



Bulgaria Wetlands Restoration and Pollution Reduction Project

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What is the Project going to accomplish?

- **GEO:** Demonstrate and provide for replication of reduction of transboundary nutrient loads and other agriculture pollution flowing into the Danube and Black Sea basins.
- **PDO:** Local communities and local authorities in the Persina Nature Park and the Kalimok/Brushlen Protected Site areas adopt sustainable natural resources management practices.

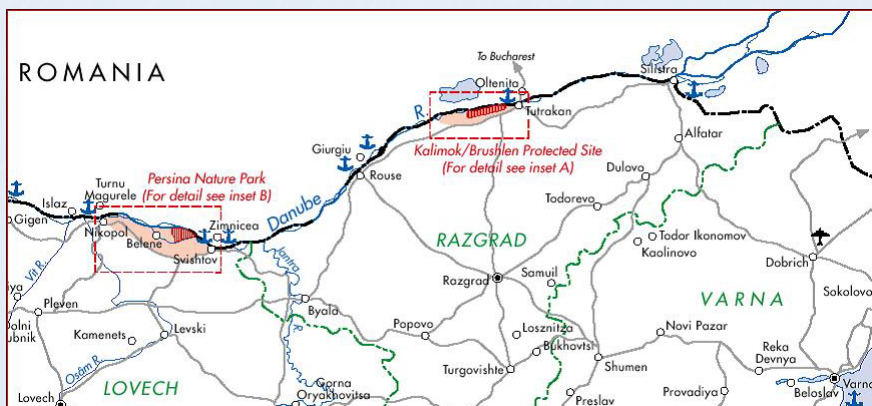
What is expected to be done?

- Restore 2,500 ha of critical priorities wetlands in the Danube river basin through establishment of effective control structures making use of the wetlands in riparian zones as nutrient traps; and
- Promote protected areas management in two sites covering 27,700 ha through adoption of management plans, establishment of protected areas administrations, and establishment of demonstration activities for improved agricultural practices and sustainable use of natural resources.

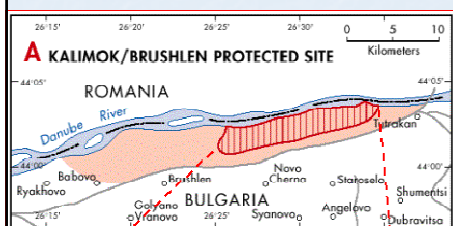
What are the targeted sites for restoration?

Persina Nature Park – Belene Island

Kalimok, Brushlen Protected Site – Kalimok Marshes



Wetlands Restoration vis-à-vis Protected Areas



What are the Project Components and Subcomponents?

- A: Wetlands Restoration
- B: Protected Areas Management
- C: Project Coordination, Management and Monitoring

COMPONENT A: WETLANDS RESTORATION

- Restoration of Belene Island and Kalimok/Brushlen wetlands
 - Including detailed engineering design and supervision

COMPONENT B: PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT

- Protected areas management planning
- Supporting protected areas management activities
 - Management and maintenance of restore wetlands and associated protected areas
 - Establishing a farmer transition program
 - Providing support for eco-business development

COMPONENT B: PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT

- Monitoring program
- Public awareness and environmental education
- Strengthening capacity of institutions involved in the management of natural resources within the protected areas.

COMPONENT C: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, COORDINATION AND MONITORING

- Project coordination and management
- Project monitoring and evaluation

What will be the anticipated Benefits from the Project?

- **Benefits at the local level**
 - reduced nutrient load
 - increased species diversity
 - established and developed environmentally-friendly economic activities
- **Benefits at the global level**
 - reduced transboundary load
 - increased biodiversity

What are the recent outcomes ?

- Increased capacity for protected areas management planning
- Key priority activities for protected areas management are implemented and improved status of the habitats used in sustainable manner by the local communities.
- Detailed and effective system for monitoring is developed and it is compatible with the existing systems in the region

- Increased public awareness and assessment by the local authorities of the functions and economic value of the wetlands and protected areas (PAs) as well as effective implementation of the Program for biodiversity conservation (59 projects implemented + 8 projects under implementation-SGP)
- Capacity building of the institutions involved in the natural resources management in both PAs
- Increased capacity of the administrations of PAs and Ministry of Environment and Water for project management.

What is the progress?

- Increased capacity of the units responsible for the project implementation (PCU and PAs administrations)
- Increased capacity of the local stakeholders and communities through the Project training program
- Implementation of the two grant programs



Small Grants Program for Biodiversity Conservation



Support for the operation of the two protected areas administrations

- A new building for Visitors' Center of Persina Nature Park
- Supply of office equipment
- Renovation of Administrations offices
- Supply of field equipment for the PAS management activities



Farmer Transition Support Program



Thank you for the
attention

Project web site:<http://www.worldbank.bg/wetlands>
www.kalimok.org
www.persina.org