

Nature conservation along the Balkan Green Belt: Analyzing threats, developing solutions and building capacities in the Sharr/Šar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region



Fig. 1: Korab-Koritnik Nature Park in Albania © Sashko Stefanovski

Final Report

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Projektkennblatt
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Antragstitel **Nature conservation along the Balkan Green Belt:**
Analyzing threats, developing solutions and building capacities in the Sharr/Šar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region

Stichworte Shar Mountain, Korab-Koritnik Mountain, Sustainable Development, Capacity Building, Cultural Landscape, Model projects, Balkan Green Belt, Cross-border

Laufzeit	Projektbeginn	Projektende	Projektphase(n)
13 month	01.01.2019	31.01.2020	2

Zwischenberichte	1
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Objectives and purpose of the project

The **vision** of the project is to prepare the basis for a sound and long term conservation of the outstanding mountainous landscape of Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik in line with a sustainable regional development whereby the local population acts as main driver in both regards.

The **overall goal** of the project is to contribute to the reduction of threats to biodiversity in the region by identifying and developing suitable countermeasures and to bring this knowledge to suitable local actors.

The project has the following **objectives**:

- To conduct a situation analysis about threats to biodiversity as well as actors of the area
- To identify suitable measures to reduce threats to biodiversity and support a sustainable regional development in the area;
- To identify up to 5 local actors/organisations per country as those who will (in a next step) implement measures for nature conservation and regional development;
- To train the identified local actors/organisations by increasing knowledge and capacity
- Approximately 10 to 15 proposals for projects will be developed.

Description of working steps and methods

The project is divided into four components:

1. Preparation phase, including a situation analyses;
2. Capacity building, in form of 2 workshops and one study tour;
3. Result evaluation, which comprises the development of the model projects by local actors as well as the preparation of a report by the project team, including all results gathered during the project;
4. Project management.

Public Relations

The project result report was disseminated to all local actors, who were part in the development of the model projects.

In addition, the project partners informed about the project as well as the region via different online media tools.

Conclusions

The project was successful. The following results were achieved in the frame of the project:

- Conduction of a result analyses, with the support of key stakeholders;
- Identification of suitable measure for the reduction of threat to biodiversity and to support a sustainable regional development;
- Identification and Capacity Building of local actors/organisations;
- Development of 13 model project proposals by local actors/organisations;
- Preparation of a result report.

The project has contributed to a better overall understanding of the situation and circumstances in the region. The comprehensive picture of the region as well as knowledge about sustainable regional development was transferred to reliable local actors within the frame of several capacity building activities (workshops, study tour). In addition to a common understanding of the overall situation, the need for the protection of the area beyond national borders was understood by the local actors. Due to constant involvement of locals in the project and thus sharing and transferring knowledge, a strong and trustful relationship between the project team (i.e. the respective national NGOs and EuroNatur) and the local actors was created. In addition, a feeling of ownership for their region steadily developed. The involvement also increased the mutual understanding as well as the cross-border exchange of local actors, which is an important basis for cross-border cooperation at local level.

In a next step, it is necessary to fundraise for funds for the implementation of the model project proposals. Therefore EuroNatur, MES, PPNEA and CNVP will develop a follow-up project proposal, including the implementation of the model projects as main component.

1. Summary

The mountain range Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik is situated in the trilateral border area of North Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania along the Balkan Green Belt. The mountain range is characterized by an extraordinary variety of geological formations and habitat types ranging from alpine calcareous grasslands and glacial lakes at high altitudes to karst rocks and large contiguous beech forest at lower elevations. The region has an exceptionally high biodiversity and unfragmented forest areas still provide habitat for species like brown bear, grey wolf and Balkan lynx. In addition, the region possesses a valuable cultural heritage reflected in the specific landscape formed for millennia by traditional forms of land use. Extensive grazing is essential to preserve the biodiversity in open landscapes typical for Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik Mountains. The local population lives predominantly in subsistence systems and the people depend on the use of natural resources. Consequently, the mountain plays a significant role for the local economy in many ways.

Despite various nature protection activities in the area, human pressure on the natural resources is constantly increasing and expanding into the remote areas of the mountain. Actions such as unsustainable or even illegal use of natural resources as well as construction projects currently threaten to damage the natural heritage irreversibly.

The **vision** of the project is to prepare the basis for a sound and long term conservation of the outstanding mountainous landscape of Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik in line with a sustainable regional development whereby the local population acts as main driver in both regards.

The **overall goal** of the project is to contribute to the reduction of threats to biodiversity in the region by identifying and developing suitable countermeasures and to bring this knowledge to suitable local actors.

The project has the following **objectives**:

- To conduct a situation analysis about threats to biodiversity as well as actors of the area
- To identify suitable measures to reduce threats to biodiversity and support a sustainable regional development in the area;
- To identify up to 5 local actors/organisations per country as those who will (in a next step) implement measures for nature conservation and regional development;
- To train the identified local actors/organisations by increasing knowledge and capacity
- Approximately 10 to 15 proposals for projects will be developed.

The project was divided into four **components**:

5. Preparation phase, including a situation analyses;
6. Capacity building, in form of 2 workshops and one study tour;
7. Result evaluation, which comprises the development of the model projects by local actors as well as the preparation of a report by the project team, including all results gathered during the project;
8. Project management.

The implementation of the project was successful and went according to the plan. Only small adjustments were necessary, which had no impact on the project goal.

The following **results** were achieved in the frame of the project:

- Conduction of a result analyses, with the support of key stakeholders;
- Identification of suitable measure for the reduction of threat to biodiversity and to support a sustainable regional development;
- Identification and Capacity Building of local actors/organisations;
- Development of 13 model project proposals by local actors/organisations;
- Preparation of a result report.

In a **next step**, it is necessary to raise funds for the implementation of the model projects as developed by local actors and organisations during project implementation. Therefore EuroNatur, MES, PPNEA and CNVP will develop a follow-up project proposal, with the implementation of the model projects as main component.



Fig. 2: View on the peaks of Sharri National Park in Kosovo © NGO FINCH

2. Introduction

The mountain range Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik is situated in the trilateral border area of North Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania along the Balkan Green Belt (see fig 2). The mountain range is one of the largest and highest on the Balkan Peninsula, reaching an altitude of 2.747 m on Titov Vrv in North Macedonia.

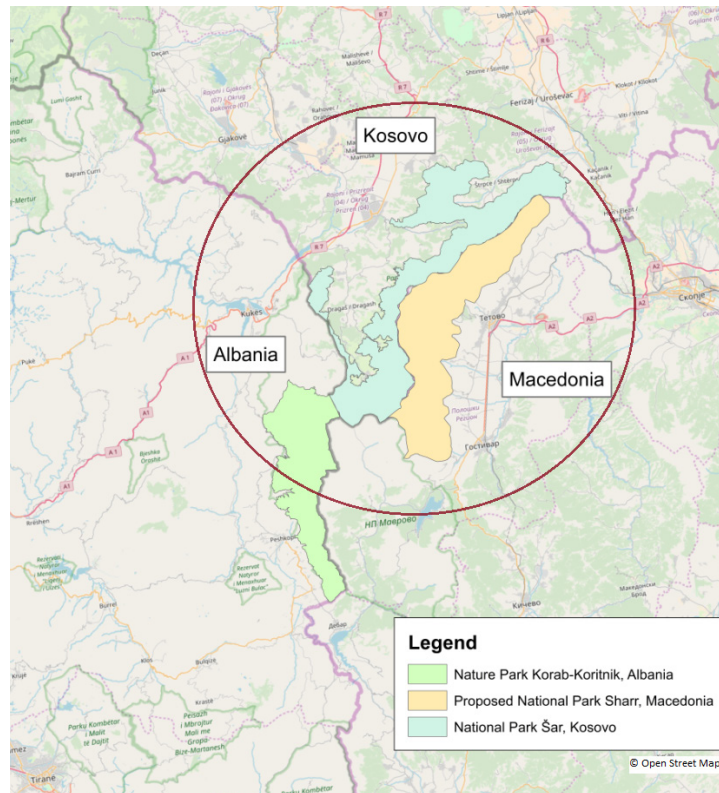


Fig. 3: Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region in the three border area Kosovo, North Macedonia and Albania

The trilateral mountain range is characterized by an extraordinary variety of geological formations and habitat types ranging from alpine calcareous grasslands and glacial lakes at high altitudes to karst rocks and large contiguous beech forest at lower elevations. Due to its geographic location, orography and orientation, the region has an exceptionally high biodiversity, represented by a large number of endemic, rare and relict plants, animals and fungi. In addition, large and unfragmented forest areas still provide habitat for species like brown bear, grey wolf and Balkan lynx that are protected under European conventions (Bern Convention, EU-Habitats Directive). In addition, intact ecosystems also supports ecosystem services related to human wellbeing such as air purity, maintaining the health of aquatic ecosystems (important for water supply) and agricultural land.

Due to the high natural value of the mountain range, most parts are already under protection. On the Kosovar side, the mountain range was firstly proclaimed as Šar National Park in 1986 and then further enlarged in 2012. The Albanian part is protected as Nature Park Korab-Koritnik since 2011. Any kind of protection status of the North Macedonian part of Shar Mountain is still missing. But the neighboring mountain Bistra is part of the Mavrovo National Park. Since 2006 the idea of a trilateral Transboundary Protected Area (TBPA) is under discussion.

Despite various nature protection activities in the area, human pressure on the natural resources is constantly increasing and expanding into the remote areas of the mountain. Actions such as unsustainable or even illegal use of natural resources as well as construction projects currently threaten to damage the natural heritage irreversibly. Information about reasons and details of the specific threats will be compiled in the frame of this project.

The region possesses a valuable cultural heritage reflected in the specific landscape formed for millennia by traditional forms of land use. Extensive grazing is essential to preserve the biodiversity in open landscapes typical for Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik Mountains. But often, farmers and the administration of protected areas are unaware of the positive effects of (traditional) extensive grazing. The local population lives predominantly in subsistence systems and the people depend on the use of natural resources. Consequently, the mountain plays a significant role for the local economy in many ways, e.g. for producing timber, wood for fuel, various plant species (herbs, medical plants, etc.) as well as offering room for outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities. Nevertheless, the income level is low and locals lack knowledge as well as support to implement sustainable investments.

The project starts here and aims to support the capacity building of local people in order to learn about correlations between nature protection and sustainable development as well as measures to protect nature and biodiversity combined with increase of livelihood. This provides a basis for the population in the area to actively support public welfare development in general and nature conservation in particular.

The **vision** of the project is to prepare the basis for a sound and long term conservation of the outstanding mountainous landscape of Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik in line with a sustainable regional development whereby the local population acts as main driver in both regards.

The **overall goal** of the project is to contribute to the reduction of threats to biodiversity in the region by identifying and developing suitable countermeasures and to bring this knowledge to suitable local actors.

The project has the following **objectives**:

- To conduct a situation analysis about threats to biodiversity as well as actors of the area, taking into account the last projects in the area as well as through meetings with key stakeholders;
- To identify suitable measures to reduce threats to biodiversity and support a sustainable regional development in the area;
- To identify up to 5 local actors/organisations per country as those who will (in a next step) implement measures for nature conservation and regional development;
- To train the identified local actors/organisations by increasing knowledge and capacity in order to enable them to implement measures for nature conservation and regional development;
- Based on the measures approximately 10 to 15 proposals for projects covering the topics nature protection, land use, education and tourism will be developed.

The **main output** after completion of the project is a list of possible model projects targeting nature conservation, biotope management and sustainable regional development, which can be implemented by local actors with the respective potential and capacity in the frame of an overall follow-up project.

3. Implementation and Results

The following chapter illustrates the project implementation, including activities, work steps, methods as well as the achieved results throughout the complete project period from 1st January 2019 to 31st January 2020. Thereby, the chapter is subdivided into the different project components:

1. Preparation phase, 2. Capacity building, 3. Result evaluation and 4. Project management.

3.1. Preparation phase

In the frame of the project, a **desk research about the situation and threats to biodiversity** (*Activity 1.1*) of the Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region was conducted. The information previously gathered in six projects implemented in the region from 2006-2018 was analyzed and summarized by EuroNatur and later on completed by the national project partners. During a **meeting with key stakeholders** (*Activity 1.3*) – held after completion of the report by all project partners - the results of the analysis were further specified and supplemented regarding characteristics as well as root causes (contributing factors). The workshop “Analyses of threats to biodiversity” held in - 20th March was attended by 18 persons (see annex 01).



Fig. 4 Group work to identify threats to biodiversity and its spatial delimitation © EuroNatur

Based on further input of the participants of the workshop, a short description of each direct threat to biodiversity was prepared. In addition, a conceptual model – based on the open standards for the practice of conservation by the Conservation Measures Partnership - was created with the programme Miradi 4.4.0, representing the relationships between conservations targets¹, direct threats² to biodiversity and contributing factors³ as well as opportunities⁴. It illustrates the complexity of the situation and helps to identify key intervention points and sustainable strategies as basis for the development of further projects. The results and information were included in the **result report** of the Shar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region – see chapter 3.3.

In addition, the national project partners successfully identify several suitable **local actors/organisations** (*Activity 1.2*), which were involved in the different project activities in order to be trained for the development of model projects for nature conservation and regional development. The following table 2 shows the identified actors/organisations per country:

Table 1: List of identified local actors/ organisations involved in the project

Country	Actors/ Organisations
Albania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RAPA Peshkopi - RAPA Kukes - Natural Resources Society - Association Young Environmental Experts - Forestry and Pastures in Shishtavec - Association Ecologists of Kukes - Destination Management Organisation (DMO)
North Macedonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain Club Ljuboten - PE Forestry - IGI Gostivar - CED - Dragisha Jovovski (Hostel Kitka) - Zoran Zoksimoski (Farmer)
Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CNVP - Sharri Hunting Association - Faculty of Forestry and Environment, University Prizren - Bletaria Etniku - Bio Ferma Guri Zi

During the preparation phase of the project as well as the planning and implementation of the different capacity building activities, **measures to face the threats** (*Activity 1.4*) to biodiversity and to support a sustainable regional development were identified. During joint online as well as personal meetings, the project partners discussed the ideas, based on the results of the situation analysis and the identified local actors/organisations. The results were included in the result report – see chapter 3.3.

¹ An element of biodiversity at a project site

² Human actions that immediately degrade one or more conservation targets

³ A driver of direct threats; often an entry point for conservation actions

⁴ A factor that has a positive effect on one or more targets; often an entry point for conservation actions

3.2. Capacity building

The identified local actors were trained in the frame of two workshops and a study tour:

The **first capacity building workshop** (*Activity 2.1*) addressed the topics biodiversity, protection measures, ecosystem services and sustainability. In addition, suitable innovative and motivating best practice examples of environmental friendly practices with positive effect on the biodiversity and the respective benefit for people from the Balkans were presented during the workshop (see annex 02). The workshop was attended by 41 persons.

For the **study tour** (*Activity 2.2*) we identified the UNESCO biosphere reserve (BR) Rhön in Germany as suitable destination. In the area, many different measures to protect biodiversity and to support sustainable development were implemented which can serve as best practice examples. In addition, the region has an active Local Action Group (LAG) - Verein Natur und Lebensraum Rhön. Similar to the project area, the protection of the cultural landscape in the Rhön requires extensive grazing and the income of most locals are linked to the use of natural resources. The visit took place from 21st to 25th October 2019 (see annex 03), including 15 local people from the Shar Planina/ Korab-Koritnik region. Mid of July, Sandra Wigger (the project manager in charge at EuroNatur) already visited the BR Rhön in order to discuss and plan the agenda for the study visit with representatives from the administration of the BR Rhön and the LAG.

In addition, the participants from the study tour filled out a **questionnaire** (*Activity 2.3*) about their background, knowledge and further needs for qualification (see annex 04). The results were too diverse and specific to be considered for the second capacity building workshop in the frame of the project. Nevertheless, the answers are very useful for the development of a follow-up project proposal.

After the study tour, a **second capacity building workshop** (*Activity 2.4*) was conducted (see annex 05), with the main aims:

- To build capacity for the use of Theories of change (TOC) in project planning;
- To create common understanding and agreement on overall project level TOC;
- To exchange ideas and topics between local actors;
- To understand how model projects can contribute to achieve the overarching goals for the area and;
- To continue their development.

The workshop was attended by 20 persons, including all actors/organisations present in the previous events (Capacity Building I + Study Tour) and interested to develop a model project. The facilitation was conducted by an external expert from the “Foundation of Success”.

3.3. Result evaluation

The last project component included the **development of model projects** (see annex 06) by the local actors/ organisations (*Activity 3.1*), based on the gathered knowledge during the capacity building activities.

The following table gives an overview of the 13 developed model projects:

Table 2: Overview of the 13 developed model projects

	Organisation/ Company	Topic	Title	Main activities
NMK	Association Wild Iris	Bee keeping	<i>Beekeeping: Vital input for sustainabel agriculture in Shara Region</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase Capacity and Cooperation - Equipment of bee keepers - Promotion and Awareness raising
KS	Bletaria Etniku	Bee keeping	<i>The Development of beekeeping in the mountains of Shar</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of honey production - Planting of trees
AL	Forest and Pasture Use Association (Tomin-Diber)	Bee Keeping	<i>Contemporary beekeeping methods as an added value to the Nature Park</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of promotion materials - Capacity building and training of local people - Improvement of conditions for farmers - Planting of chestnut trees
AL	Forest and Pasture Use Association (Shishtavec-Kukes)	Cultivation	<i>Cultivation of Gentiana lutea plant</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of promotion materials - Awarness raising - Capacity building and training of local farmers - Improvement of conditions for farmers
AL	Young Environmental Experts Association	Cultivation	<i>Protection and cultivation of aromatic medical plants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity Building and Training of farmers in cultivation - Improve conditions for cultivations - Improve market options for farmers - Development of a manual
NMK	Initiative for Civic Integration (ICI)	Forest	<i>Green Forest - Passport for Healthy Living</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reforestation of burnt areas with support of local people - Capacity Building of local teachers - Education of students
KS	Company 100% Design	Forest	<i>Reducing illegal forest activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Situation analyses - Education & Awareness raising
AL	Agro-Eco Dibra	Livestock	<i>Management of livestock huts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness raising and capacity building - Improvement of conditions for livestock farmers
NMK	Center for Education and Development (CED)	Livestock	<i>Supporting Shar Planina's farmers for a sustainable future</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment of sheep farmers with solar panels - Capacity Building for sheep farmer
KS	Farm "Guri-Zi"	Livestock	<i>Bio milk of cow and sheep processing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving products - quality and value - Diversification of products - Creating new jobs for local people

AL	Ecologist for Region	Tourism	<i>Promotion and protection of typical endangered habitats</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of tourism infrastructure - Informing tourism agencies - Increase visibility
NMK	Mountaineering Club "Ljuboten"	Tourism	<i>Shara Mountain Info Center</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of Info Centre in Tetovo - Education of children and students - Education of local guides
KS	NGO FINCH	Tourism	<i>Creation of a tourism model</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of tourism infrastructure - Establishment of cooperation's - Support of local producers

In addition, the preparation of a **results report** (*Activity 3.2*) was done by EuroNatur, including all information and results gathered in the frame of the project (annex 07). It was decided that the development of a brochure had no added value at this point. Instead the result report as well as the summary reports of the capacity building activities were printed and handed to the local actors involved in the project. In this way the local actors have the result of the project ready at hand for the implementation of the model projects or the development further projects.

3.4. Project management

The **communication of the project team** worked well (*Activity 4.2*). Basic information was exchanged via e-mail. Questions and more complex content were discussed via online calls. Depending on the issue, either the whole project team was involved or only relevant partners. In addition, the project team had different personal meetings:

- 20th March, prior to the Threat Analyses Workshop
- 13th June, after the donor meeting organised by the LAG Friends of Sharri in North Macedonia
- 26th July, after the Capacity Building Workshop I
- 26th Nov., after the Capacity Building Workshop II

The national project partners were in **regular contact with the local actors** (*Activity 4.3*) as well as further key stakeholders about the project activities and procedure. Beside personal meetings, the exchange took place also via phone and e-mail.

In addition, from 20.-23. Sept. 2019 the project team organised a visit to Shar Mountain in North Macedonia attended by the following delegation (see agenda annex 08):

- Dr. Cornelia Soetbeer, Head of Department Environmental Communication and Protection of Cultural Assets, DBU
- Dr. Alexander Bittner, Head of Division Environmental Education, DBU
- Dr. Eick von Ruschkowski, Director of Alfred Toepfer Academy for Nature Conservation
- Gabriel Schwaderer, Executive Director, EuroNatur
- Annette Spangenberg, Head of Project Unit, EuroNatur.

The visit was planned in order to present the process of the project, the ideas for a follow-up project as well as the Shar/ Korab-Koritnik region. The date was chosen, in order for the delegation to take also part in the celebration of the European Green Belt Day and connected with this, could meet with many different stakeholders of the area.

During the project implementation, we established a cooperation with the Kosovar organisation CNVP (Connecting Natural Vales and People) Pristina. For the future they are a suitable national partner for Kosovo regarding our activities in Shar Mountain.

4. Discussion

The implementation of the project was successful and went according to the plan. The project results are presented in a separate report (annex 07).

Only a small adjustment regarding the time plan was necessary, because the study tour took place a little later than planned, due to the availability of our host from the Biosphere reserve management body. This led to a slight delay of the implementation, but had no impact on the project goal.

One small adjustment of activity 3.2 was made. It was decided that the development of a brochure had no added value at this point. Instead the result report as well as the summary reports of the capacity building activities were printed and handed to the local actors involved in the project.

The implemented activities lead to the intended results and all objectives of the project were reached. The project was planned and set up as preparation for a larger project proposal to DBU, which focuses on the implementation of nature protection and sustainable development measures. Therefore, the small project had only few components with a clear structure. The sequence of activities as well as its overall objectives were feasible and useful. The results of the project include necessary information and a good base for the development of a follow-up project proposal to DBU.

In addition, the project team and also the local actors were motivated and put much effort into the project.

Next steps after the finalization of the project, is the joint development of a follow-up project proposal to DBU based on the results of this project. A challenge could be the identification of suitable sponsors and the successful acquisition for the own contribution.

5. Public relations

The project result report was disseminated to all local actors, who were part in the development of the model projects.

In addition, the project partners informed about the project as well as the region via different media:

- PPNEA:
 - o Project information: <https://ppnea.org/balkan-green-belt/>
 - o CB Workshop I: <https://ppnea.org/2019/07/30/prizren-informative-meeting-on-sustainable-development-of-the-area/>
 - o Study Tour: <https://ppnea.org/2019/11/01/study-tour-to-the-biosphere-reserve-rhon/>
 - o Study Tour: <https://www.instagram.com/p/B4ms5DMAmR1/>
 - o CB Workshop II: https://www.facebook.com/ppnea/posts/2674394912607167?_tn=-R
- MES:
 - o Study Tour: <http://mes.org.mk/blog/studisko-patuvane-vo-biosferiot-rezervat-ron-vo-germanija/>
- LAG FOSH
 - o Workshop: <https://www.facebook.com/sharasharri/photos/a.536200106528699/1261451324003570/?type=3&theater>
- FINCH:
 - o Workshops & Study Tour: <https://ngofinch.com/events/>
- EuroNatur:
 - o Start of the project: <https://twitter.com/EuroNaturORG/status/1080846450005852160>
 - o Link to DBU article: <https://twitter.com/EuroNaturORG/status/1186979353428680704>
 - o European Green Belt Days 2019
<https://www.europeangreenbelt.org/news/news/combining-culture-and-nature-protection-along-the-green-belt/>

6. Conclusions

The project was successful. The following results were achieved in the frame of the project:

- Conduction of a result analyses, with the support of key stakeholders;
- Identification of suitable measure for the reduction of threat to biodiversity and to support a sustainable regional development;
- Identification and Capacity Building of local actors/organisations;
- Development of 13 model project proposals by local actors/organisations;
- Preparation of a result report.

The project has contributed to a better overall understanding of the situation and circumstances in the region. In the frame of the project we had the opportunity to systematically process the results and findings from previous projects as well as to supplement the information with further knowledge of the project partners and relevant local stakeholders from all three countries.

The improved overall understanding of the region was supplemented by knowledge transfer from different best practice examples related to sustainable local development. This again created the basis to identify suitable conservation measures for the region. This provided a comprehensive picture of the region, which was transferred to reliable local actors within the frame of several capacity building activities (workshops, study tour). In addition to a common understanding of the overall situation, the need for the protection of the area beyond national borders was understood by the local actors. Due to constant involvement of locals in the project and thus sharing and transferring knowledge, a strong and trustful relationship between the project team (i.e. the respective national NGOs and EuroNatur) and the local actors was created. In addition, a feeling of ownership for their region steadily developed. This also resulted in the creation of a solid knowledge base within the locals, which resulted in substantiated model projects.

The constant involvement of local representatives from all three countries also increased the mutual understanding as well as the cross-border exchange of local actors (= basis for cross-border cooperation at local level). Through the close cooperation of the project partners, we have also laid a firm foundation for further cross-border cooperation. Therefore a good basis for the further implementation of cross-border projects, especially the implementation of the developed model projects was set.

In a next step, it is necessary to fundraise for funds for the implementation of the model project proposals. Therefore EuroNatur, MES, PPNEA and CNVP will develop a follow-up project proposal, including the implementation of the model projects as main component.

In addition, the project team is continuing the work in the region in the frame of the GIZ funded project “Strengthening of Local Action Groups as stakeholder for biodiversity protection in the Sharr/Šar Planina/Korab-Koritnik region shared by Albania, Kosovo and North Macedonia”. The focus of this project is the establishment of Local Action Groups (LAGs) in Kosovo and Albania as well as strengthening of all three LAGs of the region, in order that they become more effective and efficient to support and lobby for biodiversity protection and sustainable use of the natural resources. We will use the project also to stay in contact with the local actors/organisations.

7. Annex

Annex 01	Workshop “Analyses of threats to biodiversity”
Annex 02	Capacity Building Workshop I
Annex 03	Study Tour UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Rhön
Annex 04	Questionnaires
Annex 05	Capacity Building Workshop II
Annex 06	Model Project Proposals
Annex 07	Result report
Annex 08	Agenda Shar Visit