

Report on the work done for the period from establishment to September 16, 2023

Considering the fact that the first employments were realized before the end of 2022 and officially the institution was able to start functioning formally only from December 2022, this report presents all the achieved results until September 15, 2023.

For the functioning of the institution, the following were established: Management Board, Scientific Council and Council of Stakeholders in which representatives from all municipalities, non-governmental sector and local businesses are members, while the Board for control of material-financial operations is in the process of formation.

Since its establishment, 11 sessions of the Management Board of P.I.N.P Shar mountain have been held. 2 sessions of the Scientific Council of P.I.N.P Shar mountain were held. 1 session of the Council of Stakeholders of P.I.N.P Shar mountain was held.

During 2022, an open call for fixed- and indefinite-term employment for auxiliary technical personnel and an indefinite-term call for administrative officers was published through the Agency for Administration, and 6 employments of auxiliary technical personnel were realized, namely: Head of department for sustainable use of natural resources, Head of department for nature protection, Guard in a protected area, Senior Legal Affairs Associate and Junior IT Associate.

On September 15, 2023, the announcement for new employment was published for 9 persons from auxiliary technical staff and 3 persons administrative officers.

The institution functions with 4 organizational units: Department for legal, economic and general affairs; Department of nature protection; Department for sustainable use of natural resources; Department for alternative activities and environmental education. The last department has not yet been formed, but with the new hires it will be established.

Overview of acts that have been prepared and passed in order for the institution to function:

- Statute of the institution
- Rulebook for the systematization of the institution's staff
- Rules for internal organization
- Archival signage plan for 2022 and 2023
- Rules for the work of the management board of P.I.N.P Shar mountain
- Rules for communication and procedures
- Rules of procedure of the Scientific Council
- Rules of procedure of the Council of Stakeholders
- Annual employment plan for 2022 and 2023

- Report on the annual employment plan for 2022
- Adopted Management Plan for Shar Mountain National Park
- Annual nature protection program for 2022 and 2023 of the National Park,
- Report on the Annual Program for Nature Protection,
- Wildlife Management Plan,
- Prepared annual operational plan for forest fire protection for 2023,
- Data register for recording the cut wood mass in a state low-stemmed forest by natural persons for their own needs,
- Monthly reports on logging, delivery and transportation,
- Monthly reports on forest damage,
- A reporting system is being established for the Report Diagnostic and Forecasting Service,
- Budgeted project funds for the development of special plans for forest management,
- An instruction has been prepared for regulating the procedure when resolving a request for approval for the felling of rare species of trees, individual or group of forest trees on agricultural land outside the forest,
- Guidelines have been prepared for regulating the procedure when resolving Requests for approval for felling in private forests,
- A decision was made to ban the use of nature for organizing tourist activities, ski tours with ratrak on the territory of the Shar Mountain National Park.
- A decision has been made to prohibit the movement of motor vehicles outside the permitted roads on the territory of the Shar Mountain National Park.
- A request has been sent to the Government and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning for the termination of concession agreements for the construction of two small hydroelectric power plants in NP Shar mountain in Leshnica, Pena 84 and Pena 85.
- Developed and functional website of the institution and regularly updated Facebook page.

Additional activities:

- More than ten Memorandums of cooperation with other institutions, public institutions, mountaineering associations, non-governmental and research organizations, etc. have been concluded.
- The institution participates in several national working groups, several projects, but with particular attention to avoid double budgeting in requests for donations and support. As defined in the Area Management Plan, all initiatives coming from non-governmental organizations are channeled in the direction of fulfilling the 10-year plan and annual work plans of the institution because only together we can achieve the vision and goal for Shar Mountain.

In the past year, the technical staff was engaged in direct activities related to nature conservation:

- More than 100 patrols were carried out with a total of 3067 hours of patrolling and 67,657 km traveled;
- An inventory of all unregistered facilities was carried out, recording 769 facilities;
- 67 m3 of illegally cut wood were registered;
- Over 120 Requests for logging permits from owners of private property on the territory of the Park have been processed and realized
- 2 companies that organize skiing have been reported for illegal operation;
- Prepared and placed 25 information boards;
- Prepared and placed 50 information boards for fire prevention;
- Reconstructed 3 bridges in Dolna Leshnica;
- All employees have been involved in over 20 forest fire interventions;
- Regular meetings with representatives from different municipalities in NP;
- 18 days of training for each ranger.
- Organized numerous actions for cleaning up waste;
- Held working meetings for synchronization in the protective zones and field guarding with NP Shari from the Republic of Kosovo.
- Five key species and key habitats have been identified through which the progress in nature protection will be monitored in the following years, and the first steps for monitoring natural values have been established.
- Secured warehouse for storing confiscated wood.
- 33 ha have been reforested, and this fall we are planning additional measures in this direction.
- In the areas of the villages of Lisec, Selce and Brodec, great damage was observed from previous fires and illegal cutting, so in coordination with the Forestry Inspectorate, we are currently implementing active measures to repair the damage, clear the damaged trees and, as the next step, afforestation.

As a joint result of the field and administrative work in which many other institutions are involved, the following have been submitted:

- One report to Sector for Interior Affairs Tetovo for illegal hunting.
- One report to Sector for Interior Affairs Tetovo for devastation of a forest.
- One report to Sector for Interior Affairs for illegal cutting of young trees.
- One report to the Forestry Police Tetovo for illegal logging.
- One criminal report to the Basic Public Prosecutor's Office in Tetovo for "Usurpation of real estate" and "Illegal construction".

- One report to Sector for Interior Affairs Tetovo for illegal activities in the National Park Shar Mountain by the concessionaire of a small hydroelectric power plant.
- One proposal for a temporary measure to the Tetovo Basic Court.
- One request to file a misdemeanor complaint with the Basic Court of Tetovo for violations under the Nature Protection Act regarding the movement of motor vehicles through a zone of strict protection.
- One information to the Basic public prosecution, the State Attorney's Office, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and a request for action on illegal activities in the National Park Shar Mountain.

The office space allocated by the Government near the cable car in Tetovo was a restaurant space and needed thorough reconstruction and adaptation. Donor funds were used for this purpose.

Brief overview regarding finances:

- A one-year grant agreement was concluded with PONT;
- Signed a four-year grant agreement with Global Conservations;
- Prepared and approved Financial Plan for 2022 and 2023,
- Prepared Final Account for 2022 and 2023 to the Central Registry and to the Public Revenue Administration,
- Prepared Report on the Financial Plan for 2022,
- Prepared Plan for Public Procurement,
- Basic means of work such as uniforms, vehicles, computers, binoculars, GPS devices, printers, office furniture, etc. have been procured.
- Organized Fiscal Payment System,
- Adopted Tariff in the Management Board,
- Developed licensed finance program, and put it into use,
- The budget available to P.I.N.P Shar Mountain from its formation until now amounts to 34,192,482.00 den and is composed of:
 - 44% are funds subsidized by the Ministry of Environment
 - 46% are funds donated by the donor PONT
 - 7% are funds donated by the donor Global Conservations
 - 3% own funds.

Like other National Parks in the country, the institution functions with self-financing, so from here, it should be noted that the institution's financing policies are not aimed at the use of resources but at ecosystem services and tourism.

For this purpose, in August we submitted a request to the Ministry of the Environment for the allocation of funds on the basis of ecosystem services, i.e. financial funds that the various entities on the territory of the National Park Shar Mountain already pay to the RNM Budget - in dedicated accounts for the Ministry of Environment and Forestry . We expect these funds to be directly reinvested in the protected area each year.

In the future, we expect to focus more on tourism as one of the main sources for financing the activities, and the next step would be the development of the educational component with an educational center, preparation and implementation of education programs.