NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE OHRID REGION

January 2022
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1 Executive Summary

The report for the state of conservation of "Natural and cultural heritage of the Ohrid region" 99 ter., was prepared in response to decision 44 COM 7B.77, and in compliance to the format for submission of SoC reports in the Operational Guidelines 2015, Annex 13.

In chapter 2, this report focuses on the points of the most recent Decision of World Heritage Committee. Updates on the implementation status of the recommendations of the Reactive Monitoring Mission are also provided in this chapter.

Chapter 3 describes maintenance works and projects undertaken by the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage - RDCH Korçë and the Municipality of Pogradec for the protection, promotion of both natural and cultural values and improvement of touristic services.

Chapter 4 focuses on three development projects respectively funded by AADF, Municipality of Pogradec and a private investor that have in focus this area such as "Waterscape Park Design Drilon Tushemisht", "Requalification of the historic center and buffer area of Pogradec" as well as "A touristic complex of one-storey-wooden-houses". Technical details for these projects are provided in the Annexes of this SoC Report.

Chapter 5 outlines the confirmation of the State Party for the public access of this SoC report.

Chapter 6 contains the official signatures of the representatives of the State Party, namely the Minister of Tourism and Environment and the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Albania.
Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee 44 COM 7B.77

2.1 Welcomes the efforts that have been made by both States Parties to start addressing the recommendations of the Committee, and notes in particular the improvements in legal processes and management structures, the temporary suspension of building permits in North Macedonia and the demolition of some illegal structures in both North Macedonia and Albania as well as the creation of the Transboundary Watershed Management Committee and the commitment to initiate a transboundary dialogue on the Struga to Lin section of the European corridor VIII railway project.

A Joint meeting of the National Commissions for UNESCO of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Albania was organized on July 12, 2021. This meeting was will coordinated by the Ministers of Culture of the two countries, Irena Stefoska and Elva Margariti, who also chair the respective National Commissions for UNESCO.

The Delegation of the Republic of Albania was represented by Ms. Elva Margariti, Minister of Culture and President of the National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Blendi Klosi, Minister for tourism and environment and senior representatives from the national and regional institutions responsible for nature and culture. (Annex 1 – Agenda and Full composition of relevant delegations).

The working meeting, was dedicated entirely to:

- the Draft-decision of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee on “Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid Region”;
- defining the priorities, next steps of joint actions and future coordination in terms of joint management of the world heritage property in accordance with the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission to the world Heritage Property held on 27-31 January 2020 in Albania and North Macedonia.

The meeting resulted in the signing of:

- a joint declaration aiming at preserving the world heritage property
- the Program for cooperation in the field of culture between the Ministries of Culture of both the Republic of Northern Macedonia and the Republic of Albania for the period from 2021 to 2026.

2.2 Considers that while some decisions and missions' recommendations over the past six years have been addressed, several have only been partly or insufficiently implemented, and a number of them not addressed at all.

The table in Annex 2, reports an update of the state of implementation of the RMM's Recommendations in the Albanian part of the Property.

2.3 Expresses utmost concern at the findings of the 2020 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission that:

Regarding Albania, the acute vulnerabilities that were noted at the time of the extension of the property have not been curtailed and new projects and new developments are being planned that could be highly detrimental to the already compromised lake shore and the Lin peninsula;
2.4 Notes with concern that in spite of recent initiatives, the management system appears still not to be fully mandated to maintain OUV due to conflicting priorities, poor implementation of the legal framework and little involvement of civil society, all of which have combined to fragment the management system.

2.4.1 Awareness-raising activities dedicated to the youth

Several activities that aim at the involvement and the awareness raising of the youth towards cultural heritage values of the WHS and lake Ohrid region, have been organized from the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage, Korça during 2021. The activities are listed as below, and refer to several main educational programs of the Ministry of Culture.

Activities as part of the Programs “Education through the culture” and “Friends of Monuments”

Creating the “Monopoli” Game with the Monuments Theme (including monuments of Pogradec area). The activity was adapted to the theme of cultural heritage, during the European Heritage Days. (October 2021).

Making compositions with different Monuments of Culture (including monuments of Pogradec area)
Online "games" with the Historic Center of Pogradec.
Calendar with different Monuments of Culture (including monuments of Pogradec area)

A calendar for 2022 has been created and developed by the Regional Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Korça. Each month in the calendar is dedicated to one monument which is represented as a black and white sketch (ready for coloring from the children) and a short information.

2.5 Also considers that halting and reversing the degradation that is now facing the property, which reflects the cumulative impact of inappropriate changes and lack of conservation over many years, will take considerable concerted efforts over a long timespan, and that, while the immediate actions to halt certain activities are welcomed, these are insufficient and can only be seen as the beginning of a much longer integrated and strategic process, which remains to be defined

Bashkia Pogradec

2.6 Urges the two States Parties to develop a detailed Strategic Recovery Plan with an associated phased action plan that sets out clearly defined aims and outcomes to mitigate threats to OUV with a set of agreed actions including a timeframe both in the short and longer term as well as a phased action plan, based on the full recommendations of the 2020 mission, and which would provide an overarching transboundary political and institutional framework for addressing the severe and multiple threats facing to the property; and to present the Strategic Recovery Plan to the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre in February 2023

Following the official meetings held on the occasion of the General Assembly of the State Parties to the World Heritage Convention, the State Party was informed for a possible funding for assistance from the WHC in developing the “Strategic Recovery Plan”, requested by the Decision 44 COM 7B.77.
The State Party is highly interested in this transboundary process and express its availability to further elaborate this proposal toward the successful development of the Plan for the whole Property.
3 Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property’s Outstanding Universal Value

3.1 Maintenance works during 2021

During 2021, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage (RDCH), Korça has undertaken maintenance works and has supervised private funded restoration works in five cultural monuments both in WH property and buffer zone. The table 1 below provides a list of these monuments showing source of funding and value of investment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of the monument</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Source of funding</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The remains and the mosaics of the Early Christian church at Lin</td>
<td>1st category</td>
<td>State Budget</td>
<td>Contribution in Kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The mosaics of the Early Christian church at Lin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The section below provides short description and photos from these works:

1. Maintenance works in the mosaics, Lin, 1st category monument - Conservation of mosaics in narthex and pastofor

Before conservation
During conservation

Before

After
3.2 Monitoring of Cultural Heritage assets

As reported in the state of Conservation Report submitted by the State Party in January 2000 the monitoring of cultural heritage assets in the world heritage site and buffer zone is part of the everyday work of the dedicated staff for Pogradec. Monitoring is done through inspections on site of the specialists and technical staff which report to the department of archaeology and architecture in the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage Korça. Table 1 below describes the periodicity of monitoring of main cultural heritage monuments and sites in the World heritage site and buffer zone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of monument</th>
<th>Monitoring Periodicity</th>
<th>Responsible Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Within the World Heritage Property</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The ruins of the paleochristian church and the mosaics</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The mosaic of Lin</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>The ruins of the byzantine church near the fishing station</td>
<td>monthly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>The prehistoric settlement of Zgradie in the hill located near the village of Zgradie</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Within the Buffer Zone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>The house of the Icka brothers, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>The house of Kucuku brothers, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>The house Lasgush Poradeci, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>The house of Kristaq Puce, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>The house of Rinka Guxho, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>The house of Sandri Qipro, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>The historic center of Pogradec and the regulation for its administration</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>The castle of Pogradec</td>
<td>monthly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>The mosaic of Tushemisht-</td>
<td>surveys need to be carried out</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tab. 2: Monitoring periodicity of cultural heritage monuments and sites (WH site and buffer zone)
3.3 Visitors to the Early Christian Church of Lin

Statistical data for 2021 (summer session)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of visitors</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently the visits to the monument are free of charge. The statistical data are being registered by the Department of Pogradec and are being reported periodically to the DRCH in Korça.

Being one of the most visited cultural destinations in the Albanian part of the world heritage property, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage Korça is evaluating the statistical data with a purpose of advancing a proposal for a fee entrance ticket for the monument.

4 In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

4.1 Ongoing projects

4.1.1 The Drilon – Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project

Based on the Detailed Plan for Area of National Importance “Drilon - Tushemisht” the Municipality of Pogradec and AADF (Albanian American Development Foundation) have signed a Cooperation agreement for the funding from AADF of project designs and implementation of The Drilon-Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project which includes three subprojects as below:
- Rehabilitation of Drilon Park which includes Drilon Springs up to its estuary in the Lake
- Construction of Visitor’s Center
- Construction of three open parking spaces for the visitors in the Drilon-Tushemisht area.

Based on the information received from AADF to the Ministry of Culture the implementation of the above listed projects is foreseen to start within January 2022.

The Drilon-Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project aims to turn the villages of Tushemisht and Drilon into a destination with diversified models of sustainable tourism activities. The project follows the recommendations of the “Strategic Planning for Destination Development in Tushemisht and Drilon”, a study prepared by SITI – Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation, affiliated to Torino Polytechnic University. It is designed by the Portuguese Architecture Studio PROAP, in cooperation with Albanian local and national authorities. On December 3rd, 2020 the Government of Albania approved the Detailed Plan for the Area of

The core of the project is the relation between all the elements of the area that form the larger system. They are all integrated into the project. The current project presents an innovative scenario, where the waterscape is used to void the current separation that exists between the lake and the agricultural landscape. The design aims to rebuild the community’s connection with the water, which is meant to (re)discover the landscape’s intrinsic value, not only as ecological and environmental wealth, but also as a useful and pleasant infrastructure that promotes the safe and comfortable enjoyment of a wide variety of uses. The project moves the road away from the main water channel and park, and creates a more protected area. Following the Reactive Monitoring Mission recommendations, the following points explain the issues raised by the Mission.

Fish Farms
The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance Drilon-Tushemisht foresees no fish farm construction in the project area. The implementation of Drilon Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project will demolish any existing fish farms in the project area.

Drilon Springs and Drilon Park
The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance of Drilon – Tushemisht, the Drilon Springs and Drilon Park sub-projects, foresees the extension of green areas, planting of trees and purification of water so that the area can be easily and freely accessed by tourists without a vehicle. The project addresses the spillage of waste water in the Drilon watershed. The project considers that avoiding the flow of low-quality water is necessary to improve the quality and freshness of the water body and, consequently, to enrich the biodiversity potential of the system and it use by visitors. The proposed system is based on the continuous circulation of the water masses through the use of multiple water channels from the source (spring) to the final destination (lake).

Furthermore, to protect the Drilon Springs the project foresees the construction of a new vehicle access road, away from its current position near the springs.

Parking & Recreational Areas
The Drilon Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project will limit car access into the area. Visitors will park in dedicated parking areas, walk through the gardens between the buildings, enter the park and discover the main channel. The pathway is an experience, a discovery and an appropriation of places.

The parking areas will be built outside the main site, and a very limited amount of agricultural and public land will be required. Adjacent to the parking areas, a few small recreational spaces will be developed, so the park can be enjoyed and accessed from different locations. Recreational spaces consist in playgrounds, areas dedicated to sports and leisure, and maintenance facilities trash bins. No building construction is planned.

New Development Opportunities
Demand for new residential and accommodation opportunities in Tushemisht and Pogradec has increased in recent years. However, construction in the area has not followed local architectural style or relied on local materials. A large amount of area between Drilon and Tushemisht remains idle unused, with owners waiting for a construction permit.

In response, the authorities have chosen to encourage developments that the surrounding environment and landscape. The plan will safeguard the area from any potential extensive and aggressive construction developments. The proposal in Detailed Plan for the Area of National
Importance has completely rejected the current construction trends. The construction of new tourist facilities and residential buildings is incorporated within the general landscape strategy, promoting interesting vistas, engaging urban gardens and courtyards, and attractive passageways and promenades.

Two very distinct building types are represented in the plan: the single-family, courtyard home and the 2-to-3 story, mixed-use hybrid buildings which comprise the higher density areas where commercial activities take place. In addition, the urban development follows different orientation of facades for minimal interruption of lake views.

**Water Museum**

The water museum is strategically located on top of the hill, embedded in rock, so it provides spectacular vistas toward Ohrid Lake and the village of Tushemisht. In addition, it invites people to explore the hinterland, away from the lake shore, and thus contribute to a widen the geographic area of interest for visitors.

The project foresees that the building begins on the top of the hill and then stretches alongside the edge as a continuation of the retaining walls. A substantial part of the building will be constructed underground to mitigate the impact in the landscape and view. However, the water museum project is left on hold and further detailing of this project will take place at a latter phase should sufficient funding be provided.

Attached in **Annex 3:**

- The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance Drilon-Tushemisht
- The three listed subproject of the Waterscape Park Project.

4.1.2 "Restoration and Urban Requalification of the Historical Center and Protected Area of Pogradec"

The project "Restoration and Urban Requalification of the Historical Center and Protected Area of Pogradec ", approved by the National Council of Material Cultural Heritage with Decision No. 598, dated 08.10.2021. As follows a short description of the project:

The main goal of the project is the restoration and urban requalification of the Historic Centre and buffer area of the city of Pogradec. Through restoration, conservation and rehabilitation of traditional buildings and cultural heritage areas, a further development of tourism and consequently the economic development of the area, is expected.

Based on the considerable architectural and cultural values it bears and its urban development history, Pogradec was nationally designated as a Historic Centre by Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 554, dated 18.06.2015. The Decision of Council of Ministers included also the approval of the regulation for the administration and integrated management of the Historic Centre. In addition to the architectural values, this area also carries historic values as well-known historic figures such as Lasgush Poradeci (albanian writer), Mitrush Kuteli (albanian writer), lived in the area.

The main objective is to prepare a methodology for the interventions focusing on the buildings and on the streets within the Historic Center with the purpose of unifying the characteristic architectural language of the area. The final product of the project is “Drafting the implementation project for Restoration and urban requalification of the historic center and the protected area of the city of Pogradec”.

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Further details on this project are provided in Annex 4.

4.1.3 “Touristic Complex with one storey small wooden houses, National Road Pogradec-Tushemisht, Buçimanas

The Project “Touristic Complex with one storey small wooden houses, National Road Pogradec-Tushemisht, Buçimanas, was approved by Decision of the National Council of Tangible Cultural Heritage no. 418, dated 21.07.2021. The project is contracted and transmitted for approval to the National Council for Tangible Cultural Heritage (NCTCH) by a private investor. The Decision of approval of the NCTCH cites also the obligation of the private investor to provide an English version of the project for transmission to the advisory bodies of UNESCO based on the Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines.

Following the transmission of the relevant documentation the project details are presented in Annex 5 of this report.

5 Public access to the state of conservation report.

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Për Ministrinën e Kulturës raporti është hartuar mbi bazën e informacioneve që disponohen nga institucionet hartuese si dhe informacioneve të marrë nga AKPT dhe AADF

Znj. Kozeta Angjeliu, Drejtor
Drejoria e Proqemeve të Zhvillimit të Kulturës, Ministria e Kulturës

Znj. Rudina Zoto, Drejtor i Përgjithshëm
Instituti Kombëtar i Trashëgimisë Kulturore

Z. Gjergji Koki, Drejtor
Drejoria Rajonale e Trashëgimisë Kulturore, Korçë

Znj. Sonila Kora, P/Sektori
Drejoria e Proqemeve të Zhvillimit të Kulturës, Ministria e Kulturës

Znj. Marsela Pylku Demaj, P/Sektori
Instituti Kombëtar i Trashëgimisë Kulturore

Znj. Amanda Cici, P/Sektori
Drejoria Rajonale e Trashëgimisë Kulturore, Korçë

Për Ministrinën e Turizmit dhe Mjedisit

Për Bashkinë Pogradec
STATE PARTY REPORT
ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF

NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE OHRID REGION

99 ter
January 2022

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4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity. ......................................................... 31

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In chapter 2, this report focuses on the points of the most recent Decision of World Heritage Committee. Updates on the implementation status of the recommendations of the Reactive Monitoring Mission and as well as Interventions to improve the previous degradation of the property, from the Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Pogradec are also provided in this chapter.

Chapter 3 describes maintenance works and projects undertaken by the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage - RDCH Korçë, Regional Administration of Protected Areas - RAPAPogradec and the Municipality of Pogradec for the protection, promotion of both natural and cultural values and improvement of touristic services.

Chapter 4 focuses on three development projects respectively funded by AADF, Municipality of Pogradec and a private investor that have in focus this area such as "Waterscape Park Design Drilon Tushemishi", "Requalification of the historic center and buffer area of Pogradec" as well as "A touristic complex of one-storey-wooden-houses". Technical details for these projects are provided in the Annexes of this SoC Report.

In this chapter are also introduced projects implemented in the Ohrid Area, Albanian side, under the direction and coordination of RAPA: PONT project, "Ecological and economic assessment of ecosystem services in Lake Ohrid catchment" project, and the project on 'Strengthening the cross-border preservation of the Ohrid World Heritage Site in North Macedonia and Albania'.

Chapter 5 outlines the confirmation of the State Party for the public access of this SoC report.

Chapter 6 contains the official signatures of the representatives of the State Party, namely the Minister of Tourism and Environment and the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Albania.
2 Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee 44 COM 7B.77

2.1 Welcomes the efforts that have been made by both States Parties to start addressing the recommendations of the Committee, and notes in particular the improvements in legal processes and management structures, the temporary suspension of building permits in North Macedonia and the demolition of some illegal structures in both North Macedonia and Albania as well as the creation of the Transboundary Watershed Management Committee and the commitment to initiate a transboundary dialogue on the Struga to Lin section of the European corridor VIII railway project.

A Joint meeting of the National Commissions for UNESCO of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Albania was organized on July 12, 2021. This meeting was will coordinated by the Ministers of Culture of the two countries, Irena Stefoska and Elva Margariti, who also chair the respective National Commissions for UNESCO.

The Delegation of the Republic of Albania was represented by Ms. Elva Margariti, Minister of Culture and President of the National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Blendi Klosi, Minister of Tourism and Environment and senior representatives from the national and regional institutions responsible for nature and culture. (Annex 1 – Agenda and Full composition of relevant delegations).

The meeting was dedicated entirely to:

- the Draft-decision of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee on "Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid Region";
- defining the priorities, next steps of joint actions and future coordination in terms of joint management of the world heritage property in accordance with the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission to the world Heritage Property held on 27-31 January 2020 in Albania and North Macedonia.

The meeting resulted in the signing of:

- a joint declaration aiming at preserving the world heritage property
- the Program for cooperation in the field of culture between the Ministries of Culture of both the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Albania for the period from 2021 to 2026.

Raising the profile of the members of the Transboundary Watershed Management Committee including top-level decision makers. They guarantee the empowerment of the high-level decisions and, proportionally, of the members of the Watershed Management Committee Secretariat; also, the Transboundary Watershed Management Committee guarantee the functionality by involving further human resources from national and local offices; strengthen and detail the Rules of Procedure of the Committee in order to guarantee its effective functioning;

- On 09.09.2021 the meeting of the Management Committee of the protected areas (established based on Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 593, dated 9.10.2018 on the composition, functions, duties and responsibilities of the management committees of environmental protected areas) for the Pogradec Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape was organised. In the meeting different actors and interested stakeholder responsible for managing the area were invited. The meeting of the Management Committee of the
Protected area was chaired by Mr. Dhor Spirellari, Prefect of the prefecture of Korça Region. The committee has regularly met for three years in a row, and is composed in accordance with article 41, of law no. 81/2017, "On protected areas", and DCM 593, dated 9.10.2018 'on the composition, functions, duties and responsibilities of the management committees of environmental protected areas'.

In the meeting it was requested to address the problems of protected areas and beyond, for the importance of the problems and towards the possibility of finding solutions taking into consideration not only in the context of protected areas but in a bigger picture that is the Lake Ohrid as a World Heritage Site. Some of the issues discussed were in relation to the implementation of some of the recommendations left by the Reactive Mission in 2020, such as Damp, Drilon project, fishing, sewage water (mainly for the village of Guras), fire protection, ambushes that should be built along streams or rivers for obstruction of materials going to the Lake, etc.

- **Increase the RAPA and the RDCH staff dedicated to Pogradec and reinforce** the dialogue and cooperation among RAPA and RDCH dedicated staff, and municipal technical staff, including the Museum staff;

Extending the PONT project to the three Protected Areas started with their planning of grants in the Ohrid area and beyond, by signing an agreement between the General Director of NAPA Mr. Zamir Dedej and Mrs. Mirjam de Koning Executive Director of PONT. Protected areas are the main pillars of the PONT programme that aims to preserve nature for a sustainable future of the Ohrid-Prespa region through long-term partnerships and funding. Protected areas are the main pillars of the PONT programme that aims to preserve nature for a sustainable future of the Ohrid-Prespa region through long-term partnerships and funding. For the year 2021, with the extension of the PONT Project (Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust - PONT) for the Ohrid region, it has been possible the increase of the number of the staff of PMTU - Pogradec, employing 3 environmental guards and two employees for various works that might be needed at ‘Pogradec Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape’, The monitoring and management work for the Protected Land / Water Landscape area of Pogradec has also been improved. PMTU has collaborated with the Museum of the Municipality of Pogradec and of Korça Regional Cultural Heritage.

- **Establish long-term transboundary cooperation on monitoring the lake's biodiversity and water quality, and establishing common management actions such as jointly agreed fishing quota.**

There has been cross-border cooperation at high level (approving the open Balkan area), in the framework of several projects, as well as in the framework of the organisation of Lake Day. It is also to be mentioned the project 'Strengthening the cross-border preservation of the Ohrid World Heritage Site in North Macedonia and Albania' in which the leader of the project is the organization 'Front' of North Macedonia and the ACEG Albania as project partner.

- There is no longer construction in the lake shore area and all persons who have improperly built their buildings have been warned, especially those recommended by the UNESCO Mission to be demolished.
- There are also some designed and approved projects that are expected to be developed in the future both in the property of world wealth and its buffer zone.
- The railway project to connect with the Republic of North Macedonia is not planned to start for now, therefore it is not subject to the implementation of recommendations, while it is noted and measures should be taken in the future for this project.
- There have been a series of meetings and discussions about the area of the Red Stone dump in which many institutions (such as RAPA Korçë, Municipality of Pogradec, Prefecture of Korca, Alb-Minera etc.).
- Establish stricter criteria for the development of area PG/HU64 in Pogradec GLP in order to guarantee that any proposal improves the current conditions, characterised by low quality architecture, inappropriate landscaping and non-native vegetation, and excessive tourism structures on the lakeshore;
  It is recommended that for the agroforestry projects that are to be implemented related RAPA Korçë ‘that more than two native different types for planting area will be used’.

2.2 **Considers that while some decisions and missions’ recommendations over the past six years have been addressed, several have only been partly or insufficiently implemented, and a number of them not addressed at all**

The table in Annex 2, reports an update of the state of implementation of the RMM’s Recommendations in the Albanian part of the Property.

2.3 **Expresses utmost concern at the findings of the 2020 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission that:**

*Regarding Albania, the acute vulnerabilities that were noted at the time of the extension of the property have not been curtailed and new projects and new developments are being planned that could be highly detrimental to the already compromised lake shore and the Lin peninsula;*

2.3.1 **Municipality of Pogradec**

Following the recommendations of the UNESCO REACTIVE MISSION, the Municipality of Pogradec has built ambushes in the rivers Rrëmenj, Vërdovë as well as in the city, has systematized wastewater in the city and in the Administrative Unit of Buçimas. Cleaning up of the urban waste in the territory, cleaning up of the coastline, cleaning up of the rivers that flow into Pogradec Lake from urban and inert waste are performed regularly.
2.4 Notes with concern that in spite of recent initiatives, the management system appears still not to be fully mandated to maintain OUV due to conflicting priorities, poor implementation of the legal framework and little involvement of civil society, all of which have combined to fragment the management system.

2.4.1 Awareness-raising activities dedicated to the youth

Several activities that aim at the involvement and the awareness raising of the youth towards cultural heritage values of the WHS and lake Ohrid region, have been organized from the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage, Korça during 2021. The activities are listed as below, and refer to several main educational programs of the Ministry of Culture.

Activities as part of the Programs “Education through the culture” and “Friends of Monuments”

Creating the “Monopoly” Game with the Monuments Theme (including monuments of Pogradec area). The activity was adapted to the theme of cultural heritage, during the European Heritage Days. (October 2021).

Making compositions with different Monuments of Culture (including monuments of Pogradec area)
Online “games” with the Historic Center of Pogradec.
Calendar with different Monuments of Culture (including monuments of Pogradec area)

A calendar for 2022 has been designed and developed by the Regional Directorate for Cultural Heritage of Korça. Each month in the calendar is dedicated to one monument which is shown as a black and white sketch (ready for colouring from the children) and a short information.
2.4.2 Raising awareness of the natural values of the property and the community participation - RAPA Pogradec

RAPA Pogradec has developed environmental awareness and education programmes in close collaboration with local citizens’ groups, targeting especially children and visitors during the summer season.

RAPA Pogradec started with the presentation of the program "Junior Ranger" in the 9-year school "Kajo Karafili" in Gëştenjas & in the 9-year school "Servet Agolli" Buçimas where two classes were selected to implement this environmental program for 2021-2022. The program contains classroom presentations and field visits and activities. In this program children will learn about the values of the Ohrid region and valuable species found, protected areas will visit them etc.

There are also various activities carried out with students such as fairs, various environmental classes, cleaning up activities, afforestation activities and outdoor guides describing on the ground walking arrows. RAPA has also supported together with the Municipality of Pogradec, and in cooperation with students from the High School ‘Muharrem Çollaku’ in the preparation of the ‘Enlightened Identity’ documentary.

The documentary was made at the request of students and focuses on the historical and cultural heritage of the city of Pogradec. At the Information Center "Green Center", Drilon, leaflets were distributed and information on the protected areas has been provided to the interested participants. The process has been realised in cooperation with schools, where students themselves have distributed the brochures.
Photos during the presentation of the program to the selected classes

- RAPA Pogradec has developed an environmental awareness programme, conducting various environmental classes in many of the city's high schools for students and teaching staff, for the most of the environmental days.

Photo. during the development of various presentations in schools

- RAPA Pogradec participated by assisting the organisation of fair in Buçimas in the frame of the educational project "To promote the tourist natural and cultural values of Pogradec" organized by the high school "14 Angels". In the fair were introduced dishes, drinks, fruits produced within the protected areas, and winter pastries of Buçimas. The fair also was featured with crochet, needlework, and tools prepared by the students of high school "14 Angels". The event aimed to promote values, and also has been though to encourage the plea to preserve and further develop our tradition between generations.
RAPA Pogradec planted in places that should be covered with vegetation and in schools the greening of their gardens. Planting activity was conducted together with the students of the high school "Gjergj Pekmezi" Pogradec, in the area of Qaf Thanë, where 60 chestnut seedlings were planted in December which in Albania is the month of forestation.

Photos from plantings of uncovered places with vegetation as and in school yards

Photos from the plantings in collaboration with the schools
2.4.3 **Promotional and awareness raising activities from the Municipality of Pogradec related to the status of "World Heritage", conducted during 2021 at local and cross-border level**

During 2021 the Municipality of Pogradec in cooperation with various local and other national and international stakeholders, specialized structures within the Municipality of Pogradec, Public and Non-Public Institutions, Local, national and international Civil Society Organizations, young people within AKSES, Local Youth Council, Youth Centre at the Municipality of Pogradec, (Public and Non-Public Educational Institutions), and with cross-border (respective Municipalities and Civil Society Organizations), has organized or has been part of various promotional and awareness-raising events related to the status of "World Heritage", such as:

**Promotional activities**, cleaning up the territory, cleaning up of urban waste and more in cooperation with the community and especially young people; cleaning up the coastline in cooperation with the community and especially with young people; cleaning up urban waste and inert in the rivers flowing into the Lake of Pogradec; planting of young seedlings; various tourist guides to world and national heritage sites; visits organized in the Museum premises in the National Day of Cultural Heritage; distribution of promotional materials to tour operators and various Institutions in the World Tourism Day; a cleaning campaign in some points in the city in the World Cleaning Day; organization of sports activities (sports played on the sand and water sports); organization of professional courses for beach watchers; making of eco-bags distributed to citizens, accompanied by awareness-raising leaflets; putting into operation of Pogradec-Saint Naum-Ohrid floating tourist boat destination by using the ferry "Lyhnidas"; the organization of the Opening Day of the Tourist Season, where in addition to coastal tourism there were promoted values and traditions of cultural and natural heritage; organization in the context of 21 June "Lake Day" of the Meeting among the Mayors of the Coastal Municipalities, respectively Ohrid, Struga, Pogradec in the city of Pogradec on the initiative of the Mayor of Pogradec, Mr. Ilir Xhakolli, a very important meeting, where there was discussed, among other things, the status of the world heritage of Lake Ohrid; organization of the activity "June 21-Lake Day" as an awareness-raising event for the protection of the shoreline; organization of the activity "Pedal for a clean city!" in the framework of the World Bicycle Day; the organization of the activity "Lin, A Tourist Destination" in cooperation with the School "Myredin Bashalli" in the village of Lin; the organization of activities during the 100 days of the Tourist Season; the performance of public service by citizens in the city in cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Enterprise; building of bicycle lanes along various road axes; the opening of an Exhibition, which reflected the sites and cultural monuments in Pogradec region, in the premises of the City Museum in the International Day of Sites and Monuments; organization of a Painting Exhibition with the participation of young people, who painted the fabulous nature of Pogradec; outdoor organization of "pack rafting", an outdoor activity, a novelty during the tourist season in Pogradec; gathering of Koraa eggs and the release of live breeders in the city; organized by the Administration of Protected Areas in cooperation with environmental protection Organizations of the Winter Bird Census in Lake Ohrid; the cross-border cooperation in the field of IPA Projects between the respective Coastal Municipalities, such a cooperation, which has been successful and fruitful so far, following the recommendations of the UNESCO REACTIVE MISSION (thanks to this cooperation it will be possible to be provided with a sailing vessel with a capacity of 50 passengers, which will operate on solar energy, as well as in the next project it is thought to revitalize Pogradec Castle, as a tourist attraction and for educational purposes.

**Awareness-raising activities**: Continuous community awareness-raising by appealing for the preservation of national and world heritage values through the Official Website of the
Municipality of Pogradec, through local and national media, as well as in public hearings; promotion of world heritage sites and protected areas through the Official Website of the Municipality of Pogradec, as well as through the local and national media through promotional spots, arts, reports, direct links to various TV channels; sharing of information and awareness-raising information through the Official Website of the Municipality of Pogradec - the social network Facebook, as well as through various local and national media.

2.5 Also considers that halting and reversing the degradation that is now facing the property, which reflects the cumulative impact of inappropriate changes and lack of conservation over many years, will take considerable concerted efforts over a long timespan, and that, while the immediate actions to halt certain activities are welcomed, these are insufficient and can only be seen as the beginning of a much longer integrated and strategic process, which remains to be defined.

2.5.1 Intervention to improve the previous degradation of the property, from the Municipality of Pogradec

Updated information on Points 3, 6 of the Decision:

Treatment of existing illegal constructions and those in a degraded condition in the city:

- Regarding the illegal constructions in the city, which are in the process of legalization, we are waiting for the Decision of the State Cadastre Agency (SCA) for their disqualification and then the decision of demolition will be taken by the Local Inspectorate for Territorial Protection (LITP).

- Degraded buildings are privately owned. Legal procedures are being followed for their demolition or redevelopment in accordance with the territory planning documents.

Updated information on Point 5 / b of the Decision:

Treatment of illegal constructions in Lin village:

- Regarding the illegal constructions in the village of Lin, which are in the process of legalization, we remain waiting for the Decision of the State Cadastre Agency (SCA) for their disqualification and then the decision of demolition will be taken by the Local Inspectorate for Territorial Protection (LITP).

Progress of Linn-focused development projects (in line with UNESCO REACTIVE MISSION recommendations):

- Currently, there are no development projects for Lin village. Concerning the Projects in process, The Municipality of Pogradec will take into consideration UNESCO recommendations.
2.5.2 Intervention to improve the previous degradation of the property, from the Regional Administration of Protected Areas, RAPA Pogradec report

- Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Korce (RAPA, Korce) in cooperation with the Fisheries Inspectorate and the State Police have cooperated to eliminate all aquaculture entities that cultivate trout growing in Pogradec Protected Landscape. In the Drilon-Tushmanisht area, trout fish have been removed but there are some structures left from the trout cultivation tubs that are expected to be eliminated with the implementation of the Drilon-Tushmanisht Water Park project, which has been approved as the central area of the World Heritage Property.

- There have been a series of meetings and discussions about the area of the Red Stone dump in which many institutions (such as RAPA Korce, Municipality of Pogradec, Prefecture of Korce, Alb-Minera etc.).

- The railway project to connect with the Republic of North Macedonia is not planned to start for now, therefore it is not subject to the implementation of recommendations, while it is noted and measures should be taken in the future for this project.

- A series of works have been implemented for the sewage system in some areas or villages which did not have the extension of the sewage network that flowed into the collector. We mention the village of Guras, a part of the village of Bucimas, the village of Gëshënjës, an area of neighbourhood no. 1 at the former Verdove farm and the works for the sewage system in the village of Rëmënëj have started.

- There are licenses that are still active for mining, where their activity is mainly in the gallery, some part of deposit has been removed but efforts are being made to remove them and rehabilitated all places where the old mineral dumps were. Removal and rehabilitation of these surfaces takes more time because entities have active licenses.

- There is no longer construction in the lake shore area and all persons who have improperly built their buildings have been warned, especially those recommended by the UNESCO Mission to be demolished.

- The entrance of Pogradec with the completed investment of the Lin-Pogradec axis, the cleaning of the beach of the fortresses and the work for the rehabilitation of the remaining part of "Enkelana" made it possible for the entrance of the city to finally have the look it has deserved for years. The lake shore has already been rehabilitated and returned to its previous condition.

- The panoramic tunnel has already been completed and is functional, this tunnel has enabled the protection of the road from the mountain slide and the protection of the lake shore. Decorative trees have been planted throughout the area and also lime trees and decorative flowers have been planted on the built tunnels.
2.6 Urges the two States Parties to develop a detailed Strategic Recovery Plan with an associated phased action plan that sets out clearly defined aims and outcomes to mitigate threats to OUV with a set of agreed actions including a timeframe both in the short and longer term as well as a phased action plan, based on the full recommendations of the 2020 mission, and which would provide an overarching transboundary political and institutional framework for addressing the severe and multiple threats facing the property; and to present the Strategic Recovery Plan to the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre in February 2023.

Following the official meetings held on the occasion of the General Assembly of the State Parties to the World Heritage Convention, the State Party was informed for a possible funding for assistance from the WHC in developing the “Strategic Recovery Plan”, requested by the Decision 44 COM 7B.77.

The State Party is highly interested in this transboundary process and express its availability to further elaborate this proposal toward the successful development of the Plan for the whole Property.

2.6.1 Activities and meetings to the conservation of Ohrid Lake from environmentally perspective

RAPA Pogradec have cooperated and participated in a series of meetings in relation to the protected area:

- Meeting of the Management Committee for Protected Areas

Participation in the meeting of the tourism management committee of Korca region together with chiefs and the director of RAPA Korce.

On 09.09.2021 in Pogradec municipality, was organized the meeting of the Management Committee for the protected area of the Pogradec (Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape). This committee has been gathered regularly for three years in a row, Meeting was requested to address the problems of protected areas and beyond, and the task of the meeting driven by the importance of the problems and how to find solutions because the problems are more serious than in the context of Protected areas, because they are related to and impact the heritage of Lake Ohrid as a World Heritage Site. Some of these issues were related to the implementation of some of the recommendations left by the Mission 2020, such as Dampa, project of Drilon, fishing, sewer of wastewater mainly for the village of Guras, fire protection, ambushes should be built along streams or rivers for obstruction of materials going to the Lake, etc.
- **Online meeting** on the implementation of recommendations given for the conservation status of the World Heritage of Lake Ohrid, the Albanian part, in the meeting was present the Ambassador to UNESCO Mr. Ferit Hoxha and many other representatives of the government. A number of issues have been discussed that need to be completely resolved, as well as arguments that could be given in the draft resolution of the 44th session, which will take place in China, in a way that the property of the "Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region" would not be classified as a property in danger.

**Photo during Online meeting**

![Photo during Online meeting](image)

**Online cross-border meeting**

In the framework of the project "Promoting Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Southeast Europe, through the use and approach of NEXUS, an online workshop was held on Gender Equality and sustainable development in the Drini basin, challenges in the Drin River Basin related to gender, energy, climate change, natural resources, etc. "This project is funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) implemented by the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) in partnership with the Economic Commission of the United Nations for Europe (UNECE). Nexus-related stakeholders introduced the basic concepts of gender equality, women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming as key components of sustainable development and how gender inequality affects progress towards the 2030 agenda, etc.
- Meeting held in the municipality of Pogradec on the problems encountered in Protected areas of Pogradec.

The Director and the two Chiefs of RAPA Korça held a meeting in the Municipality of Pogradec with Mr. Paskalino Ziko, Deputy Mayor of Pogradec. in this meeting were discussed various issues such as fulfilling the UNESCO recommendations, increasing future cooperation, etc.

Points addressed:

1. Completion of the recommendations left by UNESCO, of the tasks which have remained untreated and those that have not been fully realized.

- Where started with the issue of removing the dam located in the area of Guri i Kuq and specifically for the material that is currently left in much smaller quantities than what was before, currently this landfill is owned by a private entity, some alternatives for solutions were thrown out by taking the material out of the protected area, etc.

- With the final removal and demolition of fish farms in the area of Drilon - Tushemisht, for which the Deputy Mayor stated that the project will be implemented very soon for this area and it has foreseen the demolition and rehabilitation of these areas.

- Discussion on the development projects that will be done in PL Pogradec and the development of projects along the lake shore in the Lin Peninsula, for which it was said that some of them will consult with UNESCO itself, while other projects have been cancelled.

- Another point that was addressed were the illegal constructions and more specifically those marked for demolition by UNESCO in the Lin area.
2. Close cooperation between the two institutions for the exchange of information and interaction in the field. There was an understanding and readiness on both sides to cooperate on various issues and activities that will take place within the protected area.

3. It has addressed the extension of the water supply network that is being developed within the PA and the territory of the municipality of Pogradec, we asked to be informed, because we do not want to have damage to any sensitive area or within natural monuments of PL-Pogradec.

4. Cooperation in the rehabilitation of degraded areas such as mining and afforestation.

5. It was discussed that with the approval of the General Local Plan for the municipality of Pogradec, in which both actors stated that cooperation will continue to protect and manage the values of the area.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

3.1 Maintenance works during 2021

During 2021, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage (RDCH), Korça has undertaken maintenance works and has supervised private funded restoration works in five cultural monuments both in WH property and buffer zone. The table 1 below provides a list of these monuments showing source of funding and value of investment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of the monument</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Source of funding</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment within the World Heritage Property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The remains and the mosaics of the Early Christian church at Lin</td>
<td>1st category</td>
<td>State Budget</td>
<td>Contribution in Kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The mosaics of the Early Christian church at Lin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The section below provides short description and photos from these works:

1. Maintenance works in the mosaics, Lin, 1st category monument - Conservation of mosaics in Narthex and Pastosfor.
Before conservation
During conservation

Before                                      After
During conservation
### 3.2 Monitoring of Cultural Heritage assets

As reported in the state of Conservation Report submitted by the State Party in January 2000 the monitoring of cultural heritage assets in the world heritage site and buffer zone is part of the everyday work of the dedicated staff for Pogradec. Monitoring is done through inspections on site of the specialists and technical staff which report to the department of archaeology and architecture in the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage Korça. Table 1 below describes the periodicity of monitoring of main cultural heritage monuments and sites in the World heritage site and buffer zone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of monument</th>
<th>Monitoring Periodicity</th>
<th>Responsible Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The ruins of the paleochristian church and the mosaics</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The mosaic of Lin</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>The ruins of the byzantine church near the fishing station</td>
<td>monthly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>The prehistoric settlement of Zagradie in the hill located near the village of Zagradie</td>
<td>daily inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Within the World Heritage Property</strong></td>
<td><strong>Within the Buffer Zone</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>The house of the Ieka brothers, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>The house of Kucuku brothers, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>The house Lasgush Poradeci, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>The house of Kristaq Puce, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>The house of Rinka Guxho, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>The house of Sandri Qipro, neighborhood of Burimeve</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>The historic center of Pogradec and the regulation for its administration</td>
<td>weekly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>The castle of Pogradec</td>
<td>monthly inspection</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>The mosaic of Tushemisht-</td>
<td>surveys need to be carried out</td>
<td>RDCH Korça Department of Pogradec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Monitoring periodicity of cultural heritage monuments and sites (WH site and buffer zone)*

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3.3 Visitors to the Early Christian Church of Lin

Statistical data for 2021 (summer season)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Monument: Early-Christian church of Lin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>visitors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently the visits to the monument are free of charge. The statistical data are being registered by the Department of Pogradec and are being reported periodically to the DRCH in Korča.

Being one of the most visited cultural destinations in the Albanian part of the world heritage property, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage Korča is evaluating the statistical data with a purpose of advancing a proposal for a fee entrance ticket for the monument.

3.4 Monitoring of Natural Heritage assets under RAPA Pogradec

The Buffer Zone of World Heritage which belongs to the protected area: Pogradec Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape, and management work at Protected Landscape Area has mainly consisted in the most rigorous implementation of the management plan for Protectetet areas. This sector has planned and participated in programs of activities made by RAPA Korce & has been cooperative, in activities organized in protected areas. APA Pogradec regulates and accepts the documentation of activities allowed within the PA, in the management and conclusion of new contracts with RAPA-Korçë, for all entities that have activity in the forest and pasture area, as well as presentation and promotional activities belongs to protected areas. We have followed the problems of desig & implementation of projects within protected areas and have been drafted planning & action plans for the development of measures for the conservation and rehabilitation of ecosystems, habitats and species in protected areas. The management sector has cooperated with local structures, as well as with associations or other actors for the sustainable use of protected areas, maps and GIS information. APA Pogradec advises village mayors or persons engaged in agroforestry activities regarding the rules to be followed in the PMTU. Forestry has been drafted with projects of mountain areas and systems, etc. We have collected and processed information related to Natural Monuments and assesses their condition, which found inside Protected Land / Water Landscape of Pogradec. (Therefore we are starting with the our work with natural monuments since they are also category III according to IUCN)

- Assessment of the condition of the Natural Monuments located in the Pogradec Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape (PPL), which are seven, where are done some quality photos are taken for each natural monument and the relevant notes were kept for
completing the database of Natural Monuments. From the field monitoring it results that their condition in general is good, as well as the design and compilation and abduction sheet for each natural monument. In these nature monuments, we carry out various activities, cleaning, guides and accompany and groups passionate about nature, etc.

*Some photos from monuments of nature which found in the PPL*

Guri i Kamjes (*Kamja-Stone*)

Burimi i Drilonit (*Drilon springs*)

Shpella e Najazmës (*Najazma Cave*)

- Monitoring of fauna species and to complete correctly the monitoring forms, according to the latest modifications in the protected areas "PL Pogradec". It has also been conducted the monitoring in Lake Ohrid, in which waterfowls species were counted in the lake, in close collaboration with PPNEA, the Tushemisht-Lin coastline with some well-defined itineraries. The monitoring program has been clearly specific to the area of the environment and specific biodiversity and nature environments.

*Photo while setting trap cameras in Protected Areas*
- RAPA has monitored forest and pasture areas located in protected areas. Persons responsible for the damage done in the protected area are sued. During 2021, a total of 28 different ascertainment minutes were noted such as: cutting, appropriation of wood material, road opening, illegal grazing, illegal constructions, intervention in a natural monument, etc.

*Photo during terren monitoring of Protected Landscape Pogradec*
- One of the activities of our work for the protection of the buffer zone of the heritage property has been the isolation of fires in the PA, where the program of measures against fires has been drafted. In cooperation with the local government, measures have been taken to set up teams for each village. In Protected Landscape of Pogradec we had fires in the in Crvenaks and some other cases, but extinguishing them in time, by the staff of RAPA Pogradec in cooperation with the firefighters of Pogradec and the State Police. We had more surfaces touched by the fire rather than burned. In higher level areas the fire was extinguished by conditional means.

*Photo from the moment of extinguishing the fires PL Pogradec*

- Census of wintering birds in Lake Ohrid on 12 January 2021, is done by the Administration of Protected Areas in cooperation with organizations dealing with environmental protection. During the census for wintering bird, in Lake Ohrid for the Albanian part, it has counted an increase in birds compared to the 2020 census, while species are the same as in previous years. The number of birds is 18011 and 24 species are present. This result shows an improvement in the status of biodiversity in the Lake Ohrid region, and this number is higher than a year ago. Every species found in Lake Ohrid contributes to global biodiversity and consequently to the ecosystem services, by guaranteeing an increased wellbeing to all living species. Stopping illegal hunting, and monitoring can have a positive effect on the increase of birds in the lake, they stay undisturbed near the shore and are not afraid of photos taken by passengers or visitors. RAPA is on the ground every day, in addition to preventing illegal
activities and monitoring of the species. During this year there have been present rare species for the lake such as flamingos, pelicans, Gavia arctica, otters, sea ducks, etc.

*Photo during the international wintering birds census 2021 for Lake Ohrid*

- Cleaning up, maintenance and reconstruction of some of the paths that required intervention, these paths for walking and cycling that we have in the Protected Landscape have been conducted. Arrangements, clearing the path of stones, debris, branches, for free movement of path visitors.

*Photo from the redevelopment of the trails on Lin Peninsula*

- RAPA Pogradec has carried out cleaning up activities from time to time and in cooperation with schools such as at the nature monuments, Najazma cave at Customs, Tushemisht, as well as on the walking path around the Lin peninsula, to the castle of Pogradec and in shore of the lake etc. With these cleaning up actions we thought to send an awareness message to everyone in order that these places should be and remain without waste.

*Photos from various cleaning actions carried out by APA Pogradec*
The Administration of Protected Areas has accompanied different groups of tourists within the protected areas. The promotion of the itinerary Pogradec - City Castle, Pogradec-Peshkëpi-Mali i Thatë, Alarup-The top of the Well Plateau- Small Gorica, Kamja stone, around the Lin peninsula and many other itineraries within PL Pogradec has been done. Many of these itineraries have been marked since the time of the UNECOS project, but they are constantly in need of maintenance.

*Photos during the various guides made by our staff inside PL - Pogradec*
4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

4.1 Ongoing projects

4.1.1 The Drilon – Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project

Based on the Detailed Plan for Area of National Importance “Drilon - Tushemisht” the Municipality of Pogradec and AADF (Albanian American Development Foundation) have signed a Cooperation agreement for the funding from AADF of project designs and implementation of Drilon - Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project which includes three subprojects as below:

- Rehabilitation of Drilon Park which includes Drilon Springs up to its estuary in the Lake
- Construction of Visitor’s Center
- Construction of three open parking spaces for the visitors in the Drilon-Tushemisht area.

Based on the information received from AADF to the Ministry of Culture the implementation of the above listed projects is foreseen to start within January 2022.

The Drilon - Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project aims to turn the villages of Tushemisht and Drilon into a destination with diversified models of sustainable tourism activities. The project follows the recommendations of the “Strategic Planning for Destination Development in Tushemisht and Drilon”, a study prepared by SiTI – Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation, affiliated to Torino Polytechnic University. It is designed by the Portuguese Architecture Studio PROAP, in cooperation with Albanian local and national authorities. On December 3rd, 2020 the Government of Albania approved the Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance of Drilon - Tushemisht. It follows the Schematic Design submitted by the State Party to UNESCO in August 2019.

The core of the project is the relation between all the elements of the area that form the larger system. They are all integrated into the project. The current project presents an innovative scenario, where the waterscape is used to void the current separation that exists between the lake
and the agricultural landscape. The design aims to rebuild the community’s connection with the water, which is meant to (re)discover the landscape’s intrinsic value, not only as ecological and environmental wealth, but also as a useful and pleasant infrastructure that promotes the safe and comfortable enjoyment of a wide variety of uses. The project moves the road away from the main water channel and park, and creates a more protected area. Following the Reactive Monitoring Mission recommendations, the following points explain the issues raised by the Mission.

**Fish Farms**
The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance Drilon-Tushemisht foresees no fish farm construction in the project area. The implementation of Drilon Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project will demolish any existing fish farms in the project area.

**Drilon Springs and Drilon Park**
The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance of Drilon – Tushemisht, the Drilon Springs and Drilon Park sub-projects, foresees the extension of green areas, planting of trees and purification of water so that the area can be easily and freely accessed by tourists without a vehicle. The project addresses the spillage of waste water in the Drilon watershed. The project considers that avoiding the flow of low-quality water is necessary to improve the quality and freshness of the water body and, consequently, to enrich the biodiversity potential of the system and it use by visitors. The proposed system is based on the continuous circulation of the water masses through the use of multiple water channels from the source (spring) to the final destination (lake). Furthermore, to protect the Drilon Springs the project foresees the construction of a new vehicle access road, away from its current position near the springs.

**Parking & Recreational Areas**
The Drilon Tushemisht Waterscape Park Project will limit car access into the area. Visitors will park in dedicated parking areas, walk through the gardens between the buildings, enter the park and discover the main channel. The pathway is an experience, a discovery and an appropriation of places.
The parking areas will be built outside the main site, and a very limited amount of agricultural and public land will be required. Adjacent to the parking areas, a few small recreational spaces will be developed, so the park can be enjoyed and accessed from different locations. Recreational spaces consist in playgrounds, areas dedicated to sports and leisure, and maintenance facilities trash bins. No building construction is planned.

**New Development Opportunities**
Demand for new residential and accommodation opportunities in Tushemisht and Pogradec has increased in recent years. However, construction in the area has not followed local architectural style or relied on local materials. A large amount of area between Drilon and Tushemisht remains idle unused, with owners waiting for a construction permit. In response, the authorities have chosen to encourage developments that the surrounding environment and landscape. The plan will safeguard the area from any potential extensive and aggressive construction developments. The proposal in Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance has completely rejected the current construction trends. The construction of new tourist facilities and residential buildings is incorporated within the general landscape strategy, promoting interesting vistas, engaging urban gardens and courtyards, and attractive passageways and promenades.
Two very distinct building types are represented in the plan: the single-family, courtyard home and the 2-to-3 story, mixed-use hybrid buildings which comprise the higher density areas where commercial activities take place. In addition, the urban development follows different orientation of facades for minimal interruption of lake views.

Water Museum
The water museum is strategically located on top of the hill, embedded in rock, so it provides spectacular vistas toward Ohrid Lake and the village of Tushemisht. In addition, it invites people to explore the hinterland, away from the lake shore, and thus contribute to a widen the geographic area of interest for visitors.

The project foresees that the building begins on the top of the hill and then stretches alongside the edge as a continuation of the retaining walls. A substantial part of the building will be constructed underground to mitigate the impact in the landscape and view. However, the water museum project is left on hold and further detailing of this project will take place at a later phase should sufficient funding be provided.

Attached in Annex 3:
- The Detailed Plan for the Area of National Importance Drilon-Tushemisht
- The three listed subproject of the Waterscape Park Project.

4.1.2 "Restoration and Urban Requalification of the Historical Center and Protected Area of Pogradec"

The project "Restoration and Urban Requalification of the Historical Center and Protected Area of Pogradec", approved by the National Council of Material Cultural Heritage with Decision No. 598, dated 08.10.2021. As follows a short description of the project:

The main goal of the project is the restoration and urban requalification of the Historic Centre and buffer area of the city of Pogradec. Through restoration, conservation and rehabilitation of traditional buildings and cultural heritage areas, a further development of tourism and consequently the economic development of the area, is expected.

Based on the considerable architectural and cultural values it bears and its urban development history, Pogradec was nationally designated as a Historic Centre by Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 554, dated 18.06.2015. The Decision of Council of Ministers included also the approval of the regulation for the administration and integrated management of the Historic Centre. In addition to the architectural values, this area also carries historic values as well-known historic figures such as Lasgush Poradeci (albanian writer), Mitrush Kuteli (albanian writer), lived in the area.

The main objective is to prepare a methodology for the interventions focusing on the buildings and on the streets within the Historic Center with the purpose of unifying the characteristic architectural language of the area. The final product of the project is “Drafting the implementation project for Restoration and urban requalification of the historic center and the protected area of the city of Pogradec”.

Further details on this project are provided in Annex 4.
4.1.3 “Touristic Complex with one storey small wooden houses, National Road Pogradec-Tushemisht, Bucimas

The Project “Touristic Complex with one storey small wooden houses, National Road Pogradec-Tushemisht, Bucimas, was approved by Decision of the National Council of Tangible Cultural Heritage no. 418, dated 21.07.2021. The project is contracted and transmitted for approval to the National Council for Tangible Cultural Heritage (NCTCH) by a private investor. The Decision of approval of the NCTCH cites also the obligation of the private investor to provide an English version of the project for transmission to the advisory bodies of UNESCO based on the Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines.

Following the transmission of the relevant documentation the project details are presented in Annex 5 of this report.

4.2 Ongoing project - Municipality of Pogradec

4.2.1 Projects and investments of the Water Supply and Sewage Company, Pogradec

Pogradec Water Supply and Sewerage Company, thanks to the support of the German Government and the support of the Albanian Government, has realized its goal and vision in equipping the entire city with a sewerage network and supply 24 hours of clean and controlled water for the entire Pogradec area and that of Bucimas Administrative Unit. Lake Ohrid is one of the oldest lakes in the world and marked for a high biodiversity. Its designation as a cultural heritage has been and is on the focus of the Water Supply and Sewerage Company for its protection. The three implementation phases of the projects consisted of the laying and completion of the Administrative Unit of Bucimas and the city of Pogradec with the drinking water network and the sewerage system.

4.2.2 New projects under implementation

In the village of Lin, declared as one of the 100 villages for rural development, was implemented during the period 2020-2021 the project for "Systematization and supply of drinking water" for all villagers by improving the quality of services, tourism and life of area residents. Investing on a completely new infrastructure and network after a long supply shortage.

In the Administrative Unit Udënishi where there live about 6000 inhabitants, for the villages Udënishi and Mëmëlisht started the implementation of the project for fulfillment with drinking water supply system in June 2020 and currently it is completed the whole new infrastructure for both villages with 3 new deposits, 2 of which are reconstruction and rehabilitation. For about 20 years with reduced supply in 2021 this investment is concluded with 24 hours of drinking water according to European quality standards.

Bucimas Administrative Unit where there live 18724 inhabitants and eight villages (Bucimas, Gurras, Tushemisht, Gështenjas, Rëmenj, Vërdovë, Peshkëpi, Bacallëk) which is equipped with
infrastructure for both components except for a percentage which remained uncovered with sewerage network and construction completion is being concluded for all wastewater treatment and collection, avoiding the polluting factor in Lake Ohrid. Tushemisht has benefited from 100% sewerage system service together with the Drilon area. The length of the sewerage network in the village of Bucimas is 7290 m, with a number of 630 customers connected to the system, in Vërdovë the length of the network is 4134 m with 320 connected customers and the village of Guras with a network of 336 m length and 16 connections customers; this construction is done for the purpose of protecting the source. In Tushemisht the whole area is covered with sewerage network. All used water coming from this built system ends up in the water treatment plant which, because of mechanical, biological and chemical treatment is afterwards discharged into the drainage canals within the standards set by the project 'Environmental protection of Lake Ohrid, Phase III'.

All the treatments that the Wastewater Plant performs have an indirect effect on the cleaning and preservation of the biodiversity of the Lake. The chemical treatment with the chemical FeCl2SO4 has a direct impact on the protection of the environment, living things and water of Lake Ohrid, not being harmful even to the citizens' health. Treatment with the chemical FeCl2SO4 is not a main activity of the Company, which also aggravates the financial burden but it is an essential and social responsibility of ours which is strictly applied.

In the World Heritage Site we have had restorations in the village of Lin of some dilapidated dwellings, rehabilitation of roads in the Pogredec city, construction of water supply in the administrative units of the city, construction of the sewerage network for those neighbourhoods that were not completed etc. The project Drilon - Tushemisht will start implementation very soon, which aims to transform the area into an eco-tourism destination, which can promote investment in tourism, promote and operate natural resources, which have so far been unused. This area is part of the heritage site, so we think should be notified the World Heritage Center of this project. (For more information it's found in the Municipality of Pogradec)

4.3 Ongoing projects in protected areas

PONT project (Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust)

Extending the PONT project to the three protected areas started with their planning of grants in the Ohrid area and beyond, by signing an agreement between the general director of NAPA Mr. Zamir Dedej and Mrs. Mirjam de Koning executive director of PONT. Protected areas are the main pillars of the PONT program that aims to preserve nature for a sustainable future of the Ohrid-Prespa region through long-term partnerships and funding.
For 2021, with the extension of the PONT Project for the Ohrid region, has made possible the increase the number of staff of PMTU - Pogradec, employing 3 environmental guards and two employees for various works that might be needed at ‘Pogradec Terrestrial/Aquatic Protected Landscape’, The monitoring and management work for the Protected Land / Water Landscape area of Pogradec has been improved. Collaborations with the staff of the Museum of the Municipality of Pogradec or with the staff of the Korça Regional Cultural Heritage have also been strengthened, through participation in meetings organised in collective manner.

- Meeting in Librazhd with representatives of PONT for the extension of the project and in the part of Protected Landscape of Pogradec has been presented. In the meeting it was discussed priority actions and actions to be taken in the future as well as the needs of the staff of RAPA Pogradec. A grant manual that has been prepared by PONT was also introduced. The objectives and activities that are expected to take place in the Ohrid region were then presented, through giving a brief overview of the current management plan for the Pogradec terrestrial/aquatic protected landscape, focusing on priority actions to be implemented in the near future and on any urgent issue likely to be faced, such as those related to the natural and cultural heritage of the Ohrid region and in relation to 2017 world heritage supplement document.

In Pogradec PONT also chose active associations for cooperation in order to increase the impacts and activities in the area. PONT also had a meeting with the local association in Pogradec "I Woman", in which also participated the director of ADZM Korça. Among others, in the meeting was discussed on the orientation of future activities, as well as the need to increase of cooperation among each other.

- Online meeting with PONT representatives on the project progress in the Ohrid area as well as the analysis of the progress with the METT method.

PONT discussed priority criteria for biodiversity protection and conservation, and how to meet PONT criteria in order to receive grants. In the future, the work will continue with an in-depth analysis of the activities that are on the top list taking into account the available resources, and in line with PONT's mission and objectives.

*Photos from PONT online meetings for PL Pogradec*
- RAPA participation in the meetings held within the project of DMO Albania, aiming to increase awareness of tourism businesses actors regarding the destinations’ management. (The project is implemented by DMO Albania supported by Co-PLAN Institute for Habitat Development and funded by the European Union in Albania)

- In the meeting at Enkelana it was discussed on finding solutions of a Landing / site (Moli) on the shore of Lake Ohrid, Albanian side, which would serve for the fishing organization. RAPA has proposed between the area of Mëmëlisht and Hudënisht but this is not yet being realized.
The training was conducted within the project "Ecological and economic assessment of ecosystem services in Lake Ohrid catchment", supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and implemented by the AEEM Center (Agro-Environmental and Economic Management Center). This project is to implemented for the period 2019-2022. The monitoring of fish in Lake Ohrid has addressed the selection of challenges and the needs for the assessment of ecosystem services for biodiversity conservation etc. In this training, invasive species are presented to showcase which appear in the absence of other species or as threat to the main types of species in the lake. Biological monitoring of fresh water was conducted, as well as an identification of ecological and economic values and consequences for the socio-economic development of rural areas. An incentive for locals to protect the biodiversity of Lake Ohrid watershed by introducing them to the economic benefits of the ecosystem.

- Cross-border cooperation so far in the framework of several different projects, as well as in the framework of the Lake Day.

**Project 'Strengthening the cross-border preservation of the Ohrid World Heritage Site in North Macedonia and Albania'** The leader of the project is the organization 'Front' of MV and the project partner is the organization ACEG of Albania. The main activities for 2021-2022 of the project are:
• Creating a database with local actors and the activities they carry out with influence on the project theme.
• Preparation of a questionnaire for local actors where the available information, level of knowledge, site problems, training needs are evidenced.
• Distribution of questionnaires and their filling by local actors.
• Organization of workshops, seminars, trainings.

With the full implementation of this project we will get acquainted with in the results of both sides of the border and the impact that this project will leave.

Participation in an online Meeting organized by IUCN "On assessing and addressing climate change through internationally designated areas, including World Heritage sites, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Global Biosphere Reserves and Geoparks.

**Tourism Committee, for the International Promotion of Tourism in Pogradec**
During the Tourism Committee meeting in Pogradec, it was discussed on the increase numbers of tourist destinations, increase of accommodation units and the quality of service, to restore the trend of tourism growth before the pandemic. Pogradec is a destination that offers diversified tourist opportunities where together with the Mayor of Pogradec Ilir Xhakolli was the Minister of Tourism and Environment, Mr. Klosi. After a long pandemic, we look at it with optimism and this tourist season is hopeful. Historical culture attractions attract over hundreds of tourists every year. The 100 days of summer in Pogradec will mark a high increase in the number of tourists. Minister of Tourism and Environment Mr. Klosi, held a meeting of the Regional Tourism Committee in Pogradec with the participation of many local directors and actors. The meeting discussed the issues that need to be resolved to have a successful tourist season. Klosi, among other things,
asked the tour operators, in addition to increasing the level of service they have done so far, to continue working hard to maximize it and thus be competitive not only in the country but also in the region. The mayor Ilir Xhakollë also emphasized the investments and services that his institution offers, while the operators have the duty to serve tourists and visitors, he said. Member of Parliament Gjylameti said that thanks to the work done by the local and central government Pogradec this year will have an even more successful season starting from the busy artistic and cultural program that the municipality has already created “100 Stay Days in Pogradec”.

Challenge discussed by experts who are working together in this area, is to find alternative tourism products on the Albanian shores of the Lake and to combine them with cultural elements for a sustainable tourism. Increasing and developing the economic well-being of local populations in the Ohrid region, bringing a qualitative impetus to the development of annual ECO-Tourism were at the center of discussions.

*Photo during the meeting of the tourism committee in Pogradec*

Cross-border cooperation so far has been in the framework of several different projects, as well as in the framework of the lake day.

Project ‘Strengthening the cross-border preservation of the Ohrid World Heritage Site in North Macedonia and Albania’ The project leader is the ‘Front’ organization of North Macedonia and the project partner is the ACEG organization of Albania.

The main activities for 2021-2022 of the project are:

- Creating a database with local actors and the activities they carry out with influence on the project theme.
- Preparation of a questionnaire for local actors where the available information, level of knowledge, site problems, training needs are identified.
- Distribution of questionnaires to local actors and collection of their feedback.
- Organization of workshops, seminars and trainings.

**EVENTS REALIZED WITHIN THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY**

We have been present at many local events where we have provided information on the values that the protected area carries as well as sites such as heritage. (*We are mentioning some*)

**June 21, Day of the Lake Ohrid** has brought together the mayors of Pogradec, Ohrid and Struga, in a meeting, where the main focus of discussions have been in relation to the decision-making of
joint steps to develop not only tourism around the lake basin, but also the protection of this lake according to UNESCO criteria and conditions. This year, the "Lake Ohrid Day" ceremony was held in Pogradec at the invitation of the Mayor, Ilir Xhakoli. This day serves to promote the values of this lake and the region as well as to take measures for its protection. The following joint tourism package was discussed and the organization of joint artistic and cultural activities in the cities bathed by the same lake. In this meeting was discussed about the achievements and current projects in the field of tourism, culture, lake infrastructure, but also about the problems faced by our three municipalities. While the mayor of Ohrid had priority the demolition of illegal constructions around the lake shore and the unification of the construction model according to a regulatory plan approved by UNESCO. Immediately, the mayor of Pogradec requested in this meeting that the lake line Pogradec-Ohrid-Struga be put in function of tourism, also as a tourist destination. The administration of RAPA Korça, which is in the service of Protected landscape Pogradec, was placed with its stand at the Rose Square, where the promotion of the natural values of the lake and the protected terrestrial aquatic landscape of Pogradec took place. The lake is already part of UNESCO since 2019, this world heritage deserves to be managed sustainably, as Lake Ohrid deserves. This event aims to manifest awareness for the protection of the coastline.

*Photo from June 21, Lake Ohrid day*

Pogradec opens the tourist season / the best opportunity to spend the summer holidays

RAPA Pogradec participated in the opening of the touristic season on 06.06.2021 in Pogradec, a city, which offers a range of attractions for all visitors who choose it during the summer months. The lake, with boats on the shore and a boat during this tourist season, offered an amazing view. This year the beautiful lake city of Pogradec, has chosen to be more vulnerable to visitors and tourists, not only with investments in infrastructure and greenery, but also public beaches, cleanliness, water sports or many activities that will accompany the tourist season. With an organization of the activity by the city hall, in the square in front of it gathered residents and tourists from Albania and Europe who had the opportunity to enjoy up close the beautiful atmosphere and activities that started in the morning and will end in the hours of evening. Mayor
Ilir Xhakolli has expressed optimism, wishing a good season for all vacationers who will choose Pogradec. "Since our city entered the green zone in terms of the pandemic, I believe that it will be overcrowded with citizens from Albania but also further due to the mitigation measures imposed by the government. We are certainly ready for this year, we have worked for a long time to keep the lake shore clean but also the whole city with the surrounding facilities. I believe we will have an excellent tourism. The decorations that have been made in this period bring a very special atmosphere. We have decided to create a calendar that will contain activities for the 100 days of the season, and this will bring more tourists. Optimist for this tourist season were also tour operators, we learned that the influx of tourists was felt even before the official opening of the season and has continued. In Pogradec, all hotels staff have been vaccinated with both doses of the vaccine and we are ready to serve the vacationers. The most special of the organized activities is the fair where the Pogradec cuisine is promoted, the handicrafts of the ladies from this city, various arts such as paintings, pottery, and these can be found right next to Odeon Square. The Pogradec tradition was the main theme of the opening of this tourist season, where in the city promenade for many citizens were presented organic products and traditional dishes of the area, handicrafts, exhibitions of paintings and handicrafts.

- At the Kamja Stone Nature Monument, this natural monument is located in Protected area of Landscape Pogradec and in addition to natural values it also carries historical values. Where the local holiday was organized by the municipality of Pogradec, in commemoration of July 28, 1912 where the patriots of the area of Gora and Mokra raised the national flag in this country. In this event participants were from from all surrounding areas, where we as APA Pogradec Staff provided information on the values and status of this natural monument and for other protected areas in Pogradec.

Photo from the opening tourist season in Pogradec

- At the Kamja Stone Nature Monument, this natural monument is located in Protected area of Landscape Pogradec and in addition to natural values it also carries historical values. Where the local holiday was organized by the municipality of Pogradec, in commemoration of July 28, 1912 where the patriots of the area of Gora and Mokra raised the national flag in this country. In this event participants were from from all surrounding areas, where we as APA Pogradec Staff provided information on the values and status of this natural monument and for other protected areas in Pogradec.

Photo from the event organized in honor of Kamja Stone
Public access to the state of conservation report.

Signature of the Authority

MINISTRY OF TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENT

MINISTER
MIRELA KUMBARO FURXHI

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

MINISTER
ELVA MARGARITI
LIST OF ANNEXES


Annex 2. Table: State of implementation of the RMM’s Recommendations in the Albanian part of the Property.


Raporti për gjendjen e konservimit të pjesës shqiptare të pasurisë botërore "Trashëgimisë natyrore dhe kulture e rajonit të Ohrit" 99ter (Për komponentin kulturor) është përgatitur nga:

Për Ministrinë e Kulturës raporti është hartuar mbi bazën e informacioneve që disponohen nga institucionet hartuese si dhe informacioneve të marrë nga AKPT dhe AADF

Znj. Kozeta Angjeliu, Drejtør
Drejtoria e Programeve të Zhvillimit të Kulturës, Ministria e Kulturës

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Për Ministrinë e Turizmit dhe Mjedisit

Raporti për gjendjen e konservimit të pjesës shqiptare të pasurisë botërore "Trashëgimisë natyrore dhe kulture e rajonit të Ohrit" 99ter (Për komponentin mjedisor) është përgatitur nga

Znj. Klodiana Marika
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Për Bashkinë Pogradec

Paskalino Ziko
Nënkrëyetar i Bashkisë Pogradec

Andi Kosta
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