



# MAN AND BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME | UNESCO VJOSA RIVER NATIONAL PARK

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# “Man and Biosphere” Programme UNESCO

- It is an intergovernmental scientific program, which aims to establish a scientific basis for enhancing the relationship between people and their environments.
- Promotes new approaches for the economic development based on the sustainability
- A Biosphere Reserve should “represent the biogeographic features of the area and the importance for the biodiversity”
- All biosphere reserves must fulfil three basic, equal and mutually complementary functions: Conservation, Development and Logistic Support.

# I. THE NEW PASSPORT OF VJOSA

The process of proclamation of  
Vjosa – A Biosphere Reserve





**2020-2022.** Ministry of Tourism and Environment proclaim Vjosa River and part of Drino River a “Nature Park”(IV Category);

**2022-2023.** Ministry of Tourism and Environment increase efforts in strengthening the level of protection in a “National Park” (II Category) and expanding in other tributaries

DCM nr. 155, date 13.03.2023 “**On the proclamation of the natural ecosystem of the Vjosa River “National Park”, II Category**”.

**Phase 1:** includes a participatory and informative process that aims reaching identified sectors of the biosphere reserve.

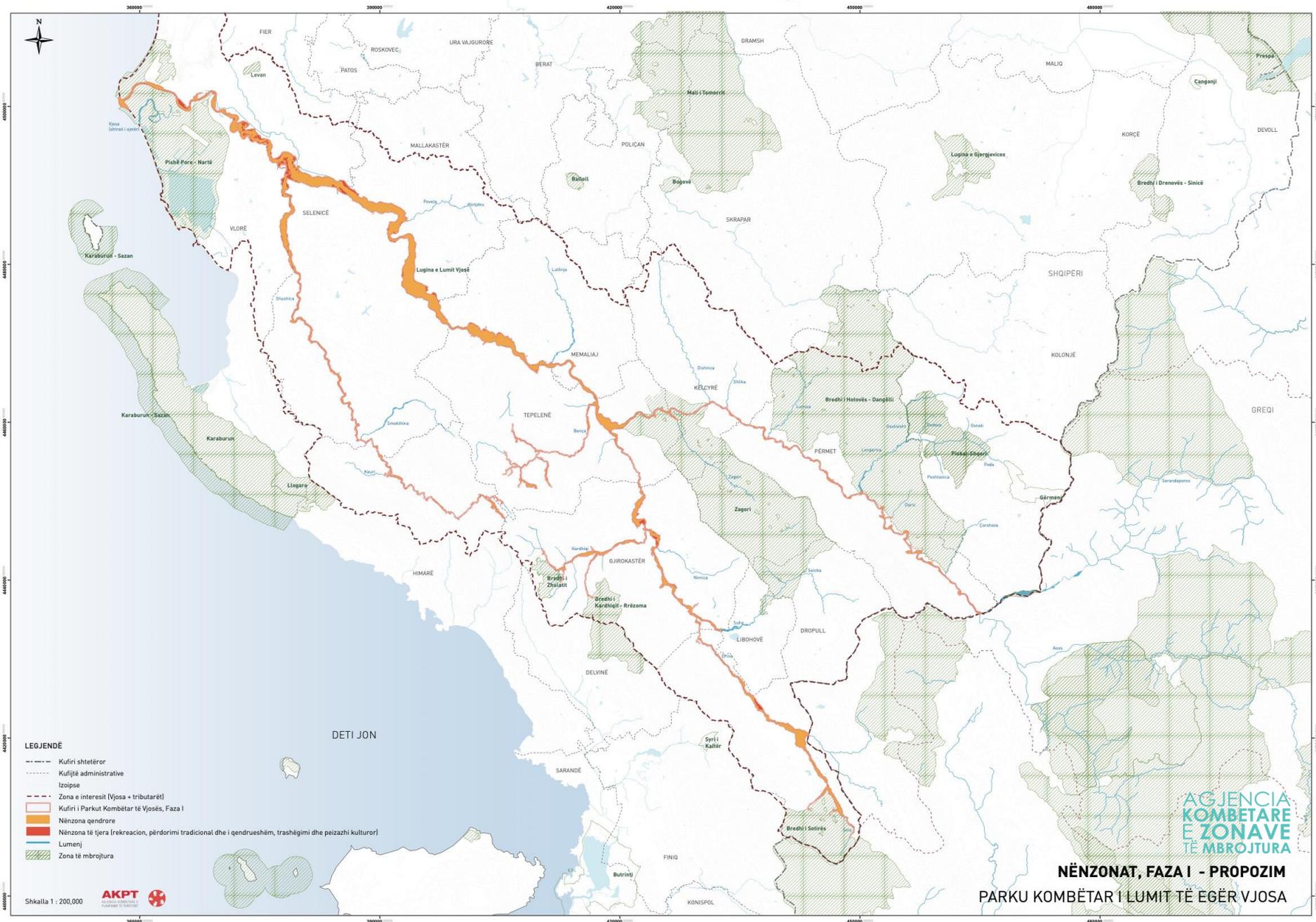
**Phase 2:** Following the consultation process with the parties, the National Agency of Protected Areas submit the application to UNESCO for the proclamation of Vjosa a Biosphere Reserve.

**Phase 3:** Examination by the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves – recommendation.

**Phase 4:** Review by the Bureau of International Coordinating Council for the MAB Programme

**Phase 5:** Endorsement of the nomination by MAB-ICC





- LEGJENDË**
- Kufiri shtetëror
  - Kufiri administrativ
  - Izoipse
  - - - Zona e interesit (Vjosa + tributaret)
  - Kufiri i Parkut Kombëtar të Vjosës, Faza I
  - Nënzona qendrore
  - Nënzona të tjera [rekreacion, përdorimi tradicional dhe i qendrueshëm, trashëgimi dhe peizazhi kulturor]
  - Lumenj
  - Zona të mbrojtura

**AGJENCIA  
KOMBËTARE  
E ZONAVE  
TË MBROJTURA**

**NËNZONAT, FAZA I - PROPOZIM**  
**PARKU KOMBËTAR I LUMIT TË EGËR VJOSA**



# II. WHICH IS THE SIZE OF A BIOSPHERE RESERVE



**A biosphere reserve is considered to have the appropriate size when it serves the three functions (Conservation, Development and Logistic Support).**

Considering these key aspects:

1. *An already proclaimed protected area*
2. *The cultural or historical background should be considered, particularly in terms of 'regional identity'*
3. *Consider the landscape approach (watershed protection etc)*
4. *The area should be large enough to generate some value and study the effects of climate change.*
5. *The area must host a human population large enough to study human-nature interactions.*
6. *Any opportunity for the creation of a transboundary biosphere reserve in the future should be considered*



# III.ZONATION



- I. Core area: devoted to the long-term protection of biodiversity
- II. Buffer zone: allow management techniques to be developed, explored and learned about, in order to maintain semi-natural ecosystems
- III. Outer transition area: where sustainable resource management practices are promoted and developed



# IV.GOVERNANCE

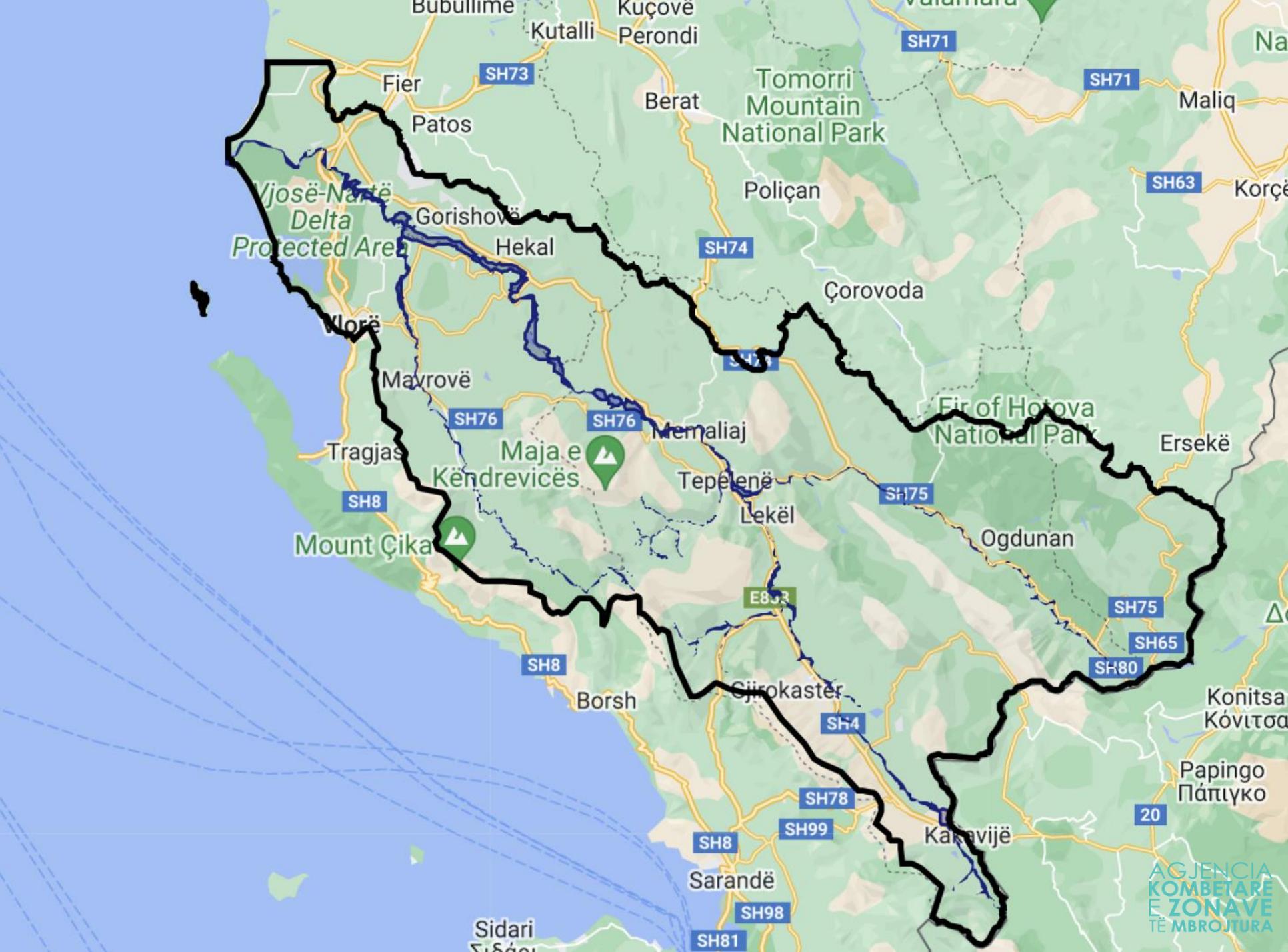
The term 'governance' refers to the structures and processes that determine how decisions about a biosphere reserve are taken and how stakeholders are included.

## IDENTIFIED STAKEHOLDERS

1. Public authorities (ministries)
2. Central representatives (prefect, municipality)
3. Local community
4. Civil society
5. Private Sector
6. Scientific Community



# V.MANAGEMENT PLAN



Vjosë-Nartë  
Delta  
Protected Area

Tomorri  
Mountain  
National Park

Fir of Hotova  
National Park

Maja e  
Këndrevicës

Mount Çika

The management plan needs to address all the issues that are considered key for the development of the biosphere concept:

- biodiversity and ecosystem services and their conservation and use;
- sustainable land and resource use;
- improving livelihoods and generating benefits for communities;
- promoting green economies;
- infrastructure development;
- ecosystem restoration;
- disaster reduction and risk management;
- tourism;
- climate change; and
- research and education.





**THANK YOU**