

Seminar on Finnish Supported Environment and Forestry Projects  
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## Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc

Sustaining Rural Communities and their Traditional Landscapes Through  
Strengthened Environmental Governance in Transboundary Protected  
Areas of the Dinaric Arc

Boris Erg,  
IUCN SEE



## Basic facts

**Title:** Sustaining Rural Communities and Their Traditional Landscapes Through Strengthened Environmental Governance in Transboundary Protected Areas of the Dinaric Arc

**Duration:** 2009-2012

**Funded by:** The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland through the Western Balkans Environment & Development Cooperation Programme

**Partners:** the project is implemented by **IUCN**, **WWF MedPO** and **SNV**



## Summary

The proposed programme aims to foster the **sustainable development of rural communities** on the basis of **conservation of biological diversity** and **traditional landscapes** in transboundary protected areas by improving regional cooperation and **strengthening environmental governance**, including the involvement and empowerment of civil society and local communities.





## Objective

The overall programme objective is to promote sustainable development of rural communities in the Dinaric Arc region through increased ***transboundary cooperation*** in the management and ***conservation of biodiversity and cultural landscapes***.





The programme aims to undertake a broad range of actions at different levels, integrating the various layers of work so as to facilitate and support the realization of the commitment expressed by the Governments of the Dinaric Arc through the “Big Win” Joint Statement:

- ▶ **at the field level** (pilot activities initiated in six transboundary sites)
- ▶ **at the policy level** (transboundary dialogue)
- ▶ **at the capacity building level** (communication and know-how exchange mechanisms)



## Activities

- Establishing bottom up local private / public partnerships to conserve natural heritage and use;
- Identifying actions in the fields of tourism, forestry, agriculture, and protection of valuable areas;
- Increasing capacities to recognize and value local biodiversity and cultural values;
- Aligning priorities to undertake joint action across borders;
- Assessing the potential for establishing transboundary protected areas;
- Integrating activities into broader European frameworks for nature conservation; and,
- Creating platforms for key decision makers from different countries to interact and coordinate actions.



## Pilot sites

- Prokletije NP / Bjeshkët e Namuna (MNE/AL) – model area for LAGs

Durmitor NP / Sutjeska NP (MNE/BiH)

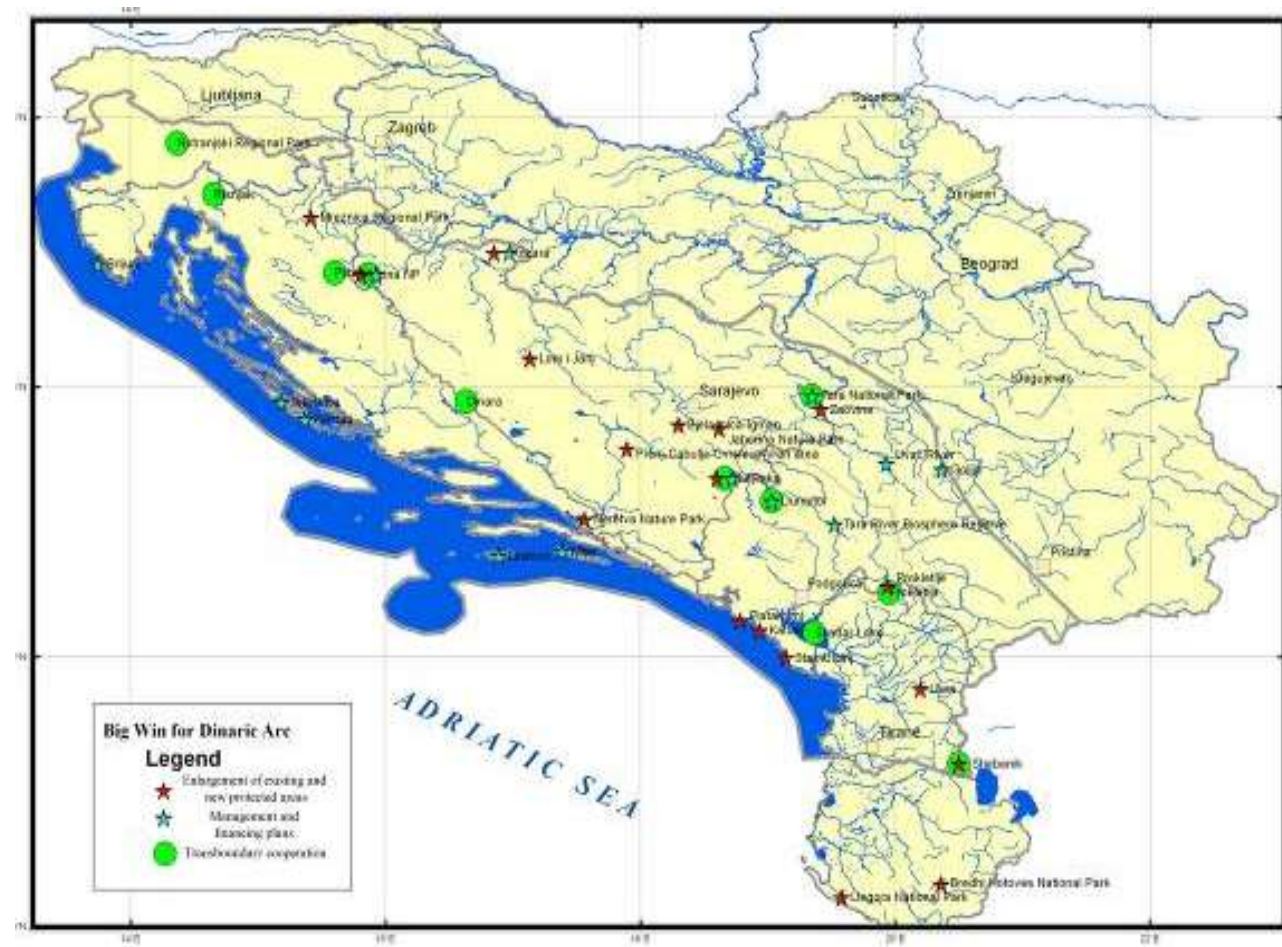
Tara NP / Drina (SRB/BiH)

Neretva Delta (BiH/HR)

Mt. Dinara (BiH/HR)

Una NP / Plitvice NP (BiH/HR)





Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc





## Workplan

The programme has started in 2009 and has a foreseen duration of three years. Its workplan will be implemented according to the following, three stages:

An **inception phase** of 6 months, to establish the programme implementation team, plan the field work with local counterparts, establish communication, policy, and exchange platforms, and secure the support of institutions and regional stakeholders.

An **implementation phase** of 24 months, during which all the field-based, capacity building, and policy work will be implemented in an integrated fashion.

A **final phase** of 6 months, to complete and evaluate the work done, while setting the basis and planning for implementing the “knock on” effects of the programme in the Western Balkans.



## Programme Objective 1

Create an effective **platform for supporting trans-boundary collaboration** initiatives expressed in the Big Win for the Dinaric Arc and transfer lessons learned to other locations in Dinaric Arc countries and beyond.





## Programme Objective 2

To improve **transboundary governance** for ecologically sound development and use of natural resources in the area of **Prokletije / Bjeshkët e Namuna** (Albania – Montenegro).



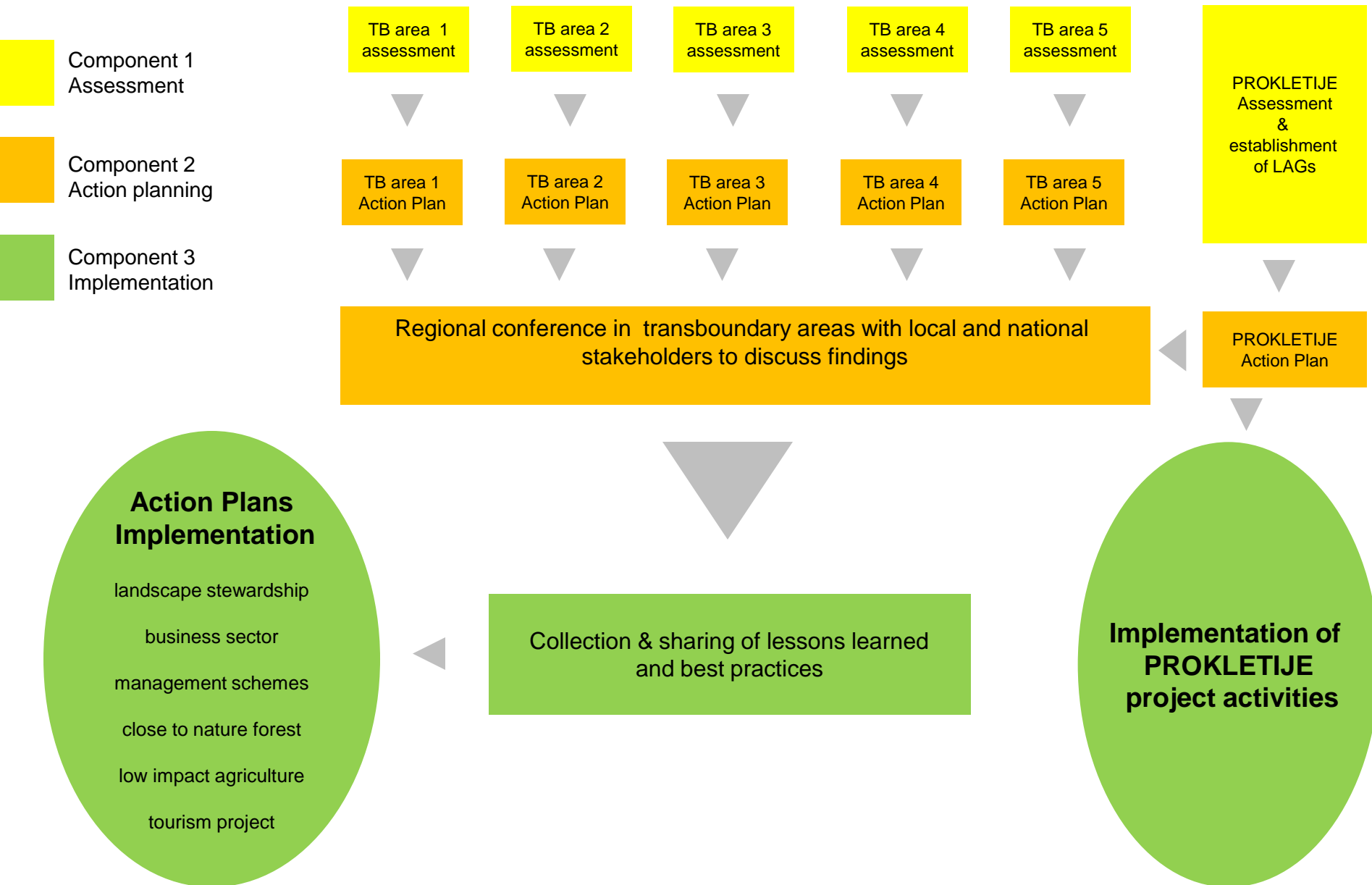


## Programme Objective 3

Demonstrate **sustainable development options** for rural communities in the trans-boundary areas highlighted in the Big Win for Dinaric Arc commitments by **implementing action plans**.



# Transboundary (TB) Platform for Dinaric Arc





Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Inception phase

Pilot assessments

Action planning

Implementation of action plans

Final phase





## Knock-on

Upon successful implementation of a broad range of activities, the programme will result in further implementation of **trans-boundary natural resource management** and development objectives expressed in the inter-governmental Big Win statement for the Dinaric Arc commitment, **strengthened capacity** of public, private and civic actors in the pilot areas, as well as **increased ecological, social and economic security of rural communities** in the region.





## Coordination Team

*Boris Erg*

IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe

[boris.erg@iucn.org](mailto:boris.erg@iucn.org)

*Emira Mesanovic*

WWF Mediterranean Programme

[emira.mesanovic@wwfmedpo.org](mailto:emira.mesanovic@wwfmedpo.org)

*Jan-Willem Knegt*

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

[jknegt@snvworld.org](mailto:jknegt@snvworld.org)



Thank you!