

ALBANIAN ALPS, KORABI MOUNTAIN RANGE AND SHEBINK - JABLANICA RANGE - THE NEW BACKBONE OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN BELT

SHUMKA, S., TRAJCE, A., SHUKA, L., SCHWADERER, G &
SPANGENBERG, A.



EURO NATUR



NINA



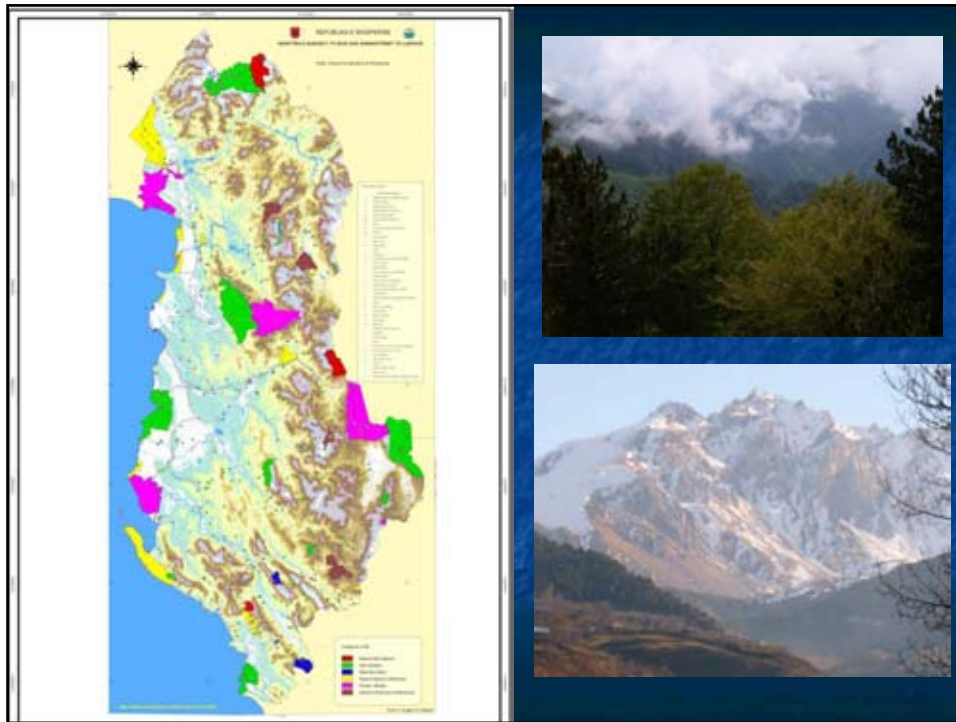
EUROPEAN UNION
LIFE SPECIALIST GROUP

KORABI

Objectives:

- ✓ Establishment of Protected Core Sites
- ✓ Preparation of further Protected Core Sites
- ✓ Recovery and Sustainable Management of Habitats and Resources





Protected areas composition in Albania

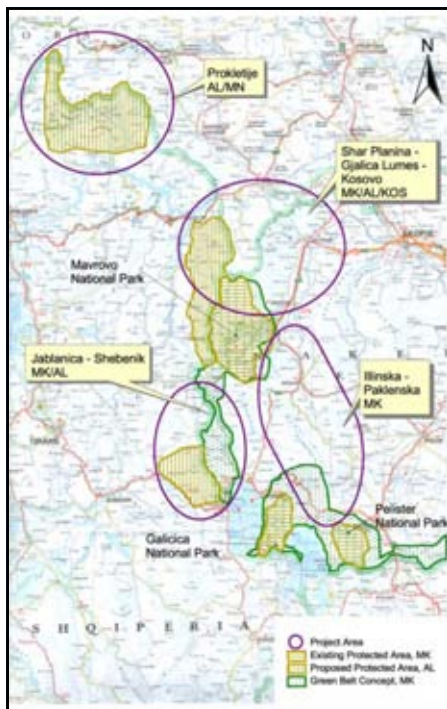
Category	Number	Area
I) Strict Reserve	3	9500 ha
II) National Park	14	143 522 ha
III) Nature Monument	6	3490 ha
IV) Managed reserve	23	62 848 ha
V) Protected Landscape	5	95 864 ha
VI) Multiple use Area	4	18 200 ha
TOTAL	55	333 424 ha

11.6 % of country territory



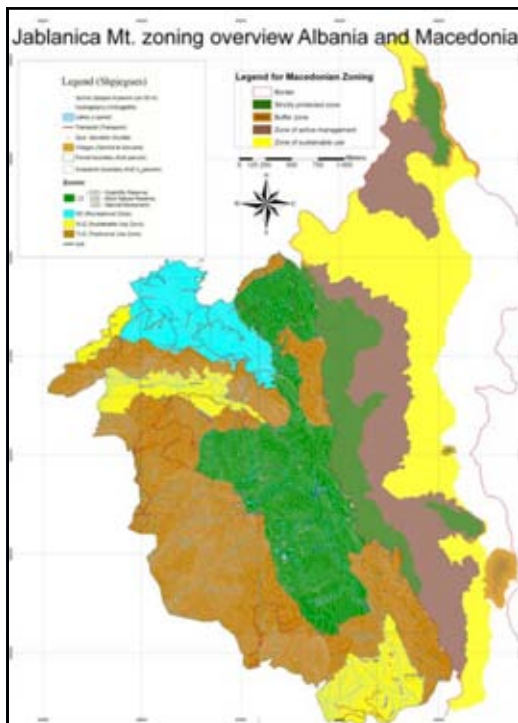
To our view the transboundary co-operation has gradually to be oriented on:

- Promoting international co-operation at different levels and in different fora;
- Enhancing environmental protection across ecosystems;
- Facilitating more effective research in the field of biodiversity values, nature conservation and economic prosperity
- Bringing economic benefits to local economy, strengthening incomes generation; and
- Ensuring better cross-border control of problems such as fire, water management, poaching, water pollution and sustainable agriculture development.



Trans-boundary cooperation has been so far one of the aspects of protection and conservation efforts in many countries. The first trans-boundary protected area was established in the year 1932 and in the last decade it has become a very popular approach in nature conservation.

The "Iron Curtain" running from the Barents Sea to the Black Sea, divided Europe for almost 40 years. No activity was allowed in the "forbidden zone" along this inhumane barrier. While landscape all over Europe have been shaped and modified by processes of intensive agriculture (all industrial) development, many habitats lying in the vicinity of the border line remained untouched: in the countries of former Eastern Block the utilization of border land was mostly prohibited, whereas on the western side remote borders area were less attractive for investors, and no major traffic infrastructure was needed (Ricken et al., 2006)



Achievements to date:

Proclamation of National Park Shebenik-Jablanica (AL)

Preparation of Protected Area Jablanica (MK)

Preparation of PAs Korab and Albanian Alps (AL)

Preparation of PAs Sar Planina and Illinska-Plakenska (MK)

Micro projects Program with models for promotion of the sustainable development following the principles of Conservation Development

The program includes Communes surrounding Shebenik NP (Librazhd qender, Stebleva and Rajca)

- Promoting Sustainable use of medicinal plants/ Mountain tea project
- Agro farming / Potatoes in Fushe Studa
- Economic stoves in Librazhd Qender/ Reduction of fire wood use
- Developing Local Environmental Action Plan for LO Commune
- Economic stoves in Rajca Commune/Reduction of fire wood use
- Strengthening education and awareness rising in the Rajca Commune



Almost all the north-eastern part of the country comprises very important natural chains in the designed European Green Belt. The chain from the geographic and nature points looks so un-interrupted and very connected with frontier nature entity. The chain from Albanian Alps-Korabi Mountain-Shebeniku Jabllanica-Ohrid and Prespa ecosystem – Gramozi mountain- Sotira forest is well connected with ecosystems from the neighboring countries. It is very difficult to concept such entity as parts of one, two, three of four sides. The ecosystem functioning does not meet with administrative or state boundaries. The barriers are human beings artifices.

