### Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust

- **Our Vision**: Transboundary conservation areas are reconnected and sustained as important biodiversity hotspots where people live and work in harmony with nature.

- **Our Mission**: Conserving nature for a sustainable future through long-term partnerships and financing.

#### PrespaNet Partners

- **Protected Areas (PA)**
- **Assistance on IUCN Red List assessments (Global, National) and EU Natura 2000 requirements. Call for Proposals.**
- **Partnership between public bodies for water monitoring at Lake Prespa.**
- **Supporting PA's in specialised Conservation Action; Environmental education and transboundary Cooperation.**
- **Involvement and benification of local people in PA management. Call for Proposals.**
- **Capacity development and watershed management. Call for Proposals.**
- **Future Call for Proposals and partners.**

#### Output 1
- Effective Funding

#### Output 2
- Sustainable Preserved

#### Output 3
- Effective Conservation

#### Output 4
- Management
PONT is a private, legally independent grant-making foundation, registered in Germany. The small but efficient PONT team mainly operates from the PONT Regional Programme Office in Tirana, Albania. Based in Frankfurt, the Nature Trust Alliance provides PONT, Caucasus Nature Fund (CNF), Blue Action Fund as well as Legacy Landscapes Fund with financial, IT, and administrative support.

An investment committee under the PONT Supervisory Board, manages the investment portfolio in line with the joint PONT/CNF investment policy including a sustainability policy.

PONT focuses on action, PONT supports and emphasises:

- Long-term commitment
- Transparency and accountability
- Optimising sustainable use of resources
- Active local involvement benefiting the local community and working with local organisations
- International and European principles for conservation such as the Natura 2000 network
- Government commitment to conservation
- Effective collaboration and partnership working.

PONT aims to improve the governance and management effectiveness of the Protected Areas in the PONT focus region, as well as contribute to biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management of natural resources by EAs and transboundary conservation champions present and active in the region (NGOs, municipalities, scientific and academic institutions).

With a focus on action, PONT supports and emphasises:

- Long-term commitment
- Transparency and accountability
- Optimising sustainable use of resources
- Active local involvement benefiting the local community and working with local organisations
- International and European principles for conservation such as the Natura 2000 network
- Government commitment to conservation
- Effective collaboration and partnership working.

PONT provides long-term co-financing to Protected Area Management Authorities (PAs) and Environmental Actors (EAs) working in the PONT focus region.

PONT raises and manages funds for conservation grants, underpinned by a rigorous monitoring and evaluation programme. The focus is on supporting operational costs, conservation actions, and long-term capacity development for local organisations, complemented by the work through national EAs/NGOs and short-term, project-based funding from other donors. PONT is a funding organisation - it is not government affiliated nor does it implement or directly undertake any conservation activities itself.

PONT is actively seeking additional donors to further its work and achieve its mission. Donors can contribute per country, actor, or region, with project-based funding or capital donations to the fund.

PONT is the only transboundary conservation trust fund in the Balkans.

The work of PONT initially focused on the Prespa Lakes and their surrounding environment, including the entire Galicica National Park and Pelister National Park in North Macedonia which extends outside the watershed of the Prespa Lakes. PONT then expanded its work beyond the wider Prespa region adding the wider Ohrid region and other conservation areas in both North Macedonia and Albania. PONT has now further expanded to include the Korab-Shara region and the Albanian Alps region as well as ecological corridors connecting the regions.

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