

MIKE SHARROCKS CONSULTANCY

Tourism Feasibility • Development Planning • Urban Design • Urban Regeneration • Environmental Appraisal

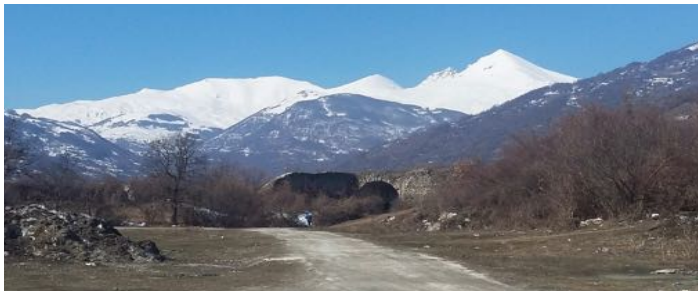
North Macedonia

IMPROVING RESILIENCE TO FLOODING IN THE POLOG REGION

For the United Nations Development Programme, 2018-2019

Mike Sharrocks was appointed by UNDP (North Macedonia) to provide short term assistance towards integrating disaster risk reduction and sustainable development into a new General Urban Plan (GUP) for the Municipality of Tetovo (population of 90,000). This work was to be done in conjunction with the Municipality Working Group, an *ad hoc* body tasked with producing a Terms of Reference (TOR) for work on the revised GUP for 2019-2029.

Tetovo is located in the Polog Region, northwest North Macedonia, which includes part of the River Vardar basin that extends throughout much of the country. The area had been exposed recently to serious flooding and landslip problems that were exacerbated by poor solid waste management.



UNDP's Polog Region flood resilience programme, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, was looking to mainstream disaster risk reduction into the urban planning process. As a part of this work, a Flood Risk Management Plan was prepared for the Upper Vardar River Basin, where Tetovo was located.



Mike Sharrocks prepared a preliminary TOR that set out a methodology and framework of activities that needed to be undertaken. Subsequently, an urban resilience guidance paper outlined typical protective measures that could be implemented, improvements to the urban planning system, some sustainable development principles that should be adopted, and a risk-informed plan preparation process.



Site visits were undertaken in and around Tetovo, together with meetings with the Mayor and officials of the Municipality of Tetovo. Finally, at the first Stakeholder Consultation and Public Debate for the GUP, Mike Sharrocks outlined the key issues for 'Planning for Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk'.

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