

Memorandum of Understanding

between

The Local Action Group (LAG) of Albania

and

The Local Action Group (LAG) of Montenegro

(Hereinafter referred to as 'The Parties')

concerning cooperation in environmental protection, tourism, recreation and

- That the benefits arising from tourism and development in and around the communities should primarily benefit those communities and should be shared fairly and transparently.
- That the establishment of legal protected areas and transboundary projects should not be planned and conducted without adequate consultation with local communities.
- That restrictions on border crossings and transboundary activity will limit the possibilities for cooperation and limit the potential for sustainable tourism in the areas.

AGREEMENT

Therefore the Parties agree to work individually and collectively to achieve the following.

ARTICLE 1. NATURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE USE

The Parties agree to:

- (1) Work within their communities and cooperate with responsible authorities to discourage and prevent illegal and or unsustainable exploitation of nature and natural resources.
- (2) Require the responsible authorities to ensure a high degree of stakeholder participation and transparency in protected area planning and management by establishing formal consultative bodies and participatory mechanisms for current and future protected areas within the Transboundary Area.
- (3) Work with responsible authorities to develop agreements for sustainable use of natural resources from specified zones of any existing or future protected area. Such uses are likely to include grazing of livestock and gathering of wild herbs and berries.
- (4) Encourage responsible authorities in Albania and Montenegro to cooperate in order to harmonize boundaries, zones and regimes of management in current or future protected areas either side of the border.
- (5) Contribute knowledge and skills held by communities to programmes of research, survey and monitoring of nature and the environment.

The MoU has been signed within "Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc" project implemented by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), WWF Mediterranean Program and SNV (Netherlands Development Organization) funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

The MoR]BBe be M Mi Mwin

- (1) Strive to provide a high level of services for visitors that conform to legal norms and requirements in the field of tourism and recreation, while maintaining a distinctive local character and maintaining long-held traditions of hospitality and friendship with visitors.
- (2) Train local service providers to develop and meet the standards of service required.
- (3) Strive for a fair allocation of the benefits from tourism and recreation to and between the communities. This allocation will take into account the supply of accommodation and food, provision of tourism services, the use of local products.
- (4) Provide visitors with useful, comprehensive, interesting and reliable information on the traditions, customs, culture, history and nature of the Transboundary Area and on the standards of behaviour expected of visitors.
- (5) Encourage and assist where iorea(iv)3(e)9(lo)ce oE142(d)-4(a)1(1)-4(a)1(2)(r (d)8((f)-4adu6(n)-4((d)-4(a)

The MoU has been signed within "Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc" project implemented by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), WWF Mediterranean Program and SNV (Netherlands Development Organization) funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

(1)

The MoU has been signed within "Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc" project implemented by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), WWF Mediterranean Program and SNV (Netherlands Development Organization) funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

- (2) Any dispute between the Parties regarding the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation within the spirit of collaboration.
- (3) This MoU may be cancelled by mutual agreement of the Parties, in writing and signed by both Parties.
- (4) Either Party may withdraw from the MoU subject to providing notice in writing to the other Party of three months.
- (5) This MoU is non-exclusive and shall not restrict the activities of either Party outside of this joint programme of collaboration, where these do not have a negative impact on the terms of the MoU.
- (6) Co-operation under this MoU will be subject to the availability of funds and personnel to each Party, and to the laws and regulations of each country. The nature and extent of funding for each joint project or activity will be decided upon by the Parties before its commencement.

APPROV:3 . VNPE

The MoU has been signed within "Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc" project implemented by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), WWF Mediterranean Program and SNV (Netherlands Development Organization) funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.