



Annex 3: Framework for reporting identified practices

	Section	Indication of Content
1	Title of the practice	Managing authority of Kalamas-Acherontas rivers.
2	Precise theme/ issue tackled by the practice	Environmental preservation and risk management of Natura protected Areas of Kalama and Acherontas Rivers. Mitigation of pollution activities in the area.
3	Objectives of the practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To set up a system of effective management of the Natura protected areas of Kalamas and Acherontas Rivers. To upgrade the environment in the protected areas. To conserve the biodiversity of the wetlands of the area in the most effective manner, conducting risk assessment and risk evaluation of the most prominent hazards. To set-up restrictions in certain activities in the protected area.
4	Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greece Region of Epirus Prefectures of Thesprotia and Ioannina Kalamas and Acherontas Rivers
5	Detailed description of the practice	<p>Origin</p> <p>Kalamas River the last 25 years is the principal recipient of waste water emanating at the most part from the Ioannina Basin, and the water uses in the riverside villages along the route, which along with companies operating inside and outside the industrial zone result today in one of the most polluted rivers in Europe - a typical example of the degree of contamination of the river is a few years ago nearly extinction of the population of the endangered crayfish.</p> <p>Much of municipal sewage is discharged into the river from the village of Parakalamos, seat of the Municipality of Ano Kalama, who is also the largest riverside settlement with actual population exceeding 1200 inhabitants. The proximity of the village with the river, is causing major pollutant burdens as the largest volume of municipal wastewater from the village and waste stables in the surrounding area is culminating through illegal connections directly to it.</p> <p>The Managing authority of Acherontas and Kalamas Rivers has been set up in 2002. Its purpose is to manage and administer the region close the mouth of the river Acheron, and the narrow mouth of the Kalama River and the surrounding area of Kalodikion. It covers 156.000 ha and the area is considered as</p>

		<p>Natura protected as it includes wetlands of international value in which live and multiply many and important species of the fauna & flora.</p> <p> Bodies involved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prefecture of Thesprotia • Region of Epirus • State General Laboratory • Association of Kalamas River Municipalities • Citizens Movement “ Clear Kalamas” • Prefecture of Ioannina • University of Ioannina <p> Process and detailed content of the practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Managing Authority has the responsibility of operations planning / programming / monitoring / and evaluation of protected area management. It prepares a five-year management plan for the protected area. Surveillance and coordination for the implementation of actions and projects included in the Management Plan. • Monitoring of socio-economic data and parameters of the protected and the surrounding area. Collecting and recording data and monitoring of developments in economics, population, etc. sizes of the local community and research needs, organizing meetings, contacts, meetings, etc., to record requests, desires, aspirations, suggestions, etc. All these elements can be used in risk evaluation. • Monitoring / evaluation of the implementation of programs of local and prefectural institutions. • Operations Planning. Preparation of annual program of the Authority. Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Action Plans proposed to it and make suggestions for amendments. • Writing reports to competent authorities for the suspension or cancellation of activities aggravating the environment in the protected area. • Conducting autopsies on facilities or activities, particularly when it is probable that the operation degrades the environment, the drafting of reports, notifications to the competent authorities and proposals of specific sanctions or other measures to protect the environment in accordance with Article 30 of the law 1650/1986.
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6	Evaluation	<p> Possible demonstrated results (e.g. through indicators)</p> <p>The Managing Authority has already implemented three important projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • «Protection και Management of Protected Areas of Rivers Acherontas and Kalamas» (EPPER Project) funded by the operational program "Environment" with a budget of 1.396.484,00 euros and implemented between 2006 and 2008 • The COLECOMAN project (COLlaborative ECOSystem MANagement) is financed by the Community Iniziative Programme INTERREG IIIA Greece Italy 2000-2006, Axis 3 "Enviroment and Cultural Heritage, Measure 3.1 "Improvement of the common ecosystem management", Action 1 "Actions for the management, monitoring and conservation of ecosystems, according the 92/43/CEE Directive (Nature 2000), focusing the coastal and marine ecosystems".

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program "Development of a model Web based virtual observatory of Acherontas, Kalamas and Torre Guaceto ecosystems and its application as a mobile exhibit and permanent environmental kiosk towards public awareness and sustainable development of coastal ecosystems (EcoDo-net)" focuses on the improvement of the management, the protection and the sustainable development of the Greek and Italian coastal ecosystems in the border area (Acherontas, Kalamas, their intermediary coastal zone and -Torre Guaceto) through the observation of the ecosystems' quality and the increase of public awareness about environmental issues. It is financed by by the Community Iniziative Programme INTERREG IIIA Greece Italy 2000-2006 <p> Possible success factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of a managing authority for the two rivers has introduced a holistic approach on the issues of environmental management of rivers involving mitigation measures and responsiveness and integrating risk and evaluation analysis. <p> Difficulties encountered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are some difficulties with the coordination with the other competent agencies and authorities which are involved in the management of the area. • The control mechanisms concerning the monitoring of pollution in the area don't work sufficiently due to pressures of businesses and factories. • The regulation for some issues in the operation and management of protected areas has not yet been issued.
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9	Other possible interesting information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - http://www.kalamas-acherontas.gr/ - Various documents (reports, presentations, etc.)