



**Consultation Meeting on
Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin**
24 November, 2008
Tirana, Albania

Draft Report / Conclusions

Organized by the

**Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration
UNECE
Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean**

Financially supported by the

*German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
GEF IW:LEARN*

In the framework of the

Petersberg Process Phase II / Athens Declaration Process
UNECE Water Convention
GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean
Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI)



Introduction

The **Petersberg Phase II Process / Athens Declaration Process (Process)** for the South Eastern Europe is jointly coordinated by Germany, Greece and the World Bank.

The **Petersberg Process**, initiated in 1998, concerns cooperation on the management of transboundary waters. The Petersberg Process – Phase II is intended to provide support to translate into action the current developments and opportunities for future cooperation on transboundary river, lake and groundwater management in the SEE. It is supported by the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the World Bank.

The **Athens Declaration Process** concerning *Shared Water, Shared Future and Shared Knowledge* was initiated in 2003. It provides a framework for a long-term process to support cooperative activities for the integrated management of shared water resources in the SEE and Mediterranean regions. It is jointly supported by the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the World Bank.

The two processes progressively came together in order to generate synergies and maximize the outcomes for the benefit of the SEE region. The Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med) is the technical facilitator of related activities.

The main joint objective is to build capacity and share experience on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), and to develop IWRM plans for shared water bodies as a response to the targets of the 2002 Johannesburg Summit. The Process supports a series of complementary activities that provide a forum for transboundary water management issues in SEE.

The Process complements the EU integration processes and other ongoing initiatives in the region. It contributes directly to the scope and objectives of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem.

For more information visit www.watersee.net

GEF IW:LEARN is supporting synergy in the Petersberg Process Phase II / Athens Declaration Process, and contributions of practical experience from GEF projects working in transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwater in the SEE region as well as elsewhere in the world.

For more information visit www.iwlearn.net

The **UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention)** is the only existing international legal framework in force for transboundary water cooperation. The Convention was signed in Helsinki in 1992 and entered into force in 1996. As of September 2008, 35 countries and the European Community are Parties to the Convention, including Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania and Slovenia.

The Convention aims to protect surface and ground water by preventing transboundary impacts on health, safety and nature, which in turn affect the quality of life. It also promotes ecologically sound management of transboundary waters, and their reasonable and equitable use as a way of avoiding conflicts.

Parties to the Convention are obliged to conclude specific bilateral or multilateral agreements providing for the establishment of joint bodies (institutional arrangements such as river basin commissions). These joint bodies must agree on a common action plan to reduce pollution, in addition to agreeing on water quality objectives and waste-water emission limits. They are also required to cooperate on information exchange and monitoring and assessment. Early warning systems must be established to warn neighbouring countries of any critical situation such as flooding or accidental pollution that may have a transboundary impact. Parties to the Convention are also required to inform the general public of the state of transboundary waters and any prevailing or future measures.

The Convention provides a legal framework for regional cooperation on shared water resources. Several bilateral and multilateral agreements between UNECE countries are based on the principles and provisions of the Convention, including, in SEE, the Danube River Protection Convention and the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin.

Under the Convention, the Protocol on Water and Health and the Protocol on Civil Liability were adopted in 1999 and in 2003, respectively.

The programme of work adopted every three years by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention is a useful tool to support Parties' and non-Parties' implementation, identify joint priorities and address emerging challenges. SEE is considered a priority action area, thus the 2007-2009 programme of work includes a number of activities to support ratification by non-Parties and foster cooperation on transboundary waters in the region.

For more information visit www.unece.org/env/water

The **Global Environmental Facility Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (GEF SPM)** is an initiative primarily funded by GEF aiming to assist Mediterranean basin countries in implementing reforms and investments in key sectors that address transboundary pollution reduction, biodiversity decline, habitat degradation and living resources protection. It will serve as a catalyst in leveraging policy, legal and institutional reforms as well as additional investments necessary for reversing degradation of damaged large marine ecosystem and their contributing freshwater basins, habitats and coastal areas. The GEF SPM is linked to an Investment Fund for the Mediterranean, managed by the World Bank. Overall, the activities will be implemented over a period of 5 years.

An Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) component of the GEF SPM has been prepared under the lead of GWP-Med that involves the promotion of IWRM planning at transboundary, national and regional levels as a means to reduce pollution from land based activities in the Mediterranean. It aims to support targeted countries in the progressive adoption of IWRM policies, the implementation of IWRM practices in pilot areas and associated capacity building. The Development of Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) in globally important river basins and adjacent coastal areas is one of the activities anticipated to be implemented within the project. The possibility of Drin river basin to be one of the areas of focus is being explored.

For more information visit www.medsp.org

a receiving sea (the Adriatic), and a number of countries with, many times, different priorities and interests. It can also be used to illustrate the complexity of the management of water resources in the region which goes beyond the possible achievement of a suitable and effective management in a single sovereign state.

A system extending across national boundaries, being managed through a series of quite different and often incoherent management approaches.

The riparian countries are in different stages of development with the economies of most of them being still in a transition period towards market economy. A history of fragmented, sometimes overlapping or even contradictory legislation, generally weak environmental administration, limited financial resources as well as low public participation and awareness, also affects the current situation. Non-sustainable management of the environment and natural resources as a result of struggling for economic growth also contributes to reality. Nevertheless, the policies as well as their legal and institutional frameworks are undergoing a revision process driven mainly by the EU accession prospect. The riparian countries that are not EU members have all declared accession to the EU to be their main strategic goal, thus accepting the EU Sustainable Development Strategy as a guiding framework for their development. This is the main political driver for changes in the countries of focus structured around the Stabilization and Association Process. This process runs on a country by country basis depending on the individual fulfillment of the Copenhagen criteria for EU membership. Evidently, re-organisation and furthermore a full approximation to EU standards will need time and resources.

Cooperation among countries at the sub-Basin level has been initiated, demonstrating the political will of the Governments of the riparian countries.

Importantly, a level of cooperation is already in place in many of the Drin's sub-basins, providing a basis for further developments. The Prespa Lake has been declared as a trilateral protected park at the highest possible political level; an Agreement for the cooperative management of the Lake and its basin is in place for Ohrid and; an Agreement for the protection and sustainable development of Shkoder Lake has been signed.

The assistance of the International Community.

The international community has greatly assisted towards this direction and remains active in the region through financing or implementation of a series of projects on a number of water-related themes and sectors. Moreover the, EU accession prospect driven, on-going reforms in the countries will gradually lead to a *de facto* harmonized legal framework. In addition, initiatives such as the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and the UNECE Water Convention are facilitating the creation of a "common vision" among the stakeholders of the riparian countries. The GEF's engagement in Ohrid (completed), Prespa and Shkoder (recently initiated), creates the conditions for the enhancement of cooperation towards the integrated management of the Basin.

Nevertheless, cooperation among countries at the Basin level has not been initiated yet.

However, little action has been taken for the coordination among the countries for the management of the System's rivers (the Drin River and its tributaries, the Black Drin and White Drin, and Buna/Bojana Rivers) as well as for the "extended" Drin Basin itself. The coordinated management of this inter-connected hydrological system, using the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), will have positive effects in the Basin as well as in the adjacent coastal area of the Adriatic Sea (an area of special focus also for the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem), and be beneficial for the sustainable development in the entire region. Relevant examples of cooperation exist in the European continent which can be of inspiration for the way forward in the Drin River system (Danube, Rhine, Sava River basins).

A. Overview

Against this background, and following up on the International Roundtable on “Integrated Management of Shared Lake Basins in Southeastern Europe” (Ohrid, FYR Macedonia 12-14 October 2006⁶), the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration, UNECE and GWP-Med jointly organized the Consultation Meeting on Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin on 24 November 2008, in Tirana, Albania.

The Consultation Meeting was financially supported by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the German Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, and GEF IW:LEARN.

The event was organized in the framework of the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourse and International Lakes (Water Convention). The Meeting contributed to and supported the implementation of the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems (GEF SPM) and the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI).

Aims

The Consultation Meeting aimed to:

- § Exchange information among national competent authorities and key international actors regarding:
 - the current status of water resources management in the Basin and
 - the on-going and planned initiatives and projects related to integrated water resources management in the Basin;
- § Sound opinions, interests and needs from the key stakeholders in the Basin and identify challenges for promoting IWRM planning and application;
- § Identify opportunities, synergies and ways of coordination towards transboundary cooperation for the integrated management of the Basin.

Participants

Targeted representatives of key stakeholders involved in the management of water resources in the “extended” Drin River Basin, including competent governmental institutions, regional authorities, international organizations and institutions, NGO’s, etc. participated in the meeting⁷.

⁶ The International Roundtable was organized jointly by GWP-Med and the Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee within the framework of Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN Activity D2. It was the first time that key stakeholders from the riparian countries were brought together to discuss common challenges and aspirations on the integrated management of shared lakes in Southeastern Europe. The group of 55 participants included representatives of competent authorities, national and international organizations and donors working on shared water resources management in the area. Among others, the Ohrid Roundtable concluded the following:

- *Sharing of experiences among the three examined sub-systems namely Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder, is beneficial to strengthening cooperation and identifying synergies. It is important to be further encouraged and stimulated. The existing formal and informal structures (commissions, committees etc.) should be strengthened and used in an appropriate way in order to move to the next steps, namely to institutionalize the collaboration between the riparian countries and make these structures fully operational and effective;*
- *All available possibilities to gradually build a common vision as a first step towards the integrated management of the greater Drin River Basin should be explored. The Danube – Sava case can provide useful inspiration.*

⁷ Representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had planned but could not participate in the Consultation Meeting. However, in contacts before and after the Meeting they subscribed to the conclusions of the Consultation Meeting.

The Background Document / “Status Report on the Management of the “extended” Transboundary Drin Basin”

A Report about the Status of the management of the “extended” Drin Basin system was prepared by the GWP-Med to provide input for the discussions in the meeting. The Report was prepared with the financial support of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

The Status Report describes the sub-basins of the system; their physical and socio-economic characteristics as well as the existing pressures and impacts.

It provides information on the basin management framework at national level (policies, institutional and legal frameworks). It also makes a brief analysis of the different components that govern management of the sub-basins at the transboundary level (management instruments, stakeholders’ involvement, financing, cooperation processes and structures etc.). Finally, it analyzes challenges towards a coordinated management of the system and proposes steps forward.

The Report establishes a knowledge base to be enriched in the future and facilitate the cooperation process among the riparian countries.

Structure and Themes of Discussion

The presentations made, provided information related to the status of management of the sub-basins (Prespa, Ohrid, Shkoder Lakes and Drin and Buna/Bojana Rivers) at the national and transboundary levels, in addition to the Status Report on the management of the “extended” Drin Basin, prepared by GWP-Med, and established the framework for subsequent discussions.

The representatives of the riparian countries outlined the strengths, weaknesses, gaps and challenges to be addressed in the future linked to the integrated water resources management in the different sub-basins. The representatives of the international organizations informed the meeting about the on-going activities supported in the relevant sub-basins aiming at addressing national and transboundary issues.

Based on this, the discussions were built around the following key questions:

- i. Whether moving the level of cooperation and coordinated action from the sub-basin level to the “extended” Drin river Basin level would be:
 - beneficial in terms of preserving the values of the natural interconnected system using them as an asset that will support sustainable development in the region;
 - feasible, taking into account both the realities in the area and the will of the key stakeholders to be engaged in such process.
- ii. What would be the:
 - starting point of a process towards enhanced cooperation in the “extended” Drin Basin and the sustainable management of the shared natural resources;
 - specific steps to be made in the near future in support of this process;
 - specific short, medium and long term prospects.
- iii. How the international community would facilitate this process.

B. Understanding Important Issues and Key Challenges - Identifying Opportunities

The following key points emerged from the presentations, interventions and discussions.

The management of Shared Waters is closely linked with the management of the National Waters; developments in one area influence the other

Sound integrated management of transboundary waters is in a dynamic and close link with the water management practices within each country. Institutional and legal frameworks are

under revision or have been revised in the riparian countries. The EU Acquis, and in particular the EU Water Framework Directive, is the major driving force. Moving forward, institutional capacities should be strengthened in order to successfully implement the relevant legislation and translate it into sound management practices. The reform processes can benefit the cooperation between the countries for the management of the shared water bodies while international cooperation could speed up the necessary national reforms at the legislative and administrative levels.

Coordination/cooperation towards the sharing of benefits

Integrated transboundary water resources management involves both quantitative and qualitative dimensions. Most importantly, it involves the sharing of benefits that result from cooperative or joint management.

Identifying these benefits may be a first step in providing a major opportunity to facilitate cooperation at the regional, national and local levels and allow parties to move beyond issues of water quantity and quality.

Preservation of the natural values of the interconnected water system in the area needs to be ensured - Coordination across sectors, countries and sub-basins is crucial in this regard

Fragile ecosystems of global importance extend from the “upstream” areas of the Drin Basin in Prespa to the “downstream” Buna delta in the Adriatic. Taking into account the complexity of the hydrological and ecological characteristics of the system, the natural upstream – downstream water interconnection, need to be complemented by upstream – downstream and inter-sectoral communication of decision makers and coordination of management activities. This will ensure that development activities and planned projects do not undermine the natural values and the ecological services of the system hence, the development potential in parts of the Basin. There is a need for increased political commitment, stakeholder engagement and public awareness of the critical role of coordinated action across the Basin in this respect, towards increased environmental, social and economic welfare.

A “multipurpose use” approach needs to be adopted regarding the management of the Drin basin. Development across the basin should be balanced with the need for preserving the natural values across this complex system

There are different needs and priorities across sectors, basins and countries in terms of development and subsequently, water uses. Management approaches have to balance the need to preserve the natural values with the need for socio-economic development across the sub-basins. For example, the development of the hydropower generation potential in the Drin Basin has to be examined taking into account all the necessary measures that will secure the ecosystem balance and functions, and the biodiversity preservation downstream. On the other hand ecosystem protection cannot altogether stop socio-economic development. In order to achieve this, there is a need for a holistic view to be adopted instead of dealing separately with the issues in the different basins and behind national boundaries.

Inter-basin and Trans-basin dialogue as means for the identification of the context of the “multipurpose use” management approach in the Drin Basin

Different views can be reconciled through discussions, debate and consultation at all levels. While (i) dialogue at the local and national level has or is to be initiated through the implementation of the EU WFD and (ii) sub-basin dialogue has been initiated through the cooperation processes among the countries, a dialogue across the Drin Basin needs to be established.

The existence of interlinked surface/groundwater systems has to be taken into account while management approaches are planned/developed

Groundwater systems are an integral part of the “extended” Drin Basin system; the Prespa/Ohrid connection through karstic geological formations is a characteristic example of a complex system on which we still know little about. This fact needs to be taken into account while planning management actions/policies in the area. Linkages with on-going activities at the national and regional level should be secured. The GEF Dinaric Arc Aquifer System Project (in the preparation phase) that focuses on the management of the Karstic Aquifers offers opportunities for such linkages to be established.

Facilitation and promotion of transboundary cooperation and dialogue: Frameworks are already in place

The UNECE Water Convention⁸ and the EU Water Framework Directive provide the needed legal framework for the enhancement of transboundary cooperation. They may also be used as a basis to address issues that are not covered by the existing bilateral Agreements and MoUs. This becomes particularly important when basin-wide management measures and/or development activities are planned in the Drin catchment area.

GEF projects in the Lakes of the Basin aim to catalyze the initiation of a transboundary approach to basin management and enhance existing cooperative procedures. While the first has been achieved to a large extent in the case of Ohrid, the latter is expected in Prespa and Shkoder.

Furthermore “soft” International Initiatives such as the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process offer elements for building capacities and facilitating the creation of the necessary “Common Vision” for the management of shared waters.

Acting in synergy, these frameworks create the enabling environment for the enhancement of cooperation and the promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management in the Basin.

On-going cooperation processes and existing structures at sub-basin level offer a pool of experience and knowledge – constitute a concrete basis for cooperation at the Basin level

Lessons should be drawn from the on-going cooperation in Ohrid, Prespa and Shkoder Lakes and successes should be replicated. The exchange of experiences among basins will benefit further management activities for the Drin Basin system.

The formal and informal joint bodies created in the Lakes of the Basin constitute valuable mechanisms of transboundary cooperation and coordination. They may be used for the initiation of communication across the Basin and eventually become the nuclei of a Drin joint structure. It is critical for the governments and international donors to assist in sustaining and enhancing the functions of these bodies. Upgrading their role and capacity to prepare and implement plans and become financially sustainable is of key importance for the future.

Existing scientific information and data need to be enriched, linked with policy options and support decision making

Data and information are critical for the development of relevant policies and support political decisions. Based on the existing knowledge, further analysis of the characteristics of the sub-basins should be elaborated in accordance to the provisions of the EU WFD being the basis for any future managerial actions.

It was recognized that data, in many cases, are incompatible and incomplete and there is a need for further sound information. Nevertheless, we cannot wait until all the data become available. The analysis made until now in the framework of the GEF projects in Prespa, Ohrid, Shkoder and by scientific projects supported by the EU and the international community, provides adequate background information. Such work is not in place for the

⁸ The Water Convention has been signed and ratified by Albania and Greece; the UNECE is working with the FYR Macedonia and Montenegro towards their accession.

Drin, Black Drin and White Drin rivers; further efforts and resources need to be invested for these water bodies.

The knowledge to be generated needs to be integrated into the overall planning and management of water resources, at the national and regional levels.

C. Responding to Challenges – The Way Forward

Launching the Process to establish a Strategic Common Vision for the Drin Basin and moving from bilateral to multilateral coordination/cooperation

The meeting acknowledged the need to initiate a coordinated and structured dialogue/consultation Process. The “Drin Dialogue” should explore ways towards moving the scale of management from single water bodies, to the Drin Basin level. This should assist in shifting from sharing of water between countries and emerging conflicting uses, to the sharing of benefits between stakeholders in an area that is physically, culturally and historically interconnected.

This structured Drin Dialogue should involve all stakeholders to:

- analyze issues linked to the conflicting uses of water and the need to balance development with ecosystem preservation;
- raise awareness;
- identify priority issues to be addressed; and
- create a common long term Strategic Vision for the management of the Basin complemented by a Plan of Action for the addressing the identified priority issues and establishing multilateral coordination/cooperation.

The starting point of such a Process: Create a “Drin Forum” building on the established cooperation processes and joint structures

The meeting proposed to build on the experience developed in Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder and use the joint structures that are already in place or to be established soon i.e. Prespa Park Cooperation Committee (PPCC), Lake Ohrid Watershed Commission (LOWC) and the Shkoder Lake Joint Commission, in order to initiate the Drin Dialogue.

The three joint structures, through a mechanism of effective communication, would constitute the core of a Forum of exchange of experience and information among the sub-basins, the riparian countries and the stakeholders -a “Drin Forum”- discussing opportunities and ways for cooperation, and designing next steps towards the formulation of a Strategic Vision for Drin.

This proposal builds on relevant steps already been made; the PPCC has decided to work for the enhancement of communication with the LOWC as means for eventual future coordinated action in the Prespa/Ohrid region.

The assistance of the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and the UNECE Water Convention

The meeting gave a clear and open mandate for the Petersberg/Athens Process, the UNECE Water Convention and GEF to work in the region and facilitate the process. Work in the year to come would focus on facilitating a structured Drin Dialogue to lead to the Drin Forum. Sweden has committed to follow closely the activities of UNECE in the region.

Catalyzing action on the ground with the assistance of UNDP/GEF

The meeting requested the support of GEF towards the integrated management of the Basin. Building on the outcomes of the Drin Dialogue, a GEF project would catalyze action on the ground addressing priority issues and enhancing cooperation among countries.

UNDP responded positively in this request and will work with the countries' GEF Operational Focal Points (OFP) and the partners of the Petersberg/Athens Process and the UNECE to develop a Project Identification Form (PIF) and the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) workplan project proposal to be submitted to GEF in 2009. Follow on steps within 2009 would include consultation among UNDP/GEF and the countries' GEF OFPs; preparation of the necessary project documents (PIF) and (PPG request) and; organization of a regional meeting to discuss and finalize the PIF and the PPG request. A preparatory to a GEF Full Size project phase would follow and include the development of a preliminary Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, a gap analysis regarding the functioning of the three joint bodies, a stakeholders participation plan, a Full Size Project document and the CEO endorsement request, etc.

Identifying knowledge and data gaps; generating additional information to facilitate discussions. The development of decision support tools will be an additional beneficial tool

Cooperation at the technical/scientific level has been proven in many cases an effective trust-building activity towards enhancement of cooperation for shared water resources management.

In this regard, the meeting suggested that a creation of a "sub-forum" of scientists to work under the Drin Forum should be considered in the medium term. Identifying existing information and scientific knowledge in the area as well as relevant gaps could be the initial work of such a "sub-forum". Working for the creation of common databases may be considered as a follow on step. This may be followed by activities for the generation of more reliable data e.g. through laboratory inter-comparison exercises at the extended Drin Basin leading eventually to more harmonised monitoring procedures. Work performed in the framework of international research projects implemented in the area, involving institutions from the riparian countries, can provide useful background. The momentum created through the GEF projects in the Prespa and Shkoder Lakes should be used in this regard.

An important task of such a "sub-forum" would be to translate the existing data and knowledge into policy options to feed the work of the Drin Forum. The use of Decision Support Tools and the enhancement of relevant capacities through the initiative of UNESCO BRESCE would provide an added value in this respect.

ANNEX I

Consultative meeting on the Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin

24 November, 2008
Tirana, Albania

Agenda

Chair: *Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser on Environment, UNECE*
Co-chair: *Mr. Michael Scoullos, Chairman, GWP-Med*
Rapporteur: *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Programme Officer, GWP-Med*

Session I: Welcome and Introduction

- 09.00 Welcome Notes
- *Mr. Abeshi, Secretary General, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration, Albania*
- *Ms. Ewa Brederman, Programme coordinator Western Balkan, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency*
- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos on behalf of Mr. Fritz Holzwarth, Deputy Director General Water Management, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany*
- *Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos on behalf of Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, FYR Macedonia*
- 09.15 The underlying framework: Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process, UNECE Water Convention – Purpose of the meeting
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser on Environment, UNECE
Mr. Michael Scoullos, Chairman, GWP-Med

Session II: Current Status of Water Resources Management in the extended Drin River Basin

- 09.30 Water Resources Management in the Drini sub-basin - Identifying and Addressing Challenges
- *Mr. Skender Hasa, Head of Water Sector, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration, Albania*
- 10.00 Water Resources Management in the White Drin sub-basin - Identifying and Addressing Challenges
- *Ms. Violeta Hoxha, Director of Water Department, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Kosovo (UN administered territory under UN Security Council resolution 1244)*
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 10.50 Water Resources Management in the Shkoder – Buna/Bojana sub-basin - Identifying and Addressing Challenges
- *Mr. Viktor Subotic, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Montenegro*
- 11.20 Discussion: Identifying needs at the national and transboundary levels and options for addressing them
- 12.30 Lunch

Session III: Opportunities for the way forward at the extended Drin River Basin level and synergies with on going and planned projects supported by donors and international organisations

- 13.30 GEF “Lake Shkoder Integrated Ecosystem Management” Project
Mr. Agim Shimaj – National Project Coordinator, Albania
- 13.45 GEF “Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Prespa Lakes Basin of Albania, FYR-Macedonia and Greece” Project
Vladimir Mamaev, GEF Regional Technical Advisor, UNDP
- 14.00 Activities of the UNECE Water Convention that can support the development of cooperation in the Drin River Basin
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser on Environment, UNECE
- 14.15 UNESCO – BRESCE’s foreseen supported activities in the Drin River Basin
Mr. Ezzio Todini, UNESCO – BRESCE
- 14.30 The Lake Ohrid Conservation Project a successful model of bilateral management of transboundary resources. Transfer from lake to... River basin management
Mr. Arian Meroli, Albanian Representative, Secretariat of the Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee
- 14.45 Findings of the Status Paper on Transboundary Water Resources Management in the extended Drin River Basin.
Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Programme Officer, GWP-Med
- 15.00 Synthesis - The way forward
Mr. Michael Scoullas, Chairman, GWP-Med
- 15.15 Interventions by participants
Discussion: Identifying possible synergies and ways of coordination for promoting transboundary cooperation for the integrated management of the Drin River Basin
- 17.00 Conclusions / End of Meeting

ANNEX II

**Consultation Meeting on
Integrated Management of the extended Drin River Basin**
24 November, 2008
Tirana, Albania

List of Participants

			Mr./ Ms.	Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization/Institution	Tel.	Fax	Email
1.	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Albania	Mr.	Abeshi	Pellumb	Secretary General	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	00355 42270623		pabeshi@moe.gov.al
2.			Ms.	Adhami	Emirjeta		Institute for Energy Water and Environment	00355 42223518		thadhami@iec-al.org
3.			Mr.	Amataj	Sokrat	Prof. /Dr.	Center of Applied Nuclear Physics, Tirana University	00355 42244118	00355 42362596	amatajsokrat@yahoo.com
4.			Mr.	Bejko	Taulant	Assistant	Technical Secretariat of the Shkoder Lake Integrated Ecosystem Management Project	00355 2241877	00355 2241877	taulantbejko@hotmail.com
5.			Ms.	Bejko	Djana	Project Manager	Shkodra Lake Project, Transboundary Cooperation Between Countries Shared Natural Resources / REC, Albania	00355 2247203	00355 2247203	recshkodra@albania.rec.org
6.			Mr.	Bregasi	Agim	Chief of Sector	Conventional Policies Energy Sector, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy	00355 682056186		abregasi@mete.gov.al abregasi1@yahoo.com
7.			Ms.	Bruçi	Eglantina		Climate Research Group, Institute of Energy, Water and Environment	00355 42223518	00355 42223518	eglantinab@yahoo.com
8.			Mr.	Bruka	Shefqet	Head of Prefecture	Kukes Prefecture	00355 682023548		kryetari@qarkushkoder.gov.al

9.	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Albania	Mr.	Cengu	Tasim	Head	Kukes Environment Agency	00355 684072704		tcengu@yahoo.com
10			Mr.	Çota	Skender	Deputy General Director	General Roads Directorate	00355 4226373	00355 42223600	skendercota@yahoo.com
11			Mr.	Deltina	Osman	Head	Water Agency / Drini-Buna Basin	00355 682081245		
12			Ms.	Demiraj - Bruci	Eglantina		Department of Climate and Environment, Institute of Energy, Water and Environment	00 355 42223518	00355 42223518	eglantinab@yahoo.com
13			Ms.	Dishnica	Tatjana	Director	Directorate of Advisory, Services, Science & Agriculture Information, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	00355 682055321		tana@icc-al.org
14			Mr.	Dodbiba	Eno	National Expert at the GEF Prespa Lake project	PIU-Tirane	00355 42257627		enod@albmail.com
15			Mr.	Eftimi	Romeo	Private Consultant		00355 42247194	00355 4247194	eftimi@sanx.net
16			Ms.	Fatime	Tholani		A.N.B Drin Buna			
17			Mr.	Gani	Platon	Chief of Water Agency	Water Agency /Shkumbini Basin	00355 684023937		
18			Mr.	Gelaj	Aranit	Project leader / Evaluation, Management and Monitoring of Groundwater for Drini Basin project	Hydrogeology Department near, Geological Survey of Albania	00355 4222578	00355 4229441	a_gelaj@Yahoo.com
19	Mr.	Golkaj	Kujtim	Specialist	Water Agency / Drini-Buna Basin	00355 682123887				

20	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Albania	Mr.	Hasa	Skender	Head	Water Sector, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	00355 4270630	00355 4270627	shasa@moe.gov.al
21			Mr.	Hasani	Esat	Director	Directorate of Lands and Water, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	00355 692439245		irtarr@yahoo.com
22			Ms.	Hunda	Kadriela	Student		00355 4368155		elahunda@yahoo.com
23			Ms.	Idrizi	Liljan	Head	Shkodra Environment Agency	00355 682422403		armshkodra@yahoo.com
24			Mr.	Kolaneci	Molnar	Head of Water Department	Institute of Energy, Water and Environment	00355 42223518		kol@sanx.net
25			Mr.	Konomi	Ardit	UNDP/GEF Prespa Project	Local Project Coordinator	00355 682054724	00355 82252948	arditkonomi@gmail.com
26			Mr.	Kornaku	Amarilda	Student		00355 6992182244		axis_monteo@hotmail.com
27			Ms.	Lutaj	Margarita	Expert of Water Sector	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	00355 682078468		mlutaj@moe.gov.al
28			Mr.	Malltezi	Jamarber	Coordinator, Integrated coastal management Zone -clean Up Project	Ministry of Public Works, Transport & Telecommunication	00355 42273738		abi_malltezi@yahoo.com icamp@abcom.al
29			Ms.	Mamaj	Aferdita		Hydrogeology Directorate of Supply and Sewerages, DPUK	00355 682030302		aferdita_mamj@yahoo.com
30			Mr.	Merolli	Arian	Albanian Representative	Secretary of Watershed Management Committee for Ohrid and Prespa lakes	00355 83249-66		piuoffice@adanet.net arianmeroli@yahoo.com
31			Ms.	Mima	Marjeta	Manager	ECAT - Tirana			ecat@ecat-tirana.com
32	Mr.	Mukaj	Arben	Chief of Irrigation and Drainage Department	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	00355 692153596		arbenmukaj@yahoo.com		

33	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Albania	Mr.	Ndoci	Pashk	Chief	Water Agency / Mati Basin	0355 692153596		
34			Mr.	Neziraj	Adil	General Director	Geological Service of Albania	00355 682089848		aneziraj@yahoo.com
35			Mr.	Ngjeci	Shpetim	Expert	Water Sector, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration	00355 682052669		shngjeci@moe.gov.al
36			Mr.	Nuhaj	Fatmir	Chief	Water Agency / Ishem- Erzen Basin	00355 692031356		
37			Mr.	Pambuku	Arben	Head	Hydrobiological Department, Albanian Geological Survey	00355 42 222578	00355 42229441	urtesi2001@yahoo.com
38			Ms.	Patozi	Enkelejda	Water project coordinator	GTZ German technical cooperation with Albanian government	00355 682027713	00389 23134236	enkelejda.patozi@gtz.de
39			Mr.	Pilafi	Lumturi	Head	Dibra Environment Agency	00355 682925098		
40			Mr.	Puci	Nazmie	Hydrogeologist	Albanian Geological Service	00355 682707549		
41			Mr.	Qirjo	Mihallaq	Country Director	REC, Albania Office	00355 4223 29 28		rec@albania.rec.org
42			Mr.	Rasha	Rudolf	General Secretary	Council of Shkodra Prefecture	00355 692083392		rudolfrasha@yahoo.com
43			Ms.	Rasha	Fatime	Specialist	Water River Basin			
44			Mr.	Shahin	Hereni	Kashilli Qaskut KUKES		00355 692616038		shhereni@yahoo.com
45			Mr.	Shimaj	Agim	Coordinator of Shkodra Lake Project	GEF/World Bank Lake Shkodra/Skadar Integrated Ecosystem Management Project	00355 692085090		a_shimaj@yahoo.com
46			Mr.	Shumka	Spase		PPNEA TIRANA	00355 4234812		sprespa@yahoo.co.uk
47	Mr.	Sokoli	Fatbardh		Technical Department, General directorate of Road					

48	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Albania	Mr.	Stafa	Hasan		Consumer Office, Albania	00355 42250174	00355 42250174	
49			Mr.	Tarelli	Irfan	General Director	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	00355 682078716		irtarr@yahoo.com
50			Ms.	Zuna	Violeta	Coordinator	GEF/UNDP Prespa Lake project	00355 42257627	00355 42257627	violeta.zuna@undp.org
51		Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Mr.	Angeleski	Ilija	Advisor	Intercommunity Public Company "PROAQUA" – STRUGA/OHRID (MJP "Proaqua" – Struga/Ohrid)	00389 46250 121	00389 46250 123	
52			Mr.	Kostoski	Goce	Director	Hydrobiological Institute	00389 46231050	00389 46262910	gocekos@hio.edu.mk
53			Mr.	Naumoski	Trajce	Expert	Hydrobiological Institute	00389 46231050	389 46262910	nautra@hio.edu.mk
54			Mr.	Nestoroski	Nikola	Financial Director for WU Kolektor	Inter-municipal Public Enterprise for drinking water, sewage and treatment plant PROAGUA STRUGA	00389 46784050	00389 46781071	nnestor2000@yahoo.com
55			Mr.	Vait	Ajro	Deputy Director	Inter-municipal Public Enterprise for drinking water, sewage and treatment plant PROAGUA STRUGA	00389 46784050	00389 46781071	vait2000@yahoo.com
56		Greece	Ms	Mantziou	Daphne	Prespa Park Programme Officer	Society for the Protection of Prespa	0030 2385051211	0030 2385051343	d.mantziou@wwf.gr
57	Kosovo⁹		Mr.	Buza	Fadlije	Officer	Water quality –Drini river basin Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	00377 44187760	00381 390326972	fbuza@hotmail.com

58	Drin Basin Riparian Countries	Kosovo ⁹	Mr.	Çadraku	Hazir	Head	Water Policy Division, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	0037744 262 457		haziri_07@hotmail.com
59			Mr.	Fidaim	Sahiti	Head	Unit for water information system, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	00377 44206 869		fidaimi04@hotmail.com
60			Mr.	Gojani	Maduha	Officer	Food protection –Drini river basin, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	00377 44735625	00381 390326972	manduhag57@hotmail.com
61			Ms	Hoxha	Violeta	Director	Water Department, Ministry of environment and Spatial Planning	00381 38211804	00381 38517558	Violeta.hoxha@ks-gov.net
62			Ms	Rraci	Leonora	Head	Unit for Drini river basin, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	00377 44157558	00381 390326972	Irraci@hotmail.com
63			Mr.	Rudari	Ismail	Acting Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	00377 38517720	00377 38517558	Ismail.rudari@ks-gov.net
64		Montenegro	Mr.	Čadjenović	Novak		Ministry of Tourism and Environment	00382 20 228 516		cadjo1@yahoo.com
65			Mr.	Đurašković	Pavle	Head of Ecology Sector	Hydrometeorological Institute of Montenegro	00382 20655365		pavle.djuraskovic@meteo.g.yu
66			Mr.	Kojovic	Aleksandar	Adviser	Hydrometeorological Institute of Montenegro	00382 20270572		akosovic@yahoo.com
67			Ms	Marojevic	Jelena	Project coordinator, Sharing Waters-Skadar lake basin Project	NGO Green Home/WWF	00382 67860220	00382 20609375	jelena.green@t-com.me
68	Ms		Mišković	Marina	Senior adviser	Ministry of Tourism and Environment	00382 20482336		marina.miskovic@gov.me	
69	Mr.		Mustaqi	Vangjel	Metereologist	INEUM	00355 4223518		vmustaqi@yahoo.com	
70	Mr.		Subotic	Viktor	Senior adviser	Ministry of Tourism and Environment	00382 20228516	00382 20234168	viktor.subotic@gov.me	

⁹ Under the UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999), Kosovo is administered by United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)

71	Donor Countries	Germany	Ms .	Rodrian	Ute	Director	KFW Entwicklungsbank, Regional Office Albania, Kosovo FYR Macedonia	00355 42227869	00355 42227869	ute.rodrian@kfw.de
72		Sweden	Ms .	Brederman	Ewa	Programme coordinator, Western Balkans	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency			Ewa.Brederman@naturvard.sverket.se
73		Sweden	Ms .	Stensdotter	Ulrika	Senior administrative officer	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency			adibra@yahoo.com
74	International Institutions / Organizations		Mr.	Faloutsos	Dimitris	Programme Officer	Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean	0030 2103247490	0030 2103317127	dimitris@gwpmed.org
75			Mr.	Hamid	Mish	Project Manager	GEF IW:LEARN			mish@iwlearn.org
76			Mr.	Libert	Bo	Regional Advisor on Environment	UNECE	0041 229172396	0041 229170621	Bo.Libert@unece.org
77			Mr.	Mamaev	Vladimir	Regional Technical Advisor for International Waters, Land Degradation and Integrated Ecosystem Management	UNDP Europe & CIS	00355 682234660		Llazar.korra@ec.europa.eu
78			Ms .	Mantzara	Bessie	Finance and Administration	Global Water Partnership Mediterranean	0030 2103247490	0030 2103317127	bessie@gwpmed.org
79			Ms .	Micu	Adriana	Head of crosscutting cluster	UNDP	00391 23109241	00391 23212 466	
80		Mr.	Scoullas	Michael	Chairman	Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean	0030 2103247490	0030 2103317127		
81		Mr.	Todini	Ezio	Professor	UNESCO BRESCE / Department of Earth and Geo-Environmental Sciences, University of Bologna	0039 3356241723		ezio.todini@unibo.it	