



Republic of Kosovo

Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment

Greening Land - Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) Executive Summary

The current situation in Kosovo is one of relatively unmanaged contaminated sites with an initial inventorying of what are considered particularly significant sites (the hotspots) in 2011 and the Administrative Instruction No.11/2018 published by Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment (MoIE), therefore Kosovo is in a position to follow a well-established international approach – sustainable risk-based land management (SRBLM) to contaminated land management and prioritize its actions by phases.

The proposed World Bank Greening Land Project aims to support the country in developing and implementing a long-term action plan for contaminated land remediation and redevelopment in Kosovo. The project will contribute to implementation of the existing laws and regulations for environment protection and climate change adaptation and mitigation by addressing the identified constraints. It will contribute to the improvement of contaminated land management to reduce associated health risks and realize economic, environmental and social values from land redevelopment, such as the creation of urban green spaces, commercial development, and renewable energy production.

The project will provide support to the government in addressing the key constraints it has faced over the years in managing contaminated land. It will do so through:

- a) investments in select sites to demonstrate international good practices for contaminated land remediation and redevelopment and
- b) enabling activities at both the national and local levels for developing the necessary policy / regulatory and institutional framework, building capacity, addressing data / information gaps, and developing a long-term action plan for contaminated land remediation and redevelopment in the country.

SRBLM will be the principal approach to be promoted through the proposed project. The project will contribute to Kosovo's commitment to the process of EU accession and alignment of environment and climate change regulation with the EU acquis. It is expected that the project will be the starting point of a longer-term program for addressing land contamination legacy in Kosovo. Subsequent phases for scaling-up are anticipated either as additional financing or as a new project to be funded by the Bank or/and other partners.

The proposed project consists of three components described below:

- **Component 1: Demonstration of Sustainable Risk-based Contaminated Land Remediation and Redevelopment (about US\$ 17.1 million)**
 - Sub-component 1.1 Remediation and redevelopment at the Kosovo Energetic Corporation Site located in greater Pristina area (about US\$ 5 million)
 - Subcomponent 1.2 Preparation of remediation and redevelopment plans for other two or three sites (about US\$ 1.1 million)
 - Sub-component 1.3 Remediation and redevelopment at one to two more sites (about US\$ 11 million)

- **Component 2: Developing Policy and Institutional Capacity for Contaminated Land Management (about US\$ 3.1 million)**
 - Sub-component 2.1 National survey of suspected sites and an inventory of contaminated land in one or two selected municipalities.
 - Sub-component 2.2 Policy and institutional capacity building and awareness raising.
 - Sub-component 2.3 Sustainable financing options and National Action Plan for SRBLM.
 - Sub-component 2.4 Study on investment planning for industrial (hazardous and non-hazardous) waste management
- **Component 3: Project management, monitoring and evaluation (US\$ 0.8 million)**

The main purposes of the ESMF are to:

- Provide the legal requirements defined in the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework (ESF) as well Kosovo legislation that the project activities will need to comply with it during their implementation;
- Set out the general principles, rules, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social risks and impacts associated to the site and activities for which detail information is not available;
- Contain general measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset adverse risks and impacts, and information on the agency or agencies responsible for addressing project risks and impacts, including on its capacity to manage environmental and social risks and impacts;
- Ensure all relevant environmental and social issues are mainstreamed into the design and implementation of the sub-projects
- Provide guidance for preparation of various safeguard documents
- Provide guidance for ensuring stakeholder engagement at various stages of sub-project implementation.

The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been structured as follows:

- Chapter 1 provides a brief overview of the project background, provides a description & objective of the project, its various components, Scope & Purpose of the ESMF, approach & methodology of the project.
- Chapter 2 outlines the relevant policies, legislative and regulatory framework for this project.
- Chapter 3 gives the guidance of collecting the baseline conditions in the project influence areas.
- Chapter 4 describes potential/expected environmental and social risks and impacts of the project
- Chapter 5 describes typical mitigation measures for different sub-projects
- Chapter 6 outlines institutional and monitoring arrangements for the project.
- Chapter 7 includes stakeholder consultation and disclosure objective, methodology & tools for the stakeholder consultation.

The proposed development objective is to demonstrate the sustainable risk-based approach to remediation and redevelopment at selected contaminated sites.

Site selection will be undertaken in consultation with the government during implementation and will follow a set of criteria, including:

- (i) relatively less extent of remediation complexity, in order to demonstrate success;
- (ii) potential of strong community engagement, and high potential of integrating remediation with economic and social benefits, such as public amenity and regeneration, water resource protection, renewable energy development, materials recovery, greener industry promotion, and capacity building and demonstrating results within the project period; and
- (iii) the possibility of financial contribution from (national or local) government or private sector associated with the site.

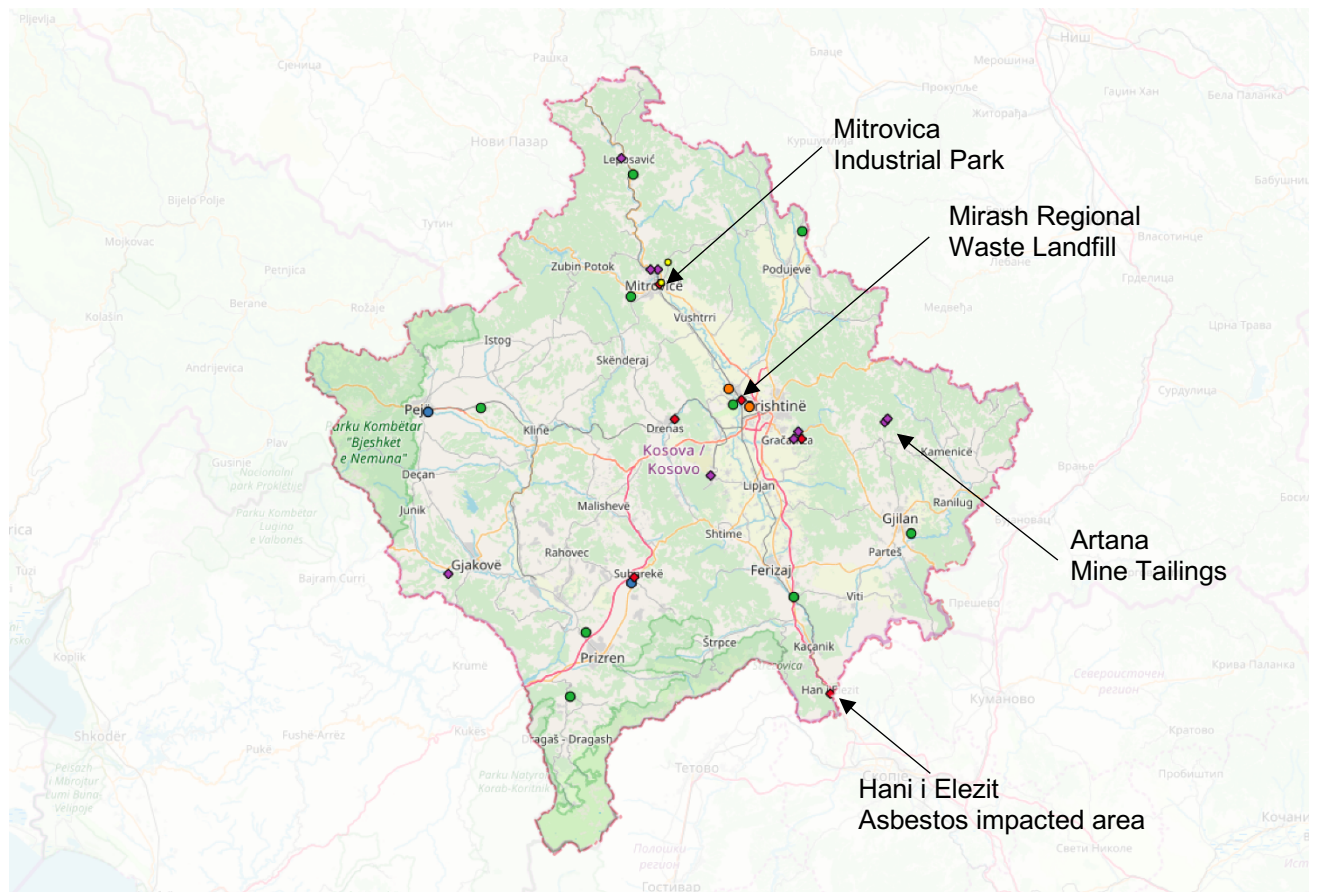


Figure 1 Location of indicative shortlist of demonstration sub-projects

The indicative shortlist of demonstration sub-projects grouped by potential future land use or redevelopment options under Sub-Component 1.2 is as follows:

a) Development of parks and public spaces:

- (i) An asbestos impacted area in Hani i Elezit to create a linear park, linking to an existing development blueprint already prepared by the municipality and probably also involving improvement of an existing storage site (meeting European standards) to manage removed asbestos from old buildings and excavated contaminated soil if any during remediation.
- (ii) Mitrovicë Industrial Park to establish a “Peace Park” across the different communities of Mitrovicë. A master plan integrating remediation and redevelopment could also support fund-raising and building partnerships for the “Peace Park” regeneration and serve as the technical basis for effective cleanup under the next phase of contaminated land management.

b) Provision of clean water resources:

- (iii) the Artana mine Tailings site – polluting the water ends up in the area of the future Kramenata dam reservoir that is to be supported by the World Bank’s FLOWS project and promoting sustainable mining to prevent further pollution
- (iv) Piloting integrated greener industry and repurposing of historic flotation waste tailings as a basis for replication in the next phase across various Trepça sites and facilities.

c) Integrated municipal solid waste management

- (v) Remediation of the Mirash Regional Waste Landfill in Obiliq

It is commonly thought that remediation can only result in an environmental improvement. However, while the remediation of contaminated land and the associated water environment is carried out with improvement in mind, the remedial activity itself has the potential to adversely affect human health or the environment. Potential risks must be controlled, to ensure that remediation will result in an environmental improvement. This is normally achieved through the implementation of an appropriately

designed remediation scheme and the application of legislative control, over and above that which sets the remediation objectives. This is the reason why Analysis of Alternative is necessary.

The analysis of alternatives of the Remediation and Redevelopment plan for the contaminated site, should be carried out on a level of applied remediation strategies, rather than a technology level.

Based on this, for the indicative shortlist of demonstration sub-projects the ESIA studies will be analyzed the following alternatives in the following way:

- Step 1: Site Description
- Step 2: Types of Alternatives (a) Zero alternative or 'to do nothing' alternative (b) Alternatives for remediation and redevelopment of the contaminated land with respect to (i) proposed activities and (ii) proposed technologies
- Step 3: Assessment of Alternatives
- Step 4: Recommended Action

The proposed studies related to this project and ESMF are as follows:

- Feasibility Study for Remediation Plan of contaminated site, including Site Investigation, Detailed design of new remediation and rehabilitation
- Detailed Design of Rehabilitation
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
- Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)
- Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)
- Monitoring Activities (ESMP Implementation)

It is expected that detailed environmental and social assessments for project sites where will be implemented specific project activities will be carried out (in accordance with this Framework) and reviewed and cleared by the World Bank, MoIE or relevant municipalities, i.e. Department for EIA, as well as other relevant institutions.