

PONT funding priorities						
	Priority timeframe		Stakeholder(s) assessment		Co-funding	
	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	Public/state mandated organization(s)	Possible Service Provider(s)	Existing own funding/co-funding	Potential own funding/co-funding
<b>Capacity development (Objectives)</b>	Proposed Indicators for Monitoring					
I. Grantees improve management, governance and monitoring	1. New local office for PPNEA and MES established and running in Prespa area by 2020 in Albania and FYR of Macedonia; 2. The grantees have to achieve at least 50% of their objectives at mid-term of their strategic plan and/or management plan; 3. The grantee has a sound Monitoring and Evaluation system in place by 2020; 4. Protected Areas improve visitor management to generate income from non-extractive resource use; 5. Increase of Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) and Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) scores					
II. Grantees improve their administration with realistic overheads	Proportion of annual budget allocated to fixed costs (e.g., salaries, rents) versus variable costs (e.g., supplies and equipment, travel expenses, revenue generating initiatives) is in line with the planned activities and reasonable					
III. Grantees improve technical skills	Staff increase their skills to fulfil the management and project objectives (measured via METT and Civil Society Tracking Tool)					
IV. Grantees increase local participation/community engagement on nature protection issues	1. The number of people from the local communities participating in conservation-related activities will have increased by at least 30%, and the number of women and/or young people participating will have increased by 30% by 2022; 2. By 2022 the existence and use of mechanism(-s) for gathering nature protection and protected area information from local stakeholders (e.g. participatory monitoring) is in place; 3. A system for feedback directly from stakeholders and in particular from grassroot and vulnerable groups about the ecological and social impacts is functional in 2022; 4. Tangible benefits (money/resources) for the active participation of local people in conservation related activities increases by 2022					
V. Grantees improve coordination and cooperation among actors including transboundary level	1. Fundraising strategy for matching funds is in place by 2020; 2. Increase joint activities between PONT Grantees and other actors at Local, National and Regional level by 2022					
<b>Categories (objectives) / Key areas of intervention (interventions) specific for each individual Protected Area</b>	<b>Co-financing of operational costs of key areas of interventions as outlined in the individual approved Management Plans for each Protected Area. These are not specified individually in the Strategic Framework. Overlap with the key areas of intervention specified below might exist. Therefore good coordination between the Protected Area grant programme and Environmental Actor programme is needed with the core routines of the Protected Areas as a starting point</b>					
<b>Categories (objectives) / Key areas of intervention (interventions) in the Wider Prespa Area</b>	<b>Based on "Transboundary Prespa - Review of Conservation Efforts for the Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust" (April 2017, PrespaNET) and the Prespa Transboundary Strategic Framework using the Conservation Measures Partnership's (CMP) Open Standards (OS) as a framework (2014, PrespaNET; updated in 2017)</b>					
<b>I. Sustainable Protected Area and forest management and practices</b>	Proposed indicators for monitoring					
Maintain forest cover and the status of Grecian juniper, Macedonian pine and old-growth forest	1. The forest cover and the status of Grecian juniper and Macedonian pine are maintained at the 2015 levels (grant proposals include baseline data and/or methods to measure a baseline to monitor);					
Enable effective connectivity of Prespa with the Northern Pindos mountain range (in both Greece and Albania)	1. Critical points that hamper effective connectivity have been identified and mapped					
Sustainable forestry systems are developed and implemented in protected areas	1. Forest management plans are aligned with the Protected Area Management Plans by 2022; 2. Increase in hectares under sustainable forest management in protected areas by 2027					
<b>Real measures (pilot, community-based), awareness raising, capacity building</b>						
a.	Implement sustainable forest management inside the Protected Areas	A M	A M	NAPA, DFP -	Faculty of Forestry Sciences Agricultural University of Tirana -	

b.	Revision and implementation of the Grecian juniper forests Action Plan at transboundary level	A G	M	NAPA Galichica National Park	- Faculty of Forestry-Skopje		G
c.	Community-based projects for the sustainable exploitation of non-timber forest products	A M G	A	-	NGOs NGOs experts		G
d.	Local awareness-raising campaigns aimed on the value of the forests of Prespa, etc.	A M G	A G	NAPA Macedonian Forests Public Enterprise, PAs	NGOs Faculty of Forestry-Skopje, NGOs	G	G
e.	Capacity-building projects for managers on sustainable forestry management and monitoring incl NTFPs	A M G	A	NAPA Macedonian Forests Public Enterprise, PAs	Consultancy, Faculty of Forestry Sciences Agricultural University of Tirana Faculty of Forestry-Skopje, NGOs experts		G
<b>II. Sustainable use of Protected Areas (including recreation/ tourism, traditional grazing, non-timber forest products (NTFPs))</b>		Proposed indicators for monitoring					
To identify and maintain, or increase, the local breeds present in the basin (e.g. Prespa Dwarf Cattle)		1. Identify the local breeds and their number by 2022; 2. Maintain the number or extent of local breeds at least at the level identified in 2022 or increase the number by 5 %					
<b>Real measures (pilot, community-based), awareness raising, capacity building</b>							
a.	Pilot ecotourism and/or agro-tourism initiatives	A M G	A	NAPA, Municipalities (Pustec, Devoll)	Faculty of Economy and Agriculture, University "F.S.Noli" Korce, NGOs Faculty for Agricultural Sciences and Food-Skopje, NGOs (e.g. Dobra Zemja) experts	G	G
b.	Community-based projects for infrastructure required for sustainable grazing	G	A M G	Municipalities (Pustec, Devoll)	NGOs Faculty for Agricultural Sciences and Food-Skopje, NGOs (e.g. Dobra Zemja) engineers, workers		G
c.	Local awareness-raising campaigns aimed on the value of the ecosystem services and forests of Prespa, etc.	A M G	A G	NAPA Macedonian Forests Public Enterprise, PAs	NGOs Faculty of Forestry-Skopje, NGOs	G	G
d.	Community-based projects for small-scale processing and marketing infrastructure for NTFPs	M G	A G	Municipalities (Pustec, Devoll)	NGOs, Faculty of Economy and Agriculture, University "F.S.Noli" Korce Faculty for Agricultural Sciences and Food-Skopje, NGOs (e.g. Dobra Zemja) engineers, workers		G
<b>III. Conservation of priority species - waterbirds, fish, large carnivores, bats, wild plants</b>		Proposed Indicators for Monitoring					
<b>Pelicans and other priority waterbirds</b>							
The Dalmatian pelican, great white pelican and pygmy cormorant will maintain favourable conservation status		1. Priority waterbirds will maintain, or achieve, favourable conservation status by 2022 (baseline data Albania & FYRoM needed); 2. The national population sizes of the listed species* will be known by 2020					
The breeding populations of purple heron, squacco heron and night heron will have increased		*Pelecanus crispus, Pelecanus onocrotalus, Phalacrocorax pygmeus, Phalacrocorax carbo, Ardea alba, Ardea cinerea, Egretta garzetta, Ardeola ralloides, Nycticorax nycticorax, Plegadis falcinellus, Anser anser, Mergus merganser, Aythya nyroca, Aythya ferina, Aythya fuligula					

The following waterbirds will at least maintain their populations: ferruginous duck, great white egret, little egret, grey heron, glossy ibis, greylag goose and goosander							
<b>Important and endemic fish</b>							
Establish joint monitoring scheme in order to ensure populations of native fish species and carp will remain at least at current levels		1. By 2022 a joint monitoring scheme for fish species will be established; 2. By 2022 illegal fishing will be reduced					
<b>Large carnivores</b>							
Research on the grey wolf has increased knowledge and a conservation action plan has been elaborated		1. By 2022 information on the grey wolf population and wolf attacks on domestick animals has been generated by research					
75% of the goals and objectives of the existing brown bear conservation action plan will be achieved		1. By 2022 at least 50% of the priority 1 activities detailed in the existing Brown bear conservation action plan will have been implemented					
The level of the Balkan lynx population will be up to 50% of the carrying capacity of the appropriate habitat of the area		1. By 2022 the population of prey species of lynx (chamois, roe deer and hare) has increased (baseline data required)					
<b>Bats</b>							
Knowledge of the ecological requirements of bats allows the formulation of appropriate conservation measures		1. Bat requirements are incorporated in any new plans, or revisions to plans, where they are not currently included					
Legal and physical protection for sites used by the colonies of Rhinolophus hipposideros will be ensured							
Bat requirements will be incorporated in all relevant management plans and practices							
<b>Wild plants</b>							
Knowledge of wild plants in the entire basin is improved and a common database is established		1. By 2022 knowledge on wild plants will be increased and any necessary conservation measures will have started					
The conservation status of important species is estimated on the basis of IUCN criteria and threats for the most important ones are known							
The habitats of <i>Aldrovandra vesiculosa</i> in Great Prespa Lake are restored, while populations of other water and marsh species are maintained							
<b>Research, studies and experimentation</b>							
a.	The distribution, movement patterns and ecology of large carnivores at basin level	A	A	NAPA	-	A=BLRP	A=BLRP
		M		PAs	Hunting Associations	M=BLRP	M=BLRP
		G		National Park, Ministry of Environment	experts, NGOs	G	G
b.	Ecological preferences selected waterbird species such as ferruginous duck, glossy ibis & purple heron	A	A	-	Faculty of Natural Sciences, Tirana University	A=GIZ	A=GIZ
		M		-	-	M=GIZ	M=GIZ
		G		-	-		
c.	Implementation of transboundary monitoring for rare wildlife species, as specified in the TMS	A	A	NAPA	-		
		M		-	-		
		G	G	National Park, Ministry of Environment	experts	G	G
d.	Population trends of endemic fish species and the potential impacts of invasive fish species	A	A	-	Consultancy, Agricultural University of Tirana, Faculty of Biotechnology and Food in cooperation with FMO Prespa		
		M		Institute of Biology, PMF-Skopje	Hydrobiological Institute - Ohrid	G	G
		G	G	National Park, Ministry of Environment	experts		
e.	M&E of the conservation status of habitats and plant species of community interest	A	A	-	Consultancy, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Tirana University		
		M		Institute of Biology, PMF-Skopje, PAs	-		
		G		National Park, Ministry of Environment	experts		G

f.	Preparation of action plans for rare wildlife species at basin level.	A M G	A	MoE Institute of Biology, PMF-Skopje, PAs National Park, Ministry of Environment	- Hydrobiological Institute - Ohrid experts			G
<b>Real measures (pilot, community-based), awareness raising, capacity building</b>								
a.	Wetland vegetation management for wildlife and biodiversity	A M G	A G	- National Park, Ministry of Environment	- -	A=GIZ M=GIZ G		M=JENSEN G
b.	Measures for prevention of wildfires in forests	A M G	A G	NAPA, DFP PAs, Macedonian Forests Public Enterprise Fire Service, Forestry Service	Faculty of Forestry Sciences, Agricultural University of Tirana Faculty of Forestry - Skopje experts			G
c.	Mitigation measures for decrease of conflicts between animal grazing and large carnivores	A M G	A G	NAPA PAs, Macedonian Forests Public Enterprise National Park, Ministry of Environment	- Faculty of Forestry - Skopje experts	G		G
d.	Local awareness-raising campaigns impacts invasive fish species, unsustainable plant collection, poisoning, etc.	A M G	A G	NAPA PAs National Park, Ministry of Environment	NGOs - experts			G
e.	Capacity building PA on planning and implementing conservation and (participatory) monitoring	A M G	A G	- -	- experts			G
f.	Community-based projects on plant protection (mountain tea or pharmaceutical plants) and monitoring	A M G	A G	NAPA - -	NGOs - experts			G
<b>IV. Conservation of landscape and priority habitats - wetlands, Wetlands</b>					Proposed Indicators for Monitoring			
Critical wetland habitat types to be in good conservation status and at least of the same extent as in 2015		1. Identify priority habitat types in Albania and the FYR of Macedonia by 2022; 2. By 2027 priority habitats (wetlands, grasslands and caves) will maintain, or achieve, favourable conservation status						
<b>Grasslands</b>								
Priority grassland habitat types to be maintained at their 2015 level of extent in all three countries								
<b>Caves</b>								
Legal & physical protection for all important caves known to be used by breeding colonies of <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> is ensured								
<b>Landscapes</b>								
Landscape mosaic to be maintained in accordance with a landscape study carried out by 2025		1. By 2025 a study on landscape at transboundary level will be completed following a jointly agreed common methodology						
<b>Research, studies and experimentation</b>								
a.	NATURA 2000 habitat type mapping & development of M&E system on conservation status of habitats	A M G	A	NAPA - National Park, Ministry of Environment	- - experts			G
b.	Transboundary wetland and pasture vegetation management plans	M G	A G	- -	Consultancy - experts			G
c.	Assess transboundary potential for eco-tourism development	A M G	A	- - -	- - experts			G

d.	Spatial Plans, where needed	M	A	Ministry of Teritorial Planing, Institute of Urban Planing Tirana, Municipalities of Pustec and Devoll Agency for Spatial Planning - Skopje	Consultancy - -		
f.	Ecosystem services assessment, indicators and mapping at basin level	A M G	A	- - -	Consultancy - experts	M=SWISS	G
<b>Real measures (pilot, community-based), awareness raising, capacity building</b>							
a.	Implementation of wetland and pasture vegetation management activities	A M G	A G	NAPA PAs, Municipalities National Park, Ministry of Environment	- - experts	G	G
b.	Restoration of degraded streams	M G	A	NAPA, Municipalities of Pustec and Devoll Municipalities National Park, Ministry of Environment	NGOs - -	G	
c.	Revision and implementation of the existing transboundary Habitat Action Plan on reedbeds;	A M	A	NAPA, Municipalities of Pustec and Devoll Municipalities	Consultancy NGOs		G
d.	Capacity building PA & local authorities on EIAs, wardening, integrating cultural & landscape values	A M	A G	- Municipalities	- NGOs experts		G
e.	Create and update spatial plans and zonation for the landscape and protected areas	A M G	A M G				
f.	Improve enforcement of rules and regulations of the protected area	A M G	A M G				
g.	Community-based projects for eco-tourism development	A M G	A M G				
h.	Promote visitors management in Protected areas	A M G	A M G				

A = Albania

M = FYR of Macedonia

G = Greece

\* Priority activities from 2018-2022 have funding priority

\* Funding priority goes to the organisation that has the mandate; If the mandated organisation cannot take the grant or cannot implement the activity, an Environmental Actor can implement the activity in consultation and agreement with the mandated organisation and as long as the activity is within the mission statement and expertise of the Environmental Actor applying for the grant

\* Preference for grant proposals including capacity development measures besides conservation activities in a balanced way, to guarantee sustainability and beneficitation of local people in Prespa

\* Grant proposals and grant reporting should include indicators that are in line and contribute to the indicators of the PONT priority strategic framework so that progress can easily be traced

\* PONT priority strategic framework will be presented to Ministry representatives, Protected Area authorities, local authorities, main donors and possible beneficiaries in the Wider Prespa Area to ensure coordination and avoid duplication

\* Proposed activities should be in line with the grant criteria outlined in the PONT Grants Manual which exclude certain activities for financing by PONT