



Slovenian
Presidency
20-21

6th Forum

of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region
Along the coasts of the shared sea
Izola, 11-12 May 2021



“Green and Smart Recovery through Tourism”

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Biodiversity of Albania

- ✓ In a small territory Albania host a variety of landscapes and habitats (from sea to the mountains);
- ✓ Lies in both Mediterranean and Alpine bioregion;
- ✓ Part of the Adriatic flyway, with an average of 160,000 winter birds;
- ✓ A European biodiversity hotspot:
 - Hosting 18% of Europe biodiversity covering only 0.3% of Europe territory,
 - Hosting more than 32% of all European flora;
- ✓ 3% of the territory covered by coastal wetlands hosting 75% of national biodiversity;
- ✓ Part of the European Green Belt Initiative.



Ecosystem & Habitat

Coast line 500 km

River basins 7 main

Forest 103.000 ha (36%)

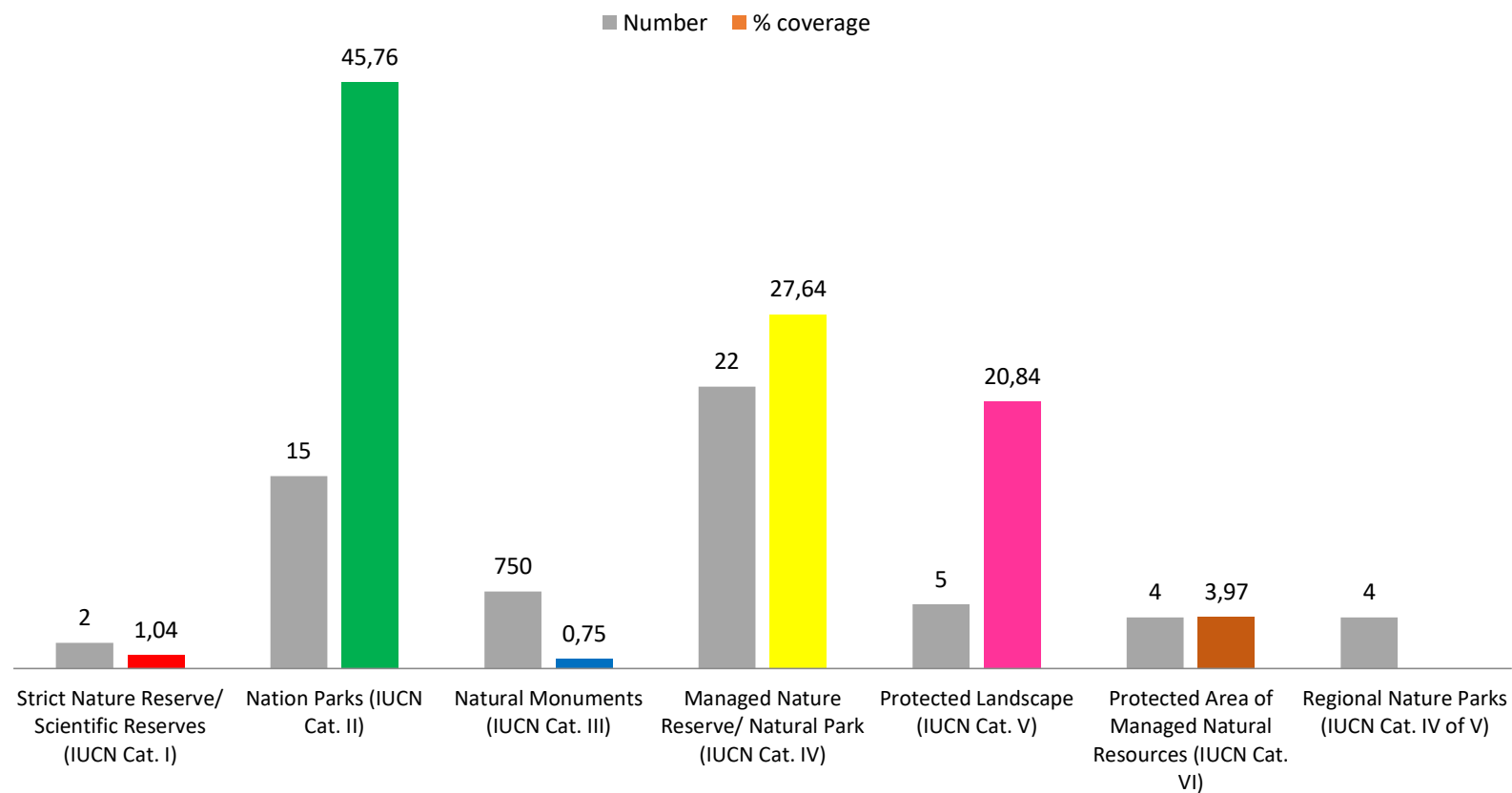
Pastures 400.000 ha (15%)

Lakes 4 + 247

Wetlands 60.215 ha

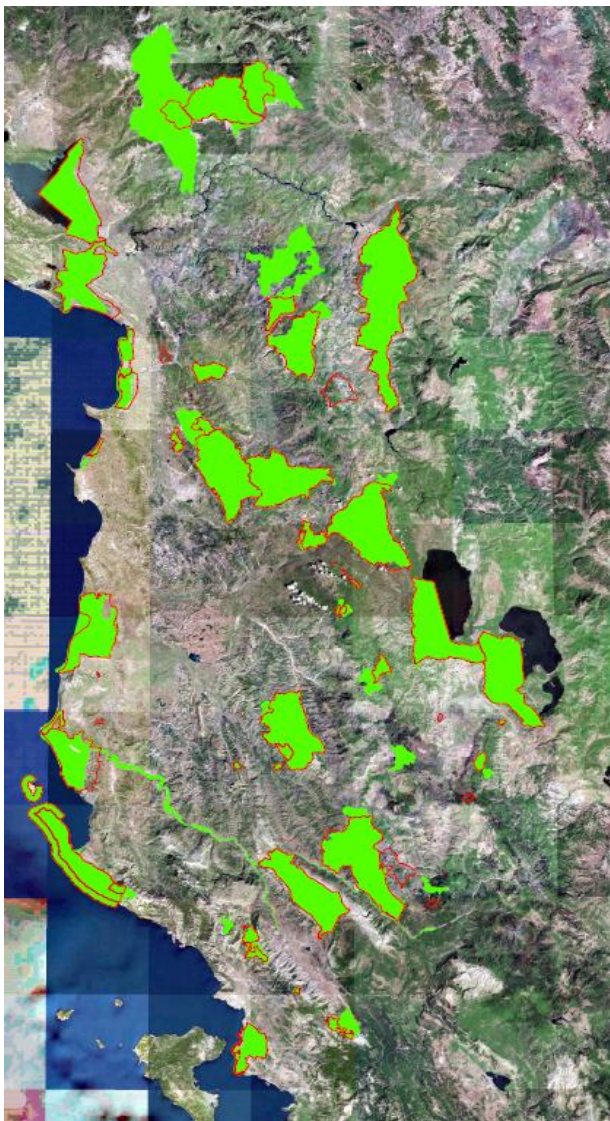
Diverse landscape

PA Categories based on IUCN on 2015



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Nr.	CATEGORY	Surf. Ha	No.	%/Total PA	% total country
I	Strict nature Reserve	0	0	0.00 %	
II	National Park	299,273.2	11	49.89%	10.4 %
III	Nature Monument	1,970.0	718	0.69%	0.0 %
IV	Nature Park	220,887.9	23	34.07%	7.7 %
Pro	Protected landscape	79,745.4	10	16.03%	2.8 %
VI	Manag. Natural Resource	0	0	0.00 %	0.0 %
	TOTALI	599,846.3	762	100.00%	
		20.89 %			

- ☐ YEAR 1990, Surface
49,600.00 ha (1.73%)
- ☐ YEAR 1996, Surface
108,455.00 ha (3.77%)
- ☐ YEAR 2005, Surface
238,347.20 ha (8.29%)
- ☐ YEAR 2015, Surface
460,060.90 ha (16.00%)
- ☐ YEAR 2019, Surface
504,826.30 ha (17.56%)
- ☐ YEAR 2021, Surface
599.846,47 ha (20.89%)

International Designated Areas

Four Ramsar Site:

- Karavasta Lagoon
- Butrinti wetland area
- Lake Shkodra/Buna river
- Lake Prespa

One Biosphere Reserve of Prespa and Ohrid area



Background

Protected areas in the past years, had not been integrated properly into national and local development policies in order to become part of the economic development of the regions and the country.

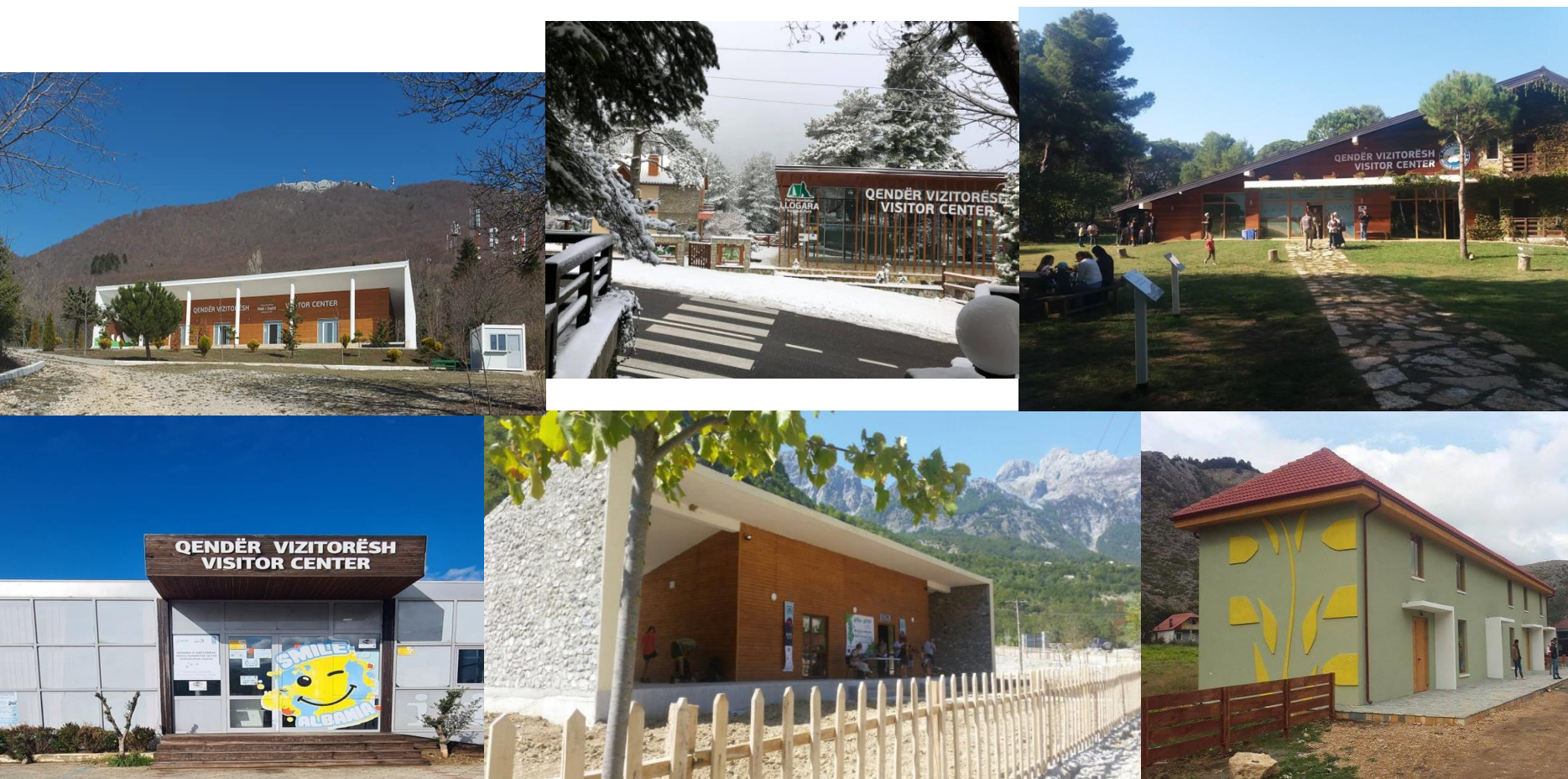
Vulnerabilities, weaknesses, opportunities for reforms, problems and solutions have been long discussed with representatives of the government, with national and international experts.

All parties have agreed that the process of restructuring, upgrading, strengthening and implementation of an effective administration of the protected areas in Albania requires active involvement of numerous interested parties, administrations, institutions, NGO and the public.

With a decision of Council of Ministers, in February 2015, was established the National Agency of Protected Areas



Towards a tourism infrastructure

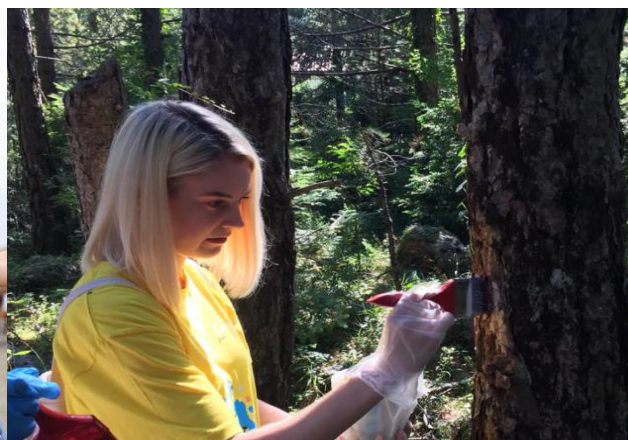


- 10 visitors centers;
- 7 Information centers and stations for tourist;
- More than 300 km trails in PA already marked;
- Elaborating guidelines for the PA.
- Challenges for the PA interpretation for raising awareness on responsible visitors – both for natural and cultural characteristics and phenomena

Tourism activities



Smile Albania



- 500 young people involved;
- More than 15 info points and 10 information centers;
- Guiding and informing the tourist;
- Environmental activities as cleaning, course, camping etc.

Number of tourist in PA



	Total tourist	Local	Foreign
2016	1.563.648	1.431.730	131.918
2017	2.722.744	2.033.057	689.687
2018	3.574.299	2.467.132	1.107.267
2019	4.654.430	3.337.203	1.317.227
2020	2.559.977	2.210.397	349.580

EU support and international cooperation

Interreg Mediterranean



Project co-financed by the European
Regional Development Fund

PROJECT PARTNERS



IPA CBC



RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TOUR BOAT SECTOR



BLUE LAND

Participatory model for the sustainable management of
marine and coastal resources and for cross border
habitats, biodiversity and ecosystem services safeguard

blueand.it/italy-albania-montenegro.eu





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