



## First Open Tender for Innovations

### Case Study #4: Ohrid & Prespa Lakes (Albanian Demarcation)

#### Supplementary Information

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## The Case Study “Ohrid and Prespa Lakes”

The Region of Ohrid and the Prespa Lakes, situated in south-western Europe, are recognized among the most ecologically valuable aquatic regions in Europe. **The transboundary area** includes six protected areas, three internationally recognized wetlands and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

This Case Study **aims at improving climate resilience of environmental, economic and social sectors related to water use, having the potential of affecting human health and vulnerability of all economic sectors.** ARSINOE will achieve this aim by providing an **intelligent comprehensive innovation set of long-term planning solutions, allocation and use of sufficient quantity and of adequate quality water for all users, respecting their interests in order to improve human health, food production, conservation of natural environmental systems, clean energy production and sustainable growth of all sectors.**

In a long term prospective Ohrid/Prespa Case Study’s goal is to consciously monitor and improve climate resilience within the whole water supply/use chain, in a region shared by the three countries. Climate adapted water management plan will contribute to preserving the valuable ecosystems, establishment of new behavioral patterns of involved target groups and their increased awareness including their roles and responsibilities in climate adaptive water resources management.

## The Problem Statement

Following the project approach and focusing on Ohrid and Prespa Lakes, the first international Living Lab session resulted in the following Problem Statement for the Albanian partner:

**“Sectors such as biodiversity, agriculture, fisheries, livestock farming, tourism and protection of natural and cultural heritage are affected from climate change in several ways, including possible water scarcity in the future. There are already institutions and ongoing projects, but they have to be supported and expanded, and enriched with new measures and ideas for climate adaptation. The involvement of the local actors, creation of the data base. There is the need of a water monitoring system to take measures on chemical, biological and physical, as well as intelligent farming”**

Project will impact in capacity building, Engagement of the youth generation, developing strategy for local economy growth, more investments on the cultural side of tourism, Certifications of domestic agricultural products.

## Targets and goals of the Case Study in this first open tender

The considerations above lead us to the more technological area, where the following observations were made by the group:

- Information is key to good decision making, and data is a very powerful tool for good management of facilities, in this case, agricultural facilities.

- All the information that science deals with and extracts must be adequately communicated to society. Moreover, it is interesting that it is not only scientists who generate knowledge, it is necessary that farmers become "sensors of the territory" (as was rightly mentioned in the session), that they become involved in the process of doing science.
- Innovative solutions adapted to Ohrid and Prespa lake specifically in close collaboration with local entities and community.

**The idea is to participate in two open calls, so we would like to divide our budget in two (equal amount). In the first call the focus will be monitoring systems related with water scarcity in the case study area, in the second call the focus will be social innovation.**