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Kosovo Accreditation Agency



UNIVERSITETI I PRISHTINËS “HASAN PRISHTINA”

FAKULTETI I SHKENCAVE MATEMATIKO-NATYRORE

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, PLANNING
AND TERRITORIAL REGULATION (MSc)
ACCREDITATION**

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

August 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit: 29th of July, 2024

Expert Team (ET) members:

- *Ana Cornelia Badea, Prof.PhD.*
- *Francisco Da Silva Costa, Prof.PhD.*
- *Giga Khositashvili, Student Expert*

Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):

- *Leona Kovaçi, KAA Officer*

Sources of information for the Report:

- *Self-Evaluation Report, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, PLANNING AND TERRITORIAL REGULATION, MSc*
- *Information posted on the University's and Faculty's Websites*
- *Syllabuses*
- *Staff CVs*
- *European qualification framework*
- *Regulations of University of Prishtina (UP) and Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences (FMNS):*
 - *National Qualification Framework Handbook*
 - <https://www.biblioteka-ks.org/>
 - *REGULATION for master scientific studies*
 - *REGULATION for amendments to regulation no. 2/922, dt. 24.10.2019, for master studies at the University of Prishtina*
 - *RREGULLORE për përdorimin dhe mirëmbajtjen e pajisjeve të teknologjisë së informacionit në Universitetin e Prishtinës "Hasan Prishtina"*
 - *REGULATION For amendments to regulation no. 2/922, dt. 24.10.2019, for master studies at the University of Prishtina*
 - *The schedule for summer semester 2024* <https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,78>
 - *Curricula development* <https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,74>
 - *RREGULLORE për proceset dhe procedurat e përgatitjes për riakreditimin institucional dhe të programeve studimore në Universitetin e Prishtinës "Hasan Prishtina"*
 - *the meeting minutes of the faculty council and the senate meeting minutes*

- Questionnaire for the administrative and support staff of the university
 - Questionnaire for Academic Staff
 - Code of Ethics for the Academic Staff of the University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina”
 - <https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117>
 - <https://www.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,1>
 - <https://www.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,74>
 - <https://dokumente.uni-pr.edu/>
 - List of international cooperation partners: <https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,62>
 - Linku i ERASMUS+ mobility agreements: <https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,203>
 - Detailed maps of the future premises of the UP.
- The documents submitted by the MSc programme team as additional documents, required by the ET as following:
 1. a report with a synthetic analysis as ratio of no of sqm/student for this MSc program (officially signed);
 2. (If applicable) the agreements by which other faculties support this program, with the number of classrooms, the number of students who can be trained in these classrooms, etc., thus proving that the necessary material basis (infrastructure) exists. (eg. From Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Natural Sciences, etc) These documents, if they exist, obviously have to be prior (dated) to the accreditation process. (officially signed);
 3. agreements with department of Mathematics to use the classrooms and computer labs (if applicable);
 4. a list of the laboratories available for this MSc program (officially signed);
 5. regulation of laboratories that will be used by master's students;
 6. a list of resources available for this MSc program with details (including software, version, instruments);
 7. info about the plagiarism checking program used within the faculty for other degree programs (MSc and BSc in Geography);
 8. list of the resources available in the university library and/or in the faculty library (because at the site visit the access to the department library was not possible, and this issue is affecting the entire activity of the department);
 9. (if applicable) job announcement of the library staff member of the department if it was already announced;
 10. documents (meeting minutes) proving that this MSc program was discussed inside the department;
 11. internal regulation(s) describing the flow through which a new study program is proposed and approved to be created within the university (faculty, department);

12. documents proving that the aforementioned workflow was respected (in order to verify the completion of all these steps until the adoption with more than 90% of the votes in the Faculty Council, as mentioned during the meeting);
13. an example of the Ethics Committee yearly report;
14. questionnaires for academic staff, administration and students;
15. some examples (3-5) of evaluations made by students;
16. functional links to the documents, regulations, laws mentioned in the SER;
17. a table including a projected workload per each teaching staff (if this MSc program would be accredited);
18. a projected student timetable, including the rooms in which classes will be held;
19. (if applicable) students surveys with opinion on the establishment of this MSc study program;
20. a detailed workflow and regulation describing how the student chooses his/her dissertation topic, how the tutor is assigned, the forms used for this, how the dissertation thesis is presented to the committee, the composition of the dissertation committee, etc.;
21. adding to the syllabi newer bibliographical references or weblinks to documents of interest (EU site, geoportals, etc) that can be used in the teaching process;
22. agreements with the provider of Academic Databases related to the study program;
23. any document states the recent acquisitions of the books/ other material resources needed for this study program;
24. Erasmus agreements;
25. protocols established with employers and stakeholders;
26. cooperation memorandum and contract established within the scope of internships (1 example);
27. projects in which students take part.

Criteria used for institutional and program evaluations

- *Standards & performance indicators for external evaluation according to the Accreditation Manual of KAA, updated 2021.*

1.2. Site visit schedule

Programme Accreditation Procedure at Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences	
Programme:	Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation MSc 120 ECTS, (Accreditation);
Online site visit on:	29.07.2024
Expert Team:	Ana Cornelia Badea, Prof.Dr. Francisco Da Silva Costa, Prof.Dr. Giga Khositashvili, PhD Student
Coordinators of the KAA:	Leona Kovaçi, KAA Officer

Site Visit Programme

Time	Meeting	Participants
09:00 – 09:45	Meeting with the management of the faculty where the programme is integrated	Prof.dr. Idriz Vehapi Prof.dr. Arben Haziri Prof.asoc.Kajtaz Bllaca Prof.asoc. Ferim Gashi Msc. Jeton Hyseni
09:45 – 10.30	Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff	Prof.ass.Ilir Mazreku Besnik Loxha Artan Alidemaj
10:30 – 10:40	<i>Short break</i>	
10:40 – 11:10	Meeting with the heads of the study programme: Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation MSc 120 ECTS	Prof.asoc. Ferim Gashi Prof. dr. Fadil Millaku
11:10-11:40	Meeting with the Head of Department of Geography	Prof. Ass. Dr. Fitim Humolli
11:40 – 12:40	Meeting with teaching staff	Prof. dr. Arsim Ejupi, Prof. Asoc. Valbon Bytyqi Prof. asoc. Mimoza Dugolli Prof. dr. Elez Krasniqi Prof. Ass. Fitim Humolli Prof.Ass. Selim Qevani Dr. Kalterina Jusufi
12:40 – 13:40	<i>Lunch break</i> (provided at the evaluation site)	
13:40 – 14.10	Visiting Facilities	
14:10 – 14:50	Meeting with employers of graduates and external stakeholders	Bajram Kafexholli, (Director of "Mali Sharr National Park) Shpend Agaj (Institute for Spatial Planning) Besart Bajrami (Municipality) Sami Duraku (Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals) Fadil Bajraktari (Kosovo Institute for Nature Protection) Sadije Deliu (Plan A Company) Afrim Berisha (Environmental Protection Agency of Kosovo) Amir Rexha (Regional Water Company "Hidromorava")
14:50 – 15:00	Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts	
15:00 – 15:10	Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and program	

Overall instructions for HEIs:

- No presentations of any kind are allowed, as the meetings are intended to be free discussions;
- The students selected for the meeting should reflect a diversity in terms of fields of study, programme, study cycle, year of study, students with special needs if any, etc.
- The teaching staff selected for the meeting should reflect a diversity in terms of faculties and programmes, full-time and part time, local and international, etc.
- The students, graduates and employers of graduates should not be employed at the institution.
- Anyone whose attendance won't be agreed in advance with KAA, and the Expert Team will be asked to leave the interview session.
- Nametags are to be provided for all people attending the meetings.

1.3. A brief overview of the institution under evaluation

The University of Prishtina (UP) offers various study programs (BSc, MSc, PhD) in different Faculties, including programs in Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

The studies in the field of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (chemistry, biology, physics and mathematics) in the University of Prishtina, started in 1960 as part of the Faculty of Philosophy, and in 1971, the section of exact sciences separated from this faculty.

The Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences (FMNS) was established with the verdict of the Assembly of Kosova (Official Paper of SAP of Kosova, no, 37/71). Full-time and part time studies are organized in five departments: Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Geography and Mathematics.

The FMNS, like entire UP, faced big challenges and obstructions, due to political and social circumstances that Kosovo passed through. Most of the challenges were managed and overcome due to the hard work and commitment of the academic staff, which not only justified the establishment of this faculty, but also managed to fulfil their mission successfully, as professors and scientists.

The FMNS staff took action to update study programs, aiming to achieve European standards and increase cooperation with European Universities. Adaptation of the study programs in line with Bologna agreement (3+2+3) was one of the most significant steps to improve and increase the study quality. Since 1st October 2001 undergraduate studies began with new curriculum, harmonized with Bologna Declaration.

FMNS has five departments with respective programs as follow: Department of Chemistry (study programs: Chemistry BSc., Engineering Chemistry BSc., Physical and Inorganic Chemistry MSc., Organic Chemistry BSc., Analytical and Environmental Chemistry BSc. and Chemistry PhD), Department of Mathematics (study programs: Mathematics BSc., Financial Mathematics in banking and insurance BSc., Computer Sciences BSc. and Mathematics MSc.), Department of Physics (study programs: Physics BSc. and Physics MSc.), Department of Biology (study programs: Biology BSc., Biology MSc., Ecology and Environmental Protection BSc., Ecology and Environmental protection MSc. and Biology of organisms and ecology PhD), Department of Geography (study programs: Geography BSc. and Geography MSc.)

The programs under the evaluation at the Department of Geography at Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science (FMNS) are: Geography BSc., Geography MSc. Accredited by Kosovo Accreditation Agency (Decision no. 482/18 dt. 18.05.2018).

2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

2.1. Mission, Objectives and Administration

Standard 1.1. The study program mission is in compliance with the overall mission statement of the institution.

The objectives of the study program in Master Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation are clear and well described and aim to develop technical and scientific skills to train professional in the fields of environmental science and spatial planning, in public and private companies and institutions, as well as in universities to proceed in third cycle studies and vocational programs.

There is no such study program in public or private higher education institutions in Kosovo, which is in line with one of the specific objectives of the University of Prishtina to act as an institutional and leadership centre for the advancement of knowledge, creative ideas and science in the country's higher education system.

This recognition is documented by the interest of collaboration in the master's program by several institutions in the Republic of Kosovo, such as the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Regional Development and the Statistics Agency of Kosovo.

The mission and objectives of this study program are in line with those of the Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences and with the mission of UP

From the technical viewpoint, the program's graduates should find the solution of problems from theory to practice related to the implementation of knowledge gained during the study.

The research and scientific work and prioritizing of the development of students can be identified as the main priorities in the missions of the University, Faculty and the program.

The mission of the program is aligned with the mission of the Faculty and the University.

The scientific area of the master's program is in correlation with the field of geography studies, having at the same time a strong interdisciplinary component.

Standard 1.2. Relevant academic and professional advice is considered when defining the intended learning outcomes which are consistent with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.

Relevant academic and professional advice were taken into account to determine the intended learning outcomes in the Master's program in Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation by consulting several internal UP bodies and different public institutions, private companies and other stakeholders.

The interviews during the site visit day allowed different opinions to be heard about the process of preparing this program, which were consulted and allowed for contradictions between those involved, whenever necessary. Employers of graduates and external stakeholders have shown great interest in the student profile of this study program, which they consider unique, in order to respond to the needs of qualified specialists in the field of Environmental Sciences and Spatial Planning in the Republic of Kosovo.

The Master's program in Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation also received contributions from other universities, namely the University of Zagreb, which has a Master's degree compatible with 85%.

The learning outcomes defined in the study program allow students to be able to acquire knowledge, skills and competencies appropriate and compatible with the level of 2nd cycle of studies and foreseen in Level 7 of the National Qualifications Framework and in the Space Qualifications Frameworks European Higher Education.

The MSc program in Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation is compatible with level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework.

Standard 1.3. The study program has a well-defined overarching didactic and research concept.

The study program consists of 4 semesters over 2 years, with 11 compulsory courses, 3 electives, 1 seminar, 1 internship and professional training of students and a master's thesis and totalling 120 ECTS.

Students in the first, second and third semester will receive an advanced interdisciplinary knowledge based on Geophysical Sciences, Human Geography or Ecology, cross-cutting and multi-discussed themes such as Natural Hazards, Territory Planning or urban management. The study program also includes subjects associated with territorial analysis and GIS research methodologies and therefore with a more practical aspect.

The structure of the study program is demonstrated to include several disciplines underpinned by a comprehensive and well-defined research concept.

In general, the programs of all subjects are organized into Subject Description, Course Objectives, Learning Outcomes, Teaching Methodology, Evaluation Methods, Literature, Lesson Plan and Academic Policies and Ethical Rules.

Teaching methodologies are based on various activities such as lectures on the dialogue form, interactive learning with the student, group work, discussion, debate, practical work, seminar work, study visits and oral presentations, selected to motivate students and recognize the full capacity and ability among them.

The contribution of students in each subject is intended to be given based on lectures, theory/laboratory exercises, practical work, consulting, terrain/field work, seminars, colloquiums, homework, time of students' individual work/study, final preparations for exam, time spent on assessment (tests, quiz, final exam), projects, presentations, etc. and corresponds to the respective learning outcomes. Usually the units of the theoretical part of the course are paralleled by the units of the practical part that complete the subject and provides the student with the appropriate practical skills for the appropriation of the subject matter of the subject.

Emphasis is placed on practical group as well as individual work, with the aim of preparing students to work independently and to present the results in written and oral form.

The evaluation of most subjects includes students' attendance at lectures and exercises, exercises, talks, participation in interactive learning, level of materials and performance of work and is carried out on a practical and theoretical basis.

The bibliography includes titles divided into basic literature additional literature, facilitating student-oriented research.

Overall, it can be seen that the study program was developed in a sustainable way with regard to the didactic dimension.

Standard 1.4. There are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues. These are made publicly available to all staff and students.

The legal basis for curriculum development/revision and other academic matters are set out in the Statute of the University of Prishtina. All relevant documents regulating academic processes, the UP Statute, UP Regulations and Faculty Regulations, are published on the University of Prishtina website and are easily accessible to all interested parties.

Teaching management structures are responsible for organizing the teaching process, research, quality assurance, evaluation and monitoring of students during their studies.

For each study program offered in the Department of Geography, there are professors responsible for the respective program.

In general, UP and its bodies have defined policies and issued formal guidelines and regulations that address recurring procedural or academic issues, which are publicly available.

The ethical conduct in research, teaching, assessment in all academic and administrative activities is regulated in the Code of Ethics for the Academic Staff of the University of Prishtina

“Hasan Prishtina”, Academic Integrity and Regulation on disciplinary measures and procedures for academic staff and students <https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,76>.

Overall the degree of transparency provided is adequate, the information relevant for students and for staff and outside parties being found on the website.

Standard 1.5. All staff and students comply with the internal regulations relating to ethical conduct in research, teaching, assessment in all academic and administrative activities.

Internal regulations as well as other complementary documents - information, appeals, guidelines and updates - relating to ethical conduct in research, teaching and evaluation at UP and FMNS are available on the website at <https://dokumente.uni-pr.edu/>

Electronic access is open to all employees and students, allowing knowledge and compliance with internal standards regarding ethical conduct in research, teaching, evaluation in all academic and administrative activities.

Standard 1.6. All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program are reviewed at least once every two years and amended as required in the light of changing circumstances.

Review of study programs takes place periodically in accordance with current legislation and regulations and with the supervision of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency, available at <https://akreditimi.rks-gov.net/akreditimi-en-translation/>.

Additional information about the Accreditation processes can be found on the UP <https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,75>, <https://dokumente.uni-pr.edu/> and FMSN <https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117> regulations pages.

Within this legal framework, the management and execution of study programs can be reviewed and updated.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
1.1	The study program mission is in compliance with the overall mission statement of the institution.	x	
1.2	Relevant academic and professional advice is considered when defining the intended learning outcomes which are consistent with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.	x	
1.3	The study program has a well-defined overarching didactic and research concept.	x	
1.4	There are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues. These are made publicly available to all staff and students.	x	

1.5	All staff and students comply with the internal regulations relating to ethical conduct in research, teaching, assessment in all academic and administrative activities.	x	
1.6	All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program are reviewed at least once every two years and amended as required in the light of changing circumstances.	x	

Compliance level: Fully compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Review the level of analysis of the Master's objectives, systematize them and organize them into different categories: scientific, pedagogical, methodological and operational.*
2. *Defining the study program KPIs in a measurable way.*
3. *The inclusion of some evidence as synthesis or graphs in the SER.*
4. *It is strongly recommended that the teachers involved in the study programme to create resources and develop course materials in Albanian and/or in English language.*
5. *The content of the disciplines in the Master's degree programme should be based less on fundamental elements and more on the presentation of relevant national and international case studies.*
6. *The history of the process that determined the intended learning outcomes in the Master's program in Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation must be reviewed and completed, identifying the contribution of all participants.*

2.2. Quality Management

Standard 2.1. All staff participate in self-evaluations and cooperate with reporting and improvement processes in their sphere of activity.

UP's institutional and organic framework responsible for planning and executing self-evaluation processes is well defined.

For internal self-evaluation, there is an Academic Development Coordinator who oversees the process at University and the FMSN, in accordance with a defined action plan, to ensure that assessment activities are carried out successfully. It is up to the dean of the academic unit to guarantee the preparation of the action plan and budget necessary to improve the process and reward good practices as well the access to the data necessary for the Quality Regulation Evaluation Process.

The Committee for Quality Assurance is made up of the Coordinator, representatives of the FMSN Management, students and teachers. The Coordinator is the liaison to the Office for Academic Development and is responsible for ensuring adequate stakeholder involvement in the development/review of programs of study with information sessions for faculty and

students. He is also responsible for supervising all activities in the faculty and course evaluation process, as well as internal quality assessment, reporting the respective data to the Vice-Rector for Academic Development.

The external self-evaluation process has been defined by the “Regulations for the processes and procedures of preparation for institutional re-accreditation and study programs of the University of Pristina "Hasan Prishtina””. This regulation aims to guide and facilitate the work of the responsible structures of the University with regard to preparation of the institutional re-accreditation process and study programs of UP. The Academic Development Office begins the process of preparing the application for institutional re-accreditation which will subsequently be entrusted to a Working Group to prepare the Self-Evaluation Report, after consulting all relevant structures and mechanisms of the University.

The UP's and FMSN institutional and organic framework enables to all staff participates in self-evaluations and cooperates with reporting and improvement processes in their area of activity.

Standard 2.2. Evaluation processes and planning for improvement are integrated into normal planning processes.

The legal basis for Functionality, Quality Assurance and Finances of University of Prishtina and implementing quality assurance procedures for the FMSN are clearly incorporated and regulated by Law No. 04/L-037 on "Higher Education in Republic of Kosovo” and by the Statute of UP.

Internally, the Regulation on Quality Assurance and Evaluation, approved in 2016, defines the mechanisms and procedures of quality assurance and evaluation in UP, assigning the role and responsibilities of each Faculty as well as other respective stakeholders. The Regulation also defines the mechanisms that bring closer the University of Prishtina and ENQA standards for the quality assurance and evaluation into normal planning processes.

Standard 2.3. Quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.

The Quality Assurance and Assessment System integrates, in articulated way, the Internal Evaluation and External Evaluation (for Institutional Accreditation and for Program Accreditation) and is incorporated in 6 different organic levels of UP, from the Rector to Academic Units.

The Regulation for quality assurance and evaluation, as well as the members of Central Committee of quality and evaluation, approved by the University Senate, ensures the adequate implementation of the Quality Assurance and Assessment System.

It is within this institutional and regulatory framework that the Rector ensures the necessary structural conditions and the financial support to realize the evaluation and getting necessary action to improve the Quality Assurance and Assessment System. One of the positive initiatives is the rewards for good practices based on the results achieved from the evaluation process.

The entire process is monitored by an advisory body - Central Committee of Quality Assurance and Evaluation -, which can have up to 11 members, mostly represented by academic staff from different academic units, with different skills to design evaluation instruments, supervise the entire process of preparing and reviewing internal evaluation self-evaluation reports and institutional accreditation and study plans.

It's up to the Office for Academic Development to manage the evaluation processes based on the planning of actions approved in the UP and FMNS structures and with particular relevance in the working groups for quality assurance and evaluation appointed to carry out the defined activities.

This ensures that the quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.

Standard 2.4. Quality evaluations provide an overview of quality issues for the overall program as well as of different components within it; the evaluations consider inputs, processes and outputs, with particular attention given to learning outcomes for students.

In order to comply with the Regulation on Quality Assurance and Evaluation and ensure a proper evaluation of study programs and courses implantation, the UP has developed mandatory questionnaires for academic staff, administration and students by Administrative Instruction No, 1/438, dated 18. 05. 2018 (<https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117>).

The “Student Evaluation for Teaching and Courses” and the “Questionnaire for Students” are fully anonymous and aims primary goal to collect the students’ opinions on aspects of teaching and learning experiences in UP’s all departments, specially their suggestions for improvements and provide information to the Self-evaluation Reports.

The “Questionnaire for Academic Staff” and “Questionnaire for the Administrative and Support Staff” intend to collect their opinions in order to asses all aspects of their activity; as well as their suggestions for eventual improvements and is used to prepare the Self-evaluation Report for the Faculty.

The UP provides “The Questionnaire for Labour Organization” and “Questionnaire for Graduates” available to interested parties in order to have a broader view of the quality process of their study programs.

All clarifications regarding filling out these questionnaires are answered by the Academic Development Office, UP Quality Assurance Unit Officer.

Other sources are taken into account for the evaluation of the teaching-learning process, such as the quality of the faculty's research activities provided for in the Regulation on Academic Staff Evaluation Procedures and data relating to student performance.

As internal quality assurance mechanism, approval of new study programs by the respective Faculty Council and the University Senate is considered before they are subjected to external evaluation by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency.

The Internal Quality Assessment Process ensures an overview of the quality issues of the overall program, as well as the different components of the program, considering inputs, processes and results, with special attention to student learning outcomes.

Standard 2.5. Quality assurance processes ensure both that required standards are met and that there is continuing improvement in performance.

Quality assurance and quality monitoring activities in general are well coordinated and articulated between the Quality Vice-Rector, the Academic Development Office, the Dean of the Academic Unit, the respective academic unit Coordinator and the staff, aiming at a continuous quality of the teaching process, in accordance with current quality standards and regulations already mentioned and available online (Regulation on Quality Assurance).

This process includes a “Guidelines for the Evaluation of Classes and the Use of their Results” with guidance on Evaluation Standards, Goals of Course Evaluation, Responsibilities, Processes of Evaluation and follow-up Measures.

Quality assurance processes are met with highly demanding standards and enhanced continuous performance improvement.

Standard 2.6. Survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers; the results of these evaluations are made publicly available.

In order to ensure a proper evaluation of study programs and courses implantation, the UP has developed questionnaires for academic staff, administration and students organized in electronic form and managed via Students Electronic Management System (SEMS)(<https://studenti.uni-pr.edu/>) in accordance with the respective regulations (<https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117>).

Academic staff questionnaire contains three categories of questions: faculty management, teaching and learning process and for scientific research activities (<https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117#>). It also includes several items on academic organization and management, services and infrastructure

Questionnaire for university administration staff and supporting staff includes questions that are related with daily work and responsibilities of the administrative staff, aiming to collect

information regarding their working conditions and relationship with the academic staff at the department.

The “Questionnaire for students” includes the fields “Learning and teaching”, “Lab/practical work” and “Services and infrastructure”. Apart from these three surveys, the “Student Evaluation for Teaching and Courses” specific to evaluating the study plan of a discipline/course and the performance of the respective teacher in accordance with Instruction No. 1/438 dated 18.05.2018.

All these documents allow the inclusion of extra comments or suggestions.

Based on student responses, the respective management authorities define mitigation strategies and take improvement measures they deem appropriate.

To have a broader view of the evaluation process, FMSN carries out student evaluation via the SEMS system for each course they took at the end of each semester.

Standard 2.7. Results of the internal quality assurance system are taken into account for further development of the study program. This includes evaluation results, investigation of the student workload, academic success and employment of graduates.

The University regularly conducts external and internal evaluations based on different sources which also include questionnaires for graduates, employers and external stakeholders follow up actions in order to use the results of evaluations for eventual improvement of curricula and quality in general.

Continuous improvement of the curriculum is the responsibility of the teaching staff of each FMNS department and is based on the results obtained in the Course and Teaching Student Assessment Questionnaires. It is up to the teaching staff to review and update the subjects of all courses based on the results obtained in internal evaluation surveys and the information provided by the different representatives of the FMNS and UP bodies.

External evaluation also represents an added value in this process as some recommendations outlined in the evaluation reports have been taken into account and others are the starting point for taking action measures in order to eliminate more complex deficiencies in the plans. studies presented on new accreditation and re-accreditation.

Results of the internal quality assurance system are thus taken into account for further development of the study program.

Standard 2.8. The institution ensures that reports on the overall quality of the program are prepared periodically (eg. every three years) for consideration within the institution indicating its strengths and weaknesses.

The internal evaluation processes are determined in the different UP and FMNS laws (<https://dokumente.uni-pr.edu/>) and regulations (<https://fshmn.uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=1,117#>) and ensures that reports on the overall quality of the programs are prepared periodically for consideration within the institution.

Program Accreditation Assessment is carried out at least once every five years, taking into account the criteria specified by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency. (<https://akreditimi.rks-gov.net/akreditimi-en-translation/>).

Standard 2.9. The quality assurance arrangements for the program are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.

The Kosovo Accreditation Agency monitors the program accreditation process through the Central Quality Assurance Commission at the University Studies Commission and the Senate. Academic units in coordination with the Vice-Rector for Quality Assurance and the Academic Development Office have adequately led the program accreditation process.

Currently, the assessment of program accreditation includes information on the quality of teaching and learning, the quality of scientific activity, international cooperation, the perceptions of graduates on the quality of studies, the perceptions of employers on the quality of graduates, the quality of services for students, the quality of organizational culture and management, according to the requirements of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency. In the case of the Master's study program "Environmental Sciences, Planning and Territorial Regulation", it includes the items: Mission, Objectives and Administration; Quality Management; Academic Staff; Educational Process Content; Students; Research; Infrastructure and Resources, in line with what is stipulated.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
2.1	All staff participate in self-evaluations and cooperate with reporting and improvement processes in their sphere of activity.	x	
2.2	Evaluation processes and planning for improvement are integrated into normal planning processes.	x	
2.3	Quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.	x	
2.4	Quality evaluations provide an overview of quality issues for the overall program as well as of different components within it; the evaluations consider inputs, processes and outputs, with particular attention given to learning outcomes for students.	x	
2.5	Quality assurance processes ensure both that required standards are met and that there is continuing improvement in performance.	x	

2.6	Survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers; the results of these evaluations are made publicly available.	x	
2.7	Results of the internal quality assurance system are taken into account for further development of the study program. This includes evaluation results, investigation of the student workload, academic success and employment of graduates.	x	
2.8	The institution ensures that reports on the overall quality of the program are prepared periodically (eg. every three years) for consideration within the institution indicating its strengths and weaknesses.	x	
2.9	The quality assurance arrangements for the program are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.	x	

Compliance level: Fully compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *A staff peer review model should be implemented.*
2. *The reports and data regarding academic staff, administration staff and student questionnaires should be available online*

2.3. Academic Staff

Standard 3.1 Candidates for employment are provided with full position descriptions and conditions of employment. To be presented in tabular form data about full time (FT) and part time (PT) academic/ artistic staff, such as: name, qualification, academic title, duration of official (valid) contract, workload for teaching, exams, consulting, administrative activities, research, etc. for the study program under evaluation.

According with SER, for the development of teaching in this the study program, in the first place will be engaged professors from the Department of Geography, with adequate competences in the field. The interdisciplinary approach of the study program requires certain number of subjects to be engaged staff from units other academics of the University of Prishtina, possibly also from other public universities from Kosovo and abroad.

Candidates for employment are organized in tabular form and complies with MEST guidelines, Labor Law, UP Statutes and UP Internal regulations.

All UP staff are recruited through competition procedures, where with the announcement of competition all requirements for the advertised position and job descriptions are presented.

The regulation outlines the procedures and criteria for the selection, promotion, and appointment of academic staff, including the publication of a specified number of scientific papers in international journals, depending on the academic position. These requirements are

based on various activities associated with the academic call: research activity, scientific activity, professional activity.

For implementation of this study program are foreseen to be involved 11 teaching academic staff: 5 academic staff from the department of Geography, 1 professor from the Department of Biology, 2 professors from the Department of Chemistry, 2 professors from the Faculty of Architecture, 1 professor from the Faculty of Economics. The interdisciplinary component of the program is ensured by the inclusion in the teaching process of specialists with a complementary scientific background, this being a strong point.

During the site visit, the ET recommended to pay attention to the workload per person and required and additional document to highlight a projected workload per each teaching staff (if this MSc program would be accredited).

Standard 3.2 The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions included in the Administrative Instruction on Accreditation.

The procedures for selection, hiring and advancement of academic staff are regulated by the Statute of the UP and other Regulations.

The decision on the selection of the academic staff is taken by the Senate of the UP based on the proposal of the Faculty Council and prior evaluation committees composed of at least three professional members of respective field, while the contract is signed by the Rector, so the teaching staff comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions and accreditation requirements.

Standard 3.3 Academic staff do not cover, within an academic year, more than two teaching positions (one full-time, one part-time), regardless of the educational institution where they carry out their activity.

The academic staff are not allowed more than two teaching positions, one full-time and one parttime. This is carefully monitored by UP Human Resources Department.

All academic staff of the department do not cover more than two teaching positions (one full-time, one part-time), regardless of the educational institution where they carry out their activity. This is regulated with the Statute of UP (Article 170) which stated that: full time staff can not have another full-time employment contract at another university.

The contracts of the staff are deposits in the Kosovo Accreditation Agenda via e-Declaration service.

Standard 3.4 At least 50% of the academic staff in the study program are full time employees, and account for at least 50% of the classes of the study program.

Currently, the Department of Geography has a sufficient number of qualified staff to carry out its study programs, including the study program Environmental Sciences, Planning and Spatial Regulation (MSc).

100% of the study program is covered by full-time employees.

Standard 3.5 For each student group (defined by the statute of the institution) and for every 60 ECTS credits in the study program, the institution has employed at least one full time staff with PhD title or equivalent title in the case of artistic/applied science institutions.

For this study program, three full-time teaching staff (PhD holders) are designated as responsible persons, which means more than one teacher for each group of students or for each 60 ECTS credits, while the number of staff employed for this program is 9, of which 8 are professors and 1 is a teaching assistant.

The Masters program leaders have scientific specializations in Environmental Science and Spatial Planning.

Standard 3.6 Opportunities are provided for additional professional development of teaching staff, with special assistance given to any who are facing difficulties.

For specific courses, such as "The City in Regional Planning", Real Estate Cadastre" and "Factors of Industry and Management Location", the staff is employed from the Faculty of Architecture and the Faculty of Economics respectively. All teaching staff employed in this study program are full-time employees with academic qualifications appropriate to their respective teaching courses.

Young members of staff are required to attend training courses organized by the Centre for Teaching Excellence (UP) in order to improve the quality of teaching. The academic staff is constantly improving teaching methodologies and the application of information technology in teaching. In order to achieve this, UP has signed four international agreements (mainly covering the specific areas in this degree program) for staff and student exchanges, as well as other general agreements under which academic staff of the Department of Geography can participate in exchange programs. The staff is also supported and encouraged in terms of scientific advancement and mobility.

Standard 3.7 The responsibilities of all teaching staff, especially full-time, include the engagement in the academic community, availability for consultations with students and community service.

Academic staff is responsible for teaching and learning, including scholarly research activity, student consultations and other responsibilities related to their contract, such as faculty committees, departmental committees or university-wide committees.

All teaching staff involved in the master should be available for student and community consultations. They are required to submit a schedule indicating their availability for consultation with students and community service at least twice a week.

Standard 3.8 Academic staff evaluation is conducted regularly at least through self-evaluation, students, peer and superiors' evaluations, and occur on a formal basis at least once each year. The results of the evaluation are made publicly available.

At the end of each semester, each course (including academic staff) is evaluated by students using an anonymous questionnaire prepared by the Academic Development Office and managed by SEMS, with the aim of identifying weaknesses to be improved.

Sample summaries reflecting the evaluation feedback provided by faculty students attending other master's programs have been submitted as auxiliary documents and evidence upon the ET request.

Standard 3.9 Strategies for quality enhancement include improving the teaching strategies and quality of learning materials.

Academic staff strives to improve teaching methodologies taking into account weaknesses identified during the evaluation process. Each year, the university plans a budget that covers the expenses for chemicals, consumables, equipment for laboratory work, as well as transportation and accommodation for field work. the university has prepaid subscriptions for access to scientific databases (e.g. Science Direct), where academic staff and students can access free online literature. However, these valuable resources are not mentioned in the list of recommended bibliographical resources for each course, although ET has requested that newer bibliographical references or weblinks to documents of interest (EU website, geoportals, etc) that can be used in the teaching process be added to the syllabi. The ET recommendation is to update the content of the bibliography recommended by the syllabus for each course at least with links to quality electronic resources.

There is room for continuous improvement of the study materials, including the development of updated courses/books by the teachers involved in teaching in this degree programme. The ET recommendation is that teaching should focus more on practical aspects, using online learning methods with a high degree of interactivity to better understand the phenomena.

Standard 3.10 Teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.

The retirement age for academic staff is 65, with the possibility of being considered part-time until the age of 70.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No

3.1	Candidates for employment are provided with full position descriptions and conditions of employment. To be presented in tabular form data about full time (FT) and part time (PT) academic/ artistic staff, such as: name, qualification, academic title, duration of official (valid) contract, workload for teaching, exams, consulting, administrative activities, research, etc. for the study program under evaluation.	x	
3.2	The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions included in the Administrative Instruction on Accreditation.	x	
3.3	Academic staff do not cover, within an academic year, more than two teaching positions (one full-time, one part-time), regardless of the educational institution where they carry out their activity.	x	
3.4	At least 50% of the academic staff in the study program are full time employees, and account for at least 50% of the classes of the study program.	x	
3.5	For each student group (defined by the statute of the institution) and for every 60 ECTS credits in the study program, the institution has employed at least one full time staff with PhD title or equivalent title in the case of artistic/applied science institutions.	x	
3.6	Opportunities are provided for additional professional development of teaching staff, with special assistance given to any who are facing difficulties.	x	
3.7	The responsibilities of all teaching staff, especially full-time, include the engagement in the academic community, availability for consultations with students and community service.	x	
3.8	Academic staff evaluation is conducted regularly at least through self- evaluation, students, peer and superiors' evaluations, and occur on a formal basis at least once each year. The results of the evaluation are made publicly available.	x	
3.9	Strategies for quality enhancement include improving the teaching strategies and quality of learning materials.		x
3.10	Teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.	x	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *The ET recommendation is to update the content of the bibliography recommended by the syllabus for each course at least with links to quality electronic resources.*
2. *The ET recommendation is that teaching should focus more on practical aspects, using online learning methods with a high degree of interactivity to better understand the phenomena.*

2.4. Educational Process Content

Standard 4.1. The study program is modelled on qualification objectives. These include subject-related and interdisciplinary aspects as well as the acquisition of disciplinary, methodological and generic skills and competencies. The aspects refer especially to academic or artistic competencies, to the capability of taking up adequate employment, contributing to the civil society and of developing the students' personality.

The main educational and professional objective of the Master program is to educate students in the following areas: spatial planning systems and practices in Europe, rural restructuring, urbanization, environment and sustainable development, transport and spatial organization, industrial drivers and location management, advanced spatial analysis and modeling, cross-border cooperation and EU regional policy and other areas of environmental science and spatial planning. All areas are in line with current employment needs and future needs of education experts. The area of the master's program is in correlation with the field of geography studies, having at the same time a strong interdisciplinary component.

From ET's discussions with stakeholders it emerged that there is a great need in the country at present for such specialization.

There are thus the necessary prerequisites that the graduates can be employed in various institutions including; Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Spatial Planning Institutes, Municipality, Environmental Inspectorate, Agriculture, Town Planning, Statistical Offices, Cadastre, Tourism, Telecommunication, Scientific and Geoinformational Institutions, other governmental and non-governmental organizations or will have the opportunity to pursue PhD in the field of Environmental Science and Spatial Planning, etc.

Standard 4.2. The study program complies with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. The individual components of the program are combined in a way to best achieve the specified qualification objectives and provide for adequate forms of teaching and learning.

The program complies with the stated 120 ECTS requirements outlined in the Bologna protocol.

The development and monitoring of the programme are in accordance with the requirements and standards defined in the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) under Qualification Level 7, as well as in accordance with the European Qualifications Framework to ensure general educational requirements.

The programme has a lifecycle to ensure that it is fit for purpose, viable and up-to-date with market trends and research and practice in the field.

The program consists of 11 compulsory courses, 3 electives, 1 seminar, 1 internship & professional training of students and dissertation thesis.

Out of a total of 120 ECTS, elective courses make up 18% of the courses, while compulsory ones 82% of the courses. A total of 120 ECTS credits is required to obtain the MSc in Environmental Science and Spatial Planning. 90 ECTS credits are taken from the courses, 30 ECTS credits for thesis work. All modules are assessed according to ECTS standards. Under current Kosovo legislation, an ECTS credit equals 25 hours of effective work.

Standard 4.3. The disciplines within the curriculum are provided in a logical flow and meet the definition and precise determination of the general and specific competencies, as well as the compatibility with the study programs and curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study program under evaluation.

The subjects studied in the programme are logically organised to ensure the achievement of general and specific competencies, being composed of interdisciplinary subjects, most of them linked with geographical domain of study. This aspect is strengthened because there are a lot of functional MSc programmes in Europe having similar content in their curricula, and some examples are also given in the SER.

The main learning outcomes are highlighted in SER (10 learning outcomes), in line with the National Qualifications Framework, respectively with the requirements for knowledge, skills and personal responsibilities.

Standard 4.4. The disciplines within the curriculum have analytical syllabuses which comprise at least the following: the discipline's objectives, the basic thematic content, learning outcomes, the distribution of classes, seminars and applicative activities, students' assessment system, the minimal bibliography, etc. The full course description/ syllabuses of each subject/ module should be attached only in electronic form to the self-assessment report for the study program under evaluation.

Learning outcomes are mentioned for all courses.

The syllabus of each module offered in the program was attached in an Appendix to the SER.

A homogeneous approach to the section on learning outcomes across all curricula would be welcomed to allow informed comparisons.

The curriculum for the master's level must be thought superior to the bachelor's curriculum and as a natural continuation of it. Bibliographic resources must be diversified and contain international references. However, the bibliography is outdated in most of the cases, this part should be improved. The teachers' lecture notes must be included in the minimum bibliography as they must reflect the latest trends in the field.

Standard 4.5. If the language of instruction is other than Albanian, actions are taken to ensure that language skills of both students and academic staff are adequate for instruction in that language when students begin their studies. This may be done through language training prior to the commencement of the program.

The SER states that all teaching is in Albanian, but, for some of the courses, the course material and teaching could be delivered in English. The knowledge of English is a legal requirement for admission to master studies according to Administrative Instruction NO.03 / 2018 for foreign languages in the cycle program second or third. Since the Government of Kosovo has dedicated the knowledge of English to candidates to apply for master studies, teaching material for this program will be in English.

Standard 4.6. The student-teacher relationship is a partnership in which each assumes the responsibility of reaching the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes are explained and discussed with students from the perspective of their relevance to the students' development.

SER highlighted that the course syllabus is to be disclosed to students since in the first unit. This means that they are well-informed with the necessary workload for the course and the expected results, so it remains with the mutual commitment of professor-students the objective of learning and learning to be fulfilled.

Standard 4.7. Teaching strategies are fit for the different types of learning outcomes programs are intended to develop. Strategies of teaching and assessment set out in program and course specifications are followed with flexibility to meet the needs of different groups of students.

The teaching strategy is consistent at the UPHP level because there are model documents approved by the Academic Development Office and the Quality Vice Rector that provide a detailed description of how to plan, write and implement a syllabus of a course.

Standard 4.8. Student assessment mechanisms are conducted fairly and objectively, are appropriate for the different forms of learning sought and are clearly communicated to students at the beginning of courses.

Students are clearly informed by the teacher about the continuous methods of their assessment and this is concretized in the syllabus of each subject of this program. Student assessment is done continuously throughout the semester, through tests, seminary papers, research projects, laboratory work, etc. During the development of the teaching units, the first and second evaluations are organized which facilitate the student's burden for the final exam. While the exam timetable is foreseen in the Statute of UPHP and are published on the University's website. A detailed publication of exams and dates is also made on the website of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. All the issues mentioned above are regulated by Articles 110,112 and 113 of the Statute of UP.

Standard 4.9. Appropriate, valid and reliable mechanisms are used for verifying standards of student achievement. The standard of work required for different grades is consistent over time, comparable in courses offered within a program, and in comparison, with other study programs at highly regarded institutions.

The grading standard is consistent for each subject in this program and by each teacher. There are clear assessment criteria and good quality feedback for students. The definition of academic success and evaluation is made according to the UP Statute in articles 108 and 109. Student evaluation for each program subject is from 5 to grade 10, and is consistent for all the courses of the program.

Specifically the grading policies are defined through the syllabi. The student's final assessment also includes his /her contributions (seminar papers, presentations, homework, participation in lectures) and the results shown during intermediate evaluations and course attendance.

Standard 4.10. Policies and procedures include actions to be taken in to dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or inconsistently assessed.

There are regulations to deal with cases where students may have been inconsistently or unfairly graded, as students have the right to file a complaint, which will then be reviewed by the relevant committee.

If the student is not satisfied with the result of the exam, he / she will file a complaint under section 114 of the UP Statute. The time, manner of filing and handling of the complaint are precisely explained in Article 114 of the Statute of UP. This is also specified in Article 21 of the Regulation on Bachelor studies.

Standard 4.11. If the study program includes practice stages, the intended student learning outcomes are clearly specified and effective processes are followed to ensure that those learning outcomes and the strategies to develop that learning are understood by students. The practice stages are allocated ECTS credits and the work of the students at the practical training organizations is monitored through activity reports; students during practice stages have assigned tutors among the academic staff in the study program.

The procedures for the internship initiation and completion are in line with international good practice. Usually the units of the theoretical part of the course are correlated by the units of the practical part that complete the subject and provide the student with the appropriate practical skills for the appropriation of the subject matter of the subject. There is a fixed hourly fund for the practical part of each subject. With some variations due to the nature of the subject in general the ratio between theoretical and practical part is 2: 2 or 50: 50. There is not delivered a list of laboratories in which students can carry out their student internship is an integral part of the structure of the Faculty.

Standard 4.12. In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organizations/practical training units.

As SER highlighted, internship usually is performed in individual bases, without delivering a detailed situation or examples.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
4.1	The study program is modelled on qualification objectives. These include subject-related and interdisciplinary aspects as well as the acquisition of disciplinary, methodological and generic skills and competencies. The aspects refer especially to academic or artistic competencies, to the capability of taking up adequate employment, contributing to the civil society and of developing the students' personality.	x	
4.2	The study program complies with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. The individual components of the program are combined in a way to best achieve the specified qualification objectives and provide for adequate forms of teaching and learning.	x	
4.3	The disciplines within the curriculum are provided in a logical flow and meet the definition and precise determination of the general and specific competencies, as well as the compatibility with the study programs and curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study program under evaluation.	x	
4.4	The disciplines within the curriculum have analytical syllabuses which comprise at least the following: the discipline's objectives, the basic thematic content, learning outcomes, the distribution of classes, seminars and applicative activities, students' assessment system, the minimal bibliography, etc. The full course description/ syllabuses of each subject/ module should be attached only in electronic form to the self-assessment report for the study program under evaluation.		x
4.5	If the language of instruction is other than Albanian, actions are taken to ensure that language skills of both students and academic staff are adequate for instruction in that language when students begin their studies. This may be done through language training prior to the commencement of the program.	x	
4.6	The student-teacher relationship is a partnership in which each assumes the responsibility of reaching the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes are explained and discussed with students from the perspective of their relevance to the students' development.	x	
4.7	Teaching strategies are fit for the different types of learning outcomes programs are intended to develop. Strategies of teaching and assessment set out in program and course specifications are followed with flexibility to meet the needs of different groups of students.	x	
4.8	Student assessment mechanisms are conducted fairly and objectively, are appropriate for the different forms of learning sought and are clearly communicated to students at the beginning of courses.	x	

4.9	Appropriate, valid and reliable mechanisms are used for verifying standards of student achievement. The standard of work required for different grades is consistent over time, comparable in courses offered within a program, and in comparison, with other study programs at highly regarded institutions.	x	
4.10	Policies and procedures include actions to be taken in to dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or inconsistently assessed.	x	
4.11	If the study program includes practice stages, the intended student learning outcomes are clearly specified and effective processes are followed to ensure that those learning outcomes and the strategies to develop that learning are understood by students. The practice stages are allocated ETCS credits and the work of the students at the practical training organizations is monitored through activity reports; students during practice stages have assigned tutors among the academic staff in the study program.		x
4.12	In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organizations/practical training units.		x

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Bibliographic resources must be diversified and contain international references.*
2. *The teachers' lecture notes must be included in the minimum bibliography as they must reflect the latest trends in the field.*
3. *Teaching strategies should be more fit for the different types of learning outcomes programs are intended to develop.*
4. *The bibliography should be improved, to avoid outdated references, especially those regarding software (IT) skills.*
5. *Delivering a list of signed agreements with institutions/organizations/practical training units for practice stages.*

2.5. Students

Standard 5.1. There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study program respects when organising students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.

The admission process is defined by admission procedures. The admission procedure is clear and transparent and is applied in a non-discriminatory way to all students.

As the submitted documentations states the enrollment procedures and criteria for the Master's program in Environmental Science, Planning and Territorial Regulations are governed by the UP Statute and the FMNS Regulation for Master Studies, available on the FMNS website.

During the interviews with the representatives of the university it was stated that the enrollment in the Master's Program in Environmental Sciences, Planning, and Territorial Regulation is open to all interested individuals who have completed a Bachelor's degree with 180 ECTS credits in fields such as geography, architecture, geodesy, construction, economics, environmental science, or related areas, meeting the criteria set by the Law on Higher Education, the UP Statute, the Regulation for Master Studies.

The selection is done only if the number of qualified applicants exceeds the available spots, and it is based on academic performance in their Bachelor's studies and an entrance test. The entrance test helps identify the most qualified candidates. The SER also states, that the applicants can submit the proof of foreign language proficiency for English, French, German, Italian or Spanish.

Standard 5.2. All students enrolled in the study program possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.

According to the submitted documentations applicants must fulfill the following minimum requirements:

- Hold a Bachelor's degree in geography, architecture, environmental science, geodesy, construction, economics, or a similar program from another university, with a total of 180 ECTS credits.
- Have a minimum grade point average of 7.5 from their Bachelor's studies.
- Submit a completed application for admission as per the announced competition.
- Demonstrate proficiency in English.

Standard 5.3. The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.

As the given study program is new, currently there are no students enrolled. The program is planning to enroll 20 students, ensuring greater efficiency in lectures, seminars, and internships.

During the interviews with the faculty members, they expressed their expectation not to have that much students in the given program and there is no need to split them into small groups. However, during the observation of the facilities the expert team visited the PC lab specially designed for this faculty, where the numbers of the computers were less than 10. Considering the fact that the program is planning to get students this year, before the faculty moves into a new campus, it is recommended to organize the students' work in teams (2 students/team) when having practical courses in the PC labs, so that every gets chance to interact alternatively with the software/hardware available there.

Standard 5.4. Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.

As stated by the teaching staff of the program the feedback on student performance and assessment results will be provided promptly, within a maximum of 10 days after the examination. If students are dissatisfied with their assessment, they have the right to file a complaint. The faculty management must establish an evaluation committee to address these complaints. All procedures related to this process are outlined in the UP Statute and the FMNS Regulation for Master Studies. This regulation is designed on the faculty level; thus, it is mandatory for teaching staff to follow it.

Standard 5.5. The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.

As the SER states, all examination results are recorded throughout the study period in an electronic system known as SEMS. Hard copies of reports can be generated from SEMS, signed by teachers, and then filed in the Administration Service of the Academic Unit. Here, a student's folder is created, and the records are maintained for statistical purposes. As the given program currently do not have students enrolled, the Expert Team could not double check it during the site visit, however, the regulation is on the faculty level, thus no matter which study program would be the rule of recording the students' academic results remains same.

Standard 5.6. Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the program and to all examinations.

During the interview with the head of the study program it was mentioned that if students require additional exam sessions for their evaluations, they submit a request through their representative to the Senate. Upon Senate approval, these additional exam sessions are scheduled outside the regular terms specified in the UP Statute, accommodating student needs and facilitating the assessment of their academic performance. However, the expert team noted that according to the existing practice student can or has a chance to request to retake the exam with a maximum of 5 times. Theoretically it might happen that students use all of these 5 retakes to get the higher grade, while the idea of having such mechanism should be to have a solution only in special situation, that might be arise once or maximum twice in a semester.

The ET recommends to change the regulation/rule of retaking the exam in a way, that students can request for it only once or twice in each subject, to guarantee the fairness of evaluation and quality of teaching and learning.

Standard 5.7. Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the program as a whole and included among quality indicators.

During the interviews it was mentioned that students will receive support from administrative staff, who manage and record all administrative aspects and track each student's progress. The faculty uses a dual system for record management: the electronic student management system

(SEMS) and hard copy files, thus no matter at which program the student will be enrolled they will equally receive the same services.

Standard 5.8. Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.

The SER states that in order to ensure the originality of submitted work, student projects (especially diploma work and seminars) are overseen by supervisors and students' written works (theses) are published online on the faculty's website, with hard copies deposited in the faculty archive, University library, and National Library of Kosovo.

During the interviews with teaching staff and faculty administration the expert team double checked if they have a license/subscription to text-matching software, that can prevent the cheating and unethical use of AI tools. As it turned out, currently the university does not have such and it is up to supervisor/lecturer to guarantee that the papers submitted by the students are originally written by them. The ET recommends the university subscribes to any text-matching software to establish a working mechanism for teaching staff to avoid plagiarism.

Standard 5.9. Students' rights and obligations are made publicly available, promoted to all those concerned and enforced equitably; these will include the right to academic appeals.

During the interviews the faculty administration stated that all documents regulating students' rights and obligations are publicly available, promoted to all concerned parties, and enforced equitably. These documents include the right to academic appeals. To ensure students' rights, they can join their student organization, which has a statute approved by its members in accordance with general regulations issued by the University Governing Board. This statute encompasses principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

During the site visit it was also confirmed that students are elected for the governing bodies both at the faculty level, as well as on the university level. Students are actively participating in the discussions and decision-making process.

Standard 5.10. The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.

As the SER reports, student transfers between higher education institutions, faculties, and study programs are clearly regulated by the Regulation for the Mobility of UP Academic Staff and Students (no. 2/111, dated 14.07.2017), which is available on the UPHP website. Having no students in the given study program, there are no cases of students making mobilities yet.

Standard 5.11. Academic staff is available at sufficient scheduled times for consultation and advice to students. Adequate tutorial assistance is provided to ensure understanding and ability to apply learning.

The teaching staff stated that they post their office hours for consultations on their door, ensuring that this time is adequate for student consultations and advice. It was mentioned that during the site-visit the expert team saw the schedules on the door of each classroom, describing the working hours and those for consultations for each faculty member.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
5.1	There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study program respects when organising students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.		x
5.2	All students enrolled in the study program possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.	x	
5.3	The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.	x	
5.4	Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.	x	
5.5	The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.	x	
5.6	Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the program and to all examinations.		x
5.7	Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the program as a whole and included among quality indicators.	x	
5.8	Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.		x
5.9	Students' rights and obligations are made publicly available, promoted to all those concerned and enforced equitably; these will include the right to academic appeals.	x	
5.10	The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.	x	
5.11	Academic staff is available at sufficient scheduled times for consultation and advice to students. Adequate tutorial assistance is provided to ensure understanding and ability to apply learning.	x	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *It is recommended the entrance test is mandatory in any case, no matter if the number of the applicants exceeds the available spot or not, in order to guarantee the objective selection of the applicants.*
2. *The ET recommends updating the library with newer book titles and having more subscriptions to specialised magazines that can help the students.*
3. *The department should report to students what has been done to address their concerns and recommendations.*
4. *It is recommended the university subscribes to any text-matching (plagiarism) software to establish a working mechanism for teaching staff to minimize the risks of unethical behaviour and academic misconduct, thus, to guarantee the quality of teaching and learning processes.*
5. *It is recommended to change the regulation/rule of retaking the exam in a way, that students can request for it only once or twice in each subject, to guarantee the fairness of evaluation and quality of teaching and learning.*

2.6. Research

Standard 6.1. The study program has defined scientific/applied research objectives (on its own or as part of a research center or interdisciplinary program), which are also reflected in the research development plan of the institution; sufficient financial, logistic and human resources are allocated for achieving the proposed research objectives.

The research objectives of the study program are in line with the Strategy of Scientific Research and Development at the University of Prishtina and other national strategies. The scientific research objectives are pointed out by a list of projects that have been carried out in the last five years or are ongoing.

On the basis of the SER and the meetings, the teaching staff develop scientific research work as an integral part of all of the academic activity. The current staff of the program is qualified and they have published a number of books, scientific articles and have attended conferences.

Although financial resources are limited and insufficient to carry out research projects, as a strong point, it should be emphasized that MEST and UP through symbolic funds finance a part of small research projects, while the rest of the research is realized thanks to staff engagement to provide funding from foreign organizations.

Standard 6.2. Expectations for teaching staff involvement in research and scholarly activities are clearly specified, and performance in relation to these expectations is considered in staff evaluation and promotion criteria.

Inclusion of teaching staff in research activities is clearly specified and this is reflected in the promotion of teaching staff. This issue is regulated by legal norms through the Regulation on Hiring and Upgrading Academic Staff in the UP (No.465, dated 02.03.2018). The teaching

staff of Department of Geography is proving the commitment to the implementation of this Regulation.

Standard 6.3. Clear policies are established for defining what is recognized as research, consistent with international standards and established norms in the field of study of the program.

The research recognition process is in line with international practice. Policies and descriptors are available through the procedures that define the levels at which a researcher is placed in accordance with international descriptors.

Promotion of academic staff is regulated by the Statute of the University of Prishtina (articles 176 - 191). For all levels of academic promotion (assistant professor, associate professor and full professor) are required a certain number of publications in international journals and requirements increase with the increase of the academic degree. Recognition of research activities is in line with international standards, and this is determined by the MEST norms and the University's internal regulation (No.465, dated 02.03.2018) regarding the recognition of scientific contribution of each member staff of the University.

Standard 6.4. The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.

Academic staff mainly carries out individual research, and some of them do applicative research with impact in the community and relate to their teaching activity.

Evidence that the academic staff has a proven track record of their involvement in research and teaching activities are the CV of member's staff published on the official web site at FMNS as well as the submission of CVs in the Electronic Declaration of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency.

If students can see the purpose of the research in the interest of the community, this is particularly beneficial and can increase motivation and interest in the study programme.

Standard 6.5. The academic and research staff publish their work in specialty magazines or publishing houses, scientific/applied/artistic products are presented at conferences, sessions, symposiums, seminars etc. and contracts, expertise, consultancy, conventions, etc. are provided to partners inside the country and/or abroad.

The academic staff are in process of publishing books and scientific articles in publishing houses respectively in special journals with indexes on the platforms recommended by MEST and UMIB.

An immediate applicability is that during the evaluation of the candidates for promotion, it is required that papers should be published in the candidate's field, in the journals that are indexed on the respective academic platforms.

The academic staff of the Department of Geography publishes its research work in peer reviewed scientific journals. They also participate in other activities such as scientific conferences, projects and other activities within and / or abroad. In this regard, the Department of Geography is fully committed to the implementation of the research strategy and action plan of the University of Prishtina.

As a recommendation is to publish especially in open access journals, because these are available to all users within the country and abroad.

Standard 6.6. Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centers, scientific parks and other structures for validation.

In SER is stated that research results are validated through publication in scientific and applied research publications in peer reviewed journals. However it is recommended that staff members who are on the editorial boards of journals should give tutorials to peers and students as to the criteria and success factors for publishing in those journals.

Standard 6.7. Each academic staff member and researcher has produced at least an average of one scientific/applied research publication or artistic outcome/product per year for the past three years.

According to SER, each member of the academic staff within the Department of Geography has published more than one scientific research publication per year for the last three years.

Standard 6.8. Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full-time staff.

According to SER, the entire research work of full-time academic staff at the Department of Geography is published under the name of the University of Prishtina.

Standard 6.9. Academic staff are encouraged to include in their teaching information about their research and scholarly activities that are relevant to courses they teach, together with other significant research developments in the field.

According to SER, the academic staff includes in course and application materials and scientific and research elements from papers in which they have participated, by using them as a source of relevant information for certain teaching units of their courses.

Standard 6.10. Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students.

The academic staff publishing under the affiliation of the University is obliged to respect the intellectual property.

There are internal department policies, as well as legal policies, relating to ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures are set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students. The intellectual property rights are regulated at UP within Code of Ethics and other Regulations, as well as with national Laws. For those interested to commercialization of their ideas, they have to apply to MEST for patents.

Standard 6.11. Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.

In SER is highlighted that, in most cases, students are directly involved in research projects. The students who are not directly involved in project activities benefit indirectly from the experiences and results of research, as those are transferred to students via lectures.

Through dissertation thesis students gain an experience for specific research field and the results of these researches are in most cases published in various journals, including students as first authors or co-authors.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
6.1	The study program has defined scientific/applied research objectives (on its own or as part of a research center or interdisciplinary program), which are also reflected in the research development plan of the institution; sufficient financial, logistic and human resources are allocated for achieving the proposed research objectives.	x	
6.2	Expectations for teaching staff involvement in research and scholarly activities are clearly specified, and performance in relation to these expectations is considered in staff evaluation and promotion criteria.	x	
6.3	Clear policies are established for defining what is recognized as research, consistent with international standards and established norms in the field of study of the program.	x	
6.4	The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.	x	
6.5	The academic and research staff publish their work in specialty magazines or publishing houses, scientific/applied/artistic products are presented at conferences, sessions, symposiums, seminars etc. and contracts, expertise, consultancy, conventions, etc. are provided to partners inside the country and/or abroad.	x	
6.6	Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centers, scientific parks and other structures for validation.	x	

6.7	Each academic staff member and researcher has produced at least an average of one scientific/applied research publication or artistic outcome/product per year for the past three years.	x	
6.8	Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full-time staff.	x	
6.9	Academic staff are encouraged to include in their teaching information about their research and scholarly activities that are relevant to courses they teach, together with other significant research developments in the field.	x	
6.10	Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students.	x	
6.11	Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.	x	

Compliance level: Fully compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *It would be good for all teaching staff to have updated professional profiles on internationally used platforms.*
2. *Implementing of a special department dedicated to the identification of open project calls, the analysis of specific conditions of the call, the identification and contact of potential partners and the writing of research applications.*
3. *ET recommends to publish especially in open access journals, because these are available to all users within the country and abroad.*
4. *It is recommended that staff members who are on the editorial boards of journals should give tutorials to peers and students as to the criteria and success factors for publishing in those journals.*

2.7. Infrastructure and Resources

Standard 7.1. The adequate long-term implementation of the study program is ensured in quantitative terms as regards premises, human resources and equipment. At the same time, it is guaranteed that qualitative aspects are also taken into account.

During the site visit the ET had a chance to observe the facilities at the university where the given study program is planned to be delivered. As stated by the program self-evaluation team, currently the whole faculty (five different departments) are delivering classes into the building that belongs to Faculty of Philology. For that reason, the space is limited, as it was stated in the SER and during the interviews and it was confirmed by the teaching staff.

The new building is almost finished, meaning that an adequate long-term implementation of the study program has been taken into consideration as regards premises and equipment.

However, even if the new building is almost finished, it cannot be used until September 2025. The ET has a concern regarding the premises, as if program gets accreditation, it can receive students in 2024 Fall semester, that means, there will not be enough space in the given building to accommodate new program at the department of Geography. It is recommended to open new program after the faculty/department will be in a new building and have enough and sufficient space.

Standard 7.2. There is a financial plan at the level of the study program that would demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for the next minimum three years.

During the interviews with university representatives the expert team asked a question about the financial sustainability of the program. Given the fact that it is a new program, the number of the students might not be that high, or the one that the university expecting, in this case the financial sustainability will be guaranteed by the university, as explained, they can accommodate amount from the incomes of other/beneficial programs, so that the program will be functioning even if it gets 5-6 students.

SER notes that each year, the university plans a budget that covers the costs of chemicals, consumables, equipment for laboratory work, as well as transportation and accommodation for field work.

However, neither the SER nor the additionally submitted documents state the financial risks the program might have. Moreover, the SER few times mentions that there are not enough/sufficient funds to purchase textbooks or renew the resources, thus it is recommended the budgeting describes the financial risks (for minimum 3 years) that the study program might have, as it is in line with the sustainability of the program.

Standard 7.3. The higher education institution must demonstrate with adequate documents (property deeds, lease contracts, inventories, invoices etc.) that, for the study program submitted for evaluation it possesses the following, for the next at least three years:

- a. owned or rented spaces adequate for the educational process;*
- b. owned or rented laboratories, with the adequate equipment for all the compulsory disciplines within the curriculum, wherever the analytical syllabus includes such activities;*
- c. adequate software for the disciplines of study included in the curriculum, with utilization license;*
- d. library equipped with reading rooms, group work rooms and its own book stock according to the disciplines included in the curricula.*

Although the building itself belongs to the University of Pristina, as noted above, the given faculty is using the premises of Faculty of Philology. The expert team had a chance to see the classrooms and PC labs for the study program, however, it should be noted that all the

classrooms are devoted to different study programs, as it was noted, some of them are for the Department of Mathematics having study programs in IT as well. Some of the classrooms are arranged for the students of the Geography Department.

The expert team asked about the approximate number of existing students, as the university representative stated, within the Department of Geography there are 130 students, and in the Department of Mathematics almost 530. As for the labs, there were two Computer labs one (with 8 computers) for the Department of Geography and the second (15-20 computers) for the Department of Mathematics.

The teaching staff mentioned from time to time they are using labs in different locations like the Faculty of Architecture or the Faculty of Geodesy. It worth mentioning that the representative of the Faculty of Geodesy stated they do not have enough space to allow students from other study programs to use the labs.

The program self-evaluation team sent some evidence of available spaces in response to the ET request. From these it cannot be seen that there is space to train an extra number of 20 students, because it was not sent a clear, detailed and signed document stating the no of sqm/student for the faculty infrastructure.

Standard 7.4. The number of seats in the lecture rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories must be related to the study groups' size (series, groups, subgroups); the applicative activities for the specialty disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment.

The classrooms themselves are equipped with projectors, desks for the students. Some of them were relatively small (for 25-30) students, and two of them were for 80-90 students. Initially, these classrooms were designed for the Geography Department (with two study programs) and the Mathematics Department (5 study programs). A PC lab was quite small, with only 8-9 computers.

Standard 7.5. The education institution's libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs:

- a. a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;*
- b. a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;*
- c. their own book stock from Albanian and foreign specialty literature, enough to cover the disciplines within the curricula, out of which at least 50% should represent book titles or specialty courses of recognized publishers, from the last 10 years;*
- d. a book stock within its own library with a sufficient number of books so as to cover the needs of all students in the cycle and year of study the respective discipline is provided for;*

e. a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.

According to the SER the students are mostly using the university central library, however there are three on the faculty level, one specifically for the Department of Geography. The ET wanted to double check the library reading hall on place, but as it turned out the library staff member is retired and the reading hall is closed, thus neither students nor the expert team have access to books. The representatives of the university stated that they have open call to select the library staff member, and as evidence presented an email sent to the central university administration requesting to open a job announcement for librarian, however, this request dates back in November 2023, and it is unclear why the candidate is not selected yet.

The university has pre-paid subscriptions for access to scientific databases (e.g. Science Direct) where academic staff and students can access free online literature., that will also be accessible to students of this study program. As mentioned in SER the textbooks for the given study program are mostly in electronic form, without having the printed ones at the library.

Standard 7.6. The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.

As the building is quite old, it was not designed to be accessible for people with special needs. The university representatives mentioned that they will partially solve the problem by installing an elevator in the one part of the current building, and this problem will be finally solved one the faculty moves into a new building. The expert team is unable to evaluate the future activities, therefor the standard requirement as for now is not met. It is recommended that all the spaces at the university is accessible for people with special needs.

No.	Standard	Compliance	
		Yes	No
7.1	The adequate long-term implementation of the study program is ensured in quantitative terms as regards premises, human resources and equipment. At the same time, it is guaranteed that qualitative aspects are also taken into account.		x
7.2	There is a financial plan at the level of the study program that would demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for the next minimum three years.		x
7.3	The higher education institution must demonstrate with adequate documents (property deeds, lease contracts, inventories, invoices etc.) that, for the study program submitted for evaluation it possesses the following, for the next at least three years: a. owned or rented spaces adequate for the educational process; b. owned or rented laboratories, with the adequate equipment for all the compulsory disciplines within the		x

	<p>curriculum, wherever the analytical syllabus includes such activities;</p> <p>c. adequate software for the disciplines of study included in the curriculum, with utilization license;</p> <p>d. library equipped with reading rooms, group work rooms and its own book stock according to the disciplines included in the curricula.</p>		
7.4	The number of seats in the lecture rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories must be related to the study groups' size (series, groups, subgroups); the applicative activities for the specialty disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment.	x	
7.5	<p>The education institution's libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs:</p> <p>a. a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>b. a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>c. their own book stock from Albanian and foreign specialty literature, enough to cover the disciplines within the curricula, out of which at least 50% should represent book titles or specialty courses of recognized publishers, from the last 10 years;</p> <p>d. a book stock within its own library with a sufficient number of books so as to cover the needs of all students in the cycle and year of study the respective discipline is provided for;</p> <p>e. a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.</p>	x	
7.6	The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.		x

Compliance level: Partially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Intensifying the efforts to gather more electronic books/resources, as they are currently the most used and easiest basis for studying, ensuring mobility and interactivity, and can be updated much more easily*
2. *Making efforts to digitize the old bibliographic resources – the library*

3. *It is recommended the budgeting describes the financial risks (for minimum 3 years) that the study program might have, as it is in line with the sustainability of the program.*
4. *It is recommended that all the spaces at the university to be accessible for people with special needs.*
5. *Implementing e-learning methods by using an e-learning methodology, practice and tools.*

3. FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

The ET welcomed the SER delivered by the programme staff, as well as the additional materials delivered, addressing some of the issues raised during the site visit. The scientific area of the master's program is in correlation with the field of geography studies, having at the same time a strong interdisciplinary component.

The academic staff involved in this study program developed an appropriate course syllabi. During the meetings, a group of dedicated professionals was observed, proud of their work and the profession they practise, as well as of the individual development efforts.

There is still a need to go further as described in all of the sections above. In the current context of research on territorial development correlated with the SDGs and environmental problems, the efforts to write project proposals in consortia must be intensified.

*In conclusion, the Expert Team considers that the study program ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, PLANNING AND TERRITORIAL REGULATION MSc offered by University of Prishtina is **not compliant** with the standards included in the KAA Accreditation, because the Resources and infrastructure standard (no 7) is only partially compliant.*

For this reason, in accordance with the rules of KAA Accreditation Manual (“Standards on evaluation of Bachelor and Masters study programs, Chapter no 3. related to Academic staff, and chapter no. 7 related to Infrastructure and resources are mandatory. No accreditation of programmes on Bachelor or Master level can be granted unless the two up-mentioned chapters has been fulfilled to either substantially or fully compliant level.”), the expert team does NOT recommend to accredit the study program.

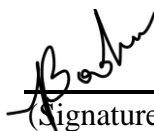
<i>No. crt.</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Compliance Level</i>
1	Mission, objectives and administration	<i>Fully</i>
2	Quality management	<i>Fully</i>
3	Academic Staff	<i>Substantially</i>
4	Educational Process Content	<i>Substantially</i>
5	Students	<i>Substantially</i>

6	Research	<i>Fully</i>
7	Infrastructure and resources	<i>Partially</i>
OVERALL COMPLIANCE		NOT Compliant

Compliance level: - , Chapter no. 7: Partially Compliant
Student quota recommended/Three or Five Years – NOT ACCREDITED

Expert Team

Member

 **Ana Cornelia BADEA** **24/08/2024**
 (Signature) (Print Name) (Date)

Member

Francisco da Silva Costa **Francisco DA SILVA COSTA** **24/08/2024**
 (Signature) (Print Name) (Date)

Member

 **Giga KHOSITASHVILI** **24/08/2024**
 (Signature) (Print Name) (Date)