



Plant Protection and IPA in the Republic of Macedonia

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Nature conservation - Legislation

- National legislation – the new Law on Nature Protection
- International regulations - all major biodiversity and nature conservation conventions and agreements ratified (CBD, CITES, Ramsar, Bonn, Bern etc)

Institutions

- MoEPP
 - Service for Environment
 - Department for biodiversity
 - Department for protected areas
- Cooperation with different sectors and partners

Policy documents

- National Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Protection (CHM, awareness campaign)
- National Capacity Self Assessment in the field of Biodiversity
- Management Plan of NP “Pelister” – in the stage of revision

Current activities

- International projects related to the plants
 - IPA
 - Prespa Park establishment
 - Emerald Network
 - Indicative Map of PEEN in SEE
 - National Biosafety Frameworks

Conservation of plants

- **National legislation**

New categorization of protected areas is foreseen

Management plans for protected areas should be developed

Updatenig of CDDA

Development of national ecological network

- **IPA process**

- first stage – mainly scientific community involved

- 42 potential IPA sites identified according criteria A, B and C

- 12 are cross border IPAs

- Some of the IPAs cover wide mountainous areas and some have relatively small surfaces but with high concentration of plant species and habitats

- Part of the IPAs are located in the existing protected areas (3 national parks and 2 strict natural reserves).

Conservation of plants

- IPA process - obstacles :
 - lack of Red List and Red Data Book for flora
 - Lack of comprehensive database for flora
 - lack of vegetation map
 - lack of mapping of threatened habitat types
 - Macedonian species should be included in the Bern Convention annexes
 - floristic and vegetation data are very old

Conservation of plants

IPA Process – next steps

- Preparation of National Red list of plants and Red data book
- additional research to update the plant distribution and habitat types data according to IPA criteria
- Identifying the borders of potential IPA sites
- definition of the protection status and land ownership in IPAs
- definition of threats for IPAs
- Including IPAs into sectoral policies
- Raising public awareness
- Capacity building