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**LAKE SHKODRA/SKADAR  
INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM  
MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

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# Financing and implementation

## n Financing

GEF	USD 4,5 Mil
q MN	USD 2,56 Mil
q AI	USD 1.99 Mil

## n Co financing

q GOA:	USD 0,25 Mil
q GOM	USD 0,50 Mil

## n Implementation

- q World Bank
- q MEFWA
- q MTEM

n **Project Duration**      2008-2012

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# Project Objectives

- n **Global Development Objective:** to maintain and enhance the long-term value and environmental services of Lake Skadar-Shkoder and its natural resources.
  - n **Project Development Objective:** to help establish and strengthen institutional mechanisms for transboundary cooperation, to improve sustainable management of Lake Skadar-Shkoder.
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# General overview

- n Transboundary (MN and Al)
  - n largest lake in Balkans, (370 km<sup>2</sup> in summer/540 km<sup>2</sup> in winter).
  - n shallow, an average depth of 8 m,
  - n coastline of 168 km (110.5 km in MN and 57.5 km in Al)
  - n inflow from its tributaries (Moraca and Crnojevica Rivers), carstic springs,
  - n average water residence time about 120 days.
  - n high average water temperatures due to the mild climate, low elevation and shallowness,
  - n drains through Buna-Bojana River to Adriatic Sea.
  - n The outward flow of the lake is impeded when there is high flow in the Drin River, usually from December to February.
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# Situation and Threats (TDA)

## n Situation

- q Water quality is generally good
- q Some localized pollution “hotspots”.
- q Decline in some fish species, particularly commercially valuable migratory species.
- q Illegal fishing (AI)
- q Illegal construction (AI)
- q untreated wastewater (AI+MN)
  
- q No Joint Management Plan (AI+MN)
- q No Regular monitoring (AI)
- q No Baseline data (AI)

### Level of Protection

- q National Park (MN)
- q Managed Natural Reserve (AL)
- q Ramar Site

## n Main Threats

- q Pollution (Industrial waste - Domestic wastewater)
  - q Illegal Fishing and hunting
  - q Lakeshore development
  - q Water management measures (if implemented) Hydropower development, Dredging Buna-Bojana/  
Lowering lake level.
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# Project Components (JSAP)

1. Capacity Building for Improved Understanding and Joint Management of the Lake
  2. Promoting Sustainable Use of the Lake
  3. Promoting Pollution Reduction Investments.
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# Component 1

- q **Establish and strengthen the Skadar-Shkodra Lake Management Commission and its Secretariat. ( Agreement Signed in February 2008)**
    - § Drafting and applying strategies, programs and action plans for LS
    - § Monitoring the implementation of strategic documents drawn up by the two Parties
    - § Monitoring and coordinating other activities for the protection of LS
    - § Cooperating with all existing bilateral or multilateral structures.
    - § Suggesting to the Parties actions and measures for the implementation of the Agreement;
  - q **Establish and support the tasks of four technical WGs**
    - n **Planning and Legal;**
      - § to help harmonize planning of the two countries with regard to the Lake,
      - § to help facilitate any legal steps required to ensure sustainable management.
    - n **Monitoring and Research;**
      - § Establishment of a joint monitoring system
      - § Establishment of a joint database that will be publicly accessible.
    - n **Communications/Outreach and Sustainable Tourism;**
      - § to help plan and implement public awareness and tourism marketing campaigns,
      - § promote organization of public events.
    - n **Water Management.**
      - § technical oversight for development of a predictive hydrological lake and lake basin model.
      - § technical oversight on a joint fisheries management and monitoring plan, lakewide stock assessment,
  - q **Promote learning exchange**
    - n GEF International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network IW:LEARN)
    - n Cooperation with other GEF Projects
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# Some of the main Activities

- n Establishment of the Lake Joint Commission
  - n Establishment of the Joint Secretariat
  - n Establishment of the Joint WGs
  - n Prepare a Joint Lake-wide Zoning and Management Plan
  - n Developing joint fisheries monitoring and management plans
  - n Assistance on learning and capacity building on international cooperation on water basin management
  - n Laboratory services for environmental monitoring
  - n Laboratory equipment for targeted transboundary monitoring programs
  - n Public awareness campaign, public outreach/communication
  - n Legal framework harmonization and integrating role of commission into national legislation
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# Component 2

## OBJECTIVES ( tourism and fishery)

- ∅ tourism infrastructure renovations/construction
- ∅ Reduction in numbers of fishermen using illegal fishing methods
- ∅ Increased local understanding and engagement in sustainable tourism and natural resource management

### **n Support environmentally and socially sustainable tourism:**

- q improving nature- and culture-based facilities and attractions;
- q raising public awareness;
- q providing technical assistance to local residents considering tourism-based businesses.

The overall objective is

- q to create an enabling environment and attract private sector enterprises;
- q to market the cross-border Lake Skadar-Shkoder area as a tourist destination, and
- q to help businesses identify and develop appropriate, compatible business ideas.

### **n Support sustainable fisheries management:**

- q helping to develop lake-wide stock assessment and fisheries management plans
  - q integrating plan results and recommendations into national plans, regulations, and programs.
  - q provide incentives for fishermen to cease illegal fishing methods and help strengthen regulatory and enforcement capacity for fisheries management.
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# Some of the main Activities

- n Pilot renovation of cultural sites/visitor centers
  - n Capacity building on tourism
  - n Construction works for model eco-camping site
  - n Support for fishermen organization
  - n Equipment to Enhance Lake protection enforcement capacity
  - n Works on migratory waterfowl monitoring stations
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# Component 3

- n **Water quality-support selected investments to stimulate pollution reduction activities:**
    - q **A demonstration pilot project for wastewater treatment, based on constructed wetlands (village of Vranjina in Montenegro (MN))**
    - q **Restoration of some buffer areas**
      - n (willows and other native trees) in erosion-prone areas;
      - n stream bank erosion control
    - q **restoration of fish nursery areas**
    - q **provide TA to catalyze remediation of the lake's largest-scale industrial pollution "hotspot." KAP.**
      - n TA to inventory and classify the extent of soil pollution;
      - n feasibility study and options analysis with designs for hazardous waste containment and recycling.
      - n international adviser to assist regulatory authorities' work on the KAP site,
      - n An Environmental Impact Assessment for the design options that will be proposed in the Feasibility Study.
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# Project outcome indicators

- n Immediate and longer term threats to lake water quality and ecological system reduced
  - n Status of key transboundary indicators of Lake water quality maintained or improved
  - n Development and water use decisions/actions guided by bilateral objectives, agreements and structures
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# Synergies

- n **“St. Petersburg Process,”** Phase II, which facilitates debate on transboundary water management problems and integrated approaches to resolving them..
  - n **The Athens Declaration Process** which provides a framework for a long-term process to support activities for the integrated management of shared water resources.
  - n **UNECE. Water Convention** according to which the Parties to the Convention should conclude specific bilateral agreements providing for the establishment of joint bodies (institutional arrangements such as river basin commissions). ( Agreement signed & Joint structures to be established)
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Thank you for your attention

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