructed to prevent sediment from flowing from the bare slopes to the dam lake, considering that the dam lake is used for drinking water for the citizens of Veles city. Plantation works were also conducted at this pilot site to enhance the water source recharge function in the future.

These project activities which aim at reducing flood damage in urban areas and drought in the dam lake by combining construction work and tree planting are expected to be recognized as a model for Eco-DRR in North Macedonia and neighboring countries, and disseminated continuously.

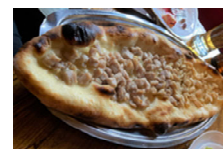


Gabion gully plug
(↑) Radovich North Site (→) Lisiche Site

North Macedonia

Pastrmajlija

The Pastrmajlija is one of the beloved traditional dishes in North Macedonia. It's like a pizza with marinated meat on bread dough, and it has a large oval shape. The name comes from pastrma which means salted and dried sheep meat. Radovich, Vales and Stip regions are most famous for it. When you visit North Macedonia, why not try the large Pastrmajlija to your heart's content.



Main activities in the past half year

Overall Activities

- ◆ Conducted 6th TCG meeting

Output 1: MKFFIS strengthened and expanded

- ◆ Procured a new MKFFIS server
- ◆ Completed MKFFIS data migration to the new server
- ◆ Conducted discussions about draft hazard maps

Output 2: Strengthening of Forest Management Plan

- ◆ Created a zoning plan in Skopska-Crna-Gora FMU



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Output 3: Capacity building in land restoration and afforestation technology

- ◆ Radovich North: Continued construction works. Completed plantation works
- ◆ Radovich South: Conducted experimental plantation
- ◆ Lisiche: Started construction works. Completed plantation works
- ◆ Continued survival rate monitoring of planted trees
- ◆ Conducted collection of forest monitoring data and the analysis

Output 4: Public awareness on Eco-DRR

- ◆ Continued Eco-DRR promotion video creation

Events in the next half year

- Conduct 6th JCC/ 7th TCG meeting
- Radovich North/ Lisiche: Complete construction work
- Conduct a nursery technique training
- Conduct a zoning and forest rehabilitation plan training
- Conduct 3rd forest policy workshop

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