

ANNUAL PROGRAMME/PROJECT REPORT (APR)

Basic programme/project information

Programme or project number and title:

00051409 – Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Prespa Lakes Basin of Albania, Macedonia and Greece (NEX)

Designated institution:

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

Project starting date:

Originally planned: **September 2006**

Actual:

Project completion date:

Originally planned: **September 2011**

New:

Total budget (US \$):

Original: **1,474,500 USD**

Latest signed revision:

Period covered by the report:

01 January 2009 – 31 December 2009

TEXTUAL ASSESSMENT

During the reporting period the project has been progressing steadily in all areas defined in the project document. The assessment provided below focuses on the key achievements of the national component of the project, but it also provides brief information on the contribution of the national project management unit to the ongoing transboundary activities implemented by the transboundary project component. In each of the project areas presented below, short analysis of the outstanding issues affecting, or are likely to affect the implementation dynamics and the achievement of the main targets is provided.

A) NATIONAL LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Outcome I: Legal and Regulatory Enabling Environment

Spatial Planning

- Following a thorough and systematic review of the spatial planning system in the country, a new spatial planning methodology and a Terms of Reference for a new Municipal Spatial Plan (MSP) for Resen (i.e. Prespa region), which should serve as a demonstration model for integrated land-use planning, were developed, through direct involvement of all key actors in the spatial planning process in the country.
- However, with the adoption of the new Law on Waters in the country, the land and water use management requirements are now based on the concept of integrated river basin management reflected in the river basin/watershed management plans to be developed across the country.
- Because of the high degree of overlap of the spatial plans and the watershed (river basin) management plans, considering the size of the investment for developing the suggested MSP for Resen according to the newly developed methodology, and the budgetary constraints of the project, an idea for combining the Water-use Management Plan (one of the objectives within the Project) and the Land-use (Spatial) Management Plan for the MK Prespa region into a single Watershed Management Plan was proposed by the project. Such an approach is considered cost-effective, saving duplication of costs, time and human resources working in parallel on both management plans for the same scope.
- The Watershed Management Plan would provide equally strong legal basis for establishing an integrated land and water use management basis for maintaining the ecosystem health in the Prespa region, which is ultimately the main target of this project activity.
- This approach was accepted by the key stakeholders, and was also positively evaluated in the Mid-Term Evaluation.

Watershed Management Plan and Watershed Management Council

Watershed Management Plan

- The process of preparing the Prespa Lake Watershed Management Plan has been initiated by the project in the second half of 2009, upon intensive and multifaceted consultations with the relevant stakeholders on the scope and content of the plan. The Plan is expected to provide basis for identification of the main surface and groundwater bodies in the basin, assessment of the major anthropogenic impacts and their influence on the status of the water bodies, as well as establishing the environmental objectives. The Plan will also include an economic analysis of the water use in the region and based on the findings from the assessments will establish a program of measures for achievement of the established environmental objectives.
- Being the first watershed management plan under the new Law on Water in the country, it has the potential to serve as a model plan which will establish the basic principles and guidelines for preparation of other watershed management plans in accordance to the IRBM (Integrated River

Basin Management) principles, which actually lay the foundation for an integrated water and land-use management in a particular geographic basin area.

- Because of its size, complexity and importance the plan preparation process is expected to extend until the first half of 2011. Another unique aspect of the process is that it will, for the first time in the wider region, attempt to incorporate the regional/transboundary water management considerations.

Watershed Management Council

- The preparation of the plan will be conducted in parallel with the efforts for developing watershed management capacity by establishing and operationalizing the Prespa Watershed Management Council (WMC).
- The project has provided the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning with an analysis of the legal, institutional and organizational aspects for the establishment and the future work of the WMC. The proposal on the mandate, composition, and rule of procedures of the WMC has been prepared and submitted to MoEPP for review and approval. According to this proposal, the WMC should be established and chaired by MoEPP and should comprise of representatives of the main sectors governing and/or influencing water quantity and quality within the basin.
- The WMC is expected to be established in early 2010. The WMC will have an active role in the preparation, and later on, in overseeing the implementation of the Prespa Lake Watershed Management Plan.

Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control System

- The manual produced under the project component dealing with establishing integrated pollution prevention and control system at local level (largely implemented in 2008), elaborating a simplified and effective administrative solution for issuing and controlling the implementation of the B-integrated environmental permits by the local authorities, was widely distributed across the country to all interested parties (municipalities, consultants, installations etc.).

Outcome II: Productive Sector

Introduction of Good Agricultural Practices

- The trainings on implementation of integrated pest control and integrated crop management in apple production in accordance to the principles of the Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) were successfully delivered to a new group of local farmers.
- In addition to the previous manuals on GAP, a manual on 'fertirrigation' (fertilization + irrigation), as an environmentally friendly agricultural technique providing for minimizing the use of fertilizers and irrigation water, was prepared and published by the project. The official promotion of the manual took place on the occasion of the Apple Harvest Festival in Resen.

Agricultural Waste Management System

- The agricultural waste management system (pesticide and fertilizer waste) is being currently introduced through a combined and coordinated effort of the GEF Prespa, SDC (Golema Reka) and GEF SGP (Small Grants Programme) project. The majority of the capital investment for the system will be provided by the SDC project, while the GEF SGP project will focus on the community awareness activities. The GEF Prespa project contributed in the design of the system, and the preparation of the required technical documentation.
- Given that this is a first attempt of such nature for the whole country, it has the potential to serve as a model which may be replicated by the authorities across the country. In order to strengthen its replicability potential, the project has supported the preparation of national guidelines for handling this hazardous type of waste associated with agricultural activities. Upon the formal approval of the guidelines, they will become mandatory for the other regions in the country

dealing with the same pesticide packaging management related problem. The draft guidelines have been submitted to the MoEPP to review and endorsement.

- Another environmentally harmful waste type associated with agricultural activity, as identified in the GEF project document, is the organic waste (mainly excess apples), generated in large quantities every year in the region. Considering the estimated investment costs for establishing the management system for this waste type (including feasibility assessment of possible alternatives, detailed technical documentation for the selected alternative, infrastructure development, procurement of large scale equipment, trainings and support to the selected management entity and etc), this project activity was transferred to the SDC funded 'Restoration of Golema Reka', project also implemented by UNDP which actually provides complementary co-financing to the GEF project. The SDC project is currently in advanced stages of developing the feasibility study. The GEF project is providing support in the consultation process, in conceptualizing the system, analysis of the environmental impacts of the proposed alternatives and etc.

Sustainable Forest Management

- The project has supported the Public Forest Enterprise in Resen to implement certain priority provisions of the forest management plan by providing basic equipment which is being used for increasing the productivity of the existing tree nursery in Resen.
- The Public Forest Enterprise has started producing increased quantity of autochthonous tree species which are planned to be used for the future afforestation/re-forestation work in the Prespa Lake basin.

Wastewater treatment plant in Nakolec

- The wastewater treatment plant in the village of Nakolec, although constructed in May 2009, has not been put into operation yet, as the wastewater collection system has not been finalized by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the local community as provided in the jointly signed MoU.
- Recently MoEPP has drafted an amendment to the MoU in which it commits to take over the complete responsibilities for constructing the system from the local community of Nakolec. The amendment was signed by all 4 signatories of the MoU (MoEPP, UNDP, MoR and Village Council of Nakolec). MoEPP assured to complete the procedures for selecting the contractor soon after signing the amendment to the MoU.
- Based on the information provided by the Ministry, the funding for the remaining works has been secured for 2010. It is expected that the completion of the wastewater collection system, and consequently the start of operation of the wastewater treatment plant can happen by mid-2010.

Natural Capital Resource Center

- The project has completed most of the preparatory work for establishing the Natural Capital Resource Center (NCRC) including its conceptualization, the consultation process, purchase of some basic equipment, analysis of the required interventions for ensuring its long-term sustainability and etc. However, the NCRC wasn't established in 2009, because the selected space has not been made available yet, due to the lengthy procedure of resolving the ownership status of the historical building in Resen where the center is planned to be placed. However, the municipal authorities have assured that the required space will be provided very soon, i.e. immediately after an agreement is reached with the Ministry of Culture regarding the ownership status of the rooms planned for the NCRC.
- This was confirmed in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by UNDP Resident Representative *a.i.*, and the Mayor of Resen, which provides the cooperation framework under which the parties will divide their responsibilities in establishing the center. In the MoU, the Municipality of Resen commits to provide the required space, and to allocate adequate budget for ensuring the future work of the NCRC.

- This was considered an important milestone in the process which opens a possibility for establishing the center in early 2010.

Civil Society Involvement in Fishery Management

- The national component of the project is making efforts to instigate more proactive participation of the local civil society organizations in the fish and fisheries management. Namely, the project has initiated the establishment of the first association of professional fishermen from Prespa, and has commenced activities for developing its capacities. This association will be involved in various project activities, especially related to the establishment of a harmonized trilateral fish and fisheries management system, and in raising the awareness on the need for more controlled and sustainable exploitation of the lake's fish stock.

Outcome III: Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management

Environmental Monitoring System

- The project has provided the necessary equipment for monitoring pesticide residues in water, food and other environmental media for the Public Health Institute (PHI) from Bitola, which is an authorized institution for performing such monitoring.
- The PHI has started conducting pesticide residues analyses at the inflows of the three main tributaries of the Prespa Lake, and additional 6 locations in the littoral zone of the lake. The monitoring results are being delivered to the Project Management Unit in Resen, through which they are being made available for MoEPP and MoR.
- On a long run, the PHI is expected to adjust its monitoring programme with the requirements of the transboundary monitoring programme currently being designed through a consultative trilateral process facilitated by the project.

River restoration

- The project has drafted a manual on ecosystem oriented river restoration and river engineering practices, which is currently in process of refinement and preparation for publishing. The manual is intended to be used by experts, designers, planners, but also authorities responsible for issuing permits for water works. It is based on the global best practices and models in river restoration, but also on the experience gained throughout the implementation of the SDC funded project for Golema Reka.
- Besides the manual which is intended for wider use, the project will also draft a report with proposals for demonstration river restoration interventions, which will be further elaborated and implemented by the SDC funded 'Restoration of Golema Reka (Phase II)' project.

Ezerani Protected Area

- The Study for re-assessment of the natural values of the Ezerani Nature Reserve has been completed and submitted to the MoEPP for review. Following the endorsement of the study by MoEPP, a legal procedure for re-proclamation of the protected area will take place. The greatest proportion of this procedure is expected to be completed by the end of 2010.
- One of main future challenges will be the establishment of effective management arrangements for the area as the key prerequisite for operationalizing the reserve. During the official consultation process regarding the future of the protected area, the Municipality of Resen suggested MoEPP that the future management of the protected area is delegated to the municipality itself. MoR committed to make the required changes in the administrative structure to adequately respond to the requirements if such a decision is made by the government.
- The project constantly urges the relevant authorities to pay special attention to the cooperation with the local communities which are particularly sensitized because of their improper involvement in the process of first establishment of ENR. Particularly sensitive are the land ownership and

expropriation issues whose resolution is one of the key conditions for effective operation of the ENR administration and subsequently the preservation of the unique natural values of the area.

B) TRANSBOUNDARY LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Outcome IV: Transboundary Cooperation

The national project component is also involved in all transboundary level activities which are primary responsibility of the transboundary project component. In general the national project component is providing inputs when conceptualizing and designing various activities, but also providing support in their implementation mainly by ensuring adequate participation of the national level stakeholders in the transboundary processes. The key trans-boundary level activities affecting/affected by the national project component along with a brief assessment of their status are presented below:

1. Fish and Fisheries Management

- The project provided substantial support to the transboundary unit in organizing the activities related to the introduction of sustainable and coordinated fish and fisheries management by the authorities of the three neighboring countries.

2. Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Programme for Prespa

- The national project component is contributing to the GEF project in the efforts for conducting the transboundary diagnostic analysis and subsequently the development of the trilateral Strategic Action Plan (SAP), by supporting the national level consultations with all relevant stakeholders. Besides the transboundary workshops, the national component has been organizing national workshops and meetings to facilitate the process of reaching agreement on the Ecosystem Quality Objectives (EcoQOs) for the region, which actually provide the foundation for drafting the Prespa SAP.

3. Transboundary monitoring system

- The national project component is supporting the national level consultations required for designing the transboundary level monitoring system. So far the project has organized several workshops with experts and representatives from various institutions with mandate in the field of environmental monitoring.

4. Support the maturation and institutionalization of the trilateral Prespa Park Coordination Committee

- The national project component supported the MoEPP to organize series of meetings and coordinate the comments and the input from various relevant institutions (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, EU Integration Sector of the Government and others) on the PPCC formalization process outlined in the consultant's report. Following this national level consultations, the relevant institutions have formally accepted the report prepared by UNDP by which they have agreed with the process of formalizing the transboundary cooperation described therein.

5. Transboundary water management

- The national project component organized several meetings at which the recommendations for the future transboundary water management in the Prespa Lake watershed were discussed. The meetings were attended by representatives from the main sectors influencing and/or governing the water management in the region (MoEPP, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, Hydro-meteorological Institute, MoR...).
- The national component recognizes the importance of the trilateral Prespa Water Management Working Group to be established by the states. The group will have a key role in facilitating the coordination regarding water resources management in the lake basin. This group can also be very

helpful in the process of preparation of the watershed management plan for MK Prespa, which will attempt to take into consideration the transboundary/regional water management aspects.


6. Species and habitats conservation

- This activity is being initiated by the transboundary project component while the outputs of the work will be of particular value for the national aspects, and therefore it is being implemented through active participation of the national project component. The recommendations of this transboundary project activity can contribute to several national activities such as the watershed management plan, Ezerani protected area and etc.

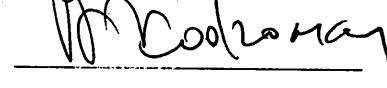
7. Small Grants Programme

- The transboundary project component has recently launched a Small Grants Programme (SGP) for the local NGOs from Macedonia and Albania. The MK project component was actively involved in the conceptualization of the programme and the consultations during the project design stage. Later on, the national component will be supporting the implementation of the small grants projects, in order to ensure compatibility with the GEF's project goals and objectives.

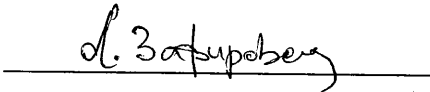
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Programme or project summary table

Programme/project title and number:	Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Prespa Lakes Basin of Albania, Macedonia and Greece / 00051409	Management arrangement:	National Execution (NEX)
Designated institution:	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning	Period covered:	01 January 2009 – 31 December 2009
OVERALL ASSESSMENT			
<p>Brief analysis of progress achieved in the contribution of the programme or project to the expected results.</p> <p>During the reporting period the Macedonian component of the UNDP/GEF transboundary Prespa project has been progressing steadily in all areas defined in the project document. Besides the lead role in the national level project activities, the national component has made considerable contribution to the ongoing transboundary activities. Series of achievements can be recorded in the areas of watershed management agriculture, forestry, fisheries, protected areas management, decentralized wastewater treatment, industrial pollution control, species and habitats conservation action planning, environmental monitoring system, both and national and transboundary levels. The project maintains very close, effective and productive collaboration with all regional, national and local level stakeholders, and ensures their direct involvement in the achievement of the GEF project objectives.</p>			
FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
Source of funds	Annual budget (\$ '000)	Estimated annual expenditure (\$ '000)	Delivery rate (%)
TRAC 1 and 2) TRAC 3 Global Environment Facility (GEF) Cost-sharing: Government Financial institution	404,826.00	379,904.75	93.84

<p>Third party Trust funds AOS (where applicable)</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF RESULTS</p>		
<p>Programme support objectives (PSOS) or immediate objectives</p>	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Achievements</p>	
<p>Obj. 1 STAKEHOLDERS STRENGTHEN LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT AND ESTABLISH LAND AND WATER USE MANAGEMENT BASIS FOR MAINTAINING AND RESTORING ECOSYSTEM HEALTH IN THE PRESPA LAKES BASIN.</p>	<p>Spatial plan (MK) incorporates ecosystem management objectives in detail by end of year 2.</p> <p>Water management in the Prespa basin is aligned between the 3 littoral countries, considers ecosystem health needs and follows the principles of integrated basin water management</p> <p>Main sectoral laws incorporate ecosystem health objectives/priorities: strengthened regulations for water, spatial planning and environmental management at local level.</p> <p>Three priority streams (Ag. Germanos, Brajcino & Krani) and 1 tributary of Golema River (Leva stream) maintain environmental in-stream flow and water quality as appropriate for endemic trout (MK-GR*).</p>	<p>Proposal on giving priority to the watershed management plan vis-à-vis the spatial plan accepted by the stakeholders and confirmed by the Mid-Term Evaluation</p> <p>The preparation of the watershed management plan based on the ecosystem management priorities and the IRBM principles, attempting to reflect regional/transboundary water management considerations is underway and progressing well.</p> <p>Specific provisions for sectoral interventions directed toward enabling integration of the ecosystem management priorities will be incorporated in the watershed management plan which is currently under preparation</p> <p>The newly adopted legislation in the country provides legal framework for incorporation of ecosystem priorities into various sectoral policy and other documents. Upon its endorsement the watershed management plan for MK Prespa will also provide legal basis for maintaining environmental in-stream flows for the main tributaries of Prespa Lake</p>	

		<p>Strengthened local management of important riparian habitat of both lakes in AL, MK and GR*</p> <p>Replication: Watershed planning manual adopted as official manual by MoEPP and MoEFWM for rest of country.</p>	<p>To be considered in the watershed management plan which is under preparation</p> <p>The watershed planning manual will be produced as an additional outcome of the preparation of the watershed management plan based on the lessons learnt throughout the process and in full consideration with the existing global best models and good practices in watershed/river basin management planning.</p>
<p>Obj. 2</p>	<p>STAKEHOLDERS MODIFY PRODUCTIVE SECTOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO REDUCE PESTICIDE INPUTS, INCREASE HABITAT HETEROGENEITY, AND IMPROVE THE STATUS OF TARGET SPECIES AND COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE NATIONAL SECTORS OF THE PRESIPA BASIN.</p>	<p>Reduction in frequency and quantity of pesticides and fertilizers applied each season in the 3 countries.</p> <p>Reduction in the number of harmful pesticides utilized in MK-Prespa, AL and GR*</p> <p># of farmers applying integrated pest management practices in MK and AL</p> <p>Reduced costs for water, pesticide and fertilizer inputs for local farmers in MK, AL and GR*.</p>	<p>Additional group of about 25 apple farmers successfully completed the training programme on introduction of good agricultural practices (GAP) with focus on reducing the pesticides and fertilizers quantities used.</p> <p>Manuals on environmentally friendly agricultural techniques prepared, published and promoted by the project.</p> <p>The new legislation in the country is aligned with the EU requirements, and fully bans the harmful pesticides</p> <p>Total of about 50 farmers involved in the two subsequent training programs on GAP are following the principles of GAP in apple production. Certificates confirming the implementation of GAP issued by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food.</p> <p>The farmers involved in the training programme maintain records on the use of pesticides, fertilizer and water, and the associated costs. The results are being</p>

		<p>Cost savings to specific farmers from use of fertilizer made from waste apples in MK.</p> <p>Transboundary cooperation and transfer of best practices in agriculture (between farmer's associations) in AL, MK and GR*</p> <p># hectares of forest under improved biodiversity-oriented management in MK, GR*, AL Prespa.</p> <p>Eutrophying inputs (N, organic material) to Macro Prespa reduced m³ through small-scale wastewater treatment pilots.</p> <p>Replication of those pilots reduces eutrophying input in two other places w/in Prespa.</p>	<p>analyzed will and main findings will be provided in a separate report. .</p> <p>This is part of the efforts for introducing the agricultural waste management system which is currently being implemented by SDC funded projects, because of the considerable investment costs vs. the limited GEF funds.</p> <p>The transboundary cooperation in the agriculture sector continues. A good example for that is the small grants programme which besides the other areas of intervention encourages transboundary cooperation in the agriculture sectors.</p> <p>The project is supporting Forest Management Enterprise in the implementation of the forest management plan which is based on the ecosystem management principles. The afforestation with native tree species produced in the upgraded nursery is a typical example for that.</p> <p>The wastewater treatment plant in Nakolec is constructed by the project, but hasn't been put into operation because the wastewater collection system hasn't been completed by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning.</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Local Self-government of Resen are making efforts to obtain further financing to replicate the wetland-based wastewater treatment technology demonstrated in Nakolec at least two other rural communities in Prespa.</p>
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		<p>Improved overall quality of life in villages with small-scale wastewater treatment</p> <p>Decline in sales of detergents containing phosphorous in Resen municipality.</p> <p>Allowable fish catch linked to population size estimates in both lakes in MK, AL and GR*.</p> <p>Change in awareness among local people regarding the Prespa ecosystem;</p>	<p>The improvement of the quality of life to be determined by conducting survey among the local affected community (the indicator assessed as meaningless in the Mid-Term Evaluation)</p> <p>The current regulation fully bans the use of phosphorus based detergents</p> <p>Allowable fish catch to be defined in the fisheries management plan for Prespa whose preparation will be coordinated with the other two littoral countries through the transboundary component of the GEF project</p> <p>Continuous efforts aiming at community awareness raising are being made during the implementation of various project activities, but a more systematic approach will be pursued with the beginning of the implementation of the Communication, Education and Public Awareness Strategy (CEPA) prepared by the transboundary component of the project. The small grants programme recently launched by the transboundary component will largely contribute in the implementation of the CEPA.</p>
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<p>Obj. 3</p>	<p>Stakeholders conserve priority biological diversity across the Prespa basin and make key protected areas in Prespa basin (pnp, gnp, enr, and ppa-gr) fully operational.</p>	<p>Transboundary monitoring of important biotic and abiotic factors functioning/not functioning.</p> <p>Pilot application of the transboundary monitoring system and assessment of methods, training and capacity needs and analysis/interpretation of data.</p> <p>Presence/absence of up-to-date information on extent/condition of priority species and habitat distribution, abundance, and condition.</p> <p>Number of species action plans developed and approved</p> <p>Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) score for PNP, GNP, and ENR, PPA-Greece*.</p> <p>ENR and PPA-GR* are/are not gazetted and boundaries are/are not clearly marked on maps or on the ground</p> <p>The management authorities of ENR, PNP-AL, GNP and PPA-Greece* are fully equipped and operational to carry out basic management activities</p>	<p>Primary responsibility of the transboundary (TB) component of the project</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (activities underway)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>Study on assessing the natural values of the Ezerani Nature Reserve (ENR) completed. METT application is part of the overall process on strengthening the ENR.</p> <p>Preparation of the supporting documentation for re-gazetting the ENR is completed. MoEPP should initiate the procedure in early 2010.</p> <p>Activities for strengthening the management of ENR will be implemented in coordination with MoEPP, which according to the legislation is responsible for leading the process. Large proportion of this work has already been completed with the preparation of the revalorization study funded by the project.</p>
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		<p># hectares of priority habitat for birds, fish, rare plants, and mammals under improved conservation management.</p> <p>Golema Reka River (MK) restored</p> <p>Within the key protected areas human activities (e.g. including forestry, fishing, building) may/may not be practiced or uncontrolled and/or unsustainable way (MK, AL, GR*)</p>	<p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components); various plans prepared by the national component will significantly contribute to the achievement of this indicator (watershed management plan, ENR management plan, fisheries management plan...).</p> <p>River restoration activities financed by SDC are underway. Additional river restoration measures to be implemented by the SDC project in the upcoming period are being conceptualized by the GEF project.</p> <p>The efforts for mainstreaming the ecosystem priorities in the key sectors, and in particular the preparation of various management plans (spatial, water/watershed, forestry, fisheries, protected areas, species and habitats conservation), provide the required mechanisms for more controlled development in the region, especially in the particularly sensitive and vulnerable areas.</p>
<p>Obj. 4</p>	<p>Stakeholders build upon ongoing trans-boundary cooperation in the Prespa basin by strengthening the trans-boundary coordination mechanism and piloting trans-boundary conservation and water management.</p>	<p>PPCC is/is not a legal entity under International Law</p> <p>Declaration for the Prespa Park is/is not followed by specific tri-lateral agreement</p> <p>Governments commit/ do not commit to funding full time executive secretary position for Prespa Park Coordination Committee.</p> <p>Status of agreement of transboundary water management to achieve good ecological water status in the water bodies of the Prespa Park.</p>	<p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p>

		<p>transboundary protection of breeding and nesting habitats in MK, AL and GR*.</p> <p>Imperial eagle nesting habitat enhanced/protected, along with other important raptor and vulture nesting habitats enhanced/protected simultaneously (e.g. Golden Eagle, or rare nocturnal species) in MK, AL and GR*.</p> <p>Bat colonies protected and monitored in MK, AL and GR*.</p> <p>Ecological requirements for endemic trout understood and protected.</p> <p>Reduction in level of threat to endemic fish posed by exotics in all 3 countries. conservation of genetic diversity of endemic fish species in all 3 countries</p> <p>Wetland vegetation in GR *and AL and MK are managed and their habitat values enhanced.</p> <p>Tri-national ecotourism management plan is/is not endorsed and promotion underway. Network of operational Information Centres in all 3 States.</p> <p>Continuing financial and institutional commitment from three littoral states (local and/or national commitments).</p>	<p>with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p> <p>TB component (in cooperation/coordination with the national components)</p>
Obj. 5	Lessons learned and adaptive management of project	Effective delivery rate.	93.84 % delivery rate for 2009

		Positive evaluations	Positive evaluation of the national project component for the period from May 2008 onwards (after the changes in the project management)
Annual output targets		Achievement of outputs	
<p>Obj. 1 STAKEHOLDERS STRENGTHEN LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENABLING ENVIRONMENT AND ESTABLISH LAND AND WATER USE MANAGEMENT BASIS FOR MAINTAINING AND RESTORING ECOSYSTEM HEALTH IN THE PRESPA LAKES BASIN.</p> <p>Output 01 Integrated land-use "spatial" plan for MK-Prespa and Local Environmental Action Plan for AL-Prespa.</p> <p>Output 02 Ecosystem health priorities mainstreamed into productive sector law and regulatory instruments.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Proposed output targets for the next year</p> <p>Focus on watershed management plan as per the analysis provided above and upon agreement of the stakeholders and positive evaluation of the Mid-Term Evaluation</p> <p>Improvement of the inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral cooperation for the needs of continuing the efforts to mainstream the ecosystem priorities into various productive sector law and regulatory instruments (agriculture, forestry, fisheries...);</p> <p>Preparation of the watershed management plan which provides basis for mainstreaming ecosystem management priorities extending across various sectors.</p> <p>Continuing the preparation of the watershed management plan and the watershed planning manual</p> <p>Establishment of the Watershed Management Council for Prespa (steering committee for the preparation and implementation of the spatial and water management plan for Prespa)</p> <p>Activities for 2010 only upon request of the Municipality of Resen (if need is expressed for providing support in the review of permit applications and issuing integrated environmental permits).</p>	
<p>Output 03 Pilot ecosystem-oriented water management at local scale.</p> <p>Output 04 Capacity for water and watershed management built at municipal and commune level in Macedonia, Albania and Greece respectively.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Underway</p> <p>Underway</p>		
<p>Output 05 Piloting flexible, phased pollution reduction techniques and the use of incentives strengthens enforcement of and compliance with environmental laws protecting ecosystem health.</p>	<p>Fully achieved</p>		

<p>Obj. 2 STAKEHOLDERS MODIFY PRODUCTIVE SECTOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO REDUCE PESTICIDE INPUTS, INCREASE HABITAT HETEROGENEITY, AND IMPROVE THE STATUS OF TARGET SPECIES AND COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE NATIONAL SECTORS OF THE PRESIPA BASIN.</p>		
<p>Output 01 Reduced environmental impacts of agriculture in the AL and MK Prespa</p>	<p>Fully achieved</p>	<p>Continuing the efforts for introducing GAP in apple production and monitoring the implementation of the standards, especially with respect to the use of pesticides, fertilizers and water for irrigation. This is to be implemented under the small grants agreement with the agricultural associations.</p>
<p>Output 02 Forest managed for native species composition and forest stand heterogeneity in AL and MK Prespa.</p>	<p>Fully achieved</p>	<p>Support to the relevant parties in the efforts for effective implementation of the new 'ecosystem oriented' forest management plan for the forest unit Leva Reka – Bigla (for example establishing nursery for autochthonous and endemic tree species for Prespa for preserving the genetic resources and improving the forest cover by supporting future afforestation actions).</p>
<p>Output 03 Restoration/reforestation of degraded forest in Albanian Prespa National Park.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>AL component</p>
<p>Output 04 Appropriate small-scale wastewater treatment facilities measurably reduce eutrophying inputs to Lakes Prespa</p>	<p>Fully achieved</p>	<p>Monitor and facilitate the construction of the wastewater collection system by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning</p>
<p>Output 05 Strengthened civil society partners for ecosystem-oriented fishery management in AL and MK Prespa.</p>	<p>Underway</p>	<p>Capacity building of the newly established fishermen association through their involvement in various project activities related to fish and fisheries management (preparation and implementation of fish and fisheries management plans, action plans for priority fish species)</p>
<p>Output 06 A marketplace to foster the knowledge, goods and services of a conservation economy.</p>	<p>Underway</p>	<p>Establishment and promotion of the Natural Capital Resource Center</p>
<p>Obj. 3</p>		

Stakeholders conserve priority biological diversity across the Prespa basin and make key protected areas in Prespa basin (pnp, gnp, enr, and ppa-gr) ² fully operational.			
Output 01 Monitoring of ecosystem health (biotic and abiotic) parameters strengthens information baseline for adaptive management in all three littoral states.	Underway	To be defined based on the input provided by the work of the TB unit and the trilateral Monitoring and Conservation Working Group	
Output 02 Landscape-scale conservation planning and action across tri-national Prespa Basin.	Underway	To be defined based on the input provided by the work of the TB unit (important for preparation of the spatial plan)	
Output 03 Restoration of the Golema Reka	Underway	Support the implementation of the river restoration work primarily funded by SDC	
Output 04 PNP and GNP management capacity are strengthened and the parks fully operational.	Underway	AL and GR activities	
Output 05 Ezerani Nature Reserve (ENR) is strengthened and fully operational.	Underway	Establishment of the Ezerani Management Committee and Management Body and preparation of the ENR management plan	
Output 06 Prespa Protected Area - GR fully operationalized.	Underway	Support the operation of the newly established management authority	
Obj. 4		GR activities	
Stakeholders build upon ongoing trans-boundary cooperation in the Prespa Basin by strengthening the trans-boundary coordination mechanism and piloting trans-boundary conservation and water management.			
Output 01 The Prespa Park Coordination Committee (PPCC) becomes a formal, international trilateral institution under international law.	Underway	Support to the work of the TB components	
Output 02 Prespa Working Group on Water Management (PWGWM) established by the PPCC.	Underway	Support to the work of the TB components	
Output 03 Communication activities catalyse stakeholder involvement and create new standard for transparency and openness for project implementation.	Underway	Support to the work of the TB components	
Output 04 Pilot species and habitat conservation initiatives under implementation	Underway	Support to the work of the TB components	
Output 05 Tri-national ecotourism and visitation strategy	Underway	Support to the work of the TB components	

(PNP) Prespa National Park; (GNP) Galicica National Park; (ENR) Ezerani Nature Reserve; Prespa Protected Area –Greece (PPA-GR)

and management plan designed and approved by stakeholders.			
Output 06 Supplementary trans-boundary diagnostic analysis fills gaps in existing analysis of environmental stress, related socio-economic consequences and trans-boundary coordination requirements.	Underway		Support to the work of the TB components
Output 07 Strategic Action Program for Prespa Lakes Basin developed and negotiated and committed to by highest levels of Government in Albania, Greece and Macedonia.	Underway		Support to the work of the TB components
Obj. 5 lessons learned and adaptive management of project			
Output 01 Monitoring and evaluation enables lessons to be elaborated, learned and shared worldwide and project management to be adaptive.	Underway		Continues in 2010
Output 02 Lessons learned are shared and replicated nationally and internationally.	Underway		Continues in 2010
Output 03 Adaptive management at national levels.	Underway		Continues in 2010
Output 04 Adaptive management at trans-boundary level.	Underway		Continues in 2010