



Mirjam de Koning
PONT Focus & Strategy

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Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust (PONT)

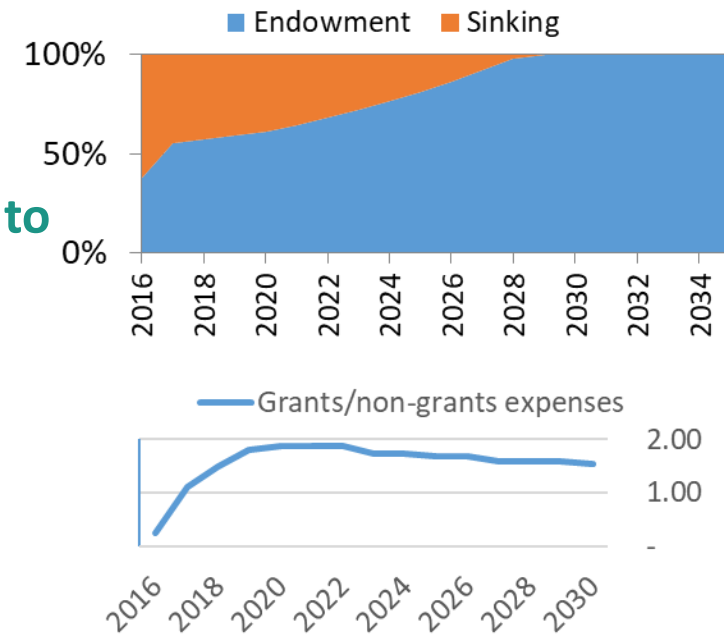
- Foundation under German Law
- Conservation Trust Fund
- Independent of government
- Long term financing of running/recurrent costs
- Back office in Frankfurt, regional programme office in Tirana
- Offshore transboundary trust fund with grants in Greece, FYR of Macedonia and Albania (>2030)
- Rigorous monitoring & evaluation
- No support for, participate in, or intervene in, any political campaign
- Language of communication is English



Funding issues related to PONT



1. Endowment fund
2. Sinking fund – reduce until 2030
3. Investment results, sinking fund & donations to finance grants & operational expenses
4. Sinking fund MAVA earmarked to finance the NGO SPP in Greece
5. Funding KfW earmarked for Albania & fYR of Macedonia
6. Regular independent audits
7. Look for possible co-funding, create synergies and avoid overlap
8. Leverage political commitment and government funding



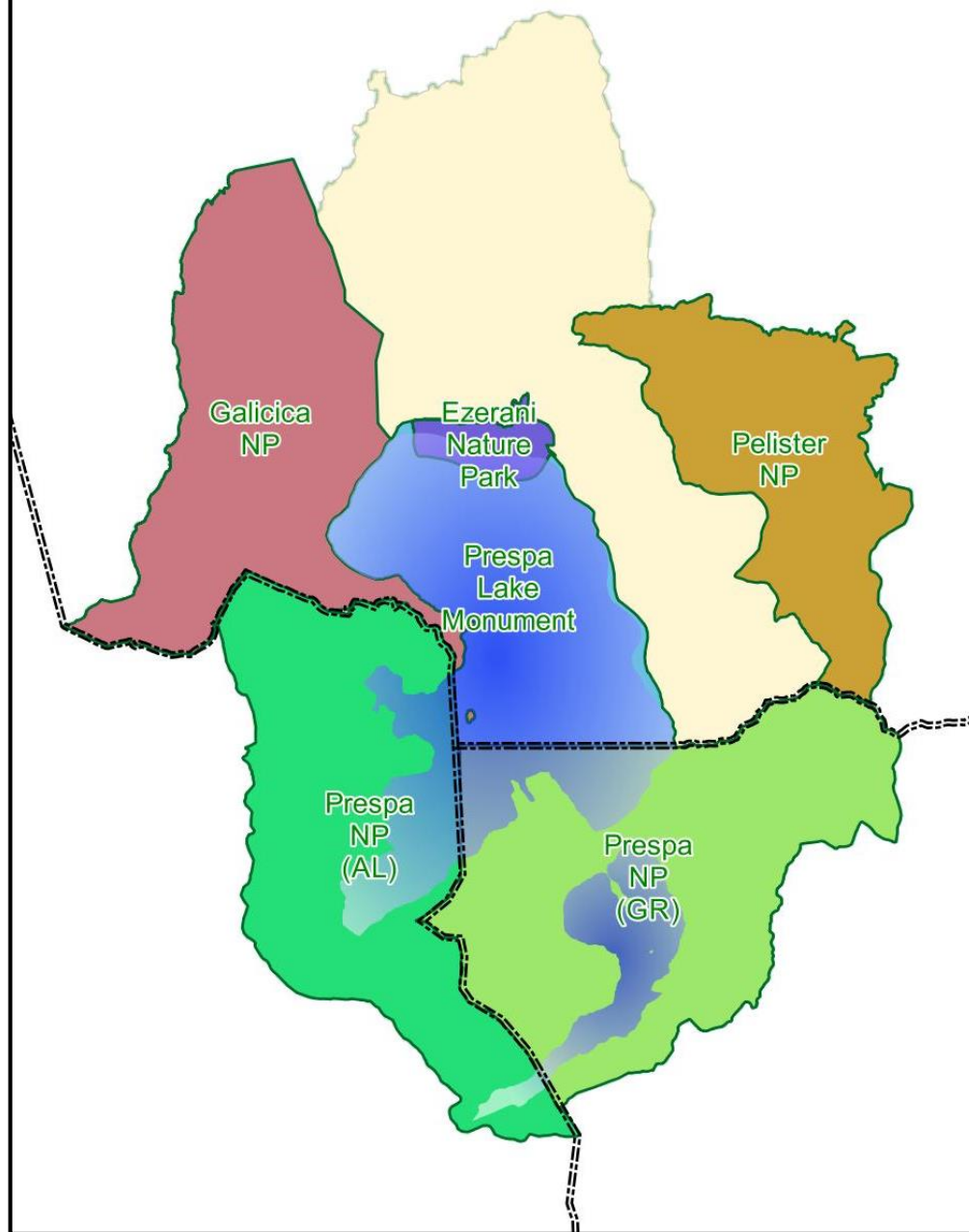
PONT MISSION

“to provide **long-term financing** for the **conservation and sustainable management** of **biological diversity**, **natural processes and ecosystem services** in Prespa and its wider area for the **benefit of nature and people** in the region.”

To achieve this mission, PONT provides **long-term co-financing** for:

1. Conservation and Sustainable management Grants PA: Using the existing PA management plans, operational costs for core routines are financed to achieve each PA’s mission. Grants EA (Environmental Actors): 40 priority activities have been identified for financing.	4. Benefit for Nature & People PAs provide a stable environment for the conservation of species (suitable habitats & landscapes) PAs must allow access and use of resources in a sustainable manner whilst providing fair compensation for work delivered in active management.
2. Biological diversity Actively implementing activities and habitat improvements, based on relevant research.	
3. Natural processes and ecosystem services Optimize sustainable use of resources, including: Wood, Non-Timber Forest Products, Grazing, Clean air and water, Recreation.	

RESULT: Capable organizations, working in cooperation with their partners to fulfil their mandate/mission



**PONT focus area = Prespa, and its wider area,
includes the following existing Protected Areas &
Management Authorities (PAs)**

Operational costs PA core routines + 40 priorities for EAs:

Capacity Development



Financial Management,
Accounting and Auditing



Human Resources



Fundraising –
sustainable
financing



Administration



Participation –
coordination



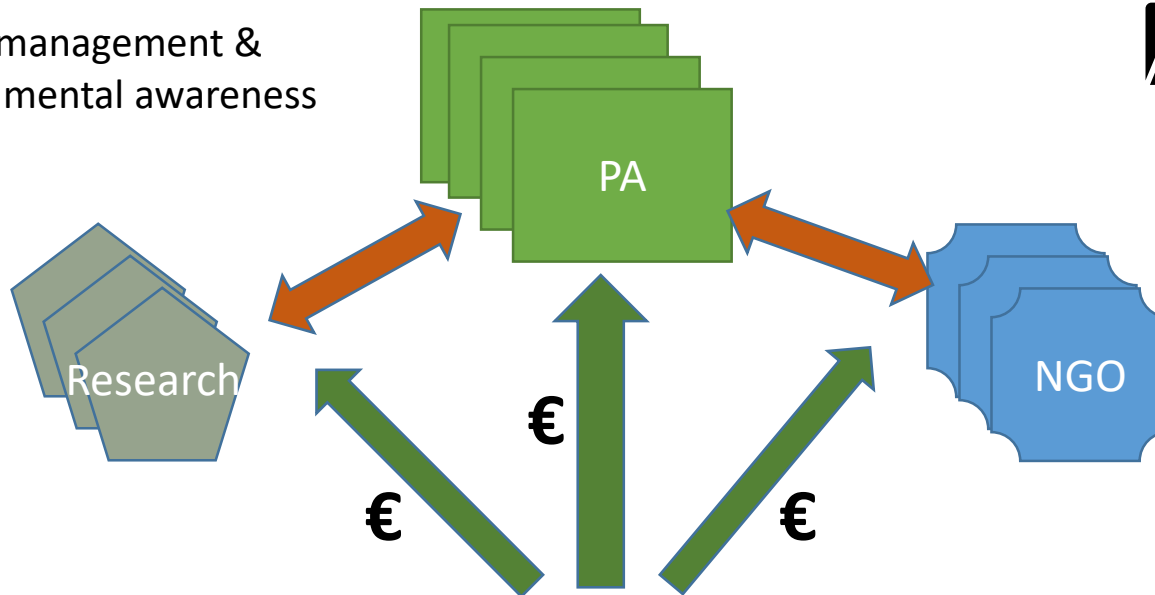
Zonation & Active management
(Species/Habitats/Resources)



Monitoring & Patrolling



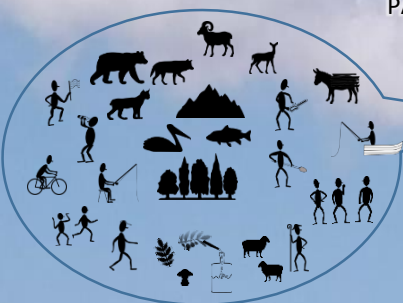
Visitor management &
Environmental awareness



PONT | PRESPA OHRID
NATURE TRUST

PA Management Plan

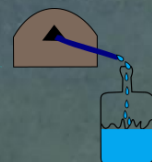
Limited resources



Capacity to implement PA core routines: complex balancing act with participation of local people and in cooperation with others

Various interests of PA users

Fire management



Sustainable use of wood, grazing, NTFPs, clean air & water

Species & habitat management with NGOs/researchers



Sustainable recreation/tourism & environmental awareness with NGOs



Integration of PA Management Plan in regional/sector plans



Funding Prioritization Criteria Grants



1. **Technical & financial feasibility**
2. **Funding of operational costs PA core routines & capacity development (50% co-financing non-PONT sources; <20,000 EUR/item for goods)**
3. **Support & strengthen locally based Environmental Actors (NGOs, research institutions) (25% co-financing required by non-PONT sources; <20,000 EUR/item for goods)**
4. **Feasibility – institutions that have a vision, strategic plan, mandate, proven track record & capacity to work in the Wider Prespa Area**
5. **Regional importance – initiatives that strengthen coordination between authorities with different mandates at various levels incl. transboundary cooperation**



Capacity development of grantees

Initial thematic focus:

- 1) Improved PA & forest management;
- 2) Sustainable use of PAs (incl. recreation; traditional grazing; NTFPs)
- 3) Conservation of species;
- 4) Conservation of habitats & landscapes

1. Applied research, studies and experimentation directly linked to real measures

2. Real measures (pilot, community-based), awareness raising, etc.



PONT Grants Scheme



Preconditions:

- Framework agreements
- Conflict assessment & proposed mitigation measures
- Assessment financial capacity pre-selected grantees
- Coordinated planning between grantees

Phased Approach:

1. One year performance-based grants of pre-selected grantees. “NO CALL for proposals”
 - a. PA management authorities;
 - b. PrespaNET partners (NGO network);
 - c. Ohrid Hydrobiological Institute;
 - d. Assess which priorities are covered
2. Open up for other cooperation partners (grantees; consultants)



Thank you!

