

“ CB Water Geopark” Project Identification Work Packages overview

Project title: 'Creation of a cross-border Water Assets Geopark in Nestos

Area Project acronym: CB Water Geopark

Priority: 2. : A Sustainable and Climate adaptable Cross-Border area

Investment Priority: (6c) Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage

Total budget: 608731.00 €

PARTNERSHIP

- ▶ **LB (PB1): Municipality of Drama /GR -328000.00 €**
- ▶ **PB2: Democritus University of Thrace - Department of Physical Education & Sport Science /GR- 44071.00 €**
- ▶ **PB3: Municipality of Hadjidimovo/BUL- 161500.00 €**
- ▶ **PB4: Center for Sustainable Development of the Mountain/ BUL- 75160.00 €**

Management structure of the project

The project partnership is governed by the Lead Beneficiary principle. The Lead Beneficiary legally represents the beneficiaries participating in the project vis-à-vis the Managing Authority, the Certifying Authority, the Member States, the Audit Authority and the European Commission.

The Lead Beneficiary will be assisted in its role by a “Project Management Team” comprising representatives of all beneficiaries, taking decisions unanimously and governed by internal rules of procedures.

Management Team

For the successful management of the partnership and completion of the operation, the Management Team will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the project. The Management Team will be chaired by the Lead Beneficiary. Its members shall include the Lead Beneficiary and project beneficiaries.

The establishment and functioning of the M.T should be done within one month since the eligible start of the project.

Project Beneficiaries Obligations

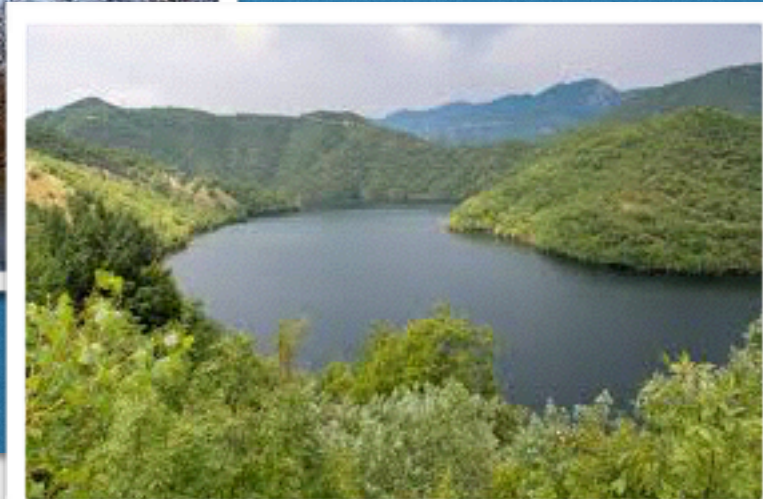
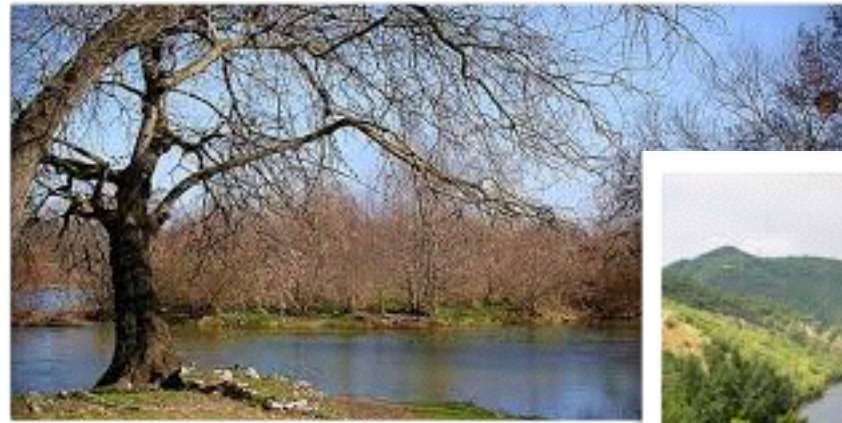
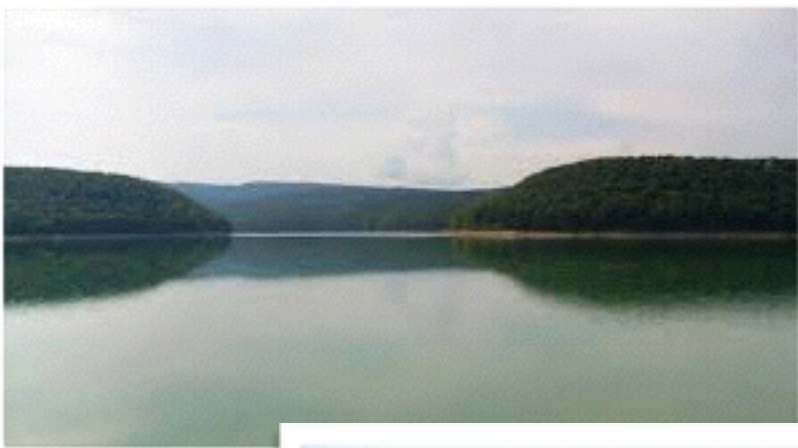
- a. Carrying out the specific activities set out in the Application form;**
- b. Providing all information and data to the Lead Beneficiary that is required by the latter to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the project and to perform its reporting duties towards the MA;**
- c. Submitting expenditure for verification as they become available, to the designated Controllers. Verified expenditure must be submitted to the Lead Beneficiary as soon as the certificate is received, in order to assist the reporting and reimbursement procedures;**
- d. Notifying the Lead Beneficiary of any factors that may adversely affect implementation of the project in accordance with the work plan;**
- e. Project Beneficiaries not located in Greece are responsible to repay to the Lead Beneficiary any amounts of ERDF contribution unduly paid concerning their participation in the project, within a month by the receipt of the written request of the Lead Beneficiary, which must be accompanied by the relevant decision of the Monitoring Committee of the Programme. For project beneficiaries located in Greece that have to repay ERDF contribution unduly paid, the MA/Certifying Authority (CA) may withhold any amounts concerned from future applications of interim payments setting off the relevant amounts in relation to the operation of the Greek Public Investment Account Programme. In any other case the procedure for recoveries of unduly paid amounts for beneficiaries located in Greece is immediately initiated by the competent Greek authorities. (art.5 P.A)**

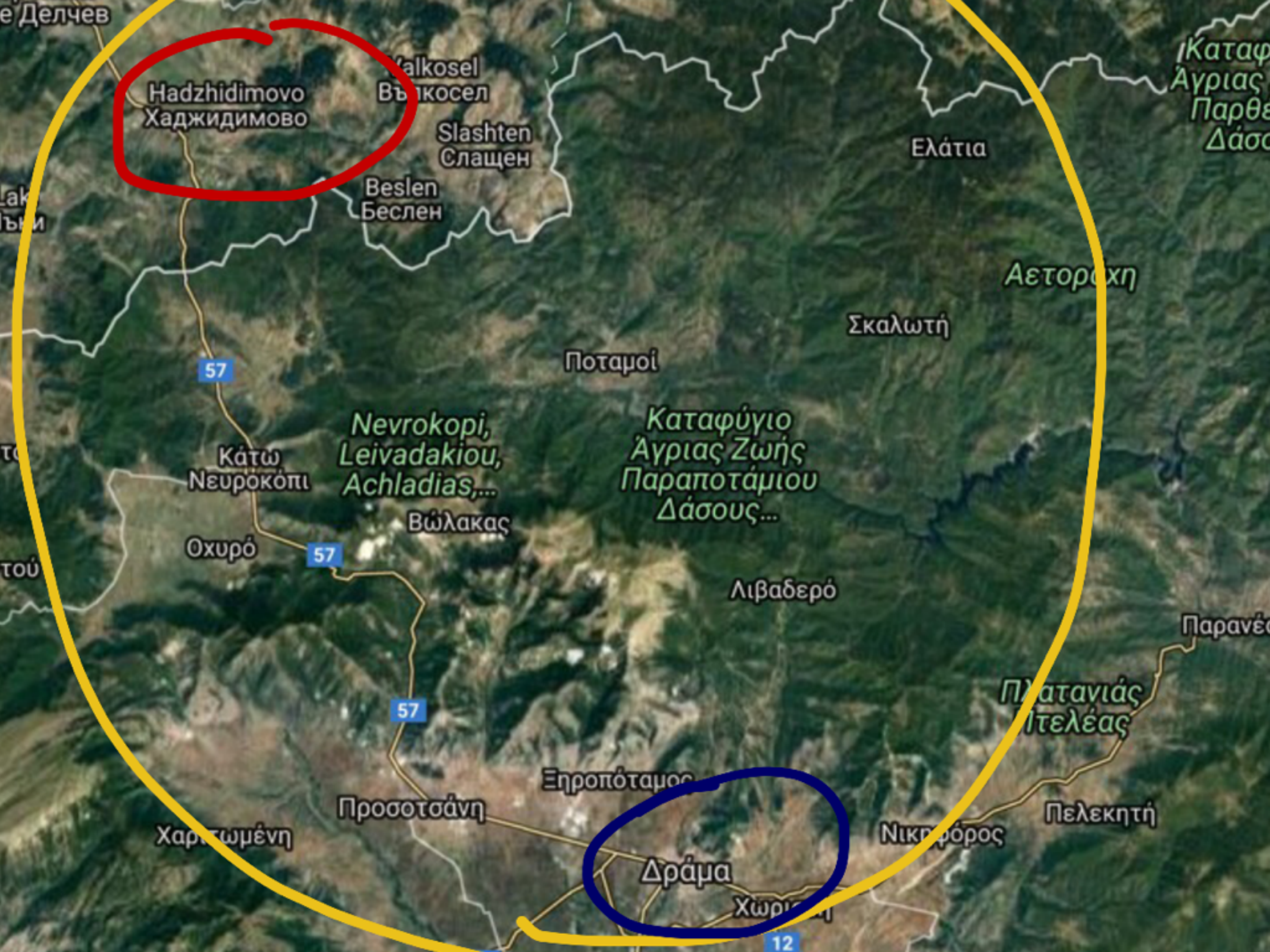
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION (project idea)

The aim of the proposed project is to valorize natural and cultural features of the area, through the enhancement and preservation of the natural and geographical characteristics in strong connection with the heritage, aesthetics, culture, and the well-being of its residents. To achieve this goal, project proposes the creation of a Geopark in the cooperation area. In the Geopark will be defined elevated at least 4 Geotopes.

Geotopes will be territories with special geophysical features, connected with water assets. Additionally, project proposes environmental education and outdoor activities in the Geotopes, in order to promote the value of preserving and developing natural and cultural heritage in project's area. Finally, through publicity and dissemination actions, Geopark, Geotopes and generally the concept of the Geotourism will be promoted in the local touristic markets.

Images of "Geotops"





Hadzhidimovo
Хаджидимово

Kalkosel
Вълкосел

Slashten
Слащен

Beslen
Беслен

Ελάτια

Καταφύγιο
Άγριας
Παρθένου
Δάσους

Αετοράχη

Σκαλωτή

Ποταμοί

Nevrokorí,
Leivadakiou,
Achladias,...

Καταφύγιο
Άγριας Ζωής
Παραποτάμιου
Δάσους...

Κάτω
Νευροκόπι

Βώλακας

Οχυρό

Λιβαδερό

Παρανέσι

Πλατανιάς
Ιτελέας

Ξηροπόταμος

Προσοτσάνη

Χαριτωμένη

Νικηφόρος

Πελεκητή

Δράμα

Χωριό

12

Natural & Heritage Cross-Border
Area Assets

History
Culture
Mythology
Human
presence

+

Water
Assets



Geopark
Geotops

Available Tools: Studies/Training/
Information & Publicity/Infrastructures

How could we achieve our goals

We have to full understand and follow our implementation plan constructed in two parallel levels of processes

- ◆ **Management and Administrative process**
- ◆ **Operational process**

Management and Administrative process

The official language of the Programme is English. Additionally, the national languages of the participating countries can also be considered as working languages

Management of the Programme

- ▶ Managing Authority (under the auspices of the GR. M.E.I.M.A.T)
- ▶ National Authority (on the Bulgarian side) M.R.D.P.W
- ▶ Certifying Authority Audit Authority (EDEL) ,assisted by Group of Auditors in Bulgaria Monitoring Committee
- ▶ Join Secretariat
- ▶ Info Point in Bulgaria (Sofia/Smolyan)

Subsidy Contract process

- ◆ **The Subsidy Contract**
- ◆ **The Partnership Agreement**
- ◆ **The Application Form**
- ◆ **The Justification of the Budget document (JoB)**
- ◆ **The Start-up Time Plan and Procurement Plan**
- ◆ **The Decision of the designated bodies**
- ◆ **Any other supporting documents requested by the JS/MA.**

Reporting Procedures

- The Lead Beneficiary of the project is responsible for the submission to the J.S of the progress reports on project implementation activities.
- Progress report submission deadlines: every six months :
January-June (20th of July of the current year)
July- December (20th of January of the current year)
- Final Report project : 2 months after the insurance of all the certificates of all of the project bfs.Important

Notification : After one year from the signing of the S.C and provided total verified expenditure less than 20% of the total budget M.A with N.A reserves the right to reduce the total approved budget

Project Modifications

There are three levels of the project changes, considering the effect on the project structure and the body that will provide at each time the decision. These three levels are the following:

1. Modifications by the Beneficiaries with notification of the Joint Secretariat / Managing Authority
2. Modifications approved by the Managing Authority
3. Modifications approved by the Monitoring Committee

It is necessary to be underlined that reallocation between the respective budget categories/work packages for amounts up to 20% of the total budget is obligatory to be approved by the Managing Authority

Extension of the date set for closing project implementation activities, if not affecting the achievement of the target set by the n+3 rule.

Operational process

- Operational Process consists of Work Packages (WP) and Deliverables
- "Water Geopark " consists of five WPs as following:
 - ➡ WP1: Project Management & Coordination
 - ➡ WP2: Communication & Dissemination
 - ➡ WP3: Overall Mapping of the water resources-
 - ➡ WP3: Definition of Geopark and Geotopes
 - ➡ WP4: Elevating and Unification of the Geotopes
 - ➡ WP5: Organization of Events

WP1: Project Management & Coordination

WP1: refers to Management and Financial Management of the project as a whole and individual to each Partner separately as following:

WP2:Communication &Dissemination

WP2: refers to Publicity and Information activities undertaken by each partner

WP3:Overall Mapping of the water resources

WP3 : refers to the selection definition, mapping and description of Geotops in the Cross-Border Geopark providing an integrated geographical and physical profile in terms of microclimate, fauna & flora historical data.

WP4:Elevating and Unification of the Geotopes

WP4: refers to the enhancement and promotion of the Geotopes /Improving accessibility and the touring capabilities

WP5: Organization of Events

WP5: refers to the conduction of 6 environmental education events with 120 participants/ conduction of a water Festival