



CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions listed below.

Organization Legal Name	<i>Fondazione Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici</i>
Project Title	Integrated Water Resources Management at Dojran Lake
Grant or GEM Number	63842
Date of Report	9 April 2017

CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 2. Establish the sustainable management of water catchments and the wise use of water resources

Grant Amount: \$119.986,79

Project Dates: 01/04/2014 – 31/12/2016

PART I: Overview

1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*)

Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC) – the project coordination, research, components and tasks development, reporting.

Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, office in Macedonia (REC COM) – collaboration on the project, organization of jointly conducted participatory activities and information exchange.

Macedonian Ecological Society (MES) – collaboration on the project research and data exchange.

Municipality of Dojran – Main stakeholder in the project, collaboration on data dissemination.

Ministry of environment and Physical Planning – important stakeholder, support of the development of Valorisation Study, data dissemination.

2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The main outputs of this project are: i) Framework for Development of Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, ii) Comparative Regional Study on the Role of Payment for Ecosystem Services in Environmental Conservation in the Balkans, iii) Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services Scheme at Dojran Lake and iv) Valorisation Study of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake.

The work on this studies included in-depth analysis and understanding of the Dojran region, including its ecological and socio-economic characteristics, and future threats. The work included collaboration with the local community, integrating local knowledge in the development of the sustainable management measures, as well as local and national authorities, while our findings were developed in consultation with the national experts.

The proposed management solutions are expected to inform design of the management plan of the lake that should be developed in the near future. The developed measures aim to contribute to the improvement of water management and governance of the area, while increasing the adaptive capacity of the lake to the expected future threats. In addition, the project provides a perspective for the implementation of innovative management solutions, such as payment for ecosystem services, in the context of the broader region and the concrete Dojran Lake settings. The Valorisation Study, in turn, provides the legal basis for confirming the protected status of the lake and the surrounding area, and developing the future management plan.

3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned long-term and short-term impact (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each long-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Protection and preservation of Dojran Lake eco-system	<p>The participatory activities conducted within the project led to awareness raising of the local population on the importance of nature conservation, while in parallel informed the authorities of the urgent need for actions to be undertaken.</p> <p>The Framework for Development of Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, as well as the Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of PES Scheme at Dojran Lake, provided the basis for the future management plan of Dojran Lake. The studies were distributed to different stakeholders, from local administration, NGO and community to national experts. Suggested and elaborated concrete management measures from these two reports will enable protection and preservation of Dojran Lake eco-system, recovery of populations of native species and habitats, while at the same time strengthen the capacity of the local community by improving livelihoods.</p> <p>Implementation of the proposed management measures could lead to Dojran becoming a well preserved natural site, increasing its attractiveness within visitors, who could there enjoy natural landscape and learn about its rich biodiversity. Sustainable tourism will, in turn,</p>

	<p>further add to the improvement of the local socio-economic situation. The training for project proposals development is expected to improve local communities' skills regarding projects preparation and applications development. Successful project applications can bring in the future new opportunities for sustainable development of the Dojran region. One example is introduction of permaculture in Dojran.</p> <p>The valorisation Study of Dojran Lake provides legal and scientific basis for the management strategy for this protected area. The study provides updated information regarding environmental and social aspects of this area. Considering that there was a lack of comprehensive information for this region, this Study is an important document that can provide solid input for informed decision-making about the future activities with the aim to improve management, and thus protection and environmental status of the area, while at the same time securing livelihoods of the local community. The study recommends the protection category and the boundaries for different protection zones of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake. This study will serve both the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Local Municipality at Dojran. The expected long-term impact is informed management of this protected area based on up-to date information and respecting latest national and international policy and legislation.</p>
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b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Recognised community of interested parties (individuals and institutions)	Stakeholder analysis and social network analysis helped recognize all local stakeholders, who were involved in the participatory activities of the project and who informed the development of the project outputs. National stakeholders were recognized by analyzing main national documentation and legislation and through the communication with experts.
Improved stakeholders' awareness of IWRM related issues	Improved stakeholders' knowledge of IWRM was achieved in the workshop on IWRM and through dissemination of the project study. Through participatory mapping and definition of important elements for the natural resource management in Dojran, information about the most important aspects of the system, as perceived by the local community and the authority, were integrated with the IWRM approach.
Improved understanding on social, ecologic and economic conditions at Dojran lake	The workshop and interviews with local stakeholders, together with fieldwork, helped understand social, ecologic and economic conditions at Dojran Lake.
Developed framework for adaptive integrated water resource management plan	The framework was developed and published in a form of a booklet. The booklet, together with a brief in Macedonian language were presented at the meeting in Dojran and broadly distributed to the local and national stakeholders, including interested ministries and experts. The booklet and the brief in English language were distributed to regional experts.
Developed catalogue of main ecosystem services (ES)	The catalogue of main ecosystem services was developed and presented in the Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of PES Scheme

Developed overview study of the role of economic instruments (e.g. PES) for environmental conservation in the Balkans	The study "PES: existing practice in the Balkan region" was developed and distributed to the interested national and international experts.
Developed framework for Payment for Eco-system Services (PES) scheme	The Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of PES scheme was developed and published in a form of a booklet. The booklet, together with a brief in Macedonian language were presented at the meeting in Dojran and broadly distributed to the local and national stakeholders, including interested ministries and experts. The booklet and the brief in English language were distributed to regional experts.
Developed initial zoning proposal for Dojran Lake Monument of Nature	Initial zoning proposal for Dojran Lake Monument of Nature was developed and discussed with national experts. The proposal was then enhanced and presented within the Valorisation Study.
Established regional networking for sharing experience on the best IWRM and natural resource conservation practices.	The network of actors interested in IWRM and natural resources conservation practices was strengthened through vivid communication and collaboration with national and regional actors.
Improved understanding of social, ecologic and economic conditions at Dojran Lake that are elaborated in the Valorisation Study.	The Valorisation Study presents improved understanding of social, ecologic and economic conditions at Dojran Lake. The Valorisation Study will serve as the guiding document for the further management of the lake and reconsideration of the protected status of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake.
Developed zoning proposal for Dojran Lake Monument of Nature, as a part of the Valorisation Study.	Zoning proposal was developed and elaborated in the Valorisation Study. The proposal includes detailed maps, developed using GIS software.
Provided legal and scientific basis for development of the management plan.	The Valorisation Study presents legal and scientific basis for development of the management plan at Dojran Lake. In addition, the Framework for adaptive IWRM plan and the Framework proposal for development and implementation of PES scheme provide scientific background and best practice suggestions for the future management plan.
Provided basis for informed decision-making by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning regarding the future management of this area.	The Framework for adaptive IWRM plan and the Framework proposal for development and implementation of PES scheme were delivered to and commented with the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning. In addition, in an assessment exercise, representatives from the Ministry evaluated the proposed management measures and adaptation practices. Together with the Valorisation Study, these two documents will provide scientifically sound basis for well-informed decision-making regarding future activities at Dojran Lake.
Enhanced local capacity, readiness and appropriation of the process for preparation of the future management plan.	Participatory activities, including interviews, workshops and trainings of local community have enhanced the capacity of the local stakeholders and improved readiness to take part in the preparation of the future management plan.

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4. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impacts

The project promoted multi-actor participatory approach to baseline assessment of the protected area and identification of management options, hence creating a common space for a dialogue between interested parties. This space allowed for a transparent dialogue about concerns on unsustainable management practices in the area and sought for a collaborative action towards a transition to sustainable management practices. The results of the project provided a scientifically rigorous foundation and a roadmap for the design and implementation of effective and adaptive conservation management practices. The project was successful in achieving its short-term goals and we are confident that the activities conducted in the project will contribute to the desired long-term impacts.

Transboundary relationships are seen as a challenge to which the lake is exposed in the medium-long term for achieving effective and sustainable management of the protected area. Developing transboundary collaboration in the conservation initiatives at Dojran Lake is an essential condition for the effectiveness of any integrated natural resource management efforts and economic incentives related to ecosystem services. The transboundary context of Dojran Lake at present allows for only limited conservation results, if activities at the Greek side follow a business as usual scenario as intensive agricultural activities.

5. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- *Participation in the workshops:* It was difficult to predict participation in the workshops. While in interviews and informal communication, the local population showed high interest in the project and willingness to collaborate, the participation in one of the workshop and in one training was lower than expected. In the former case, 20 identified and invited stakeholders had confirmed their interest and participation in the workshop, but then half of them, on the very day of the workshop, informed us that they could not arrive due the unusually strong rain and wind that day. Weather conditions are recognised as a risk to participation in the events in small communities where walking and use of motorbikes is a frequent mean of commuting. However, there is even less tangible reason for the low participation in the latter training. Then again, in other workshops and meetings, the participation was very high. The preparatory process, including invitation and motivation, was similar in all the cases.
- *Workshop instead of the web-base approach:* To avoid possible low interest of the national experts to participate in the online exercise, we decided to change this web-based activity (task 1.4) and instead conducted stakeholders' consultation and the evaluation exercise as a side-event to another meeting. A multicriteria analysis of the six alternative management measures to achieve a desirable future plan for development of Dojran Lake was conducted with experts from the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Water and Spatial planning departments that participated in a regional climate change adaptation workshop.

- *Interest of the Ministry:* Unexpected positive impact was high interest of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning in the activities at Dojran.

PART II: Project Components and Products/Deliverables

6. Components (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

6. Describe the results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	Sub #	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Baseline analysis and capacity building for stakeholders on integrated water resource management (IWRM) and climate change adaptation	1.1.	Baseline analysis and capacity building for stakeholders on IWRM and climate change adaptation. Proposal of Initial zoning.	<p>Review of national legislation, local strategies and technical reports.</p> <p>5-day field work at Dojran lake to visit selected sites, collect data and conduct interviews with local authority and community to define ecological, social and economic factors in the region.</p> <p>Literature review of international and national legislation and action plans on protected areas and their classification to develop a better understanding of suitable typologies in the region.</p> <p>Collect information on best practices of IWRM implementation regionally and internationally with specific focus on transboundary context.</p> <p>Initial zoning proposal, that was further elaborated within the Valorisation study.</p>
		1.2	Stakeholders identified and invited to the interactive workshop. Awareness rising and capacity building materials on IWRM and PES. Decision-making framework with guidelines for supporting the selection of appropriate measures for the management of natural resources under expected conditions of increasing climate variability. Report from workshop activities results and from IWRM and PES approaches for the management of Dojran Lake, together with	<p>Stakeholder analysis and social network analysis of selected stakeholders.</p> <p>One-day workshop with stakeholders from local community and authority. For this purpose, training material, such as awareness raising and capacity building material was prepared, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Legal documents b) Presentations about IWRM and PES c) Participatory material, including (1) the satellite map of Dojran Lake – for discussing spatial distribution of different natural and human induced effects, (2) interactive map - a custom-made map on the Google map platform prepared to support participatory mapping; (3) Explanatory table and flip-charts for participatory analysis of the sustainable and integrated natural resource management, based on four main themes: environment, social aspects, economy and governance. For each of these themes, participants were guided to provide most important elements; (4) Explanatory table and flip-charts for determining most important PES in Dojran, including provisional, regulating and cultural services. Participants were also commenting on the recent trends – if there was an increase, decrease or they have not noticed any change in the selected service. <p>Results from the workshop were published as a short report as well as the one page newsletter, which was sent to the Municipality and published on its Facebook page. The Municipality of Dojran</p>

		specific needs and possible solutions for the planning and decision process.	and the local NGO Renatura were offered to take over maintaining of the interactive map with the results from the participatory mapping activity.
	1.3	Framework for development of adaptive integrated water resource management plan	<p>In-depth semi-structured interviews with stakeholders on a national level, including policy-makers, researchers and NGO. The aim of the interviews was to identify possible storylines with a series of management recommendations to achieve the desired conservation and development path at Dojran Lake. We interviewed altogether 9 representatives from ministries and government agencies, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, the Ministry of Environment and Physical planning - Sector for Water and Sector for Nature, and the Agency for Promotion and Support of Tourism. Furthermore, we interviewed actors from the research sector, represented by the Faculty of Biology and the Natural History Museum. Finally, we met with representatives from the NGO sector and a representative from the UNDP office in Macedonia. An in-depth analysis of the interviews, using discourse analysis approach, helped us identify and group main problems, suggested approaches and actions to achieve a sustainable management path for Dojran Lake. This was the bases for developing storylines for the sustainable future of the region and four such plans were drafted: i) Alternative tourism; ii) Improving fish stock and reviving traditional fishery; iii) Local production – sustainable agriculture; iv) Improving water quality and protecting biodiversity. These storylines were further analysed to understand how they could contribute to the design and implementation of IWRM.</p> <p>Data collected during the previous project periods was elaborated and included in the Framework for Development of Adaptive IWRM Plan. This comprised the analysis of all the evidences about the recent history of Dojran Lake, in particular its ecological, hydrological and climatic characteristics and recent environmental and climate change. Moreover, an overview of the biodiversity at Dojran Lake and the surrounding habitats, as well as the current socio-economic context were presented. Based on the interviews with the national experts and through systematization and prioritisation of the main elements of the Dojran environmental and socio-economic system previously selected by the local stakeholders, we proposed four Sustainable management pathways for Dojran. Within these alternative sustainability pathways, we identified six feasible, alternative management measures. The six management measures were evaluated in the third workshop organized in Dojran in December 2015. Using a multi-criteria analysis approach, a diverse group of altogether 21 stakeholders, evaluated alternative measures and management approaches. Although the assessment was relatively uniformed, the measure: Restoration of forest belts for erosion control and restoration of scenic landscape scored first in the overall analysis. Results of this participatory</p>

			<p>assessment helped us understand what were priorities of the local stakeholders when it comes to concrete management solutions.</p> <p>The results were integrated in the Framework for Development of Adaptive integrated Water Resource Management Plan, which was produced in December 2015.</p> <p>The framework was then published and distributed. In addition, we prepared a policy brief with major findings from the study. At the local level, the study and the policy brief were distributed to the local community at the Training for projects proposals preparation, to the local administration in Dojran, and a few copies were provided to local NGOs for further distribution. At the national level, the materials were handed to the project stakeholders, including the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, the Natural History Museum and to the environmental NGOs. Furthermore, the copies of the materials were delivered to REC to be distributed to other project stakeholders at their project kick off meeting in July. Finally, the framework and the brief were distributed at the Regional conference, that REC organized in December 2016.</p>
		1.4	<p>Evaluation and sustainability analysis of the alternative management/adaptation measures by the national and regional experts and policy makers.</p> <p>Multicriteria analysis of the six alternative management measures to achieve a desirable future plan for development of Dojran Lake was conducted with experts from the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Water and Spatial planning departments. The six measures defined in the study “Framework for Development of Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan” were: Reviving traditional fishing, Ecotourism, Restoration of forest belts around the lake for erosion control, Good agricultural practice, Wetland restoration through reeds management and Constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment.</p> <p>The measure that proposes Good agricultural practice (GAP) scored highest according to the national experts (while this measure ranked relatively low in the earlier conducted evaluation exercise with local stakeholders in Dojran). This was followed by Ecotourism and Restoration of forest belts around the lake with the traditional tree species – the measure that scored best in the evaluation exercise with the local stakeholders. Interestingly, Reed management scored far lower comparing to other measures in the evaluation done by the experts.</p> <p>Looking into the criteria weights, provision of livelihoods and conflict resolution were most important to our participants. This was followed by efficiency and effectiveness of a measure – in achieving improved water quality and protecting biodiversity. The adaptability of a measure was a criterion that obtained the overall lowest weight; this criterion was also ranked lowest by the local stakeholders in Dojran.</p>

2	Situation analysis and framework proposal for the development of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme at Dojran Lake.	2.1	Comparative regional study on the role of PES in environmental conservation in the Balkans prepared.	<p>Literature review and revision of existing initiatives of PES schemes and similar economic incentives for nature conservation in the Balkan region. Interviews with involved experts.</p> <p>A framework was developed and applied for the comparison of these initiatives. Main barriers, success factors and potential risks were identified in the study: "PES: existing practice in the Balkan region". The study was shared with the CEPF office in charge and published at the CMCC website.</p>
		2.2	Develop a catalog of main ecosystem services (ES) in Dojran Lake area and methodological framework to value the chosen ecosystem services. Acquired better understanding of the national policy and institutional conditions for implementation of PES.	<p>2 days fieldwork was conducted prior to the workshop. ES related data was collected through semi-structured interviews and observations. The data was further discussed and elaborated with the local community in the workshop to be further incorporated in the methodological framework.</p> <p>In the workshop, participants identified 9 major provisioning, regulatory and cultural ecosystem services. Participants were asked of their perception of change (increase / decrease / no change) in the provision of these ecosystem services for the last 10 years after the ecological disturbance and the potential future threats. The prioritised ES are water quality and quantity to be considered in the PES scheme. The conservation of these two ES would directly contribute to i) the improvement and conservation of the lake habitat to sustain the local biodiversity; ii) the improvement of local community well-being and iii) address envisioned climate hazards and their impacts on the water sector.</p> <p>Methodological ES evaluation framework: The economic benefits of ecosystem services can be characterized in four distinct groups depending on their use: i) direct use values; ii) indirect use values; iii) non-use values and iv) option values. An array of economic valuation methods can be implemented to estimate the Total Economic Value (TEV) for Dojran Lake, based on the the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) Framework. However, the majority of these valuation methods require intensive time and financial resources but most of all accurate data availability. As Dojran Lake lacks updated water quality and quantity data, the valuation tool most appropriate at this stage and data availability would be the benefit transfer method.</p> <p>The analysed policy framework included review of relevant legislation, national and local action plans and strategies. The Water Law introduces the approach of integrated water management and harmonization of national legislation with the relevant EU Water Framework legislation. Although water quality protection is integrated within the focus of a number of national strategic documents, there is a need for strengthening the monitoring system. Monitoring is a key element in PES design</p>

			<p>to ensure the operational sustainability and efficiency of the instrument.</p> <p>Along with the water related legislation we reviewed regulation and strategies on biodiversity and nature conservation. Forest resources management has a rather weak regulatory framework for collecting, processing, and marketing of non-wood products which may be contributing to overuse of the resource and exploitation of those in the supply chain.</p> <p>An important development in the tourism sector is the National Strategy on Tourism (2009 - 2013), which promotes nature tourism activities and thus increasing the potential of incorporating tourism elements in the design of a PES.</p> <p>In the policy analysis we focused on identifying existing economic instruments and state environmental financing of nature conservation in Macedonia. The analysis concluded that the main financial resources for management and development of the water resources are provided from tax fees.</p>	
		2.3	<p>Awareness raising and capacity building conducted to at least 15 stakeholders. Report on the result analysis of decision-support activities.</p>	<p>This activity was merged with the activity from Component 1 and included interviews with experts and policy-makers on national level. At this stage and aware of the typical challenge in any participatory exercise running in parallel to other “more urgent” decision-making processes - i.e., low responsiveness as experienced in the previous project period, it was decided that a special workshop/web activity is not necessary to achieve the objectives of this project component. However, an interactive workshop was conducted in December 2015 to present the results and obtain feedback, by evaluating proposed alternatives through participatory multicriteria analysis, from both local and national stakeholders.</p>
		2.4	<p>Communication materials on PES scheme.</p>	<p>Communication material on PES was prepared, presented and disseminated during the second workshop in September 2014 and the third workshop organised in Dojran in December 2015</p>
		2.5	<p>Framework proposal for development and implementation of PES scheme at Dojran Lake.</p>	<p>Results from previous components and activities of the projects and participatory exercises were incorporated and drafted into the framework proposals for PES. In particular, the Framework analysed drivers of change and impacts to ecosystems at Dojran Lake. Based on the identification of main ecosystems at Dojran Lake by local stakeholders and the analysis of the institutional and policy framework, in the context of local drivers and needs, the Framework proposed design of PES schemes at Dojran Lake. Furthermore, the report proposed providers and beneficiaries of ecosystem services and methods for valuing ecosystem services. Finally the report identified</p>

				<p>strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of proposed PES schemes.</p> <p>The initial zoning proposal, developed in 1.1., was used in the Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of PES Scheme at Dojran Lake.</p> <p>The proposed three PES schemes were combined with the measures proposed in the Framework for Development of Adaptive IWRM Plan and evaluated by the local stakeholders in the third workshop organised in Dojran in December 2015. T</p> <p>The study: Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of PES Scheme at Dojran Lake was published and distributed. In addition, we prepared a policy brief with major findings from the study. At the local level, the study and the policy brief were distributed to the local community at the Training for projects proposals preparation, to the local administration in Dojran, and a few copies were provided to local NGOs for further distribution. At the national level, the materials were handed to the project stakeholders, including the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, the Natural History Museum and to the national environmental NGOs. Furthermore, the copies of the materials were delivered to REC to be distributed to other project stakeholders at their project kick off meeting in July. The report was further distributed at the Regional conference, that REC organise in December 2015.</p>
3	Project management	3.1	Monitor technical and financial performance of the project.	Technical and financial performance of the project was regularly monitored.
		3.2	Regular submission of technical and financial reports to CEPF.	Completion and delivery of quarterly financial reports Completion and delivery of quarterly financial reports
			Compliance with CEPF procurement policy.	
4	Preparation of the Valorisation study	4.1	Identifying knowledge gaps for additional information required to perform the valorisation study. Preparation, in	<p>Knowledge gaps for additional information required to perform the valorisation study were identified in collaboration with local consultants and through discussions with REC and the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning.</p> <p>Elements of the sub-chapter 4.2. "Environmental description of the area" of the valorisation study</p>

		<p>collaboration with REC, of the Chapter 4 “Description of area” of the Valorisation study. In particular, CMCC will present environmental and ecological elements of Dojran Lake and the surrounding region.</p>	<p>was collected, mainly through the filed work conducted in June 2016 in Dojran and literature review. The fieldwork was conducted by the local consultants and the CMCC researcher. The sub-chapter was developed; incorporating also information on fauna biodiversity provided by REC. CMCC also developed large part of the sub-chapter 4.1. "Description of the area - general information", the sub-chapter will be completed by REC.</p>
	4.2	<p>Preparation of the Chapter 5 “Valuation of the area” of the Valorisation study. These activities will include: valorisation of the protected area, including natural, cultural, social and economic values; assessment of the national and international importance of the area; assessment of the existing and expecting threats to the region. Assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of the current management capacities of the municipality will be conducted in collaboration with REC.</p>	<p>The developed sub-chapter 5.1. "Environmental description of the area" provides description of the present ecosystems and habitats and their value, concerning national and international importance. This sub-chapter also describes important species, including those from the Red lists and species protected through different national and international legislation. More specifically, it discusses the contribution of the Dojran Lake to national and international ecologic and conservation networks (IBA, IPA, PBA, Emerald, Ramsar, Natura 2000). Finally the sub-chapter identifies important environmental elements, including geology, hydrology, geomorphology, and water quality, and important landscapes. In this way, the sub-chapter also presents the characteristics of the area that make it a candidate for local, regional, national, or international protection plans and strategies. The developed sub-chapter 5.2. "Threats for the area" discusses threats to biodiversity, detailing natural, anthropogenic and global threats, such as climate change.</p>
	4.3	<p>Preparation, in collaboration with REC, of the chapter 6 “Strategy” of</p>	<p>CMCC completed sub-chapters 6.1. "Recommendations for a protection category" and 6.2. "Recommendations for boundaries and zones", while the sub-chapter 6.3. "Recommendations and main objectives for future management of the protected area" should be finalised by REC. CMCC</p>

			<p>the Valorisation study. It will include strategy for the protected area management plan: recommendations for a protection category, recommendations and main objectives for future management of the protected area, recommendation for boundaries and zones, including geoinformation, such as maps with the borders of the area and of the protected zones.</p>	<p>also provides GIS maps with borders of the area and recommended zones.</p> <p>This chapter justifies recommendations for the development of four zones of different protection level: strict protection zone, active management zone, sustainable use zone and the buffer zone. It details allowed and recommended activities and management practices for each of these zones, together with geographic boundaries presented on the maps.</p> <p>Finally, Chapter 8 of the Valorisation Study contains references used and geoinformation - maps with the borders of the area and of the protected zones.</p>
5	Training for local stakeholders on how to search for funding opportunities, prepare projects proposals and implement activities	5.1	<p>Discussion with local community and prioritisation of the topics to be developed in the training for project proposals; preparation and adaptation of material for the training of the local municipality and community</p>	<p>A study visit to Dojran was conducted in April 2016. We met with the representatives of the local administration, community, farmers, and local environmental NGO and discussed about the most needed topics and the most suitable dates for the Training for project proposals development.</p> <p>As a follow up, we developed an online survey that was distributed to all our contacts in Dojran. The survey asked about participants' needs regarding projects development skills, their previous experience with project proposals development and applications preparations, and most suitable dates for organising the training. In addition, we asked participants to send the survey to everyone else who could be interested to participate in the training. The online survey was also published at the Dojran municipality's Facebook page.</p> <p>In collaboration with an experienced trainer, we prepared presentation, printed materials and case studies examples to be used in the training of the local municipality and community.</p>
		5.2	<p>2 days workshop/ training of the interested stakeholders (the local authority, the local NGO and farmers/fishermen</p>	<p>2 days workshop-type training was conducted on 1st and 2nd of June 2016 in Dojran. The trainer, facilitator and the CMCC researcher led participants through step-by-step training on how to develop a project proposal. We discussed what is a project, what are project ideas, what elements need to be considered before we start preparing a project proposal. Then, we guided the</p>

		associations) on how to search funding and prepare projects proposals, focusing on national, bilateral, EU and international funds and programmes.	participants through the following steps: description of the applicant, history, defining the problem, the aim and the steps, project users, methodology, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability of the project, budget and the application summary. On the second day, we discussed about how to search and identify opportunities for project funding at Dojran Lake, focusing on national, bilateral, EU and international funds and programmes. The last section of the 2 days workshop was devoted to a concrete project development. We discussed a few possible topics and the participants agreed to work on preparation of a project that will propose development of permaculture at Dojran - case study and capacity building. The final output of the 2 days workshop was a draft proposal for Project on Permaculture development at Dojran. At the end of the training, the participants received certificate for participating in the training on projects proposals development.
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7. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Main products of the project were submitted to CEPF.

This includes:

- Four studies: i) Framework for Development of Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, ii) Comparative Regional Study on the Role of Payment for Ecosystem Services in Environmental Conservation in the Balkans, iii) Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services Scheme at Dojran Lake and iv) Valorisation Study of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake.
- Two policy briefs: i) Framework for Development of Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan and ii) Framework Proposal for Development and Implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services Scheme at Dojran Lake
- The project brochure
- Leaflet: “Strengthening capacity for community, adaptive resource management at Dojran Lake”
- Text for the CEPF newsletter

The additional material (in Macedonian language) that can be shared with CEPF includes:

- Materials from the workshops, including materials about IWRM and PES approaches and practice
- Interactive participatory map
- Materials and results from the experts’ evaluation of the proposed alternative management measures
- Materials from the training on project preparation and development
- Maps of the area and suggestions for the protection zones (presently, they are appended to the Valorisation Study)

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

8. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
 - Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
 - Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community
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- *Communication*: The appropriate communication of the project concept, its objectives and expected outcomes to the wider and diverse public is of great importance for involving stakeholders to participate and develop valuable partnerships with authorities and other organisations. To conduct effective communication, it is important to well understand local norms, values and practices. The results dissemination, in turn, is an important factor in motivating people to participate and share experiences.
 - *Use of different and innovative media*: workshop participants were very motivated to contribute to the proposed exercises. The incorporation of local knowledge in spatial analysis provided interesting results and showed important for community-led management planning.
 - *Diplomacy*: Incorporating ecological factors in socio-economic dialogue is challenging and often stakeholders develop conflicts of interests, therefore good diplomacy approach is vital.
 - *PES is still in its infancy in the Balkans*: the research conducted for the PES study demonstrated that PES initiatives in the Balkans are scarce and most of them still at the early/planning stage.
 - *Identifying knowledge gaps is an essential first step for performing the Valorisation Study*: close collaboration both with local stakeholders and national experts is key to learn where to find additional information and what are the major gaps in knowledge.
 - *Preliminary survey of participants needs, interests and background knowledge*: this is an effective way to propose user-oriented and effective training on projects development. This step was not envisaged with the project design process, but added additionally.

Sustainability / Replication

9. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

- The proposed measures, distributed in the form of two project studies and policy briefs, can be used by different interested parties. In addition, the proposed management approaches could be replicated in similar settings in the Balkans, or elsewhere.
- Development of the Valorisation Study was discussed in advance with the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning. This assured their interest in the document and readiness to use it in the future management of this area.
- Training for project development increased local knowledge and strengthened capacity to apply for projects for the sustainable development of Dojran Lake.
- The developed network between stakeholders with common interest improves their capacity and readiness for future collaboration, and increases the prospect for better results of these collaboration, by combining different expertise and knowledge.

Safeguards

10. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.

Additional Funding

11. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

a. Total additional funding (US\$) NA

b. Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A *Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B *Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C *Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

Additional Comments/Recommendations

12. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impact at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF’s portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF’s aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

13. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project’s contribution(s) to them.

Indicator	Narrative

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 16 to 23 below) that pertain to your project.

14. Key Biodiversity Area Management

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas” (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, Partially protected or Fully protected? Please select one: NP/PP/FP
Dojran Lake	0	FP
Note	<p><i>The project activities were focused on strategy and planning development for improved management of the ecosystems at the areas of interventions with specific consideration of biodiversity conservation. Hence, the project did not envision implementation of conservation activities as such, but contributed to a development of a management plan for the area and strengthening of institutional and local capacities.</i></p> <p><i>The main products of this project are: (1) “Framework for development of adaptive integrated water resource management plan” that proposes sustainable management measures to be integrated in the future management plan of this KBA and (2) “Framework proposal for development and implementation of Payments for Ecosystem Services scheme” that proposes options for economic incentives for nature conservation of this KBA. The proposed measures are expected to improve and strengthen the management of the area under protection and provide a roadmap for its operationalization.</i></p>	

* Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

15. Protected Areas

Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude**	Latitude**
Dojran Lake	Macedonia and Greece	0	2011	41°12'N	22°45'E

Note:		<p>The project proposed expanding of the current protected area by including a larger part of the Dojran watershed in the buffer (protected) zone. This proposition is part of the "Valorisation study of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake".</p>			
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* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

16. Production landscape

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened biodiversity management, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled "KBA Management" may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened biodiversity management.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares* *	Latitude ***	Longitude* **	Description of Intervention
Agriculture	0			<p>Training for project proposals development, organized within the project, is expected to improve local communities' skills regarding projects preparation and applications development. Successful project applications can improve the management of the Dojran production landscape for biodiversity conservation in the future. During the training we developed the first draft for the proposal for Introduction of permaculture in Dojran.</p>

** If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.*

***Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.*

**** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).*

17. Beneficiaries

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: formal training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from formal training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

17a. Number of men and women benefitting from formal training.

# of men benefiting from formal training*	# of women benefiting from formal training*
16	19

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men benefited from training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also benefited from training in project management, the total number of men who benefited should be 5.*

17b. Number of men and women benefitting from increased income.

# of men benefiting from increased income*	# of women benefiting from increased income*

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men benefited from increased income due to tourism, and 3 of these also benefited from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who benefited should be 5.*

17c. Total number of beneficiaries - Combined

Report on the total number of women and the number of men that have benefited from formal training and increased income since the start of your project to project completion.

Total # of men benefiting*	Total # of women benefiting*
16	19

**Do not count the same person more than once. For example, if Paul was trained in financial management and he also benefited from tourism income, the total number of people benefiting from the project should be 1 = Paul.*

18. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)						Type of Benefit (mark with x)									# of Beneficiaries		
	Subsistence economy	Small landowners	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting
Dojran		x	x					x				x	x	x			The whole community would benefit from these measures	The whole community would benefit from these measures

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

18b. Geolocation of each community

Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the community, to the extent possible, or upload a map or shapefile. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

Name of Community	Latitude	Longitude
Dojran	41°10'45"N	22°43'29"E

19. Policies, Laws and Regulations

Please report on change in the number of legally binding laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of CEPF investment. "Laws and regulations" pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included. "Policies" that are adopted or pursued by a government, including a sector or faction of government, are eligible.

19a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation

No.		Scope (mark with x)	Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)
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	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	Local	National	Regional/International	Agriculture	Climate	Ecosystem Management	Education	Energy	Fisheries	Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Planning/Zoning	Pollution	Protected Areas	Species Protection	Tourism	Transportation	Wildlife Trade	
1	Valorisation Study as a part of the Law for proclaiming Dojran Lake a monument of nature		x	x											x					
2																				
3																				

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1	Macedonia	It has not yet been adopted	Confirmed protection status, better management of the protected area and increased number of fauna and flora species under protection (inclusion of the large part of the watershed as a buffer zone of the protected area)	Contributed to the development of the Valorisation Study of the Monument of Nature Dojran Lake
2				
3				

20. Best Management Practices

Please describe any new management practices that your project has developed and tested as a result of CEPF investment, that have been proven to be successful. A best practice is a method or technique that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means.

Note: The proposed management practices has not yet been tested in the local setting.

No.	Short title/ topic of the best management practice	Description of best management practice and its use during the project
1		
2		

21. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established as a result of CEPF investment. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

No.	Name of Network/ Partnership	Year established	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	Partnership between NGO Renatura from Dojran and NGO Polymath13 from Bogdanci	2016	Macedonia	Better collaboration between local NGOs on new projects preparation and application.

Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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