



Association  
for Conservation

## Information sheet



### **Hiking Trail, Jablanica-Shebenik Mountain Ridge, borders of Macedonia and Albania**

**In brief** – An area of Europe that has suffered great hardship and a green belt project are brought together to develop a Trans Boundary Trail on the Jablanica-Shebenik Mountain Range between Macedonia and Albania. The cross border hiking trail project's intent is to build a sustainable result that really benefits the local area and simultaneously protects the environment.

**Project** - The aim is to develop a Trans Boundary Trail on the mountain ridge between Macedonia and Albania. This is a sustainable regional development project which is designated to become a Trans-Boundary National Park. The funding will be used partially by local NGO's (mainly PPNEA - Preservation and Protection of Nature and Environment in Albania and MES – Macedonian Ecological Society) who in turn will use the funding to pay for local workers and materials. The project will identify and mark the trail; construct new parts of the trail; restore existing parts where necessary; produce information panels and produce a map and guide in English, Albanian and Macedonian.

This is a strong action based project with good local involvement and the intent to build a sustainable result that really benefits the local area and simultaneously protects the environment. The project aims to demonstrate to the local inhabitants that there is an alternative to deforestation and depletion of nature in an area of Europe that suffers great hardship due to recent political unrest.

**Organisation** – The European Nature Heritage Fund - Euronatur is a registered and well established not for profit organisation. Its objectives are to implement nature conservation and species protection projects with the aim of maintaining endangered populations of wild animals and their habitats. The work is carried out by close cooperation with local and regional partners thereby fostering cross-border cooperation of international experts.

Euronatur participates in the planning and implementation of large-scale protected areas, offering advice on and monitoring of sustainable regional development in agriculture, tourism, and transport. It creates an environment that helps networking between practical conservation efforts and science, politics, and economics. Also helping with the implementation of and support for environmental education measures.

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