

*International Workshop on Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management in SEE*

# ***LAKE SKADAR-SHKODER ECOSYSTEM***

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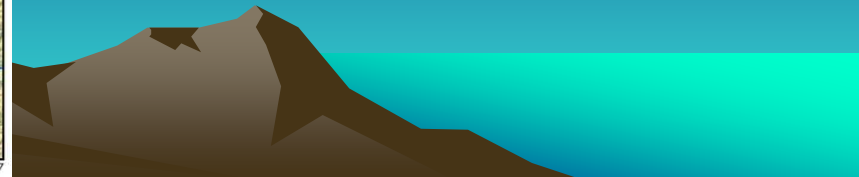
*Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Montenegro*

*Sarajevo, 20th May 2009*



# ALBANIA AND MONTENEGRO LAKE SHKODER - SKADAR INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT

-  LAKE SHKODER-SKADAR BASIN
-  MAIN ROADS
-  SELECTED CITIES
-  NATIONAL CAPITALS
-  INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES



# Basics

- Surface of the Lake: 475 km<sup>2</sup> in average water quantity (320-510 km<sup>2</sup>);
- Surface of watershed: 5.490 km<sup>2</sup> (80% in Montenegro, 20% in Albania);
- Water in-flow: app. 60% Morača River, underground springs;
- Surface of National Park in MN: 400 km<sup>2</sup>;
- Surface of Ramsar site in MN: 200 km<sup>2</sup>;
- Length of coast: 168 km; 110.5 km on Montenegrin side, 57.5 km in Albania;
- Depth: Average depth is 5m; maximum depth is 8.3 m, in Lake springs more than 60 m



# Status (1)

- Transboundary lake, biggest natural freshwater system in Balkan;
- Shared water body, managed by states (up until 90's);
- Re-establishment of inter-state cooperation-central level, top down approach;
- International community interest-transnational, regional prospective





## Status (2)

- Legal framework: nature protection, water legislation (partially harmonized with relevant EU legislation);
- National management units (for Lake's protected areas);
- Skadar-Shkoder Lake Commission



# Status (3)

- Lake vs. watershed area (protection of the ecosystem-development-sustainable development);
- Surface water & groundwater (protection-usage);
- Different management levels (institutional, legal)



# Impacts

- Usage of water: watersupply (most populated area in Montenegro, most populated area in North Albania), irrigation, industry, hydro power energy;
- Watershed area: urban development-settlements, agriculture, farming, tourism, industry;
- “Frame of climate change”



# Pressures

- Pollution (urban waste water, industrial waste-solid, liquid, hazardous);
- Building/construction;
- Legal/institutional framework (different protection status, different management instruments-institutions in charge, legal framework);
- Foreseen development projects (“heavy projects”- e.g. dams)
- Lack of capacities, knowledge, experience, awareness (not as pressure, more as cause for)





# Driving forces

- States (top-down approach);
- Integration processes (EU integration, cross border cooperation, regional initiatives)-joint future;
- International cooperation (numerous joint projects creating platform dialogue);
- Inter-states structures (Skadar-Shkoder Lake Commission)-2 B



# Lake Skadar-Shkoder Integrated Ecosystem Management Project (LSIEMP)

- GEF-World Bank
- 2005-2012
- Joint strategic framework
- PDF-B phase completed
- FSP underway.....



# Responses to challenges

- Investments (water protection-prevention and reduction of pollution-IPA instrument);
- Capacity building of all relevant stakeholders;
- Legal instruments (improved national legislation-EIA, (t)SEA, framework agreements-conventions: Ramsar C, Water C, ESPOO C, Aarhus C);
- Sustainable development concept implementation;
- Strengthening of trans-national structures;
- Regional projects-regional “decision making” platform;
- Harmonized approach (e.g. planning-IWRM, IRBM, monitoring)





**Thank you for your attention!**



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