PRESPA PARK

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESPA PARK

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aghios Germanos, Prespa
January 2005

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HELLENIC MINISTRY
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS

Scientific Coordinator: Ms. Myrsini Malakou

Working Groups:

Albania
Dr. Spase Shumka, biologist - PPNEA (National Coordinator)
† Prof. Dr. Leke Gjiknuri, biologist - PPNEA, Tirana University
Dr. Aleko Miho, biologist - Faculty of Natural Sciences, Tirana University
Prof. Dr. Romeo Eftimi, hydrogeologist - Faculty of Geology, Tirana University
Prof. Dr. Arqile Berxholi, geographer - Geographic Study Centre, Albanian Academy of Sciences
Dr. Wolfgang Fremuth, biologist - Frankfurt Zoological Society
Ms. Nina Theodhosi, spatial planner - Institute of Urban Planning, Tirana

Greece
Ms. Myrsini Malakou, biologist - SPP Managing Director (National Coordinator)
Dr. Panagiota Maragou, biologist - WWF Greece
Dr. Vivi Roumeliotou, international environmental lawyer - SPP
Mr. Alekos Kotsampopoulos, economist
Dr. Vaggelis Nikolaidis, economist - University of Crete
Dr. Aris Sapounakis, architect-urban planner - University of Thessaly
Mr. Apostolis Karalis, MSc Regional Development
Ms. Vassiliki Gamagari, engineer- spatial planning and regional development
Ms. Klio Syrmakessi, engineer-spatial planning and regional development

FYR of Macedonia
Prof. Dr. Branko Micevski, biologist - Institute of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Skopje University (National Coordinator)
Mr. Pene Penev, spatial planner
Mr. Vasil Anastasovski, geographer - Ministry of Environment
Dr. Martin Schneider-Jacoby, protected area management expert
Prof. Dr. Dragan Kolchakovski, geographer - Institute of Geography, Faculty of Sciences, Skopje University
Prof. Dr. Radoslav Rizovski, biologist - Institute of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Skopje University
Dr. Svetozar Petkovski - Natural History Museum
Prof. Ljupcho Grupche, biologist - Institute of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Skopje University

Abbreviations

BR	Biosphere Reserve
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
DPSIR	Driving force – Pressure – State – Impact – Response (Environmental Pressure Indices Model)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESEPI	European System of Environmental Pressure Indices
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographical Information System
MAP	Macedonian Alliance for Prespa – NGO
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PNF	Prespa National Forest in Greece
PNP	Prespa National Park in Albania
PP	Prespa Park
PPNEA	Protection and Preservation of the Natural Environment of Albania – NGO
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPP	Society for the Protection of Prespa – NGO
TBPAC	Transboundary Protected Area Cooperation
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature – NGO

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Foreword

The Strategic Action Plan for the Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park (SAP) is the first building block of trilateral cooperation within the framework of the transboundary protected area. The Prespa Park was established by the Declaration of the Prime Ministers of Greece, Albania and the FYR of Macedonia on 2 February 2000, aiming at the preservation of the extraordinary natural and cultural values of the region, as well as the promotion of peace, friendship and cooperation between the three peoples.

The SAP study was funded with bilateral development assistance funds from the Greek Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, and was prepared from January 2001 until May 2002 under the responsibility of the Society for the Protection of Prespa (SPP), with the collaboration of WWF Greece, the NGO Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania (PPNEA) and the NGO Macedonian Alliance for Prespa (MAP). This is the first joint project of the three neighbouring countries and forms a product of close collaboration of the Non-Governmental Organisations actively participating in the Prespa Park and of several independent experts.

Following its completion, the SAP underwent an extensive consultation process in the three countries with the participation of competent central, local and regional authorities and a variety of other stakeholders. The present Executive Summary accommodates all major concerns that were raised during that process and was finally endorsed by the Prespa Park Coordination Committee in May 2004. That does not imply that the text and content of the Strategic Action Plan for the Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park is to be viewed as rigid and unalterable; it is rather a dynamic agreement on basic policy guidelines that could with time be adapted to changing circumstances and be subject to review to address new needs.

The SAP is structured as follows:

Chapter A presents the aim and objectives of the SAP, a description of the Prespa Park catchment area and its placing in the wider region, as well as a brief overview of the existing designated protected areas and management regimes.

Chapter B gives an outline and analysis of the study area. More specifically, sub-chapter B.1 describes the abiotic environment and refers to the geomorphology, the geology, the climate, the hydrology, water quality and hydrogeology, and the soils of the study area. Sub-chapter B.2 presents the biotic environment and refers to the vegetation and flora, the fauna, and the important areas for the fauna and the rare species of flora. Sub-chapter B.3 investigates the anthropogenic environment and the productive sectors with reference to the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Sub-chapter B.4 presents the social parameters and trends in the Prespa area. In the executive summary of the SAP, only a brief overview of chapter B is provided; full description and analysis of the study area is available in the full text of the study.

Chapter C gives a complete appraisal and evaluation of the area and a synthesis of all records. Sub-chapter C.1 presents an analysis of the basic strategic and political keystones for the development and protection of the Prespa Park. This section describes the basic assumptions for the area, the exact aim and objectives of the Prespa Park, as well as the difficulties impeding transboundary cooperation in the area. In addition, it identifies the policy keystones for the development and protection of the Prespa Park and the fundamental management issues that relate to all

countries and require coordination on a catchment basin level. Sub-chapter C.2 puts forward specific indicators for the environmental protection and sustainable development of the region. This section identifies both environmental and socio-economic policy fields and proposes relevant indicators for measuring impacts on the former. Sub-chapter C.3 presents proposals for formalising the transboundary cooperation in the framework of the Prespa Park. This section considers the issue of cooperation in the context of international organisations and treaty regimes, presents the main international instruments binding one or more of the three countries and discusses possible designations for the Prespa Park. It also lays down proposals for the future development of transboundary cooperation in Prespa.

Finally, Chapter D presents proposals for specific programmes and management measures per sector for the reinforcement of transboundary cooperation and for each one of the three countries. Brief technical datasheets of the measures included therein are available from the Secretariat of the Prespa Park Coordination Committee.

Chapter A. Introduction

A.1 Aim of the Strategic Action Plan for the Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park

The aim of the present Strategic Action Plan is:

- to facilitate the provision of information and its exchange among stakeholders;
- to outline the Prespa Park objectives in order to facilitate future discussions; as well as
- to describe in the clearest possible way the institutional, economic, management initiatives and procedures that should be taken in order to enable the accomplishment of these objectives.

A.2 Description of the Prespa Park Catchment Area

The total Prespa area, combining the drainage basins and the lakes, is 251,910ha. Micro Prespa Lake (total surface approx. 4,740ha) belongs mainly to Greece (4,350ha), while a smaller part (approx. 400ha) belongs to Albania. Macro Prespa, with total surface approx. 25,940ha, is divided between the three states (Albania, Greece and the FYR of Macedonia), with the largest part belonging to the FYR of Macedonia. The lakes Micro and Macro Prespa are situated at approximately 850 metres above sea level (m asl) amidst mountains rising to over 2,000m asl. The highest peak in the region is located on the Pelister Mountain (2,601m). There are four islands in the lakes, Aghios Achillios and Vidronissi at the Greek part of Micro Prespa, and Mali Grad and Golem Grad in Macro Prespa in Albania and the FYR of Macedonia respectively.

A.3 Placing the Prespa Park in the Wider Region

The Prespa area forms an enclosed basin controlled by passes cutting through high mountains. To the east, Prespa is adjacent to the valley of Pelagonia, which begins in the FYR of Macedonia and ends up southerly to the areas of Florina and Kastoria, in Greece. To the west, the valley of Billisht separates Prespa and Korcha in Albania. To the north and northwest Prespa is adjacent to the catchment basin of Ohrid Lake, while to the far north and northeast Prespa is adjacent to the area of Demir Hisar in the FYR of Macedonia.

In Albania, the Macro Prespa area belongs to the Korcha District and the nine villages in this part belong to the Liqenas Commune. The Micro Prespa area belongs to the Devoll District and the three villages of this area belong to the Proger Commune. Both Communes belong to the Korcha Prefecture and communicate with the city of Korcha through the Zvezda pass, with the city of Billisht through the national road which leads to Greece, and to the north with the city of Resen (FYR of Macedonia) through the Gorica/ Stenje border crossing.

The Greek part of the catchment basin, with its 13 villages, falls under the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Prespa. The area communicates with the cities of Florina and Kastoria through mountain passes, with particularly difficult access, especially during the winter months.

In the FYR of Macedonia, the so-called Prespa Valley has an urban centre called Resen and 43 small and large villages and settlements. The area communicates with the city of Bitola and the Ohrid region via mountainous passes.

A.4 Designated Areas and Existing Management Regimes

Macro and Micro Prespa Lakes and their catchment basin are regulated and protected under a series of national, Community and international legal instruments. In Albania and Greece, the whole Prespa catchment is covered by a single protected area in the form of National Park (or National Forest in the case of Greece). In the FYR of Macedonia, on the other hand, the Prespa catchment is much larger and includes at least three separate protected areas.

More specifically, the Prespa area is protected as through:

In Albania

- The institutional framework of the Prespa National Park (PNP), with a total surface of 27,750ha, established in 1999. The General Directorate for Forests and Pastures, which is responsible for the administration of the protected areas, has approved a Management Plan for the Protection and Conservation of the PNP. It should also be noted that the Albanian Government is preparing the PNP area for inclusion in the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.
- The wider legal framework of Albania.

In Greece

- The institutional framework of the Prespa National Forest (PNF), of 19,470ha, established in 1971, as complemented by the establishment of the Prespa Management Body, in June 2003. The PNF has also been declared a "landscape of exceptional beauty" and a general duty to preserve it has been promulgated.
- From a European law perspective, pursuant to Directive 79/409/EEC on the protection of birds (the Birds Directive), Micro Prespa is a designated Special Protection Area (SPA) as an area important for birds. In addition, under Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna (the Habitats/ NATURA 2000 Directive), two Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) have been designated in the Prespa area, the PNF and the Varnountas Mountain. These two areas, along with the SPA of Micro Prespa – which is actually the core zone of the PNF – are included in the Greek NATURA 2000 National List.
- From an international law perspective, the Greek Prespa falls under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, since Micro Prespa is designated as one of the Greek Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance). Moreover, several species of the flora and fauna of Prespa – not only in Greece but also in the other two countries – are included in the Annexes of the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, but no specific protection measures, as instructed by the Convention, have been taken.
- The wider legal framework of Greece.

In the FYR of Macedonia

- The institutional framework of the Strictly Protected Nature Reserve Ezerani (2,080ha), designated a Ramsar site – along with the FYR of Macedonia part of Macro Prespa – in 1995.
- The institutional framework of the Pelister National Park (12,500ha), proclaimed in 1948.
- The institutional framework of the Galichitsa National Park (22,750ha), established in 1958.
- The institutional framework of the Macro Prespa Lake – proclaimed a "Monument of Nature" in 1977. It has also been included in the list of the most significant localities in Europe (1995) and the list of the most significant water habitats. The area of the Prespa Lake is home to numerous avian species from the CORINE list.
- The institutional framework of the Reserves of Fir (*Abies alba*), Birch (*Betula pendula*) and Beech (*Fagus moesiaca*) on the slopes of Pelister Mountain (in areas of 7.6ha, 8.7ha and 5ha respectively).
- The institutional framework of six areas of controlled hunting.
- The institutional framework of Special Housing Zones, three Industrial Zones, and six Tourist and Recreation Zones.
- The wider legal framework of the FYR of Macedonia.

Chapter B. Outline and analysis of the study area

B.1 Abiotic Environment

B.1.1 Geomorphology

The geomorphology of the Prespa region is intense. The geomorphological character of the region is defined by the two lakes, Micro Prespa and Macro Prespa, and by the high mountain ranges (Mali i Thate, Galichitsa, Pelister, Varnountas, Triklario) situated at a short distance around the shores of the lakes. The mountainous area (1,100-1,500m) occupies a major part of the overall land surface.

B.1.2 Geology

In the full SAP text, the geological history and structure of the Prespa basin is presented in detail. The basin is generally characterised by permeable limestone in the western and southern part, while at the northern and eastern part the impermeable to the water granite rocks prevail.

B.1.3 Climate

The climate of the Prespa Lakes basin is characterised as mild continental-central European with Mediterranean features. Meteorological data in all three counties are limited and do not cover all the altitudes and areas of the basin. The average annual precipitation falls in the 600-900mm range. The wet season lasts from October to May. Snowfall is common from December until April. The average annual temperature at the lake level lies between 9.5°-11°C. Wind velocities are low throughout the year.

B.1.4 Hydrology, Water Quality and Hydrogeology

B.1.4.1 Water level fluctuation of Micro and Macro Prespa lakes: The fluctuation of the water level of Micro Prespa is largely correlated with the diversion of the Devoll River and the withdrawal of water for irrigation purposes. The water level of Macro Prespa has decreased during recent years by approximately 8m, however the causes of this phenomenon have not yet been fully investigated. It is assumed that the dry period after 1987, in combination with the uncontrolled underground outflow to Ohrid Lake and possibly increased water abstraction for human uses in the three countries, resulted in this phenomenon. The hydrology of the two lakes is complex. For a complete interpretation of the observed phenomena and management of the water regime, a comprehensive study of the hydrogeology of the region is deemed necessary.

B.1.4.2 Water management and interventions: In 1936, the Aghios Germanos Stream, in Greece, was diverted from Micro Prespa to Macro Prespa, while the Maliq Lake, in Albania, was drained. Nevertheless, the most significant intervention in the area took place in 1976, when the Devoll River, in Albania, was linked to Micro Prespa Lake, so that to pour water into the lake during winter and to draw off water from the lake during summer for the irrigation of the Korcha plain (30,000ha). Through this twofold water exchange with the lake (from the river to the lake and from the lake to a canal), it was estimated that 30-70 million m^3 of water would enter the lake annually and 90 million m^3 would be discharged from the lake through the canal. During wintertime, it has been estimated that approximately 40,000m^3 solid materials were deposited in Micro Prespa annually. The remaining interventions are low scale, mostly connected to irrigation purposes, and mainly took place during the 1960s. In 1986, a sluice gate has been placed at the end of the channel that connects Micro and Macro Prespa Lakes on Greek territory. The institutional framework that would permit regulation of the water level in the lakes is largely absent in the three countries.

B.1.4.3 Water Quality: The absence of long-term, systematic water quality measurements is characteristic for the entire area, all the ex-

isting data concern limited duration sampling, while the analyses are usually carried out using different methods. Therefore, the results must generally be treated with a certain reservation. The water quality is generally good. Micro Prespa can be characterised as dimictic, since thermal layers can be observed and the surface water freezes, albeit for a few days every year. The lake is generally classified as mesotrophic to eutrophic or close to the eutrophic stage. Macro Prespa is classified as oligotrophic and has good water oxygenation, but its transparency is constantly decreasing and it seems to be increasingly burdened with pollutants, especially on the FYR of Macedonia side.

B.1.5 Soils

The full SAP text presents the major soil types that are found in the Prespa region.

B.2 Biotic Environment

B.2.1 The Vegetation and Flora

B.2.1.1 Phytogeography: From a phytogeographical perspective, the study area can be classified in the Balkan sub-zone of the Sub-Mediterranean vegetation zone. The areas with aquatic vegetation have special conservation importance. The plant formations of the land area exhibit a variety of forms. The successive zones from the lakeshore to the watershed line on the mountains are forest formations (lowland woodland vegetation, deciduous oak forests, deciduous beech forests, and mixed beech-fir tree forests), sub-alpine vegetation of dwarf shrubs and alpine meadows.

B.2.1.2 Endemic, rare, interesting and threatened plant species: Despite the fact that there is no complete inventory of the flora of the Prespa area, many endemic species of the Balkan Peninsula have been detected. In addition, non-endemic species that have been recorded in the area are included in catalogues of protected plant species.

B.2.2 The Fauna

B.2.2.1 Invertebrates: 16 endemic species have been registered.

B.2.2.2 Fish fauna: A total of 23 fish species have been recorded, out of which 5 are endemic to Prespa and 2 are endemic to the Balkans.

B.2.2.3 Amphibians: 11 amphibian species have been recorded. Two species and four subspecies are considered Balkan endemics. None of the amphibian species is directly threatened.

B.2.2.4 Reptiles: 22 reptile species have been recorded.

B.2.2.5 Birds: The avifauna of Prespa has both national and international importance, due to its richness but also due to the presence of significant populations of rare species of international importance, such as the Dalmatian Pelican, the White Pelican and the Pygmy Cormorant. From the 261 bird species that have been observed in the Greek part of the area, 183 are important, according to official catalogues, national or EC legislation and international conventions. No detailed study to gather qualitative and quantitative data has been undertaken so far in Albania and the FYR of Macedonia.

B.2.2.6 Mammals: Among the mammals encountered in Prespa, four are in need of immediate conservation measures: the Wolf, the Brown Bear, the Otter and the Chamois.

B.2.3 Important areas for the fauna and the rare species of flora

In Albania

- The Micro Prespa Lake and its surrounding catchment basin.
- The Gorica-Kallamas Gulf in Macro Prespa.
- The oak forests at the western slopes of Mali i Thate and at Bitincka and Rakicka hills until the Greek border.
- The ancient forest of 45ha of *Juniperus foetidissima* in the Kallamas area.
- An oak forest close to Djellas Monastery.
- The old plane trees in Liqenas and Gorica villages.
- The stony belt of the Prespa lakeshore where "caraca" (*Celtis tournerfortii*) grows.
- The beech forest in the eastern slopes of Mali i Thate.
- The alpine meadows of the Mali i Thate Mountain.
- The Mali Grad Island.
- The Treni cave on the lakeshore of Micro Prespa.

In Greece

- The area with the unmixed juniper forest close to Vrondero (habitat 5110 under Directive 92/43/EEC).
- The areas with juniper forests, unmixed or mixed with Macedonian Oak trees (habitats 9250, 9562, 9563) in the area between Psarades and Vrondero, with special emphasis on the two clusters of junipers in Aghios Georghios, Psarades, and Aghios Athanassios, Vrondero, as well as the oak forest at the Ramna location between Psarades and Vrondero.
- The catchment basin of the Aghios Germanos Stream with special emphasis to all areas with mixed fir-oak tree forests (habitat 9270).
- The oak and beech forests and pastures above the villages of Aghios Germanos, Platy, Kallithea, Lefkona, Karyes, Oxia, Microlimni.
- The mixed deciduous broad-leaved forest in Oxia.
- The core of the Prespa wetland, namely the locations Koula, Slatina, Sloghi, and Opayia, that includes small sections of the habitats 91E0 and 92A0.
- The island Vidronissi and the reedbeds at Mikrolimni-Bouskani, Slatina Plateos, Leukona, Pyli-Dasseri to the Albanian borders.
- The rocky shore of the Macro Prespa Lake from the Aghios Nikolaos cape to the Koula/ Sailing Club location
- The forested slopes of Triklario.
- The coastline from Koula to the borders with the FYR of Macedonia along with the coastal forest vegetation of the Macro Prespa Lake.
- The Aghios Germanos Stream from its mouth in Macro Prespa up to its springs, since it includes the habitats 3240, 91E0 and 92A0, as well as the biotopes of the endemic fish species of the Trout and the Barbel and the biotopes where the plant species *Galanthus nivalis* grows.
- The last large clump of narcissus in Oxia.
- Areas where the species *Diphelypaea boissieri* grows (confidential).
- Areas where the species *Lesquerexia syriaca* grows (confidential).
- Areas where the habitats 6211 and 6230 can be found in the alpine zone of Mountain Varnountas and partially cover the area where the Chamois is encountered.
- The unspoilt SE part of the study area, SE of the line that connects the deserted village Dasseri with the bay of Latsista up to the top of the mountains and to the Albanian borders. The area includes part of the lake and steep mountain slopes with broad-leaved deciduous trees.

In the FYR of Macedonia

- The Macro Prespa Lake.
- The Ezerani wetland.
- The island Golem Grad as an isolated habitat with minimum anthropogenic influence.
- Old wild almond and juniper forests on the cliffy coast of Golem Grad Island.
- The cave near the village Leskoec as a significant habitat with bats.
- The Brajinska River for – among others – the endemic subspecies of trout.
- The Stenje Marsh, situated on the western shore of Macro Prespa Lake.
- The Galichitsa Mountain due to the abundance of relic and endemic species of flora.
- The young Black Pine underbrush near Oteshevo in Galichitsa.
- The Samoska Dupka Cave in Galichitsa (297m in length).
- The karst fields: Suvo Pole (arid field), Asangura, Dzafa and Vrdulo, on Galichitsa.
- The big valley to the south of Magaro peak on Galichitsa.
- The Galichitsa National Park, which represents a classic find of 20 species of perennial plants, 12 of which are local endemic species, and 26 endemic species of fauna.
- The sprout forests of European Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*) in Pluskana near Leskoec village, in Galichitsa National Park.
- The beech and beech-fir forests and rare plant complexes near the village of Leskoec, in Galichitsa National Park.
- The old hornbeam and hazel tree forests on the slopes of Petrina Mountain near Smolje, above Bolno village.
- The well-embedded sprout ash forests above Capari village, in Pelister National Park.
- The old beech and fir forests near Siroka area, in Pelister National Park.
- The Piedmont beech forest near the Vrteska location, on Pelister Mountain.
- The old Macedonian Pine forest near Begova Cesma Area, on Pelister Mountain.
- The periglacial relief forms of the 'stone river' type, near the Kopanki location, and the Big and Small Glacier Lakes, on Pelister.

B.3 Anthropogenic Environment

B.3.1 The Primary Sector

The primary is the largest productive sector in the Prespa region for all three countries.

B.3.1.1 Agriculture: In the Greek Prespa, almost half of the families (48%) are mainly occupied in agriculture. During the last 20 years there has been a steady increase in bean cultivation – which has, however, recently started to suffer from competitive pressure – constancy in vegetable and tree cultivation, and reduction in cereal cultivation. Other characteristics of the agricultural sector in the area are small land ownership and some significant deficiencies in marketing and processing. The quantities of fertilisers and pesticides used in the Greek Prespa are substantial but stable, while there has recently been a shift towards integrated agriculture and the application of best practices.

In the Albanian Prespa the main economic activity of the primary sector is agriculture. Nowadays, only 2.1% of the arable land is irrigated (in 1985 the percentage was 54%) due to the destruction of the relevant infrastructure. Productivity remains low due to minimal mechanisation, leading to low income for the farmers. Fertilisers are not widely used in the region, which indicates its potential for organic farming.

In the FYR of Macedonia, the most important agricultural sector is fruit growing (the apple being the most dominant) and cereals. The old marketing system of apples has broken down, leading to severe financial problems. Almost all of the agricultural land (91%) is privately owned and the use of fertilisers is intensive.

B.3.1.2 Stockbreeding: On the Greek side, about 33.5% of the labour force is involved in stock raising, especially sheep and goat breeding. Recently, a revival of cattle breeding has been observed, as a secondary occupation. All stockbreeding sectors, however, face several problems and deficiencies. In the Albanian Prespa, stockbreeding is reviving as well. Cattlebreeding in the FYR of Macedonia does not represent a significant economic activity and covers only the needs of the local population. The operation of a poultry farm in the FYR of Macedonia – and its potential future development – threatens the lake with substantial pollution.

B.3.1.3 Fishing: The number of fishermen has been steadily decreasing. In the Greek Prespa, approximately 13% of the labour force is involved in fishing. Restrictions on fishing are minimal. Since 1960, fish production is steadily decreasing, due to overfishing and overgrowth of the reed beds, as well as to a decline in the number of fishermen. In Albania and the FYR of Macedonia, although there is lack of statistical data on fish yield and fisheries, a decrease in fishing production is also noted.

B.3.1.4 Forestry: Although forestry constitutes an active industry in the Greek Prespa, only 3% of the labour force is occupied in the sector with a very low contribution to their income. Fully forested and partially forested areas cover 60.6% of the land in the study area. On the Albanian side, most local forests have in the past been degraded for the production of fuel wood (which is the major source of energy) and the collection of winter fodder, mostly for goats. Another threat is overgrazing of sub-alpine and alpine meadows. Reforestations that took place in Albania, during the years 1988-1992, used alien species. In the FYR of Macedonia, the company "Prespa Drvo", which employs 75 people, manages the forests of the Prespa basin and carries out a significant economic activity. The need to adopt a comprehensive forest management plan is deemed necessary in all three countries.

B.3.1.5 Mining: There are no active mines in the Albanian and the Greek Prespa area, whereas in the FYR of Macedonia six lime factories and a quarry of syenite operate covering local needs.

B.3.2. The Secondary Sector

In the Greek Prespa, a few agricultural product-processing units and a marble-processing industry operated during the years 1969-1992, albeit with no great success. Nowadays, only a few fur workshops operate in the Greek Prespa, organised as family businesses and employing about 25 people. There are no secondary sector activities in the Albanian Prespa. In the FYR of Macedonia, 2500 to 3000 persons are employed in various enterprises, which, however, face economic

problems. The various industries of this sector create considerable pollution and are in need of specific investments for their overall modernisation.

B.3.3 The Tertiary Sector

In the Greek Prespa, the tertiary sector occupies around 16% of the active labour force. Commercial activities in the study region have created a very rudimentary infrastructure in order to meet the basic needs of the local community. Services offered in the Greek Prespa mainly relate to recreation and tourism and demonstrate a steady increase. The tourist period lasts from June to September and the majority of visitors are young Greeks. The Prespa region has several significant cultural and natural features, archaeological sites and monuments, small traditional villages and sites of special ecological interest. However, the tourist attractions of Prespa remain relatively under-exploited, unknown and in a bad condition. Hence, promotion of conventional or alternative tourism seems to be essential for the economic development of the region and the preservation of its historical, cultural and ecological identity. In the FYR of Macedonia, there is an expected increase in tourism over the next 20 years, which, however, is also mostly seasonal. In Albania, the tourism sector is almost non-existent, due to unfavourable economic conditions and lack of necessary infrastructure.

B.4 Social Parameters and Trends

The population in the Greek Prespa (1,294 residents in 1991) and the FYR of Macedonia Prespa (17,681 residents in 1991) has experienced substantial decrease during the last decades, while in the Albanian Prespa (5,063 residents in 1989) a slight increase has been noted. The demographic data and the factors that influence them are different in the three countries. In Greece, the lack of opportunities and social infrastructure has led – especially young – people to settle in nearby urban centres, resulting in a decrease in birth rates in the area. In the FYR of Macedonia the population is aging and decreasing due to the high migration rate, while in Albanian a significant percentage of the active labour force (28% or more) is practically unemployed.

Health infrastructure and recreation activities are inefficient in the Prespa area. The road network in Greece and the FYR of Macedonia is functional except for the winter. In Albania, the road network is in need of extensive upgrading. The water supply, electric energy supply, and telecommunication system in Albania present significant deficiencies or are inexistent. In Greece and the FYR of Macedonia, electricity and telecommunication needs are sufficiently met, while there are small water shortages, especially during the summer months.

Renewable energy sources are not used in Prespa. However, a recent study on the Greek side estimates that the biomass from agricultural, forestry and stockbreeding residues could be utilised after appropriate financial and technical assessment. The exploitation of wind energy does not appear attractive due to the low wind potential of the area, but solar energy could be utilised to a certain extent.

In Greece, there is no wastewater treatment plant and no organised waste management. At present, the existing waste disposal area is located near Oxia village. The Albanian Prespa, as a whole, lacks a wastewater treatment system and a solid waste disposal facility; nevertheless, a wastewater collection and primary treatment system is currently under construction in Liqenas and a solid waste disposal facility is also being built for the areas of Liqenas, Zaroshka and Gorica e Vogel. In the FYR of Macedonia, two landfills exist, one is a communal landfill for the town of Resen and the other is an industrial waste landfill; while an existing wastewater treatment facility is currently being modernised and upgraded and is expected to contribute to the abatement of water pollution when it becomes operational.

Prespa is rich in cultural and historical values, which include prehistoric settlements, monuments and artwork from the Ancient and Byzantine periods, as well as a wealth of local traditions, practices, architecture and art forms. The monuments are generally in need of maintenance, restoration and promotion in order to be preserved and become known.

Chapter C. Complete appraisal and evaluation of the area and synthesis of all records

C.1 Analysis of the Basic Strategic and Political Keystones for the Development and Protection of the Prespa Park

The aim of this chapter is to formulate a strategy for the Prespa Park (PP) founded on given information, starting from the goal of the establishment of the Prespa Park to its objectives, as well as the strategic axes on which the future development and conservation of Prespa should be based.

C.1.1 Basic Assumptions

1. Prespa is a single, uninterrupted ecosystem.

2. Prespa is distinguished by a multitude of exceptional natural and cultural features, in the conservation of which we wish the PP to contribute. These values include:
- a. the beauty of the landscape;
- b. the lakes and the rivers;
- c. the various rare biotopes created in and around the lakes;
- d. the great variety of biotopes and the functions of the ecosystems;
- e. the rich fauna, which includes rare and endemic animal species;
- f. the large population of some species of rare waterfowl;
- g. settlements with many traditional buildings;
- h. particularities of the local culture that relate to the relationship between man and nature;
- i. the local varieties of breeding animals and cultivated plants;
- j. the large number of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine monuments;
- k. the susceptibility of the region to model integrated management on a catchment basin level.

3. The main relative competitive advantage that the area as a whole possesses is the combination of its rich natural and cultural heritage and natural resources.

4. The area has great scientific interest in view of the fact that it has almost always been isolated.

5. The values of Prespa cannot be preserved separately in each of the three sides. A typical example of this is the preservation and management of the lake waters quality and quantity. The same applies to:
- a. the preservation of flora and fauna that is distributed across state boundaries;
- b. the control of pest species or alien invasive species;
- c. joint research and monitoring programmes;
- d. joint training of staff;
- e. joint plans to fight wildfires and mutual assistance in emergency situations.

6. The significance of the values becomes much greater if they are combined to form a single whole, as exemplified by the Byzantine monuments, which exist in the three countries.

7. The ecological unity of the Prespa basin underscores the need for comprehensive spatial planning of protection zones and related measures in all three countries where currently separate protection systems are applied.

8. In Albania, the environmental problems reflect the overall degradation of biotopes due to lack of energy resources and unplanned human activities. In the FYR of Macedonia, they are mainly a result of pollution, while in Greece they are of lesser extent and mainly attributed to the decline of specific traditional human activities. Nevertheless, in the present study environmental problems are viewed as having equal importance throughout the Prespa area.

9. Implementation of conservation measures, management and sustainable exploitation of natural resources are far below the optimum levels.
10. Research and monitoring of basic natural and socio-economic parameters is limited. Hence, an integrated monitoring system in all three countries should be established.
11. Careful and conditional exploitation of natural resources constitutes not only a desirable but also an indispensable factor for the protection of the area's values.
12. In many cases, habitat degradation is the result of superficial planning by central state authorities or external factors rather than local misuse of resources.
13. The productive system is not balanced and equally developed in all sectors. As a result, promotion of structural changes, giving emphasis to the activities of the primary and tertiary sectors, where the area's competitive advantages lie, is deemed necessary.
14. There is an intense need to enhance the standard of living of the inhabitants in all three countries.
15. Sustainable management and development should not be limited to a stiff or inflexible strategy, but they should rather be an approach to understanding the complex ecological, economic and social relations.
16. Large-scale or intensive development initiatives are often incompatible with the preservation of the values of the area. Alternative technology, renewable energy resources and new production methods should be used for the transition from intensive uses of natural resources to more sustainable ones.
17. One of the main challenges of the PP is to establish procedures for actual participation of the stakeholders and inhabitants in the decision-making process.
18. In order for the living standards to be raised, the three countries must come to an agreement on harmonised utilisation of natural resources under common terms.

C.1.2 What is the Prespa Park and What is its Exact Aim

The PP is a means, additional to those already available, that enables actions, functions and initiatives with a spatial perspective for the entire Prespa region. Its main aim is *the preservation of the valuable natural and cultural characteristics of the whole of Prespa through management methods and development initiatives that enhance the standard of living of its inhabitants, as well as promote peace and friendship between the three peoples and lead to economic and social prosperity and convergence*.

C.1.3 What are the Objectives of the Prespa Park

The greatest challenge in Prespa, as in all protected areas hosting settlements and human activities, is how to strike a balance between the legitimate request of the inhabitants for development and better living conditions and the maintenance and enhancement of environmental conditions.

Based on the text of the Prime Ministerial Declaration and the broader experience with transboundary protected areas, the objectives of the PP can be detailed as follows:

Objective I: Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area.

Objective II: Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations.

Objective III: Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities, and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources.

Objective IV: Participation, cooperation and involvement in decision-making and in benefit or loss sharing of stakeholders in the three countries.

C.1.4 Difficulties Impeding Transboundary Cooperation in Prespa

The difficulties impeding transboundary cooperation can be summarised as follows:

1. Different laws, policies and regimes of the protected areas and powers of management authorities;
2. Different political and administrative structure;
3. Different stages of economic development and policy;
4. National sovereignty and security considerations;
5. Difficult terrain, inaccessibility and lack of transport;
6. National, political, or cultural differences that can cause misunderstandings;
7. Language barriers; and
8. The pending foreign policy issues between Greece and the FYR of Macedonia that prohibit formal adoption of new international agreements between the two countries.

C.1.5 Policy Keystones for the Development and Protection of the Prespa Park

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, the following methodology/ policy should be followed:

Objective I:

Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area

- Promotion of the concept of unity of the Prespa catchment basin.
- Wise water management in the basin.
- Promotion of measures to resolve the Devoll problem.
- Mitigation of the special pollution problems the Macro Prespa Lake is faced with.
- Sustainable utilisation of natural resources in and around the Prespa Lakes.
- Enlargement of existing knowledge on the condition of the natural environment.
- Complete documentation, identification and assessment of the problems relating to the natural values.
- Adoption of a joint monitoring system.
- Implementation of specific management interventions for the conservation, restoration and protection of biotopes and/ or species.
- Linking of management interventions with human activities.
- Thematic transboundary activities for environmental protection and management; promotion of exchange of information, knowledge, experience and know-how.
- Promotion of institutional reform in order to ensure the protection of the whole catchment basin.

Objective II:

Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations

- Promotion of a common development philosophy for the whole region.
- Promotion of balanced development planning with emphasis on all sectors, not only tourism.
- Promotion of productive activities contributing to environmental protection and management.
- Promotion of environment-friendly solutions with regard to energy production and management of natural resources, and especially water.
- Use of modern or environment-friendly technologies and means.
- Application of innovatory pilot programmes for the development of primary sector activities.
- Development of ecotourism.
- Construction or improvement of infrastructure.
- Promotion of registered designations of origin and labelling of local products.

- Mitigation of the large socio-economic differences between the three countries with the ultimate target of achieving comparable levels of infrastructure and services.
- Promotion of intra-communication between the three parts of the Prespa basin.
- Strengthening the local labour force, through local training, and raising the region's GDP.
- Lifting of isolation, increase of opportunities, enhancement of the social fibre.
- Promotion of joint transboundary development activities.
- Promotion of the multicultural character of the region.
- Modernisation of all existing traditional activities.
- Enhancement of the internal socioeconomic connectivity of the settlements.
- Utilisation of local races of plants and animals.
- Promotion and institutional consolidation of business initiatives.
- Maintenance of existing population figures.

Objective III:

Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities, and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources

- Promotion of the concept of unity of the Prespa catchment basin.
- Protection of the Byzantine monuments and of the traditional settlements.
- Listing of all traditional human activities and features in the area.
- Linking of management interventions with human activities in the region.

Objective IV:

Participation, cooperation and involvement in decision-making and in benefit or loss sharing of stakeholders in the three countries.

- Promotion of a culture of peace, contribution to conflict prevention and building of trust, confidence and security in the area.
- Promotion of exchange of information, knowledge, experience and know-how between the stakeholders directly or indirectly involved in the protection and management of the area.
- Increase participation of local stakeholders by introducing new participatory methods and approaches, such as processes where the focus lies on "cumulative learning" and exchange of ideas and experiences among all participants, since diversity is sought rather than being suppressed.

C.1.6 Fundamental Management Issues that Relate to All Three Countries and Require Coordination on a Catchment Basin Level

Based on the aforementioned findings and principles, as well as the PP aim and objectives, the following operational targets are proposed:

Objective I:

Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area

Operational target I:
Preservation of Prespa water resources

The SAP puts forward a comprehensive system of measures whose implementation will secure:

a. the desired maximum and minimum water level of the lakes, as well as the optimum yearly fluctuation of the water level, so as to serve the conservation of the remaining dependent values;

b. the fulfilment of drinking water and irrigation needs in each country;

c. the prevention of pollution from point sources and the minimisation of pollution from non-point sources;

d. the preservation of acceptable water quality levels for the various agreed uses;

e. the monitoring of quantitative and qualitative parameters of the waters.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Accomplishment of a hydrogeological study for the whole catchment basin aiming at the immediate mitigation of the problems of: siltation of Micro Prespa; pollution of Macro Prespa and decrease of its water level by 8m; and establishment of a relevant long-term monitoring system. This monitoring system should have a tele-transmission capability in order to allow direct contact between the three countries to respond to emergency situations. The system could operate as a monitoring station and, with the establishment of an appropriate management body, provide its results to all interested people. Preparation and development of a coordinated Basin Water Management Plan between the three countries for the use and management of Prespa freshwater resources.
- In *Albania:* Estimation of the actual impact of the Devoll irrigation system to the water quantity of Micro Prespa Lake. Limitation of the water input from Devoll River in Micro Prespa and the use of Micro Prespa water for the irrigation of Korca plain. Promotion of reforestation activities in both lakes to restore critical micro-watersheds and springs.
- In *Greece:* Implementation of the study on the optimum water level of Micro Prespa, which has been completed and approved by the competent authorities. Maintenance of the lake level within the acceptable range of 850.60-851m during spring. Analysis of the water characteristics, the impact of activities on the quantity of water and an economic analysis of water use, according to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC - WFD). Rationalisation of the use of fertilisers according to the real needs of the crops. Promotion of environment-friendly cultivation methods and provision of information to the farmers on the use of pesticides. Control and cessation of the washing of spraying equipment in the streams and in the lakes. Organisation of an effective waste collection system and cessation of uncontrolled dumping of solid waste. Ensuring that all settlements and villages are connected to sewage networks. Establishment of small wastewater treatment stations (preferably small artificial wetlands).
- In the *FYR of Macedonia:* Implementation of a programme to restore the water quality of Golema Reka River. Control of the excessive use of fertilisers in the fruit yards. Control of the dumping of pesticide packaging in the Golema Reka River. Ensuring that all settlements and villages are connected to sewage networks. Establishment of small wastewater treatment stations (preferably small artificial wetlands) for each village or for neighbouring ones, if possible.

Operational target II:
Conservation of rare habitats, the variety and mosaic of biotopes and the rare or endemic flora and fauna species through research, monitoring and implementation of management regimes

The execution of a series of studies on important species and biotopes is considered necessary. A comprehensive and harmonised system for monitoring the parameters that influence the valuable features of the region and the features themselves should be put in place. Measures must be taken to secure the conservation and restoration of important habitats in a way that does not exclude the sustainable utilisation of possible existing productive resources of these habitats. Lastly, the populations of the most vulnerable and rare plant and animal species must be monitored, so as to enable the adoption of timely management measures.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Establishment of research and management centres (AL/MK) and of a Regional Research/ Educa-

tional Centre (GR). Global Environment Facility (GEF) project development. Preparation of a joint forest management plan. Study on the icthyofauna of the lakes and rivers that includes 11 endemic species and subspecies of fish. Study of the rare mammal species. Study of important and rare species of birds. Preparation of a joint monitoring pilot project on basic biotic and abiotic parameters. Development of a GIS system for the Prespa basin. Restoration/reforestation activities of degraded forest areas. Joint conservation pilot projects on selected species and biotopes. Management of wet meadows. Action plans for the conservation and management of selected species and habitats. Monitoring of the ecological impacts of the introduction of exotic fish species. Creation of an aquarium and genetic bank of endemic species and sub-species of fish. Promotion of the use of domestic animal species in livestock breeding and the cultivation of local plant varieties. Joint pilot project for the phasing out of uncontrolled collection of medicinal plants and switching to cultivation, certification and marketing.

- In *Albania*: Completion of inventory and assessment of flora and fauna. Control of the use of forest resources by means of a licensing system. Rehabilitation and restoration of forests. Estimation of carrying capacity to reduce pressure of stockbreeding on forest areas. Study and proposal of alternative methods for the protection of pastures from erosion. Decrease of the goat number from 5,500 heads to ca. 3,000 (in 3 years), to ca. 2,000 (in 6 years) and to ca. 1,500 (in 9 years). Provision of incentives for the transition of stockbreeding from goat to sheep. Discontinuation of forest management in areas with >80% gradient to reduce erosion. Protection of reed beds from overexploitation (cutting or grazing). Promotion of a scheme for the effective management of the reed beds in Micro Prespa, according to experience in the Greek part and other experiences in Europe. Cessation of the input from Devoll that causes siltation and reduces fish spawning areas.
- In *Greece*: Promotion of the management of wet meadows, through the implementation of measures for water level control in Micro Prespa and management of the littoral vegetation. Study for the rational management of forest complexes. Utilisation of only local species for reforestations. Support and restoration, through relevant forestry methods, of the mixed character of the Prespa forest. Prohibition of woodcutting in a zone of 50m along all streams with high slope values.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Completion of inventory and assessment of flora and fauna. Regulation of goat grazing in the forest to prevent possible degradation. Protection of the Golema Reka River, a spawning habitat for a significant portion of Prespa fish. Implementation of management interventions in the Ezerani wetland.

Operational target III:
Promotion of institutional framework for transborder cooperation for the management of protected areas in each country

In Prespa, each state currently applies its own management system (rules and bodies). The goal is to identify the links between them and propose measures for their revision, evolution or adaptation to modern demands. The basic direction is planning and management at a catchment basin level. To achieve these objectives, there must be:

a. a coordination organ/-s and bodies with regular, institutionalised procedures;

b. full utilisation of scientific and local knowledge;

c. determination and scientific monitoring of all crucial parameters that are common in the three countries;

d. continuation of scientific research in order to cover gaps;

e. effective compliance control with whatever rules would be set.

- Activities in *all three countries* (see also section C.3 below): Revision and evaluation of

existing protected areas and their management plans. Establishment, through a trilateral formal agreement, of a transboundary EIA procedure (Espoo Convention), including Social Impact Assessment and Strategic Impact Assessment. Development of joint contingency plans. Trilateral agreement establishing joint bodies with specific mandate and powers.

- In *Albania*: Development of a definite structure and allocation of increased competencies to the Prespa National Park. Establishment of a management body and preparation of a management plan for the PNP. Organisation and implementation of a wetland wardening system to control hunting and other illegal activities.
- In *Greece*: Designation of the Greek protected area as a National Park and adoption of the Presidential Decree for its protection. Expansion of the Ramsar protection status for the Greek part of Macro Prespa.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Completion and implementation of management plans for the Pelister and Galichitsa National Parks. Feasibility study on the adoption of institutional and legal measures for the protection of the whole Prespa catchment basin. Control of illegal hunting within the Ezerani Reserve.

Objective II:

Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations

Operational target I:
Spatial planning and zoning of activities and uses

Lack of proper spatial planning is one of the main causes of degradation of the environment in the entire Prespa basin. Interventions must be kept to a minimum, the opening of new roads needs to be justified, and the total density of roads needs to remain low. The spatial organisation that predominated until a few years ago must be viewed as a model. The elaboration of a spatial planning study must be a priority in the PP implementation phase.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Development of a spatial plan to organise human activities and land use changes. Prohibition of construction of infrastructure and housing outside approved town-plans.
- In *Albania*: Application of a process of ecological assessment in the development zone of the Prespa National Park aiming at regional planning of land use. Control of sand extraction along almost the entire shore of the Macro Prespa Lake.
- In *Greece*: Spatial planning for housing and other land uses. Prohibition of construction of infrastructure and housing outside approved town-plans. Control over the irrational expansion of the road network and minimisation of their negative impact, through the establishment of a regulatory framework to control the opening of new roads. Control of land-use changes from mining activities and sand extraction. Examination of restoration possibilities for sites affected from the said activities (quarries, roads). Organisation of a waste management programme to reduce land pollution. Finding a solution for generated solid waste. Cleaning up of all streams from waste and transport of the waste to a controlled landfill, or a temporary but organised disposal site. Programmes aiming at waste separation at source, especially in highly visited sites and commercial stores. Following the operation of a Northern Greece hazardous waste landfill (as planned by the Greek Government), organisation of a separation at source system for such waste and of their collection and proper transfer. Control of sand extraction along almost the entire shore of Macro Prespa Lake.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Control of sand extraction along almost the entire shore of the Prespa Lake. Awareness activities on waste minimisation with emphasis on reduction of waste at source. Prohibition of construction of infrastructure and housing

outside approved town-plans. Management of the solid waste generated in the area.

Operational target II: Energy

Measures to promote the optimum utilisation of local renewable sources of energy, mainly biomass and to a lesser degree sun, must be planned. The energy problem is particularly acute on the Albanian side.

- Activities in *all three countries:* Reduction of fire wood consumption and feasibility study on the use of alternative energy sources in the region.
- In *Albania*: Feasibility study on alternative energy resources for the National Prespa Park. Promotion of the use of solar energy for household use.
- In *Greece:* Examination of the feasibility of exploiting locally available biomass of agricultural and forestry residues, and from reed management as an energy supply option.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia:* Promotion of the use of solar energy for household use. Examination of the feasibility of exploiting locally available biomass as an energy supply option.

Operational target III: Development of the production system: Agriculture and stockbreeding

The overall goal is the promotion and implementation, at a large scale, of modern concepts and methods of organic farming and stockbreeding.

- Activities in *all three countries:* Promotion of zonal programmes for the support of environment-friendly agricultural practices. Study for the determination of irrigation needs in each country (it is linked with the water management study) with a view at promoting less energy-consuming and more environment-friendly irrigation and drainage methods. Joint pilot project for the promotion of organic agriculture, the reduction of agrochemicals and the marketing of produce. Introduction of a pesticide reduction programme and provision of information on the use and dangers of pesticides. Introduction of livestock breeding in the zone between the cultivations and the wet meadows. Feasibility study on the development of organic stockbreeding and marketing of organic animal products. Joint plan on grazing, monitoring of pastures and regulation of grazing seasons.
- In *Albania*: Study for the modernisation and improvement of basic agricultural infrastructure. Sustainable use of medicinal plants. Discontinuation of the use of unproductive lands on inclined slopes close to the mountains. Orientation to vegetable, forage and fruit culture and strengthening of the local vine production. Introduction of economic measures (incentives) for encouraging the production of local agricultural products. Estimation of the carrying capacity to reduce stockbreeding pressure in forest areas. Study and proposal of alternative methods for the protection of pastures from erosion. Modernisation of the stockbreeding sector with an emphasis on the use of local resources, means and races and shift of the livestock structure from goats to other animals. Promotion of agro-touristic activities, as well as manufacturing activities in vine and milk production.
- In *Greece:* Promotion of alternative cultivations. Rationalisation of the use of fertilisers.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia:* Promotion of sustainable agriculture. Raising public awareness about the excessive use of pesticides. Increase in the local health food production and promotion of regional medicinal herbs. Establishment of organised collection purchasing centres, where wild flora and fauna will be collected, dried and packed for market placement. Modernisation of the stockbreeding sector with an emphasis on the use of local races.

Operational target IV: Development of the production system: Fishing

The introduction of common fishing regulations, harmonised management of spawning sites and other interventions are crucial issues to be addressed.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Development of a common sustainable fisheries plan, including a common licensing system, and uniform fishing regulations. Monitoring of the ecological impacts of the introduction of exotic species. Control of fishing in the Prespa lakes. Organisation and control of amateur fishing in appropriate sites. Maintenance of regular records of fish production. Assessment of the possibility of enriching the lakes with fry from endemic species to enhance relevant stocks. Feasibility study on the production of traditional fish products, e.g. sun-dried or smoked bleak, and on their promotion as traditional local products.
- In *Albania*: Introduction of a prohibition period to protect spawning of selected species. Cessation of the Devoll input. Modernisation of basic fishing infrastructure.
- In *Greece*: Amendment of the operational regulation of the National Forest with a view at abolishing the full prohibition of fishing in Micro Prespa. Achievement of the optimum lake level to permit fish spawning. Promotion of the management of wet meadows. Feasibility study on the production of traditional products, such as sun-dried or smoked bleak, and their promotion as traditional "Prespa products".
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Harmonisation of fishing regulations between the three countries, necessary in order to protect the endemic species of fish. Strengthening of wardening for the prevention of uncontrolled fishing.

Operational target V:
Development of the production system:
Forest exploitation

Forest management practices have to focus on forest restoration, fulfilment of local energy needs and especially conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Preparation and adoption of a specific forestry plan for the PP area. Inclusion of some of the pure forest habitats in the protected nucleuses.
- In *Albania*: Management of degraded forest areas. Control of the use of forest resources by means of a licensing system. Rehabilitation of the forest natural ecosystems and especially rehabilitation and restoration of forests at Mali i Thate. Sustainable alternative energy resources, in order to minimise fuel wood consumption. Creation of fuelwood plantations. Estimation of carrying capacity to reduce stockbreeding pressure in forest areas. Cessation of forest management in areas with >80% gradient to reduce erosion.
- In *Greece*: Improvement of forestry plans in order to promote a variety of forest habitats, improve status of forest fauna, and increase biodiversity. Reduction of illegal woodcutting. Support and restoration of the mixed character of Prespa forests. Prohibition of woodcutting in a zone of 50m along all streams with high slope values.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Plan for sustainable forest management outside national parks. Restoration of forest reserves.

Operational target VI:
Development of the production system:
Strengthening of entrepreneurial activity, small and large industry

The development of the secondary sector at a small scale is desirable, provided it is compatible with the environmental policy for the area.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Promotion of regulations for registered designations of origin and labelling of local products.
- In *Albania*: Establishment of a small enterprise for solar panel collectors. Small manufacturing units for vine and milk products. Feasibility study on the establishment of a small industrial unit for the use of biomass.
- In *Greece*: Establishment of a bean processing-packaging unit. Establishment of a unit for the processing of traditional stockbreeding produce. Study and organisation of a marketing system for local products. Feasibility study on biomass utilisation.

- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Study and organisation of a marketing system for local products. Organisation of centres for collection of wild flora and fauna. Construction of a honey-processing plant and a small mushrooms processing plant.

Operational target VII:
Development of the production system:
Promotion of sustainable tourism

The development of tourism must be directed to ecotourism. The preparation of tourism development plans should take full advantage of the valuable features of the entirety of Prespa, which should be treated as a unitary tourism resource.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Feasibility study on developing sustainable tourism-related activities and a pilot project. Integrated protected area visitor infrastructure. Network of local tourist agencies and businesses.
- In *Albania*: Study for the long-term organisation of sustainable tourism-related activities, such as agro-tourism, and for linking them with the corresponding networks in Greece and the FYR of Macedonia.
- In *Greece*: Development of support mechanisms for tourist services. Implementation of the proposals contained in the Special Environmental Study for the development of ecotourism.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: Study for the promotion of alternative types of tourism: ecotourism, agro-tourism, monastery tourism, cultural tourism and health tourism.

Operational target VIII:
Improvement of social infrastructure, transport and communications

- Activities in *all three countries:* Adoption of trilateral customs and border crossing agreement and establishment of local border crossings. Organisation of a health care system for the treatment of emergency cases. Implementation of the peripheral road study.
- In *Albania*: Construction of the road between Zvezda Pass and the borders with the FYR of Macedonia. Reconstruction of the drinking water networks. Construction of an electricity supply system. First-level health care infrastructure. Improvement/ construction of the road network. Study and construction of a tele- and radio-communications system.
- In *Greece*: Completion of the new road Karyes-Antartiko. Improvement of the tele- and radio-communications system. First-level health care infrastructure.
- In the *FYR of Macedonia*: First-level health care infrastructure. Construction of a healthy drinking water supply system, installation of new water pipes and replacement of the existent (asbestos) pipes. Construction of a small water purification station in every settlement.

Objective III:

Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities, and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources

Measures to prevent alteration of the appearance and structure of buildings and settlements of traditional architecture and to integrate new buildings are called for. Byzantine monuments should be restored and used as an element of reconciliation and mutual understanding, as well as cultural and touristic development.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Implementation of the peripheral road study to the extent it addresses promotion of monuments. "Traditions in Prespa" project – study and plan for the conservation of cultural traditions, architecture, fishing, irrigation etc. Conservation of traditional local architecture and other cultural monuments. Inventory and protection of traditional buildings. Completion of archaeological excavations

and promotion of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine monuments. Establishment of aquarium and small museum to promote the traditional fishing methods of Prespa.

Objective IV:

Participation, cooperation and involvement in decision-making and in benefit or loss sharing of stakeholders in the three countries

For the establishment of the appropriate degree of contact and communication, which will result in cultivating and finally consolidating the feeling among the three communities that they are functional parts of a more or less unitary natural and cultural indivisible whole, actions and initiatives regarding common natural and cultural elements, as well as the progress of this joint endeavour itself, are required.

- Activities in *all three countries*: Organisation of awareness-raising/ information activities of the local population, public services, bodies etc. within and around the Prespa region. Promotion of public awareness using "flagship" species. Exchange of experience in nature protection, forest and wildlife management. Exchange of experience in sustainable development activities. Creation of data bases with all scientists/ experts on Prespa and relevant publications. Organisation of scientific conferences. Implementation of the Prespa Park Communication Plan. Trilingual visitor information at border crossings. Increasing of awareness of local population on the damage associated with illegal dumping of waste. Joint environmental education and youth exchange programmes. Cultural interaction: open markets, festivals and sports events. Integrated infrastructure for the visitors of the various protected areas; common printed information material in four languages. Strengthening of the capacity of protected area administrations in the three countries – e.g. appropriate and adequate staff and enforcement capacity; language training of protected area staff in the three national languages. Organisation of training seminars, transfer of know-how and modernisation of production methods. Empowering of local bodies with a view at taking initiatives for environmental protection (operation of Information Centres, ecoguides etc.). Organisation of environmental education and information programmes for the local population.

C.2 Identification of Specific Indicators for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

C.2.1 Introduction

An environmental indicator can be defined as being "a characteristic of the environment that, when measured, quantifies the magnitude of stress, habitat characteristics, degree of exposure to a stressor or degree of ecological response to the exposure". Indicators serve as tools that help to structure, integrate and focus planned activities, which is particularly useful in the case of the Prespa Park where human and financial resources are not unlimited. The proposed indicators are based on the European System of Environmental Pressure Indices (ESEPI) and the DPSIR (Driving force-Pressure-State-Impact-Response) model followed by OECD and Eurostat.

C.2.2 Policy Fields

The environmental impacts are grouped in "policy fields", on the basis of:

- similar impacts;
- geographical areas affected;
- orders of magnitude of toxicity of emissions; and
- common political management.

The list of policy fields in general should include only environmental problems. However, in the case of the Prespa Park the objective is not only to improve the environmental situation and to conserve its present quality but also to strengthen sustainability in the relation of human activities with natural resources and enhance the standard of living of the inhabitants, in other words, achieve sustainable development.

The final set of policy fields has been based on those adopted in the 5th Environmental Action Programme of the European Community properly adjusted and includes:

- Status of Biodiversity
- Status of Natural Resources
- Spatial planning
- Waste
- Water quality
- Water quantity

For the economic and social issues, additional possible policy fields are:

- Economic prosperity
- Convergence between countries
- Education
- Empowering of citizens
- Public health
- Infrastructure

The relation between the selected policy fields and the environmental problems, conditions, and situations in Prespa is presented in the following table:

Policy field	Described impact
Status of biodiversity	Reduction of wet meadows due to lake water level regulation. Change in species composition due to reduction of wet meadows (reduced fish spawning grounds, reduced bird-feeding areas). Change of fish and bentho-fauna due to water pollution. Introduction of exotic fish species into the lakes. Reduction of certain plant species due to forestry being directed solely to timber production. Reduction of certain forest-dwelling animals due to increased homogeneity of forests. Loss of endemic or local races of domestic animals and/ or plants due to agriculture intensity. Use of exotic species for reforestation.
Status of natural resources	Lack of sustainable energy resources. Overexploitation of forests for timber production (disrupted timber balance). Intensive agriculture and monoculture of beans and apples. Reduction of fish stocks. Soil erosion due to overgrazing and overexploitation of forests. Disrupted nutrient balance of soil due to intensive agriculture. Expansion of activities (housing, sand collection and agriculture) in ecologically sensitive areas.
Spatial planning and variation of landscape	Fragmentation of landscape. Monocultures in agriculture. Increased homogeneity of forests. Decrease of natural/ semi-natural areas. Housing outside approved town plans. Loss of characteristic architectural elements.
Waste	Unregulated disposal of solid waste. Lack of organised waste disposal areas. Pollution of water due to untreated effluent from villages and towns. Lack of an organised waste collection system.
Water quality	Pollution from point and non-point sources. Change of water quality due to input/ output from Devoll River, Aghios Germanos Stream and Stara Reka River. Reduced appeal to tourists due to eutrophication and increased pollution (wastewater and solid waste).
Water quantity	Artificial control of lake water level (lower than the biologically optimum level). Decrease of water level in both lakes.
Economic prosperity	Low total gross income per capita.
Convergence between countries	Different development rates in the three countries. Low cooperation between local stakeholders.
Education	Minimal education facilities in the three countries.
Empowering of citizens	Low number or non-existence of organised cooperatives or cultural associations, groups and NGOs.
Public health	Minimum to low-quality public health facilities.
Infrastructure	Non-existent infrastructure in Albania, medium quality infrastructure in Greece and in the FYR of Macedonia.

Evaluation and prioritisation of policy fields

The different policy fields were weighted using a number of criteria that included present impact to environment, economy and society (1=low impact, 3=high impact), scale of required solutions (1=country specific, 3=trilateral) and sufficiency of background knowledge (1=low, 3=high). This table is strictly indicative, since no uniform method of evaluating each impact has been set. However, it gives an initial assessment for each policy field and helps the setting of short- medium- and long- term indicators and targets.

	Environment	Economy	Society	Scale	Knowledge	Total
Water quantity	3	3	3	3	2	14
Water quality	3	2	2	3	2	12
Status of biodiversity	3	2	1	3	2	11
Status of natural resources	3	2	1	3	2	11
Spatial planning and variation of landscape	2	1	2	3	1	9
Waste	3	1	1	3	2	10
Convergence between countries	3	3	3	3	1	13
Empowering of citizens	3	3	3	3	1	13
Economic prosperity	1	3	3	3	1	11
Infrastructure	1	3	3	3	2	12
Education	2	3	3	3	1	12
Public health	1	1	3	3	1	9

C.2.3 Environmental Indicators

As with the policy fields and as already noted, the selection of environmental indicators for the purposes of the Prespa Park was based on the development of environmental pressure indicators for the EU. These original indicators have been reduced in number and adapted to the specific Prespa nature protection needs, the basic issues/ themes and trends identified in the previous chapters, and the needs for improvement of living standards and opportunities for employment and development.

In general, important criteria for the final selection and definition of an indicator are data availability and data reliability. For present purposes, in few cases, the selection of indicators was based rather on the availability of data and existing programmes than on what the ideal would be. Such is, for example, the case of water quality that is already monitored in Greece in order to secure compliance with specific national and EU legislation. On the other hand, in the framework of transboundary cooperation some new and even innovative activities will be developed for which there will be no data series. In this case, it is important to select common indicators amongst the three countries and develop from the beginning a common methodology that will ensure data reliability. Unfortunately, it has not been made possible to present a similar list for the socio-economic conditions, since the relevant data are diverse, scarce and limited in all three countries.

It should also be noted that the policy field "Spatial planning and variation of landscape"

is not further developed into indicators, since other indicators, such as Specific Land-use changes or Fragmentation of landscapes, cover its main aspects.

C.2.3.1 WQ - Water Quantity

Water is the principal element that creates the sense of "unity" of the region. It is the most valuable element and has the highest relative impact on most of the other values of the region.

WQ1 – Lake level: The water quantity is measured in terms of the lake water level. Short-term targets are the accomplishment of a hydrogeological study for the whole catchment basin and an agreement upon the conditions for water use in the Prespa Park in the three countries. As a medium-term target, the water level of Micro Prespa Lake in spring should fluctuate between 850.60 and 851.00m asl and, on the basis of the scientific data available, specific measures should be taken in order to address the dramatic water level drop of Macro Prespa. The long-term target is the adoption of a Basin Management Plan and sustainable water use based on long-term protection of available water resources.

C.2.3.2 WQU - Water Quality

***WQU1 – Nitrogen and phosphorus used per hectare of agriculture land*:** The purpose of this indicator is to measure the use of fertilisers and manure in agricultural soils and thus the potential environmental pressure on water resources. The short-term target is to rationalise the extensive and irrational use of fertilisers in order to comply with the normative standards of the EC. The medium-term target is to reduce the intensity of agriculture by half of present level, mainly within the areas of the irrigation network and increase biological agriculture to 30% of total, while the long-term one is to characterise the water of Prespa as being in "high status", according to the reference conditions of the WFD.

***WQU2 – Pesticides used per hectare of utilised agriculture land*:** The indicator represents the total amount of pesticide consumption (as active ingredients) by agriculture per year. The short-term targets are to maintain usage to present levels, develop a reduction programme and increase awareness on proper use of pesticides. The medium-term target is to reduce usage in the lowest permitted levels according to crop and to develop a pesticide index into classes, ranging from less harmful to highly toxic. The long-term target is for the water of Prespa to be characterised as being in "high status" according to the reference conditions of the WFD.

***WQU3 – Non-treated wastewater*:** The indicator represents the percentage of total wastewater not subject to treatment, which is discharged to surface water. The short-term target is for all villages to have their own sewage network and 30% of total wastewater to be treated. Priority should be given to lakeside settlements and the ones that currently use streams that directly end up into the lakes. The medium-term target is for 60% of total wastewater from villages, all wastewater from bigger towns and livestock effluents to be treated and in the long-term all wastewater should be treated.

***WQU4 – Index of water quality*:** As a first approach, the following selection has been made: turbidity (FTU), suspended solids, total solids (mg/lt), total material, temperature of water and air (°C), conductivity (μS/ cm 20 °C), pH, alkalinity (mg $CaCO_3$/100ml), Cl, K, Mg, Ca, B, dissolved oxygen (mg/lt), COD, BOD as measure of eutrophication, nitrates and phosphates and their ratio, chlorophyll α, β and total (mg/m^3), selected heavy metals (Hg, Pb, Cd). The short-term target is to select the physical and biological indicators/ parameters that should be included in the water quality monitoring system and develop a monitoring programme. The long-term target is for the surface water of Prespa to be characterised as being in "high status" according to the WFD.

***WQU5 – Bio-indicators*:** Since chemical water quality does not always correspond to ecological quality, appropriate bio-indicators should be determined, which may be indica-

tive or present an inherent interest for conservation and thus management of the protected area, or have an economic interest. The short-term target is to define the reference conditions for Micro and Macro Prespa and select species/ bio-communities suitable to function as bio-indicators. The medium-term target is to achieve no observable change in the status of the selected bio-indicator species/ bio-communities and, in the long-term, for the surface and groundwater of Prespa to be characterised as being in "high status" according to the WFD.

C.2.3.3 SB – Status of biodiversity

***SB1 – Important area loss and damage*:** The unit of measurement is the percentage or ha of protected area affected in relation to the baseline year (in this case, the reference year is proposed to be 2000). The pressures should be measured according to sector and according to the standards in each country. The short-term target is to define important habitats and establish core areas and buffer zones around them in all three countries. As a medium-term target, no permanent and irreversible loss of protected areas is to be observed. The long-term target is to maintain the integrity of biological systems through a coherent network of protected nucleuses within the Park.

***SB2 – Fragmentation of landscapes*:** The land is divided into land units which are counted to estimate the land units required to cover the land area. An increase in the number of land units required to cover the same land area is, therefore, an indication of increased fragmentation. The short-term target is to prepare the first Prespa "fragmentation index" and to develop a GIS system for the Prespa basin. In the medium term, local action plans for important habitats should be accomplished, and in the long term any further fragmentation should be avoided.

***SB3 – Wetland area change*:** The indicator reflects changes in the ecological character of a wetland. These changes are linked to: modifications in the wetland area (drainage or restoration), the water regime and the water quality; unsustainable exploitation of wetland products; wetland management and restoration activities. In the short term, reference conditions for and mapping of the Prespa wetland areas in the three countries are to be decided and agreed upon; in the medium term, a basin-wide management plan should be adopted and no negative changes are to be observed; in the long-term, the wetlands in Prespa should reach the reference conditions.

***SB4 – Forest area change*:** The comparison of forest area over time using reference years allows the calculation of change in absolute values and as a percentage of the deforestation rate. It should be noted that estimating the land area alone is not always sufficient, therefore the use of other forest health indicators (bio-indicators) is also mentioned. In the short term, reference conditions for the forests and mapping of the forest complexes in the catchment basin are to be agreed upon; in the medium term, no negative changes are observed and a joint forest management plan is prepared; and in the long term, natural and semi-natural forests in Prespa have reached the reference conditions.

***SB5 – Percentage (%) of specific habitats, ecosystems, species*:** For the formation of this indicator, species or habitats that are representative of the biodiversity of the region should be selected on the basis of a series of criteria. The short-term target is the selection of key species and habitats and agreements on reference conditions; the medium-term target is for populations of key species and area of selected habitats to show a trend towards reference conditions; and in the long-term the populations of all key species and index habitats should be restored to desirable levels.

***SB6 – Changes in land uses*:** The purpose of this indicator is to highlight changes in the various land uses in Prespa. The short-term target is to establish certain minimum limits or percentages of the total land area for certain

necessary or desirable land uses. The medium-term target is to minimise negative trends in the conversion of "natural" land to intensive agricultural land or built-up area. The long-term target is for land uses to be compatible with the goal of the Prespa Park and in accordance with the provisions of the spatial plan.

C.2.3.4 NR – Status of natural resources

***NR1 – Water use*:** It is covered by the WQ and WQU indicators.

***NR2 – Share of consumption of renewable energy resources (as a ratio of total)*:** This indicator measures the proportion of energy mix between renewable and non-renewable energy sources. Currently in the Prespa Park region no renewable sources of energy are utilised. The term "renewable energy resources" describes an array of possibilities such as biomass (agricultural or wood processing by-products etc.) and possibly solar power. Fuel wood is not included. In the short term, the target is to complete an inventory of the area's renewable energy resources potential and a feasibility study for their exploitation. The medium term target is to have 50% of households use biomass (agriculture and forestry residues and reeds) for heating purposes and the long term to have 100% of households use biomass for heating purposes.

***NR3 – Nutrient balance of the soil*:** The indicator corresponds to the average balance of input and output of nitrogen per hectare of agriculture land. The short-term target is to establish "critical loads" of nitrogen for the terrestrial ecosystems of Prespa. The medium-term one is to reduce the intensity of agriculture by half of present level, mainly within the areas of the irrigation network and increase biological agriculture to 30% of total; and the long-term target is for the critical load of nitrogen from human activities not to exceed the set values for Prespa.

***NR4 – Timber balance*:** The indicator reflects the pressure on forests that originates from the demand for fuel wood. It should take into account the characteristics examined in SB4 (Forest area change). The short-term targets are to update the forestry plans that take into consideration this indicator and to prepare a joint forest management plan. The long-term target is to achieve indicator values of less than 100%.

***NR5 – Fishing pressure*:** The indicator measures the total catch per year expressed in Kg. Short-term targets are the accomplishment of a study on the icthyofauna and fisheries of the lakes and rivers and the identification of trends through a monitoring system. The medium-term target is to develop a common sustainable fisheries plan and to agree on specific fishing regulations. The long-term target is for all native populations of fish to be maintained at levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield taking into consideration their relation to other species.

C.2.3.5 SW – Solid waste

***SW1 – Waste land filled*:** The purpose of this indicator is to monitor and record the quantities of waste ending up in controlled landfills and waste quantities that are treated otherwise. The short-term target is to organise a waste disposal system (controlled landfill, waste collection) with a reliable system of monitoring and recording waste quantities sent to landfill and identify trends. The medium-term target is to reduce the quantity of land filled waste by 25% as compared to current levels and in the long term to reduce the quantity of land filled waste by 50% from current levels.

C.2.4 Socio-economic Policy Fields and Proposed Indicators

There do not seem to exist enough data on the socio-economic aspects of the Prespa population, while a number of policy issues do not depend on local or regional decisions but on national ones. As a result, the general indicators had to be modified. Socio-economic policy fields and respective indicators are:

Economic prosperity: PP projects, population change, immigration, unemployment.

Convergence between countries: PP trilateral agreements, movements between countries, implementation of common activities.

Empowerment of citizens: availability of information, participation in PP activities, participation in cooperatives, associations etc., training opportunities, participation in decision-making bodies.

Infrastructure: road network, energy use, infrastructure expenditure per capita, number of telephone lines per 100 households, access to drinking water.

Education: level of formal education that people have completed before adulthood, percentage of people who return to work in Prespa after higher studies due to opportunities created by the PP, educational achievement rates, primary/ secondary school enrolment ratio.

Public health: life expectancy at birth, welfare of mountain populations.

C.3 Proposals for Formalising the Transboundary Cooperation in the Framework of the Prespa Park

C.3.1 Introduction

Transboundary protected area cooperation (TBPAC) has been going on in different forms since the 30s, but only during the late 80s and throughout the 90s has it been studied and systematised in order to produce a theoretical framework and guidelines for its development. Despite these developments, a "blueprint" for all transboundary protected areas is simply not possible, which means that the Prespa Park process is and has to be viewed as unique. This in turn implies that its development and institutionalisation have to be under constant review in order to ensure that they serve the stated objectives and address the particular needs of the region. Some basic findings from the relevant expert work to date that could be useful in order to design the future of trilateral cooperation in Prespa are:

- The Prespa Park region fits well within the definition of a transboundary protected area.
- It is commonly accepted that different protection objectives, different visions for the future and different designations of protected areas along borders make it more accurate to speak of "transboundary cooperation in protected areas" rather than "transboundary protected areas", which implies joint territorial administration. Hence, also in the case of Prespa, joint management in the strict sense can only be considered as the ultimate target of a long-term process.
- The approach followed so far has been mostly top-down, and there is an urgent necessity to concentrate initially on this low-level cooperation in order to build solid links and trust. The high-level political and legal agreements will thus be used in the planning that follows only as landmarks that would come as a corollary of relevant groundwork.

C.3.2 Cooperation in the Context of International Organisations and Treaty Regimes

The Prime Ministerial Declaration of 2/2/2000 heralds a high-level political choice of designation of Prespa as a transboundary protected area under the name of "Prespa Park" and has placed this process squarely within the framework of the Ramsar Convention. The Prespa Park Declaration itself calls for trilateral cooperation for participating in international regimes "which aim at the protection of the natural environment." In order to develop a strategy for transboundary cooperation, it is thus worth examining the whole web of interrelated international environmental regimes, in which the three countries actually take or should take part, and also the suitability and benefits of other possible designations for the Prespa Park area.

C.3.2.1 Relevant International Standards

The main international instruments concerning protection and management of the Prespa Park area, binding on one or more of the three countries and imposing minimum obligations on them, are the following:

- 1971 Convention on Wetlands - Ramsar Convention (all three countries are Parties);
- 1992 ECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Albania and Greece are Parties);
- 1979 Berne Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (all three countries are Parties);
- 1983 Bonn Convention on the Protection of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (all three countries are Parties);
- 1992 UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (all three countries are Parties);
- 1991 Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (all three countries are Parties);
- 1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) (Greece and the FYR of Macedonia are Parties);
- 1985 Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Greece and the FYR of Macedonia are Parties).

Although the other two countries are not as yet bound by the body of Community law, this is relevant to the protection of Prespa and binding on Greece and should be taken into account because it does set minimum standards that Greece should comply with when planning the management of Prespa; compliance with the Community acquis is also consistent with the process towards EU membership, to which Albania and the FYR of Macedonia are committed. The most consequential pieces of Community legislation applicable in the Prespa Park area are the following:

- Directive 79/409/EEC on the protection of birds;
- Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna (Habitats/ NATURA 2000 Directive); and
- Directive 2000/60/EC (Water Framework Directive - WFD).

C.3.2.2 The question of designation

Two main ideas have been put forward up to now regarding possible new designations for the Prespa Park area:

A. Prespa/ Ohrid Biosphere Reserve: Biosphere Reserves (BR) are areas of terrestrial and coastal ecosystems, belonging to one or more states, which are internationally recognised within the framework of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme. Each BR is intended to fulfil three basic functions, which are complementary and mutually reinforcing: conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, development, and international network for research and monitoring. There is a specific procedure for the establishment of transboundary BRs, requiring even the signature of a formal agreement between governmental authorities. In addition, to implement the BR regime a series of other measures is required, including zoning of the entire area covered – usually by a core area, a buffer zone and a transition area – and establishment of joint structures and organs for coordination purposes.

The above requirements do not seem to correspond to the existing development of the Prespa Park process due to the following reasons:

- The BR concept is based on the ecosystem approach; hence, the ecosystemic unity of Prespa and Ohrid Lakes should be scientifically proven, something that has not yet been done since scientific research in the wider region is far from adequate.
- In the case that such a connection is proven, this would justify also the inclusion of the Devoll River system, which has a much closer connection with the Prespa Lakes. However, an ever-increasing expansion of the area of transboundary cooperation would make effective collaboration impractical and would require the replacement of the institutions and organs of the Prespa Park cooperation system with new ones that would include many more stakeholders.
- Furthermore, the three states should then enter into political negotiations to review the mandate included in the Prime Ministerial Declaration of 2/2/2000. Greece would arguably be hesitant to broaden the scope of its initiative to Ohrid, an area to which it does not have any territorial or jurisdictional stake, in the absence of a compelling justification. Lastly, even if agreement could be reached, at present, an official agreement between the three countries is unfeasible as between Greece and the FYR of Macedonia.
- Consistent zoning would demand extensive review of the existing protection regimes and management schemes in the three countries, which would certainly take some considerable time in view of the divergent protection systems applied at present.

B. Prespa Peace Park: The term "Peace Park" has no legal definition and, therefore, its conceptual framework is determined not by existing protocol but by the countries and stakeholders involved in the process of its formation. More specifically, "Transboundary Parks for Peace" are considered especially pertinent to border areas separating previously different political and socio-economic systems in Europe, such as Prespa.

The objectives of Parks for Peace include the following aspects:

- Long-term cooperative conservation of biodiversity and other natural and cultural values across boundaries;
- Promoting landscape-level ecosystem management through integrated bioregional land-use planning and management;
- Building trust, understanding, reconciliation and cooperation among governments, non-governmental organisations, communities, users and other stakeholders;
- Sharing of biodiversity and cultural resource management skills and experience;
- Greater effectiveness and efficiency of cooperative management programmes;
- Promotion of access to and equitable and sustainable use of natural resources, consistent with national sovereignty;
- Enhancing the benefits of conservation and promoting benefit-sharing across boundaries among stakeholders;
- Cooperative research and information management programmes.

This idea fits well within the framework of the Prespa Park Declaration and no new political commitment is required. In addition, such a designation would not undermine the existing management regimes, including the Ramsar Convention. Finally, a Prespa Peace Park designation would constantly remind all stakeholders and other observers of the uniqueness and importance of this trilateral level of cooperation in this specific geographic location historically renown not for cooperation, but for war.

In conclusion, the immediate designation of a "Prespa Peace Park" for the Transboundary Prespa Park region is recommended together with a systematic scientific study and management of the region, which could possibly be designated as a Biosphere Reserve when conditions mature.

C.3.3 Proposals for the Development of TBPAC in Prespa

Based on the lessons learned and conclusions reached in the foregoing sections, a detailed, but

indicative, plan for the evolution and institutionalisation of the TBPAC in Prespa is given below:

A. Elaboration of common concepts on nature protection and sustainable development of the Prespa Park area.

Activities:

1. Preparation of a Strategic Action Plan.
2. GEF project development.
3. Evaluation and possible revision of existing protected areas and their management plans in each country.
4. Exchange of experience in nature protection, forest and wildlife management.
5. Exchange of experience in sustainable development activities.
6. "Traditions in Prespa" project – study and plan for the conservation of cultural traditions, architecture, fishing, irrigation etc.

Maturity indicators:

(2006) Formulation of complementary and compatible protected area management plans, after the protected area units are reviewed and relevant management bodies are established – Adoption of a formal agreement on the Prespa Park (see also axis K).

(2008) Adoption of a single basin-wide management plan.

B. Joint research, monitoring and documentation

Activities:

1. Hydrogeological study, establishment of a monitoring system and establishment of a standing joint working group on water issues (see also axis D below).
2. Development of a GIS system for the Prespa basin.
3. Establishment of research and management centres (AL/ MK) and a Regional Research/ Educational Centre (GR).
4. Joint monitoring pilot project on basic biotic and abiotic parameters.
5. Study of the implications and impact of the introduction of alien species.
6. Priority research in threatened animal and plant species.
7. Creation of data bases with all scientists/ experts on Prespa and relevant publications.
8. Organisation of scientific conferences.
9. Establishment of a transboundary EIA procedure (Espoo Convention), including Social Impact Assessment and Strategic Impact Assessment.

Maturity indicators:

(2005) Establishment of a joint long-term monitoring system for environmental and socio-economic indicators.

(2006) Trilateral formal agreement on transboundary EIA.

C. Joint conservation and restoration programmes

Activities:

1. Joint conservation pilot projects on selected species and habitats.
2. Restoration/ reforestation activities of degraded forest areas, starting with a pilot phase covering reforestation of Mali i Thate areas.
3. Pilot project for the management of reed beds in the Albanian Micro Prespa.
4. Programme for the reduction of fire wood consumption and feasibility study on the use of alternative energy sources in the region.
5. Joint forest management plan.

Maturity indicator:

(2006) Adoption of joint conservation plans for key species of birds and of a forest management plan.

D. Joint water management

Activities:

1. Plan for restoration of past interventions in Micro Prespa Lake on the basis of activity B.1.
2. Preparation of a common management plan of water resources on the basis of activity B.1 and D.1.

Maturity indicator:

(2007) Trilateral formal agreement on water issues, including establishment of a coordinated structure for use of lake waters: irrigation, water supply etc., to protect water quality through the support and development of sustainable activities in the entire watershed.

E. Sustainable fishing in the Prespa Lakes

Activities:

1. Basin-wide assessment of fish resources, related habitats and biological demands.
2. Development of a common sustainable fisheries plan, including a common licensing system and uniform fishing regulations.

Maturity indicator:

(2007): Adoption of uniform fishing regulations and a common fishing licensing system.

F. Sustainable agriculture in the Prespa basin

Activities:

1. Joint pilot project for the promotion of organic agriculture, the reduction of agrochemicals and the marketing of produce.
2. Joint pilot project for the phasing out of uncontrolled collection of medicinal plants and turning to cultivation, certification and marketing.

G. Sustainable livestock breeding in the Prespa basin

Activities:

1. Joint plan on grazing, monitoring of pastures and regulation of grazing seasons.
2. Pilot project for the decrease of goat and the preservation and increase of local races and animals grazing in the reed beds (relevant to activity C.3).
3. Joint study and programme for the marketing of organic meat and dairy products.

H. Sustainable tourism in the Prespa basin

Activities:

1. Integrated protected area visitor infrastructure (roads, pathways, bird watching sites etc.).
2. Network of local tourist agencies and businesses (e.g. agro-tourism, ecovillages etc.).
3. Pilot-project on linked tourism products (joint visitors facilities, boat trips etc.), on condition that the indicator of axis I has been accomplished.

I. Public awareness, communication, environmental education

Activities:

1. Implementation of the Prespa Park Communication Plan, with emphasis on the common values of the area and the opportunities for sustainable development.
2. Trilingual visitor information at border crossings.
3. Joint environmental education and youth exchange programme.
4. Cultural interaction: open markets, festivals, sports events.
5. Exhibitions.

Maturity indicator:

(2006) Adoption of trilateral customs and border crossing agreement and establishment of local border crossings.

J. Joint Emergency Response

Activity:

Development of joint contingency plans.

Maturity indicator:

(2005) Trilateral joint contingency Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

K. Capacity building, institutional strengthening and development of joint institutions

Capacity-building and institutional strengthening is required for practically all stakeholders. These are partially covered from the

aforementioned activities, such as A2, A4 and A5, which would build the capacity of the groups and agencies that implement them. The protected area administrations in the three countries are in particular need of having their capacities strengthened, and especially to acquire appropriate and adequate staff and enforcement capacity.

But the most focal point in the institutional development of TBPAC in Prespa is the development of joint institutions. Two main bodies are proposed to evolve from the present interim institutional structure, which would unavoidably be established by means of formal trilateral agreement between the three countries, where their responsibilities, mandate and relationships would be defined:

- the Prespa Park Assembly and
- the Prespa Park Management Committee.

The trilateral Prespa Park Assembly will consist of Inter-sectoral Advisory Task Forces, which should be set up in each country and are conceived as advisory bodies consisting of all Directors of protected area management authorities, representatives of all competent public agencies at the prefectural, district or regional level (environment, spatial planning, forestry, monuments, fisheries, development, police etc.), local authorities and social and professional groups in Prespa. They will serve to ensure the democratic dialogue and participation and the necessary coordination and comprehensive planning, in order to integrate the environmental dimension in all sectoral policies applied in the Prespa region.

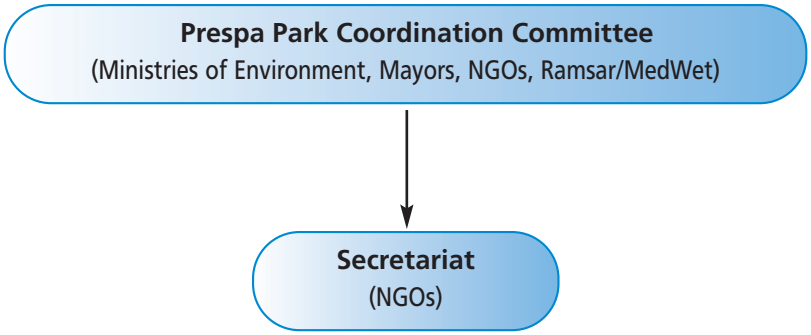
The above mentioned formal international agreement on the Prespa Park should equally provide for the establishment of the Prespa Park Management Committee, which should be composed of the existing Coordination Committee members and the protected area Directors. The Committee will have clearly defined consultation and decision-making powers for a determined set of subject matters relating to protected area management according to prescribed rules of procedure. The Committee should be assisted in its tasks by a Secretariat or Bureau, from the transboundary Prespa Park officers from relevant national parks and supporting staff, and by technical bodies of experts for various issues, e.g. water.

The operation of both the Assembly and the Management Committee should be secured through some sort of permanent arrangement, such as a Prespa Trust Fund, to which the GEF and other interested national and international donors will initially contribute. At a later stage, the three governments, international donors and income from transboundary activities are expected to contribute to the Trust Fund. Its establishment should be based on a comprehensive feasibility study.

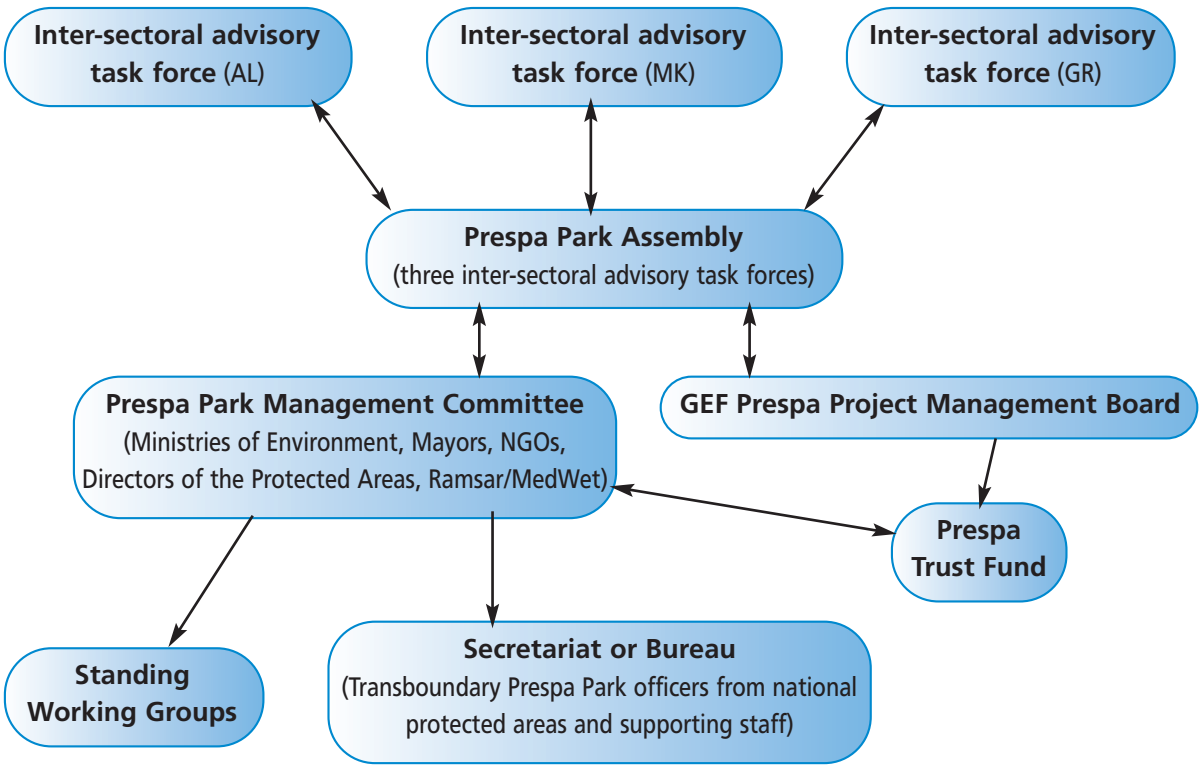
Maturity indicator

(2006): Adoption of a formal agreement on the Prespa Park, the establishment of the Prespa Park Assembly, the Prespa Park Management Committee and subsidiary organs and the Prespa Trust Fund (see also axis A).

Interim Institutional Structure



Proposed Institutional Structure (2005 et seq.)



INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF KEY ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TBPAC IN PRESPA

ACTIVITY \ YEAR	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1. Declaration of the Prime Ministers on the Prespa Park											
2. Preparation of the Strategic Action Plan for the sustainable development of the Prespa Park											
3. Operation of an interim Coordination Committee and Secretariat											
4. GEF project development phase											
5. Assessment and possible review of the national protected area systems, the relevant management plans, and the overall spatial planning in the three countries – Establishment of a Prespa National Park with a structured management body and plan in Greece											
6. Hydrogeological study, monitoring and plan for restoration of past interventions – Establishment of a standing joint working group on water issues											
7. Establishment of research and management centres (AL/ MK) and a Regional Research/ Educational Centre (GR)											
8. Organisation of regular transboundary cultural and sports events, and possibly open markets											
9. Development of a trilateral environmental education and youth exchange programme											
10. Development of joint contingency plans – trilateral joint contingency Memorandum of Understanding											
11. Restoration activities of degraded forest areas – pilot phase – joint forest management plan											
12. First assessment and review of the Prespa Park process											
13. Feasibility study on the use of alternative energy sources											
14. Basin-wide assessment of fish resources											
15. Implementation of the Prespa GEF project – First basin-wide sustainable development demonstration project											

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF KEY ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TBPAC IN PRESPA

ACTIVITY / YEAR	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
16. Development of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure – trilateral formal agreement on transboundary EIA											
17. Implementation of a pilot basin-wide biodiversity and pollution monitoring programme											
18. Implementation of joint conservation measures on key species and ecosystems – joint conservation plans											
19. Implementation of the Prespa GEF project – Establishment of fora and other cooperative structures, including inter-sectoral coordination in each country and coordination with related initiatives such as the Ohrid process											
20. Adoption of formal agreement (Ministries of Environment) on the Prespa Park and the establishment of trilateral organs											
21. Second assessment and review of the Prespa Park process – adoption of customs and border control Memorandum of Understanding											
22. Pilot project on linked tourism products (joint visitors facilities, boat trips)											
23. Adoption of formal trilateral agreement on water issues (Ministries of Environment)											
24. Adoption of common sustainable fisheries plan, regulations and licensing system											
Other actions to be decided at a later stage											
25. Adoption of a single basin-wide protected area management plan											
26. Third assessment and review of the Prespa Park process											
Other actions to be decided at a later stage											
27. Fourth assessment and review of the Prespa Park process											

CUMULATIVE TABLES

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE[1]	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective I: Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area** **PRIORITY AXIS 1: PRESERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES – MONITORING, WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND IRRIGATION**				
TR 1.1	**STUDIES/ RESEARCH** a. Planning and preparation of a hydrogeological study for the entire Prespa catchment basin b. Organisation of a system and establishment of infrastructure for the long-term monitoring and management of waters c. Web-based information system for the Prespa ecosystem intended for monitoring of lake eutrophication and environmental protection c1. Establishment of a system for the monitoring of pollution and of concentrations of dangerous matters in water and soil using GIS technology c2. Creation of a digital cadastre of polluters c3. Creation of digital models of measurement sites and water quality c4. Establishment of web-based distance learning system in the field of ecological issues and solutions with purpose of increased eco-awareness (Complementary to project TR 2.2) d. Study for the determination of irrigation needs in each country aiming at the promotion of more energy-saving and environmentally friendly irrigation and drainage methods	2002-2004 2003-2007 2004-2005 2002-2006	1,000,000 220,000 728,000 120,000	Objective I: Operational targets I and II " " Objective I: Operational target I & Objective II: Operational targets II and III	WQ, WQU, NR, SB; Convergence between countries " " WQ, NR; Convergence between countries
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 2: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, RARE HABITATS AND SPECIES**				
TR 2.1	**MONITORING OF BASIC ENVIRONMENTAL PARAMETERS** a. Organisation of a system and establishment of infrastructure for the long-term monitoring of basic biotic environmental parameters (biotopes, flora/ fauna) b. Organisation of a system and establishment of infrastructure for the long-term monitoring of basic socio-economic parameters	2003-2007	160,000 120,000	Objective I: Operational targets I and II	WQ, WQU, NR, SB; Convergence between countries

[1]The timetable in this chapter is strictly indicative and has not been updated since the completion of the study in May 2002.

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
TR 2.2	**STUDIES/ INVENTORIES OF FAUNA SPECIES** a. Study of the icthyofauna of the lakes and rivers (populations, spawning grounds etc.) that includes 11 endemic species and sub-species of fish b. Study on the populations, range and distribution of rare species of mammals (Bear, Wolf, Otter, Chamois) c. Study/ inventory of protected and rare species of avifauna d. Study for the conservation of local races of domestic animals (dwarf cow, sheep and goat of Prespa)	2003-2004 2003-2004 2003-2004 2004	75,000 75,000 75,000 40,000	Objective I: Operational target II	NR, SB; Convergence between countries
TR.2.3 (see also measures A 2.2, G 2.2)	**PLANNING AND INTERVENTIONS IN THE FOREST COMPLEXES** a. Study for the rational management of forest complexes in the catchment basin (timber-felling, fire-prevention measures, anti-erosion measures, measures for the prevention of floods and for the introduction of alien species) b. Joint fire brigade b1. Joint coordinating body for the three separate fire brigades, which will act in case of forest fire no matter the country b2. Preparation of action plans and maps	2003-2004 2004-2006	200,000 100,000	Objective I: Operational target II	NR, SB; Convergence between countries
TR 2.4	**AWARENESS RAISING/ PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION OF THE LOCAL POPULATION AND THE VISITORS** a. Organisation of awareness raising/ provision of information actions for the residents, services, bodies etc in and around the Prespa area b. Joint pilot environmental education programme	2003-2007	300,000 200,000	Objective IV	Empowerment of citizens; Convergence between countries

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
TR 2.5	**REGIONAL RESEARCH/ EDUCATIONAL CENTRE OF THE PRESPA PARK** a. Conversion of the building complex of the fish hatchery into a Regional Research/ Educational Centre b. Restoration and refurbishment of the said complex c. Operation of the Centre for the first year with scientists from all three countries	**2004-2005**	**750,000** **150,000** **600,000**	Objective I & Objective IV	All environmental indicators; Infrastructure; Convergence between countries
TR 2.6 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**ACTIONS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF IMPORTANT ELEMENTS AND AREAS OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT** a. Protection of unique natural formations, e.g. wooden marks and signposts b. Organisation of access to designated areas of interest c. Improvement of accessibility of paths linking areas of interest d. Selection, arrangement and provision of equipment in the main view spots e. Construction of informative kiosks in major areas of interest	**2003-2006**	**Greece* 940,000** **Albania 200,000** **FYR of Macedonia 300,000** * The cost for Greece has been incorporated in the National Action Plan, Measure G 7.5	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational target VII	NR, SB; Convergence between countries; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
Measure No	**Objective II: Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations** **PRIORITY AXIS 3: SPATIAL PLANNING AND LAND USE REGULATION**				
TR 3.1 (see also measures A 3.1, G 3.2)	**TRANSBOUNDARY SPATIAL PLAN** Transboundary Spatial Plan for the organisation of activities and land use in the lakes basin	**2002-2006**	**200,000**	Objective II: Operational target I	All environmental indicators; Convergence between countries

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 4: ENERGY**				
TR 4.1	**ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF ENERGY – STUDY** Feasibility study regarding the potential for using alternative types of energy at the Prespa basin (utilising biomass and solar sources of energy)	2002-2006	60,000	Objective II: Operational target II	NR; Economic prosperity; Convergence between countries
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARY SECTOR AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**				
TR 5.1	**USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES – STUDY** Feasibility study regarding the transborder exploitation of natural resources and raw materials of the primary sector	2002-2006	90,000	Objective II: Operational targets III, IV, V and VI	NR; Economic prosperity; Convergence between countries
TR 5.2	**DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PILOT ACTIONS IN THE PRIMARY SECTOR** a. Preparation of a Common Operational Plan for the development of organic farming and organic stock-raising and for the common promotion of products b. Design and implementation of a pilot programme concerning the application of modern, environmentally-friendly cultivation methods c. Market research concerning the identification of products that can be awarded a "Label of Quality"	2003-2005	300,000 300,000 100,000	Objective II: Operational target III	WQ, WQU, NR; Convergence between countries; Economic prosperity
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 6: STRENGTHENING OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY AND SMALL INDUSTRY**				
TR 6.1	**REGIONAL TRAINING IN SMALL BUSINESSES FOR UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE – CEFE METHODOLOGY** The project envisions 6 trainings for unemployed people from the FYR of Macedonia and Albania in: - start of own business - preparation of business plan - marketing activities	February-September 2005	25,000	Objective II: Operational target VI	Empowerment of citizens; Education; Convergence between countries

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
TR 6.2	**ASSISTING PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES** a. Promoting enterprise cooperation: a1. Assisting the creation of joint enterprises a2. Assisting the creation of networks of cooperating enterprises and exchange networks for the transfer of expertise b. Common production infrastructures	2003-2007	500,000 300,000	Objective II: Operational target VI	Convergence between countries; Economic prosperity
TR 6.3	**STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION** a. Catalogue of all existent small and medium-sized companies in Albania, FYR of Macedonia and Greece and data exchange b. Joint ventures with joint capital c. Establishment of Bureau of small and medium-sized enterprises (will supply info on state funds, European Commission funds and investment possibilities) d. Foundation of a Bureau of Product Quality	2004-2006	60,000	Objective II: Operational target VI	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens
TR 6.4	**UPGRADING THE LABOUR FORCE AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE** a. Organising a Social Security Network b. Actions concerning the training and specialisation of the labour force: - Organisation of training seminars - Organisation of exchange networks for the transfer of expertise, the modernisation of production methods, etc. c. Introducing new institutions aiming at the fostering of the productive and social activities (see other measures in Priority axis 6)	2004-2005	200,000 200,000 -	Objective IV	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 7: FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL-SCALE TOURISM AND ESPECIALLY ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF TOURISM**				
TR 7.1	**SMALL-SCALE TOURISM-RELATED ACTIVITIES – STUDY** Feasibility study on the potential for developing small-scale tourism-related activities and on the proper management of those in sensitive areas	2002-2006	90,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Convergence between countries

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
TR 7.2	**DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED INTERVENTIONS IN TOURISM** a. Creation of common structures and infrastructures regarding the integrated reception and provision of information to tourists. b. Design and publication of common booklets and information material c. Electronic information d. Promotion of enterprise cooperation among the three countries e. Revitalisation/ creation of special-purpose tourist infrastructures f. Actions concerning lakeside tourism g. Development of common cultural infrastructures and organisation of cultural events	2003-2007	600,000 120,000 120,000 500,000 1,000,000 300,000 400,000	Objective II: Operational target VII & Objective III	NR; Convergence between countries; Economic prosperity
TR 7.3	**ROLE OF TRADITIONAL CUISINE IN PROMOTING ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF TOURISM IN ALBANIA, GREECE AND THE FYR OF MACEDONIA** - Comparative study, which will consequently be published as a trilingual brochure for the popularisation of traditional folk cultures in Prespa - Workshops with stakeholders	2004- FYR of Macedonia 2005- Greece 2006- Albania	45,000	Objective III & Objective II: Operational target VIII	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 9: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE**				
TR 9.1	**PERIPHERAL ROAD AXIS** Feasibility and environmental impact study concerning the operation of the peripheral road axis	2002-2006	90,000	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Economic prosperity; Convergence between countries
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 11: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – MISCELLANEOUS**				
TR 11.1	**TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTING REGIONAL INTEGRATION** a. Road connections - Transport infrastructures b. Port infrastructures c. Border stations	2003-2006	3,550,000 230,000 1,350,000	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Economic prosperity; Convergence between countries; Infrastructure

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective III: Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources** **PRIORITY AXIS 12: PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL VALUES**				
TR 12.1 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**ACTIONS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF THE COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC AND CULTURAL MONUMENTS AND SITES)** a. Creation of a detailed record of all cultural monuments of the entire Prespa basin and study of the common characteristics found in the manmade environment in all three neighbouring counties b. Actions for the preservation and promotion of important monuments More specifically, for each country: b1. Albania (Indicative reference based on the study of the proposed Peripheral Road Axis) i. Restoration of the church of St.Dimitrios in Kallamas (surrounding area and murals) ii. Improvement of accessibility, restoration and fixing of murals in the hermit's cave of Panagia Vithou in Kallamas iii. Improvement of accessibility, restoration and fixing of murals in the hermit's cave of Evaggelismos in Gollomboc iv. Improvement of accessibility, restoration of building and murals in the church of Panagia in Maligrad v. Restoration of built structure and murals in the hermit's cave of Archaggeli vi. Restoration of murals of the church of Evangelismos in the village of Gollomboc b2. The FYR of Macedonia (Indicative reference based on the study of the proposed Prespa Peripheral Road Axis) i. Restoration of building and murals in the church of St. Paraskevi in Brajcino ii. Assessment of the need for a monument next to St. Athanassios in Ljubojno iii. Improvement of surrounding area and restoration of the church of Profitis Ilias in Grncari; iv. Restoration of building and murals in the church of St. Athanassios in Stenje; v. Improvement of surrounding area and assessment of the need for a monument in the church of Archangeli in Xelinski, Asamati; vi. Restoration of built structure and murals in the hermits' cave of Peter and Paul in Konjsko b3. Greece. See: Measure G 12.1 in the National Strategic Plan for Greece c. Actions for promoting and publicising the common cultural heritage of the entire Prespa basin	**2003-2006**	**50,000** **200,000** **200,000** **50,000**	Objective III	Convergence between countries; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

PART I: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective IV: Participation, cooperation and involvement in decision-making and in benefit or loss sharing of stakeholders in the three countries** **PRIORITY AXIS 13: COMMUNICATION/ EXCHANGES AMONG THE THREE PEOPLES**				
TR 13.1	**PROMOTION OF TRANSBOUNDARY COMMUNICATION AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE** a. Workshops in the field of ecology and environmental protection b. Internet connection in elementary schools and high schools in the region with purpose of info exchange c. Joint sports games and cultural activities	**2003-2005**	**80,000**	Objective IV	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens; Education
TR 13.2	**LET US LEARN THE LANGUAGE OF OUR NEIGHBOURS** Courses of Albanian, Greek and Macedonian language in the three countries	**2004-2006**	**160,000**	Objective IV	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens; Education
TR 13.3	**LET US GET ACQUAINTED – SPORTS GAMES** Promotion of friendship among the three countries through friendly sports' games (soccer, handball, chess and other sports of interest)	**start 2004**	**10,000**	Objective IV	Convergence between countries
TR 13.4	**RADIO WITHOUT FRONTIERS** a. Radio-link between Radio Korcha – Albania; Radio Florina – Greece and Radio Resen – FYR of Macedonia b. Procurement of necessary equipment	**2004-2005**	**9,050**	Objective IV	Convergence between countries
	GRAND TOTAL		**17,842,050**		

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – ALBANIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	Objective I: Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area PRIORITY AXIS 1: PRESERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES – MONITORING, WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND IRRIGATION				
A 1.1	**WASTEWATER TREATMENT** Sewage water treatment system for the settlements around the Prespa Lakes	2000-2010	7,472,000	Objective I: Operational target I & Objective II: Operational target I	NR1, WQU3; Infrastructure
A 1.2	**IRRIGATION** Rehabilitation of the irrigation system in Gorica/Kallamas Plant, Beli Hill and Zaroshka area in the PNP	2003-2005	900,000	Objective II: Operational target III & Objective I: Operational target I	WQ, WQU1, WQU4, SB3, SB5, NR1, NR3; Infrastructure
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 2: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, RARE HABITATS AND SPECIES				
A 2.1	**MONITORING PROGRAMME OF THE BASIC ENVIRONMENTAL PARAMETERS IN THE PRESPA NATIONAL PARK** Monitoring of flora, fish stocks, bird populations, reptiles, amphibians etc. Monitoring of pollution sources	2003-2006	500,000	Objective I: Operational target II	SB5, NR4, NR5
A 2.2 (see also measure TR 2.3) A 2.3	**PLANNING AND INTERVENTIONS IN THE FOREST COMPLEXES** Measures against erosion in the Albanian part of Prespa Forest rehabilitation programme for the PNP	2003-2004 2003-2004	180,000 5,000,000	Objective I: Operational target II	SB1, SB4, NR4
A 2.4 A 2.5	**INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS** Strengthening the capacity of the PNP administration Preparation of a Management Plan for the PNP	2002-2003	420,000 200,000	Objective I: Operational target III	WQ, WQU, NR, SB

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – ALBANIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective II: Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations** **PRIORITY AXIS 3: SPATIAL PLANNING AND LAND USE REGULATION**				
A 3.1 (see also measure TR 3.1)	**SPATIAL PLANNING – STUDY**	2002-2003	90,000	Objective II: Operational target I	SB2, SB3, SB4, SB5, SB6, SW
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 4: ENERGY**				
A 4.1	**ENERGY SITUATION – STUDY** Feasibility study on energy situation in the PNP	2003	100,000	Objective II: Operational target II	Infrastructure; Economic prosperity
A 4.2	**ELECTRICAL POWER** Rehabilitation of the electrical power system of the villages inside the PNP	2003-2005	278,000	Objective II: Operational target II	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
A 4.3	**SOLAR PANEL SYSTEM** Training a local group of people in the PNP on solar panel collectors aiming at the establishment of a small business and sustainable development	2002-2003	60,000	Objective II: Operational targets II and VI	Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARY SECTOR AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**				
A 5.1	**MEDICINAL PLANTS** Model for sustainable development in the PNP by controlled collection and fair trade of medicinal plants	2002-2004	550,000	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational targets III and VI	SB6; Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – ALBANIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 7: FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL-SCALE TOURISM AND ESPECIALLY ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF TOURISM**				
A 7.1	**FOSTERING OF UNDERTAKINGS OFFERING COMPLEMENTARY TOURIST SERVICES (INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT)** Promotion of family tourism in Macro Prespa as the most appropriate type for the Prespa Park conservation and development	**2002-2003**	**165,000**	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 8: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – WATER SUPPLY**				
A 8.1	**WATER SUPPLY** Water supply systems for the villages around Macro Prespa and Micro Prespa Lakes	**2002-2006**	**324,000**	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and I	Infrastructure; Economic prosperity
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 9: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE**				
A 9.1 A 9.2	**ROAD CONNECTION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO THE AREA** National road construction Zvezda pass- border with the FYR of Macedonia Rural roads	– –	**5,810,000** **1,139,000**	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and I	Infrastructure; Convergence between countries
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 10: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**				
A 10.1	**WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL** Feasibility study and building of the waste collection and disposal systems for the villages around the Prespa Lakes	**2003-2004**	**120,000**	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational target I	SW; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – ALBANIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective III: Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities, and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources** **PRIORITY AXIS 12: PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL VALUES**				
A 12.1	**CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS** Conservation of the local architecture and other cultural monuments in the PNP	**2003-2004**	**73,000**	Objective III	Economic prosperity
	GRAND TOTAL		**23,381,000**		

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective I: Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area** **PRIORITY AXIS 1: PRESERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES – MONITORING, WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND IRRIGATION**				
G 1.1	**WASTEWATER TREATMENT** Installation of a wastewater collection system and study for and installation of units of primary biological treatment in the settlements of the municipality of Prespa	**2002-2007**	**1,300,000**	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and I & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1, WQU3, WQU4, WQU5 ; Infrastructure
G 1.2 (connected to G 5.4)	**IRRIGATION** Technical study and projects to replace the existing irrigation system by a dripping irrigation system	**2003-2007**	**4,700,000**	Objective II: Operational target III & Objective I: Operational target I	WQ, SB3, NR1, WQU4, WQU5 ; Infrastructure
G 1.3	**RESEARCH FOR THE PREVENTION OF WATER POLLUTION** Study for the identification, assessment and mitigation of point and non-point sources of pollution	**2002-2003**	**50,000**	Objective I: Operational target I & Objective II: Operational target I	WQU4, WQU5
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 2: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, RARE HABITATS AND SPECIES**				
G 2.1	**MANAGEMENT INTERVENTIONS IN THE LAKESIDE AREAS OF MICRO PRESPA** a. Implementation of a management plan for the restoration of wet meadows a1. Reed management by grazing and cutting a2. Expropriation / land redistribution / compensation / purchase of specific lakeside plots of land that are inundated at the optimum water level fluctuation b. Study and construction of a sluice gate at Koula for the regulation of the Micro Prespa Lake water level fluctuation c. Monitoring of the implementation of measures and production of scientific educational material, as well as organisation support of bird watching activities for visitors d. Establishment of a scientific committee to monitor the management of the programme	**2002-2005**	**300,000** *Actions a1, b, c and d have been approved in the context of a LIFE programme so their costs are not specified here	Objective I: Operational targets I and II & Objective II: Operational targets I and VIII & Objective IV	SB (except for SB4), WQ; Infrastructure; Empowerment of citizens

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 2.2 (see also measure TR 2.3)	**PLANNING AND INTERVENTIONS IN THE FOREST COMPLEXES** a. Study for the rational management of forest complexes in the catchment basin. b. Forest management works c. Fire-protection works d. Forest cleaning (removal of excess material from forest zones along roads and sensitive areas) e. Anti-flood/ anti-erosion works	**2002-2006**	**100,000** **450,000** **300,000** **50,000** **150,000**	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational target V	SB4, NR4; Infrastructure; Economic prosperity
G 2.3	**INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS** a. Institution of a National Park in Prespa as provided for in the Special Environmental Study. The implementation of the Special Environmental Study has been horizontally incorporated in several measures and actions of this programme b. Establishment and operation of the Management Body of the Prespa National Park The action covers: - the establishment, organisation and beginning of operation of the management body - the preparation of a management plan	**2002-2003**	**500,000**	Objective I: Operational target III	All environmental indicators
G 2.4	**AWARENESS RAISING/ PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AND PARTICIPATION OF THE LOCAL POPULATION** a. Provision of equipment, organisation and operation of Information Centres b. Events c. Environmental Education d. Exhibitions e. Seminars f. Publication of environmental, educational and information material (e.g. leaflets, documentaries etc.)	**2002-2006**	**200,000** **200,000** **200,000** **200,000** **200,000** **200,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective IV	Empowerment of citizens

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 2.5	**CONTINUING EDUCATION – TRAINING** Training programmes on the environmental sector, with emphasis on natural resource management	**2002-2007**	**25,000**	Objective IV	Education; Empowerment of citizens
Measure No	**Objective II: Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations** **PRIORITY AXIS 3: SPATIAL PLANNING AND LAND USE REGULATION**				
G 3.1	**IMPLEMENTATION OF A SPATIAL PLAN BASED ON THE CHARACTERISATION OF THE PRESPA BASIN AS AN "AREA OF FOCUSED SPATIAL INTERVENTION"** (L.2742/99, article 11)	**2003-2004**	**200,000**	Objective II: Operational target I	SB2, SB3, SB4, SB5, SB6, SW
G 3.2	**URBAN AND REGIONAL ORGANISATION PLAN OF THE GREATER PRESPA MUNICIPALITY** (Open City Spatial and Building Plan, Law 2508/97, article 1)	**2003-2004**	**100,000**	Objective II: Operational target I	SB2, SB3, SB4, SB5, SB6, SW
G 3.3	**IMPROVEMENT OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS, UPGRADING OF RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE TRADITIONAL CHARACTER OF SETTLEMENTS** a. Recognition of Aghios Germanos as a "Traditional settlement" b. Elaboration and legislation of new Building Regulations for all Prespa settlements c. Preparation of a detailed inventory of all traditional buildings of the Prespa Municipality d. Elaboration of an integrated study concerning urban rehabilitation and urban interventions in settlements, avoiding isolated and fragmented projects e. Provision of incentives and allowances for aesthetic and functional improvement of existing buildings based on specific criteria f. Awareness-raising events and publication of informative material on the need of conservation of the traditional character and aesthetic value improvement directed to the residents g. Exploration of the property status of architecturally interesting buildings and elaboration of proposals for rehabilitation	**2002-2006**	**-** **20,000** **30,000** **300,000** **200,000** **20,000** **30,000**	Objective II: Operational target I & Objective III	All socio-economic policy fields and indicators

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARY SECTOR AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT				
G 5.1	**REINFORCEMENT OF THE AREA'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – STUDIES** a. Study for the identification of areas requiring interventions for the protection of the rural landscape, the restoration of hedgerows etc. b. Feasibility study on the establishment of processing units for agricultural products in the area	2002-2004	15,000 25,000	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational targets I, III, VI	SB2, SB5, SB6; Economic prosperity
G 5.2	**PILOT INTERVENTIONS IN AGRICULTURE** a. Pilot cultivation of new varieties aiming at the reduction of monoculture b. Pilot application of a system of advance notification regarding the spread of plant diseases and plant protection	2003-2005	160,000 20,000	Objective II: Operational target III	NR3, WQU (except for WQU3); Economic prosperity
G 5.3	**INVESTMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL (FARMING AND STOCK-RAISING) UNDERTAKINGS**	2002-2007	600,000	Objective II: Operational targets III and VI	Economic prosperity; Empowerment of citizens
G 5.4	**MODERNISATION OF AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT** Rational, eco-friendly maintenance of the drainage networks	2003	100,000	Objective II: Operational target III & Objective I: Operational target I	WQ, WQU (except for WQU3), SB3, SB5, NR1, NR3
G 5.5	**FOSTERING OF STOCK-RAISING AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** a. Application of programmes and projects of pasture administration (small roads, animal-watering infrastructures, fencings, artificial prairies) b. Completion of the relocation of stock-raising units c. Research on the potential for creating stock-raising parks and subsequently proceeding to the creation of such parks	2002-2006	250,000 300,000 250,000	Objective II: Operational targets III, VII, and I (related to the "Activities in all three countries")	WQU1, WQU4, WQU5; Economic prosperity

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 5.6	**FISHING** a. Study concerning integrated fishing management b. Application of administrative measures at the lakeside zone with a view to increasing the reproductive areas of the fish stocks c. Application of administrative measures in order to protect and preserve the endemic sub-species of trout (*Salmo trutta peristericus*) at the Aghios Germanos Stream d. Construction of fish passings in the weirs of Aghios Germanos for the Barbel, Nase and the Bleak	2003-2005	30,000 50,000 10,000 60,000	Objective I: Operational targets II and III & Objective II: Operational target IV	NR5, SB5; Convergence between countries
G 5.7	**FORESTRY** Small-scale actions for the application of the new administrative plans on the rational exploitation of forests: woodcutting, processing and marketing	2002-2007	150,000	Objective II: Operational target V	SB4, SB2, SB1, SB5; Convergence between countries
G 5.8	**BASIC SERVICES/ FACILITIES TO THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY**	2002-2007	200,000	Objective II: Operational target III	Economic prosperity
G 5.9	**CONTINUING EDUCATION – TRAINING** Training programmes for the primary sector of production	2002-2007	40,000	Objective IV	Education; Empowerment of citizens
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 6: STRENGTHENING OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY AND SMALL INDUSTRY**				
G 6.1	**ENCOURAGING INVESTMENTS IN THE PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS** a. Investments b. The following categories of "soft" activities are also covered by this measure: b1. Studies, consultative services and technical support for the development of quality products for the recognition of the distinctiveness of local agricultural products and for the institution of Quality Assurance systems (ISO), HACCP systems and/ or environmental control b2. The costs of initial certification of quality products	2002-2007	900,000 100,000	Objective II: Operational targets III and VI	Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 6.2	**INVESTMENTS (NEW UNITS AND MODERNISATION OF EXISTING ONES) FOR THE PROMOTION OF HANDICRAFT AND SMALL INDUSTRY**	2002-2007	500,000	Objective II: Operational target VI	Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 6.3	**SUPPORT ACTIONS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES** a. Promotion of local products (competitions, exhibitions etc.) b. Activities for the promotion of collective schemes and networks (e.g. establishment of consumer cooperatives, networks, cooperatives etc.)	2002-2007	120,000	Objective II: Operational target VI	Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 6.4	**LOCAL MECHANISM OF TECHNICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONSULTATIVE SUPPORT OF THE RURAL ECONOMY AND OF THE RURAL POPULATION** a. Establishment of an agency b. Endowing the agency with adequate powers to be effective in basic action programmes	2002-2007	100,000 200,000	Objective IV	Empowerment of citizens; Infrastructure
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 7: FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL-SCALE TOURISM AND ESPECIALLY ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF TOURISM**				
G 7.1	**INVESTMENTS FOR THE CONVERSION OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS INTO TOURIST LODGINGS**	2002-2007	1,500,000	Objective III Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 7.2	**FOSTERING OF UNDERTAKINGS OFFERING COMPLEMENTARY TOURIST SERVICES (INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT)** a. Fostering of small enterprises in the sector of tourism that will operate as complementary to the tourism institutions that will be established in the area b. Revitalisation of traditional coffeehouses, taverns, the creation of small refreshment stands etc.	2002-2007	300,000 100,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 7.3	**PURPOSE-SPECIFIC TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE** a. Study concerning the feasibility, location, and environmental impact of a campsite unit at Macro Prespa b. Upgrading of the NTO/organised beach facilities at Macro Prespa c. Establishment of enterprises regarding lakeside sports tourism d. Examination of the potential for alternative uses of the Koula canning factory (e.g. Conference Centre, etc.)	2002-2007	250,000 100,000 150,000 300,000	Objective II: Operational targets VII and I	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 7.4	**SUPPORTIVE ACTIONS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF TOURISM RELATED ACTIVITIES** a. Completion and staffing of the theme offices at Pyli, Vrondero and Aghios Germanos (see also Measure G 2.4) b. Organisation of actions aiming at the promotion of Prespa as a tourist attraction Internet sites and networking; design, printing, and organised distribution of information material, maps as well as of detailed relevant literature on the history, the traditions, the manmade and natural environment of the area) c. Marketing Actions d. Various types of assistance for the creation of Collective Schemes and Networks	2002-2007	included in measure G 2.4 180,000 120,000 100,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure; Empowerment of citizens
G 7.5 (connected to Priority axis 2)	**ACTIONS FOR THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT** a. Wooden mark-out and signposting (information signs) of individual formations of the natural environment b. Improvement of accessibility and signposting around the wooden observatories that already exist in Mikrolimni, Koula, Slatina, Krina and Pyli	2002-2005	100,000 100,000	Objective II: Operational targets VII and I & Objective I: Operational target II	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 7.6	**CONTINUING EDUCATION – TRAINING** Training programmes for tourism, with emphasis on ecotourism/ agro-tourism related activities	2002-2007	60,000	Objective IV	Education; Empowerment of citizens

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 8: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – WATER SUPPLY				
G 8.1	**IMPROVEMENT OF THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF PRESPA** Replacement of the water supply system, extension of the network, pumping of new sources, rehabilitation of existing water sources of the settlements of the Municipality of Prespa	2002-2007	900,000	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and I & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1, WQU3, WQU4, WQU5; Infrastructure; Public health
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 9: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE				
G 9.1	**ROAD CONNECTION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO THE AREA** a. Completion of the Antartiko-Karyes road axis b. Improvement of the tarmac and tracing of the dangerous points of the primary road network of the Municipality of Prespa c. Internal road construction d. Study and construction of the road connection between Miliona-Koula with the borders of the FYR of Macedonia (3.1km) and Pyli-Vrondero until the Greek-Albanian borders (2.1km)	2002-2007	2,650,000 2,100,000 200,000 cost has been incorporated in the transboundary part	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Infrastructure; Convergence between countries
G 9.2	**RE-ORGANISATION OF THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING SYSTEM** a. Localisation and construction of parking spaces in the settlements and around other points of attraction and study of the needs of the settlements of the study area regarding vehicle traffic and parking b. Implementation	2002-2007	50,000 250,000	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and I	SB2, SB6; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 11: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – MISCELLANEOUS				
G 11.1	**UPGRADING OF THE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE** a. Transformation of the former Community shop into a multi-purpose clinic, with staff and equipment b. Improvement and equipping of the Community clinics of the Municipality of Prespa c. Installation of day nurseries (in various settlements) d. Facilities and initiatives of care for the elderly e. Creation of playgrounds in various settlements f. Small sports areas g. Centres of Creative Occupation for children h. Improvement of infrastructure and equipment of primary and secondary school complexes	2002-2007	300,000 50,000 300,000 200,000 100,000 150,000 100,000 400,000	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Public health; Infrastructure
G 11.2	**RESTORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT FROM DAMAGE CAUSED BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES** a. Study and landscape restoration of the Pyli marble quarry and the surrounding area b. Study and landscape restoration of the surrounding area of the Vrondero Information Centre c. Study and landscape restoration of the Mikrolimni quarry d. Study and restoration of uncontrolled rubbish dumps in the area e. Dismantle of the old "Cannery Prespa Hellas" sign post in Koula	2002-2003 2002-2003 2004-2005 2002-2003 2004-2005	150,000 28,000 150,000 170,000 2,000	Objective II: Operational target I & Objective I: Operational targets II and I	SB5, SB6, SW
G 11.3	**INTERVENTIONS IN SPECIFIC LANDMARK BUILDINGS** a. Provision of the needed equipment and restoration of the Biological Station in Mikrolimni b. Other possibilities for development: e.g. utilisation of the Kallithea obsolete manor-house and of other buildings	2003-2006	150,000 150,000	Objective III	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 11.4 (connected to Priority axis 7 & 12)	**INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED FOR THE PROMOTION OF ELEMENTS AND PLACES OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST** a. Clearance and improvement of accessibility of tracks b. Selection & provision of equipment for 5-6 sites of interesting view c. Construction of small-scale infrastructures: c1. Construction of 5 small-scale infrastructures for lake access c2. Construction of a small dock for access to Mikrolimni d. Construction of 4 information kiosks e. Production of the necessary publicity material	**2002-2006**	**200,000** **120,000** **40,000** **30,000** **30,000** **20,000**	Objective III & Objective II: Operational target I	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
Measure No	**Objective III: Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources** **PRIORITY AXIS 12: PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL VALUES**				
G 12.1 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS** a. Excavation research b. Promotion actions c. Wall painting conservation actions d. Upgrading of the surrounding environment e. Small-scale actions for the improvement of accessibility	**2002-2007**	**830,000** **830,000** **830,000** **70,000** **70,000**	Objective III	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
G 12.2 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**PRESERVATION, PROMOTION AND UTILISATION OF RURAL HERITAGE** a. Studies and actions for the rehabilitation of rural heritage monuments b. Support of traditional activities i.e. traditional ways of fishing	**2002-2007**	**270,000** **80,000**	Objective III	Economic prosperity; Empowerment of citizens

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
G 12.3 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**SMALL-SCALE CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES** a. Aghios Germanos Byzantine museum (actions in order to set it up and equip it are being promoted) b. The Kallithea manor-house (its restoration is close to being completed) c. Creation of a cultural centre with library facilities and Internet access for all the local residents with the use of computers (for example, Aghios Germanos Cultural Centre) d. Establishment of new or reinforcement of already existing bodies for the promotion of cultural activities (dance, music, handcrafts, traditional shows and festivals etc) e. Actions for the revival, dissemination and promotion of the cultural heritage of the area	**2002-2007**	**500,000** **-** **120,000** **100,000** **80,000**	Objective III & Objective II: Operational target VIII	Infrastructure; Empowerment of citizens; Convergence between countries
G 12.4 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**CONTINUING EDUCATION - TRAINING** Training programmes for the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage	**2002-2007**	**25,000**	Objective IV	Education; Empowerment of citizens
	GRAND TOTAL		**30,360,000**		

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – GREECE		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
Measure No	**Objective I: Conservation of ecological values and functions and of the biological diversity in the Prespa Park area** **PRIORITY AXIS 1: PRESERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES – MONITORING, WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND IRRIGATION**				
M 1.1	**PRESPA AND OHRID LAKES – PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE** a. Research at 15 sampling sites in Prespa Lake and 20 in Ohrid Lake regarding micro flora and eutrophication processes b. Establishment of a monitoring station in Stenje village for continuous monitoring of this two-lake-system c. Education of local inhabitants and various target groups on the importance of eutrophication and methods for its control (Complementary to measure TR 2.1)	**2004-2006**	**322,750**	Objective I: Operational targets I and II " Objective IV	WQU4, WQU5, SB5; Empowerment of citizens; Education
M 1.2	**WATER PURIFYING STATIONS IN RESEN AND OTHER COMMUNITIES** Construction of small water-purifying stations for Resen and 15 rural communities in Prespa Lake region i. Reconstruction and modernisation of existent stations ii. Construction of additional small water purifying stations along the coastline (on the FYR of Macedonia territory) with capacity of 12,400 PE (population equivalent)	**Main project 1 year Project realisation 10 years**	**4,012,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	WQU3, WQU4, WQU5; Public health; Infrastructure;
M 1.3	**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS** Installation of sewerage system and construction of small purifying stations in the villages: Krani-Arvati, Dolno Dupeni και Stenje	**2004-2006**	**603,000** **350,000** **453,216**	Objective II, Operational target VIII & Objective I, Operational target I	WQU3, WQU4, WQU5
M 1.4	**REDUCED EXPLOITATION OF LAKE WATERS VIA INSTALLATION OF DRIPPING IRRIGATION**	**Initial designs 2004 Finalisation of works 2010 Foundation of institutions 2010**	**10,537,000** **4,641,895** **6,513,759**	Objective II: Operational target III & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1, WQ, WQU4, WQU5; Infrastructure

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Measure No.	PRIORITY AXIS 2: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, RARE HABITATS AND SPECIES				
M 2.1	**POPULATION, RANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF RARE MAMMALS (BEAR, WOLF, OTTER, CHAMOIS)** a. Raising public awareness about the importance of wildlife preservation b. Preparation of monographs on protected game c. Optimisation of natural habitats of certain game species, food supplies and protection d. Establishment of infrastructure for monitoring population status	**2004-2010**	**150,000**	Objective I: Operational target II	SB5; Empowerment of citizens; Infrastructure
M 2.2	**PREVENTION OF LAND EROSION AND FLOODING IN THE FYR OF MACEDONIA PART OF PRESPA** Integral development of confluence area Forestation, grass planting, melioration of forests and pastures, construction works etc.	**2003-2006**	**185,000**	Objective I: Operational targets I and II	SB1, SB4; Infrastructure
M 2.3	**STUDIES OF MELLIFEROUS FLORA AND DENDROFLORA IN PRESPA** a. Supplement to studies on melliferous flora and dendro-flora in Prespa b. Procurement of fodder for domestic animals and game c. Prevention of soil erosion d. Short review of vegetation on verge of extinction as result of lake withdrawal	**2004-2006**	**48,000**	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational target III	SB1, SB4; SB5; Economic prosperity

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M 2.4	**MELIORATION OF DEGRADED FORESTS AND UNDERBRUSH** a. Practical courses for forestry engineers and population in the Prespa region-joint trainings with Albanian and Greek experts in this field b. Examination of current status, setting of permanent reference areas c. Procurement and production of seedlings d. Elimination of preceding vegetation e. Cultivation of meliorated seedlings f. Optimal and suitable forest management (trimming trees in forests, labelling of forest plantations) g. Optimal forest utilisation h. Job possibilities as means of preventing migration i. Forestry planning and interventions in forest complex out of the frontiers of national parks	**2004-2007**	**750,000**	Objective II: Operational target V & Objective I: Operational target II	SB1, SB4, SB5; NR4; Economic prosperity; Empowerment of citizens
M 2.5	**CONSTRUCTION OF LABORATORY FOR PEDOLOGIC ANALYSES** a. Installation of sophisticatedly equipped laboratory for analysis of macro and micro elements in soil b. Reduction of excessive use of chemical fertilisers Control of soil fertility with N, P, K and determination of inorganic pollutants-heavy metals (Pb, Zn, Cd, Cr, Th, Sr, Cu etc.) in the soil, for prevention and ecological fertilisation in Prespa's agricultural sediment	**2004-2006** **2004-2006**	**120,000** **150,000**	Objective I: Operational target I & Objective II: Operational target III	WQU1, WQU2, WQU4, WQU5, NR3
M 2.6	**PLAN FOR PRESERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE "GOLEM GRAD" ISLAND** a. Survey of the island's flora and fauna b. Conservation and restoration of island structures c. Resources exploitation while increasing the level of environmental protection d. Construction of accessibility structures	**2004-2007**	**980,000**	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective III	SB5, SB4; Infrastructure

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M 2.7	**AWARENESS RAISING/ PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AND PARTICIPATION OF THE LOCAL POPULATION** a. Information network for the conservation of fungal diversity in Prespa b. Sustainable management of the cycle of phosphorus in the agricultural activities in the Prespa valley as a factor for the protection of the Prespa Lake from eutrophication c. Minimisation of the phosphorus load in Macro Prespa from use of aphosphate detergents d. Sustainable management and separation of solid communal waste in the urban and rural settlements in the Prespa valley e. Protection of the Prespa Lake fish resources f. Protection of the water, air and soil of pesticides	2004-2005 2004 2004 2004 2004 2004	25,000 63,120 59,100 96,290 20,200 42,600	Objective IV	WQU1, WQU2, WQU3, SW1, NR5, NR3; Empowerment of citizens
M 2.8	**GREEN INFO CENTRE IN RESEN** Foundation and complete equipping of the Green Info Centre in Resen, which will offer use of PC, fax, and Internet to all NGOs in Resen	one year	15,400	Objective IV & Objective I	Empowerment of citizens
Measure No	**Objective II: Enhancement of opportunities for sustainable economic and social development of the local societies and wise use of the natural resources for the benefit of nature, local economies and future generations** **PRIORITY AXIS 3: SPATIAL PLANNING AND LAND USE REGULATION**				
M 3.1	**VALORISATION OF OBJECTS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL COMMUNITIES AND SETTLEMENTS** a. Urbanisation of inhabited places, restriction of construction sites to populated areas, control of illegal constructions, planning and projection of areas suitable for construction b. Evaluation of existent architectural and cultural heritage, planning and projection of areas suitable for construction	2004-2006	775,000	Objective II: Operational target I & Objective III	SB6; Infrastructure
M 3.2	**PREPARATION OF GENERAL PLAN FOR 8 km OF LITTORAL ZONE (OTESHEVO – KONSKO ROUTE)** a. Sustainable tourist development in Oteshevo and Konjsko b. Promotion of recreational and health tourism c. Traffic connections, easy circulation of people d. Sustainable development especially in the littoral zone of Galichitsa National Park and the border with Albania	2004-2006	450,000	Objective II: Operational targets: I, VII and VI	SB6, SB2; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

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M 3.3	**PREPARATION OF GENERAL REGULATIONS ON LESKOEC, PRETOR, RAJCA, KRIVENI, LEVA REKA, STENJE, DOLNO DUPENI, IZBISTA, BRAJCINO, STIPONA, PEROVO, PRELJUBJE – INTEGRAL STUDY** a. Integral observation of the Prespa Park b. Complete inventory of the Prespa Park c. Suggestions for spatial valorisation in all sectors d. Prevention of uncontrolled occurrences in the Prespa Park	**2004**	**1,317,500**	Objective II: Operational target I	SB6; Economic prosperity
M 3.4	**PREPARATION OF A BASIC GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS DATABASE) IN RESEN MUNICIPALITY** The Basic Geographic Information System in Resen municipality will be created in ArcView GIS format - enabling creation of databases in digital format - including data on building blocks, streets, facilities, areas under vegetation, water supply and sewerage system	**2004-2005**	**120,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	SB3, SB4, SB6; Empowerment of citizens; Infrastructure
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 4: ENERGY**				
M 4.1	**PILOT PROJECT FOR THE UTILISATION OF SOLAR ENERGY IN THE RESEN SPORTS HALL** Installation of 40 solar collectors and additional equipment for hot water supply and heating purposes in the sports centre	**May-September 2004**	**23,400**	Objective II: Operational target II	NR2; Infrastructure
M 4.2	**SOLAR ENERGY** a. Preparation of feasibility study on the utilisation of solar energy b. Construction of production plants for system components (collectors, accumulators, solar boilers etc.) c. Heating of sanitary water d. Heating of swimming pools e. Semi-active and active apple desiccation	**2004-2006**	**1,100,000**	Objective II: Operational target II	NR2; Infrastructure
M 4.3	**USE OF BIOMASS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BRIQUETTES** Use of fruit plantation residues, sawmill waste and waste from the textile industry as raw materials for briquettes production for household and industrial purposes	**2004-2006**	**610,000**	Objective II: Operational targets II and VI	NR2; SB6

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M 4.4 (connected to Priority axis 1)	**INSTALLATION OF LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICITY GRID FOR PURPOSES OF DRIPPING-IRRIGATION SYSTEM** a. Preparation of main project b. Installation of transformers c. Installation of low-voltage electricity grid	**2004-2006**	**1,600,000**	Objective II: Operational target II	NR2, NR1; Infrastructure
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 5: DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARY SECTOR AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**				
M 5.1	**SYSTEM FOR THE TREATMENT OF HARVESTED APPLES – CALIBRATION, STORAGE, PACKING** Finalisation of apple production process, with calibration, paraffin treatment, packing, storage **INSTALLATION OF BIG WEIGHING SCALE AND CALIBRATOR IN KRANI VILLAGE**	**2004-2006** **2004-2006**	**2,500,000** **60,000**	Objective II: Operational target VI and III Objective II: Operational target III	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 5.2	**PILOT INTERVENTIONS IN AGRICULTURE** Training of population in growing mushrooms as a small family business	**2004-2005**	**27,500**	Objective II: Operational targets VI and III	Empowerment of citizens; Economic prosperity
M 5.3	**ENHANCED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IN CATTLE-BREEDING** Frugal exploitation of pastures and economical ways of cattle-breeding (neat cattle, sheep and goats) - definition of pasture areas - determination of pasture capacity - construction of sheepfolds, eaves, watering places, washing pools - sowing of high quality grass blends with purpose of increasing cattle fund	**2004-2007**	**150,000**	Objective II: Operational target III	SB6, SB5; Economic prosperity
M 5.4	**STRATEGIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF BEE-BREEDING FARMS** Equipment of 15 beekeepers' farms – each with a capacity of 100 bee families – for the sustainable production of pure and natural honey, pollen and royal jelly products, and foundation of apicultural reproduction centre for breeding of young selected queen bees and bee swarms in the Prespa region	**2004-2006**	**620,000**	Economic prosperity; Empowerment of citizens;	

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M 5.5	**CONSTRUCTION OF VETERINARY CENTRE IN NAKOLEC VILLAGE** Construction of a joint veterinary centre for the region of lower Macro Prespa and Greece Game/ fish protection, labelling and lab for animal blood tests	2004-2005	150,000	Objective II: Operational target III	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure; Convergence between countries
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 6: STRENGTHENING OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY AND SMALL INDUSTRY**				
M 6.1	**PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS ON UTILISATION OF WASTE APPLES AND OTHER LOCAL PRODUCTS FOR APPLE VINEGAR PRODUCTION** a. Full utilisation of apples and reduction of apple waste to minimum b. Turning apple waste into raw material and making profit thereof i. Construction of a new production plant for the production of apple vinegar ii. Construction of a new production plant for the production of apple concentrate c. Production of eco-products d. Reduction of unemployment rate	2004-2005	1,050,000	Objective II: Operational targets III and VI	SW; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 6.2	**USE OF ECOLOGICAL FERTILISERS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESPA REGION/ PRODUCTION OF BIO-FERTILISERS FROM ROTTEN APPLES AND ORGANIC WASTE RESIDUES IN PRESPA** a. Assessment of the soil status with regards to fertiliser use b. Utilisation of decayed apples and wood residues for bio-compost production c. Construction of a new production plant for the production of compost from waste apples and wood residues	2004-2006	550,000	Objective II: Operational targets III and VI	NR3, SW; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 7: FOSTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL-SCALE TOURISM AND ESPECIALLY ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF TOURISM**				
M 7.1	**ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN THE PRESPA REGION**	2004-2005	84,500	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity
M 7.2	**YOUTH SPORTS-RECREATION CENTRE IN KRANI CAMP SITE** Renovation of existent capacities, construction of lake dwelling settlement, hotel & adjoining structures: complex of pools and sports terrains in Krani camp site – EIA required	2004-2006	2,657,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – FYR of MACEDONIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
M 7.3	**CONSTRUCTION OF MOUNTAIN PICNIC PARK IN ARVATI VILLAGE** Construction of a mountain weekend cottage, two sanitary units and a sports terrain on Pelister Mountain in the vicinity of Arvati village	2004-2006	27,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure; Public health;
M 7.4 (connected to Priority axis 12)	**CONSTRUCTION OF KONJSKO ECOVILLAGE AT THE PRESPA COAST (CAMPAIGN)** a. Brochure & album "Konjsko ecovillage" b. Seminar on affirmation and proclamation of Konjsko an ecovillage c. Promotion of traditional items and handiwork as well as cultural-historic monuments in the village	2004-2005	9,100	Objective II: Operational target VII & Objective IV	Economic prosperity; Empowerment of citizens
M 7.5	**PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH TOURISM** a. Marketing strategy/ attraction of foreign patients to the Institute for Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation of non-specific, chronic respiratory and allergic conditions b. Renovation of facility/ standardisation of hospital rooms, professional services and regulation of health insurance issues for foreign patients	2004-2006	1,370,000	Objective II, Operational target VII	Public health; Economic prosperity
M 7.6	**RELIGIOUS TOURISM** Procurement of equipment for monasteries and church complexes, paving the access roads with asphalt	2004-2006	1,450,000	Objective III & Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 7.7	**TRILINGUAL TOURIST SIGNS** a. Procurement of suitable info-boards b. Establishment of info-boards in Galichitsa NP in Prespa Lake and Ezerani	2004-2006	for each site 45,000 90,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens
M 7.8	**TRANS-BOUNDARY WINTER SKI CENTRE "OTESHEVO'** Revitalisation and modernisation of the Oteshevo Ski Centre and its transformation into an international Ski Centre for the FYR of Macedonia, Albania and Greece – detailed EIA required to accommodate the ecological sensitivity of the Galichitsa NP	May 2004- May 2006	610,000	Objective II: Operational target VII	Convergence between countries; Infrastructure; Economic prosperity

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Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 8: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – WATER SUPPLY				
M 8.1	**PROVISION OF DRINKING WATER IN SEVERAL VILLAGES** – EIA required -Gorno and Dolno Dupeni, Ljubojno , Nakolec and 'Markova Noga' Border Crossing -Kurbinovo, Asamati, Bela Crkva and Pretor -Grncari, Slivnica and Podmocani -Brajcino and Strbovo -Krani and Arvati	**Initial designs 2004 Finalisation of works 2009 Foundation of institutions 2007-2009**	**550,000** **1,180,000** **1,130,000** **880,000** **670,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure; Public health
M 8.2	**INSTALLATION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN LEVA REKA VILLAGE** Water supply from a well located 1.5km from the village and construction of a new reservoir – EIA required	**May-September 2004**	**81,380**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 8.3	**WATER SUPPLY IN ZLATARI VILLAGE** – EIA required a. Capping of 2 new wells b. Construction of a new water supply network c. Construction of a new water reservoir	**May-September 2004**	**61,206**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	Economic prosperity; NR1; Infrastructure
M 8.4	**FINALISATION OF WATERWORKS IN STENJE VILLAGE** – EIA required Finalisation of the waterworks and provision of clean running water for Stenje village. The main project envisions modernisation of water supply infrastructure from a well-located 1.5 km from the village and construction of a new reservoir	**May-September 2004**	**216,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	NR1; Public health; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 8.5	**RECONSTRUCTION OF THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN RESEN** Installation of a water supply network that meets population needs until 2020, in terms of water quantity and water pressure - replacement of asbestos-cement pipes - bigger reservoir space - elimination of narrow passages in the system	**2004-2006**	**2,032,568**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	Public Health; NR1; Infrastructure; Economic prosperity

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M 8.6	**WATER FILTERING STATION IN ARVATI VILLAGE** Establishment of water filtering station in the Arvati village water reservoir	**2004-2006**	**20,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	WQU4, WQU5
Measure No	**PRIORITY AXIS 9: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE**				
M 9.1	**PAVING OF STREETS IN RESEN WITH ASPHALT – FINALISATION** Paving city streets with asphalt	**Spring, summer, fall season**	**483,250**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Infrastructure; Economic prosperity
M 9.2	**PAVING 22 LOCAL COUNTRY ROADS WITH ASPHALT – FINALISATION OF WORKS** Paving 18.5km of country roads (local routes serve as the main corridor for transportation of basic agricultural products from the apple producers to the end-users in the FYR of Macedonia and abroad) – EIA required	**Spring, summer, fall season**	**700,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Infrastructure
M 9.3	**RECONSTRUCTION OF REGIONAL HIGHWAY ROUTES TOWARDS MARKOVA NOGA AND STENJE BORDER CROSSINGS** Reconstruction of regional routes P503 and P504 leading to the border crossings with Greece and Albania	**Summer and fall**	**672,400**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Infrastructure
M 9.4 (connected to Priority axis 12)	**CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAFFIC ARTERY FOR THE CONNECTION OF VILLAGES WITH HISTORIC HERITAGE – KURBINOVO, GRNCARI AND SLIVNICA** The project envisions: - the construction of a regional road (and a branch of the peripheral Prespa road) - the connection between Asamati village and the traffic artery, 1300m	**2005-2010** **2004-2005**	**780,000** **59,200**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective III	SB2; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 9.5	**CONSTRUCTION OF AGRO-ECONOMIC ROADS IN RESEN MUNICIPALITY (Krani-Arvati) -** EIA required a. Opening and covering old country roads with gravel b. Paving roads in Krani – Arvati village with asphalt c. Filling furrows with concrete d. Tamping and paving the roads with asphalt	**Summer and fall season**	**672,400**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	SB2; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure;

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Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 10: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT				
M 10.1	**WASTE MANAGEMENT OF SOLID COMMUNAL WASTE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE** a. Minimisation and recycling of solid communal and industrial waste b. Thermal treatment of waste with purpose of energy production and utilisation c. Pubic awareness on issues of tidy and clean living environment	**2004-2006**	**200,000**	Objective II: Operational targets VIII and II	SW, NR2
M 10.2	**COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE IN TWO WASTE DISPOSAL SITES ON THE EASTERN AND WESTERN SIDE OF LAKE - AS RELOAD POINTS** a. Measures for protection of the surrounding areas b. Separation of the waste and setting separate locations for storage of harmful chemical waste c. Cleaning of existent waste sites	**2004-2005**	**815,000**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective I: Operational target I	SW
M 10.3	**MODERNISATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RESEN MUNICIPALITY** Designing of a modern system for waste treatment including: - collection of waste, transport, recycling - proper arrangement of unusable waste in a modern, protected waste disposal site – EIA required - reduction of waste	**Phase I 2004-2005** **Phase II 2005-2006** **Phase III 2007-2008** **Phase IV 2009-2010**	**4,093,232**	Objective II: Operational target VIII & Objective: Operational target I	SW1
Measure No	PRIORITY AXIS 11: IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS – MISCELLANEOUS				
M 11.1	**RECONSTRUCTION OF FIRST AID STATION IN KRANI-ARVATI VILLAGE** a. Reconstruction of the fanade and cultivation of the yard b. Medical services extend to patients from neighbouring villages	**2004-2006**	**23,700**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Public health; Infrastructure
M 11.2	**CONSTRUCTION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN PODMOCANI VILLAGE**	**2004-2005**	**842,500**	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Education; Infrastructure

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M 11.3	**COMPLETION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING IN RESEN** Construction of 7 classrooms as well as cabinets equipped for specific subjects	2004-2005	1,508,196	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Education; Infrastructure
M 11.4	**RECONSTRUCTION OF "BRAKA MILADINOVCI" ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN CAREV DVOR; CONSTRUCTION OF ANNEXES – SPORTS HALL** Renovation of school building and construction of sports hall	2004-2006	200,000	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Education; Infrastructure
M 11.5	**REORGANISATION OF PARKING SYSTEM, EQUIPMENT FOR RURAL AND TOURIST BUS STOPS** Better traffic regulation and installation of bus stops in rural and tourist settlements	2004-2005	300,000	Objective II: Operational targets VII and VIII	SB2, SB6; Economic prosperity; Infrastructure
M 11.6	**CONSTRUCTION OF MARKET PLACE IN RESEN** a. Construction of a new marketplace b. Transformation of old marketplace into parking lot	2004-2005	1,400,000	Objective II: Operational target VIII	Economic prosperity; SB6; Infrastructure
M 11.7	**CONSTRUCTION OF RURAL PARK IN KRANI VILLAGE** a. Central park area with water fountain and several benches b. Fencing off and planting of 400 m^2 with greenery and pine seedlings	2004-2006	10,200	Objective II: Operational targets I and VIII	SB6; Infrastructure; Economic prosperity
M 11.8	**URBAN SANITATION OF FACILITIES FOR PUBLIC USE** a. Sanitation (construction works and craftworks) of facilities and add-ins in Stenje village b. Open sports terrains in the immediate vicinity of the Lake and its sandy beaches – EIA required	May-September 2004	43,770	Objective II: Operational target VII	Economic prosperity; Infrastructure; Public health
M 11.9	**PRESERVATION OF PRESPA COASTLINE, TIDY COAST (PRETOR)** - Elimination of wild non-cultivated flora from the coastal area – EIA required - Elimination of solid waste and garbage from the costal area in Pretor summer resort	2004-2005 2004-2005	950,000 134,000	Objective I: Operational target II & Objective II: Operational target VIII	SB5, SW

PART II: STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – FYR of MACEDONIA		TIMETABLE	TOTAL BUDGET (in EURO)	REFERENCE	INDEX
M 11.10	**ENHANCEMENT OF CULTURAL - ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESEN AND PRESPA AS A MEANS OF PREVENTING IMMIGRATION AND SOCIAL DEVIATIONS** a. Urban sanitation of the small hall in "Dragi Tozija" cultural centre in Resen b. Installation of sanitary units, supply and drainage, sewerage systems c. Procurement of closets for storage of national gowns and display stands d. Procurement of instruments e. Covering roof structure with tiles	**2004–2005**	**59,250**	Objective IV & Objective III	WQU3; Infrastructure; Public health
M 11.11	**INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED FOR THE PROMOTION OF IMPORTANT ELEMENTS AND PLACES OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST** Infrastructure equipping of the strict nature reserve Ezerani on the Prespa Lake	**2004**	**76,000**	Objective III	Infrastructure
M 11.12	**MIGRATION STUDY** Demographic and socio-economic implications caused by population migrations in the Prespa region	**–**	**65,000**	Objective IV	Economic prosperity
Measure No	**Objective III: Preservation of cultural values, such as monuments, traditional settlements and traditional human activities and of cultural elements that promote the sustainable management of natural resources** **PRIORITY AXIS 12: PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL VALUES**				
M 12.1	**CENTRE FOR ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION – LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR THE PRESPA PARK PROJECT** a. Annual thematic workshops and thematic lectures b. Participation of students from the Prespa region (Albania, Greece and FYR of Macedonia) and interested students from other countries c. Terrain research by means of small-size laboratory and practical experiments in the field of architecture, cultural heritage, traditions, landscape, natural wealth etc. d. Organisation of interactive informative and educative seminars	**2004-2007**	**160,000**	Objective III & Objective IV	Convergence between countries; Empowerment of citizens; Education

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M 12.2	**RECONSTRUCTION AND ADAPTATION OF CULTURAL CENTRE IN CAREV DVOR VILLAGE** a. Thorough reconstruction of the centre b. Setting up of a library and Internet café	**2004-2006**	**200,000**	Objective IV	Infrastructure; Empowerment of citizens; Education
M 12.3	**CULTURAL CENTRES IN RURAL SETTLEMENTS** Rehabilitation of heavily damaged traditional buildings in 8 rural settlements in Resen municipality	**2004-2006**	**630,000**	Objective III	Infrastructure
M 12.4	**PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS** Preservation and protection of old traditional buildings in the villages of Brajcino, Dolno Dumpeni, Ljubojno, Pretor , Stenje, Konjsko, Jankovec and Kriveni	**2004-2006**	**650,000**	Objective III	Infrastructure
M 12.5 (connected to Priority axis 7)	**PROTECTION OF CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS** a. Restoration of cultural heritage b. Setting up of road signs c. Appointment of a custodian-person to familiarise visitors and tourists with cultural heritage and history	**2004-2006**	**1,430,200**	Objective III	Empowerment of citizens
M 12.6	**BALKAN CERAMICS CENTRE** a. Renovation of a facility to serve as drying room b. Construction of 5 bungalows	**2004-2006**	**100,500**	Objective III	Infrastructure; Education
	GRAND TOTAL		**77,715,682**		

MACEDONIAN
ALLIANCE
FOR PRESPA (M.A.P.)