Towards Strengthened Governance of the Shared Trans-boundary Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Lake Ohrid Region

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THE SHARED TRANSBOUNDARY NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE LAKE OHRID REGION.



Project funded by

the European Union

United Nations

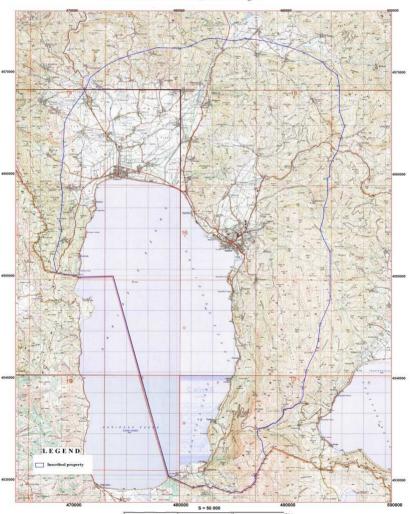
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The World Heritage Property "Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region"

- located at an altitude of 683 m
- bounded by high mountain chains to the east and west, reaching about 2,250 m in altitude
- one of the most voluminous lakes in Europe
- total surface area of 358 km2, of which approximately two-thirds are located in the FYR of Macedonia and about one-third in the Republic of Albania
- over 1,400 native species, including around 300 П species endemic to Lake Ohrid
- over 160,000 people live around Lake Ohrid, with almost 52,000 in Albania (2011 census data)
- about 300,000 visitors explore the region's natural and cultural heritage every year.





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"Awards" to Lake Ohrid and its surroundings

- has been given the status of an Important Bird Area (IBA) both in Albania and Macedonia
- Is part of the European Green Belt initiative, the most comprehensive transboundary conservation initiative in Europe.
- Pogradec Protected Landscape
- Prespa National Park
- Lake Ohrid Protected Landscape and
- Galicica National Park.
- With a geological and biological history of over one million years, Lake Ohrid stands out as one of the oldest lakes in Europe and a remarkable biodiversity hotspot of global importance.
- It has been estimated that it is the lake with the highest biodiversity in the world, taking into account the number of endemic species per surface area.





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WHS	
1979	The Lake Ohrid is first inscribed on the World Heritage List as a natura property, under criterion (iii) on superlative natural phenomena (today criterion (vii)).
1980	The World Heritage property is extended to cultural criteria (i), (iii) and (iv) and becomes one of the first mixed World Heritage properties.
Criterio	n (i): represent a masterpiece of human creative genius; n (iii): bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to ilization which is living or which has disappeared;
Criterion techr	n (iv): be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or nological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in an history;
	n (vii): contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural ty and aesthetic importance.





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- CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REGION OF POGRADEC
- **1.The Castle of Pogradec**
- 2. tri-conch church similar with tetraconch church in Ohrid, 6th century

Coloured floor mosaics (120 m²)

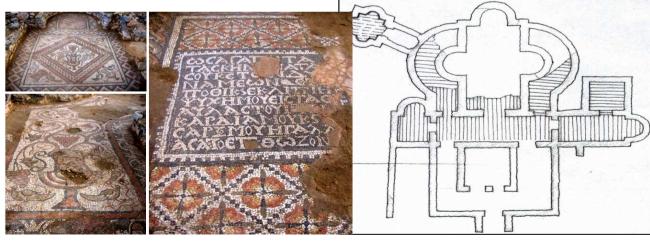
- ^{3.} Via Egnatia which connected Rome with Constantinople
- 4. The monumental tombs of Lower Selca carved in stone dating back to IV-II century BC













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EU-IPA _UNESCO Project (Scoping phase _ 2011–2014)

2012 Phase One of the Upstream process entails the Advisory Scoping Mission. In 2012 this Mission was carried out to assess the feasibility of extending the already inscribed property to Albania. This mission was carried out by two Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee ICOMOS and IUCN) and was financed through International Assistance of the World Heritage Fund.

THREATS IDENTIFIED:

- 1. Unplanned urban development,
- 2. waste water and solid waste disposal,
- 3 natural habitat alteration and
- 4. destruction and depletion of natural resources.

DUE TO:

1. Management challenges:	Institutional arrangements and lack of coordination and cooperation
2. Expertise and knowledge:	Need for comprehensive understanding of the heritage and the regional values and their threats
 Transboundary cooperation: Awareness 	Need to strengthen transboundary management structure Need for shared common vision both within communities and across boundaries





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UNESCO World Heritage Centre - Project coordinator

Project partners

The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Albania

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of Macedonia

Ministry of Culture - Cultural Heritage Protection Office (CHPO)

ICCROM (International Centre for the Study, Preservation & Restoration of Cultural Property)

ICOMOS (the International Council on Monuments and Sites)

IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature)

Budget

The European Union: 1.7 million EUR The Government of Albania: 170,000 EUR, Total budget: 1.87 million EUR

Project duration : 3 years (2015-2017)





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Overall objective of the project :

To contribute to the sustainable development of the cross-border Lake Ohrid region.

Specific objectives:

I. To reinforce the management of the shared natural and cultural heritage of the transboundary Lake Ohrid region in view of a possible recognition as World Heritage property.

II. To build a participatory process for integrated management planning and the preparation of a dossier by the Albanian authorities to extend the World Heritage property to the Albanian part of the Lake Ohrid region.





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Results expected:

I. Improved trans boundary cooperation and management effectiveness in place for the protection and sustainable development of the natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid region

- (a) Reinforcement of transboundary cooperation (activity 1)
- (b) Establishment of integrated management mechanisms (activity 2)
- (c) Capacity Building on management effectiveness and transboundary cooperation (activity 3)





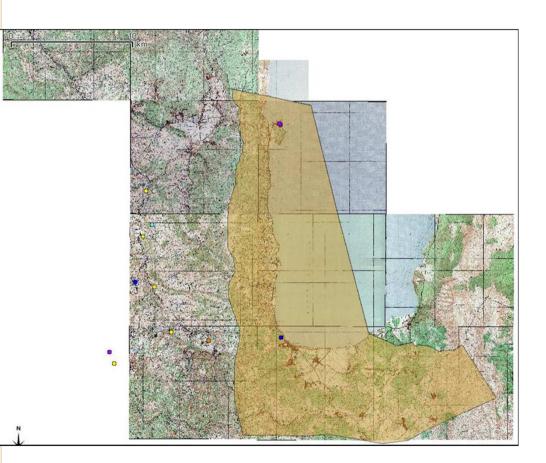
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Results expected

- II. The important cultural and natural assets of the Lake Ohrid region identified and safeguarded by the local and national authorities
- (a) Profiling of the transboundary area and its sustainable tourism opportunities (activity 4)
- (b) Technical Assistance for the preparation of the extension file of the World Heritage property (activity 5)
- (c) Implementation of waste awareness campaign through Pilot Actions on Waste Water and Solid Waste (activity 6)







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Activities to date:

- 15 16 September The Inception Workshop.
- 25 26 march 2015 **First Management Planning Workshop** : as part of a series of five workshops to support the elaboration of an integrated management system for the Lake Ohrid Region, took place in Korça, Albania).
- 3 4 June 2015 Second Management Planning workshop in the framework of this project took place on at the Regional Centre for Restoration (IMK) in Tirana, Albania.

Around 20 Albanian and Macedonian experts, supported by 6 international experts from the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee (IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS), gathered at the second Management Planning "Visioning" Workshop to discuss and develop joint vision statements for the Albanian part of the Lake Ohird region.

The experts from IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM gave presentations on theoretical aspects of management of World Heritage properties and the progress in the ongoing baseline assessment of natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid region. The Macedonian experts shared their experience in developing a vision and management objectives for the existing property.

2 October 2015 **"Transboundary Platform Meeting",** in Ohrid, Macedonia.

9-10 December 2015 "Operationalising the activities foreseen", in Pogradec Albania.





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	Updated Dynamic Work Plan - Lake Ohrid region project (update June 2015)	Projected on 09/2014 : Adjusted as on 06/2015:	20)14	2015		2015			2015 2016					20	17
No	Activity	Required action	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q		
1	Preparation of Terms of Reference and preparation of the detailed work plans	UNESCO														
2	Finalisation of selection procedure of the sub-contractors	UNESCO														
3	a) Organisation of Kick-off workshop and project launching ceremony	UNESCO														
	b) establishment of core and extended stakeholder group among Albanian institutions															
4	Support to existing transboundary management structures: Organisation of 6 transboundary Platform meetings for each milestone of the project	Selected contractors / UNESCO														
5	Defining and Understanding the property: Analysis of available literature, data, information, plans and existing gaps	Selected contractors														
6	Baseline assessments, mapping of natural and cultural heritage, including desk and field research on cultural and natural heritage assets and their potential to contribute to OUV	Selected contractors														
7	Capacity building programme: Development of the programme content and elaboration and preparation of the training materials	Selected contractors / UNESCO														





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	Updated Dynamic Work Plan - Lake Ohrid region project (update June 2015)	Projected on 09/2014 : Adjusted as on 06/2015:	20	14	2015					20		2017		
No	Activity	Required action	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q
8	Series of 5 two-day workshops focused on the preparation of the management plan: a) establishment of core team and management plan preparation statement b) property vision and management objectives c)	Selected contractors / UNESCO												
	stakeholder consultation and management options d) management measures e) management actions													
9	Series of 5 thematic trainings on a) monitoring b) climate change adaptation c) visitor management d) business planning f) disaster risk reduction	Selected contractors												
10	Elaboration of integrated management plan for transboundary Lake Ohrid region Stakeholders analysis - conduct detailed analysis	Selected contractors												
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11	Determining borders of the property and preparation of databases and GIS	Selected contractors								,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
12	Drafting final management plan	Selected contractors with												
12	Drafting final management plan	beneficiaries												
		Selected contractors with												
13	Delivery of the final plan for approval	beneficiaries												





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	Updated Dynamic Work Plan - Lake Ohrid region project (update June 2015)	Projected on 09/2014 : Adjusted as on 06/2015:	20	014	2015					20		2017		
No	Activity	Required action	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q
14	Technical Assistance for the preparation of the extension file of the transboundary World Heritage property: Identifying attributes and features	Selected contractors with beneficiaries												
15	Technical Assistance for the preparation of the comparative analysis	Selected contractors with beneficiaries												
16	Technical Assistance for the preparation of the nomination / extension dossier	Selected contractors with beneficiaries												
17	Soft-based tourism and sustainable development opportunities: Assessment of current state of infrastructure	Selected contractors												
18	Technical Assistance for the elaboration of strategy document identifying sustainable development opportunities including soft tourism based on	Selected contractors with												
	cultural and natural heritage	heneficiaries												
10	Dianning and Droducing coft tourism infrastructure	Colocted contractors												
19	Planning and Producing soft-tourism infrastructure	Selected contractors												





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Updated Dynamic Work Plan - Lake Ohrid region project (update June 2015)	Projected on 09/2014 : Adjusted as on 06/2015:	20	14	2015						2017			
Activity	Required action	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q
Putting in place soft tourism infrastructure	Selected contractors												
Preparation and dissemination of communication material (in English and	Selected contractors												
local languages)	Selected contractors												
Pilot Actions on waste water and solid waste: Setting-up of a coordination group and development of a waste implementation plan	Selected contractors												
Purchase of infrastructure, installation and operationalization of infrastructure	Selected contractors												
Waste awareness campaign	Selected contractors												
Progress Report to the Donor	UNESCO												
Evaluation	UNESCO												
Final reporting and closure of the project	UNESCO												
	(update June 2015) Activity Putting in place soft tourism infrastructure Preparation and dissemination of communication material (in English and local languages) Pilot Actions on waste water and solid waste: Setting-up of a coordination group and development of a waste implementation plan Purchase of infrastructure, installation and operationalization of infrastructure Waste awareness campaign Progress Report to the Donor Evaluation	(update June 2015)Adjusted as on 06/2015:ActivityRequired actionPutting in place soft tourism infrastructureSelected contractorsPreparation and dissemination of communication material (in English and local languages)Selected contractorsPilot Actions on waste water and solid waste: Setting-up of a coordination group and development of a waste implementation planSelected contractorsPurchase of infrastructure, installation and operationalization of infrastructureSelected contractorsWaste awareness campaignSelected contractorsProgress Report to the 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