

EUROPARC TransParcNet Meeting
Háldi Transboundary Area (NO-FI) 2nd – 5th September 2024

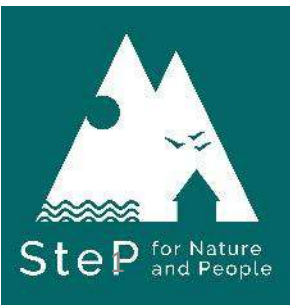
1- EU POLICIES TO SUPPORT CROSSBORDER AND REGIONAL COOPERATION IN EU NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES: POSSIBLE SYNERGIES WITH TRANSPARCNET

2- NEWS FROM IUCN WCPA TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION SPECIALIST GROUP

Stefania Petrosillo

Consultant

SteP for Nature and People srl



***No man * is an island,
Entire of itself;
Every man is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.***

...

(John Donne)

**** no country either***



European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

Aims to support the stabilisation of the region, in political, economic, and security related terms. To strengthen the prosperity, stability and security of all, based on the values of democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights.

Financial instrument 2021-2027: Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI – Global Europe). Moreover: Reform and Grow Facility for Western Balkans, and Ukraine Facility.



Enlargement Negotiations

Negotiations relate to the conditions under which the country will be admitted to the EU and focus on the adoption and implementation of the EU **acquis** (EU rules, standards, policies and practices).

Financial instruments to support the candidates to reach the acquis : IPA III (2021-2027), and NDICI Global Europe.

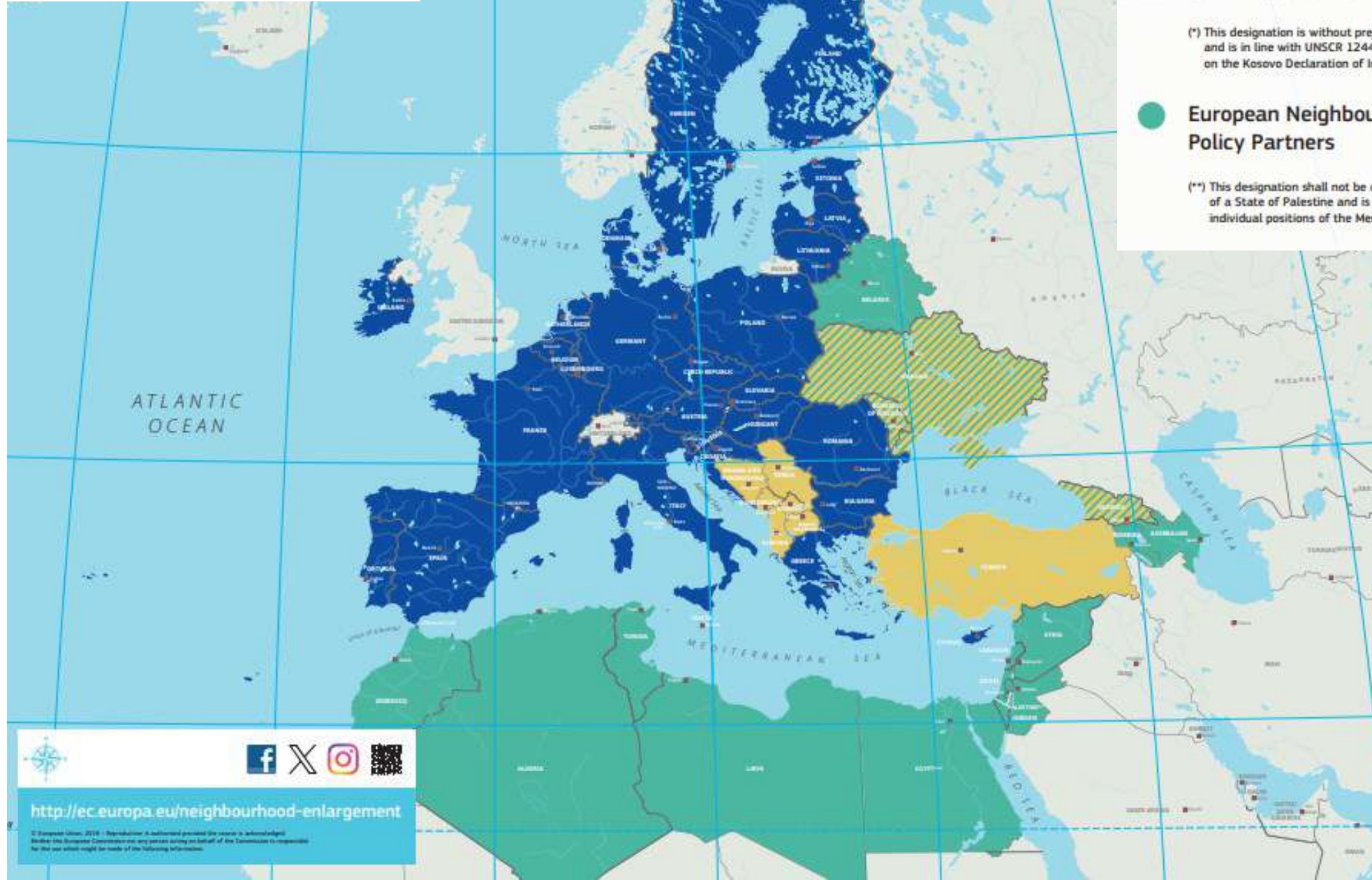
The **Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations**

-DG NEAR-

takes forward the EU's Neighbourhood and Enlargement policies.

DG NEAR works closely with other DGs (e.g. DG ENV, DG Research and Innovation,...)

European Neighborhood Countries



- European Union Member States
- Candidates and potential candidates for EU membership
- European Neighbourhood Policy Partners

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.


<http://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement>

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EU ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE 2023

Adopted on 8th November 2023

Candidate or potential
candidate countries:

- [2023 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy](#) 
- [Albania Report 2023](#) 
- [Bosnia and Herzegovina Report 2023](#) 
- [Georgia Report 2023](#) 
- [Kosovo Report 2023](#) 
- [Moldova Report 2023](#) 
- [Montenegro Report 2023](#) 
- [North Macedonia Report 2023](#) 
- [Serbia Report 2023](#) 
- [Türkiye Report 2023](#) 
- [Ukraine Report 2023](#) 

Southern Neighbourhood

Algeria

The European Union and Algeria have a long-standing partnership of which the Association Agreement...

Israel

The European Union-Israel partnership underpins political relations and aims at strengthening economic performance, while fostering regional...

Lebanon

The partnership between the European Union (EU) and Lebanon aims to promote Lebanon's development as a stable, democratic, politically open...

Morocco

The European Union - Morocco relationship tackles common challenges such as economic development, innovation, climate change, justice, security...

Syria

The European Union (EU) suspended all its bilateral cooperation with the Government of Syria in May 2011, following the escalation of violence...

Egypt

The European Union-Egypt relations have intensified over the past years and cover a wide spectrum of fields of cooperation...

Jordan

The partnership between the European Union (EU) and Jordan is underpinned by a shared commitment to boost Jordan's social and economic development...

Libya

The EU is determined to help Libya return to peace and resume its transition towards a stable, secure and prosperous country...

Palestine*

The European Union is the biggest provider of external assistance to the Palestinians. In line with the goal of a negotiated two-state solution...

Tunisia

The partnership between Tunisia and the European Union (EU) is rooted in the mutual interest of enhancing a prosperous and stable Tunisian democracy..

Ideas of possible working topics in this area:

- Migration and environment
- Human rights and environment
- **Water protection and management, desalinisation**
- Plastic pollution
- Agroforestry, eco-friendly farming, drought and agriculture
- **Forestry protection and management**
- MPAs, sea regional cooperation
- **Fishery**
- **Climate change adaptation and mitigation**
- Culture and environment
- Ecotourism
- *Nature Based Solutions*

Western Balkans and Türkiye

Albania

Albania – along with other Western Balkans countries – was identified as a potential candidate for EU membership during the Thessaloniki European Council summit in June 2003...

Kosovo

In 2008 the EU repeated its willingness to assist the economic and political development of Kosovo through a clear European perspective...

North Macedonia

North Macedonia – along with other Western Balkans partners – was identified as a potential candidate for EU membership during the Thessaloniki European Council summit in 2003...

Türkiye

In 1987, Türkiye applied to join what was then the European Economic Community, and in 1999 it was declared eligible to join the EU...

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina - along with other Western Balkans countries – was identified as a potential candidate for EU membership during the Thessaloniki European Council summit in June 2003...

Montenegro

In 2006 Montenegro's parliament declared independence from the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro. In 2008, the new country applied for EU membership...

Serbia

Serbia – along with 5 other Western Balkans countries – was identified as a potential candidate for EU membership during the Thessaloniki European Council summit in 2003...

Source: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-presents-new-growth-plan-western-balkans-including-eu6-billion-grants-and-loans-2023-11-08_en

Ideas of possible working topics in this area:

- Support for the “EU acquis”
- **Emerald network, and Natura 2000**
- **Green Infrastructures, roads network and biodiversity**

- **Large carnivores** management
- **Climate change**
- Protected Areas network
- MPAs, seas regional cooperation
- Water management
- Agroforestry, eco-friendly farming
- Culture and environment
- Ecotourism
- *Nature Based Solutions*

Eastern Partnership

Armenia

The EU cooperates with Armenia in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy and its eastern regional dimension, the Eastern Partnership...

Belarus

The conduct and aftermath of the 2020 Presidential elections in Belarus have put at risk progress made in bilateral relations in the past years...

Moldova

Based on the Commission's opinion on the country's application for EU membership, Moldova was given a European perspective and granted candidate status on 23 June 2022 by unanimous agreement between the leaders of all 27 EU Member States...

Azerbaijan

The European Union's bilateral relations with Azerbaijan are based on the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement in force since 1999...

Georgia

Based on the Commission's opinion on the country's application for EU membership, Georgia was given a European perspective on 23 June 2022 by unanimous agreement between the leaders of all 27 EU Member States...

Ukraine

Based on the Commission's opinion on the country's application for EU membership, Ukraine was given a European perspective and granted candidate status on 23 June 2022 by unanimous agreement between the leaders of all 27 EU Member States...

Source: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/eastern-partnership_en

Ideas of possible working topics in this area:

- Support for the “EU acquis”
- **Emerald network and Natura 2000**
- **Green Infrastructures, roads network** and biodiversity protection
- **Large carnivores** management
- **Climate change** mitigation and adaptation
- **Forest management and conservation (invasive species)**

- Marine protected areas, sea regional cooperation
- Water management
- Agroforestry, eco-friendly farming
- *Nature Based Solutions*
- Culture and environment
- Ecotourism
- *Nature Based Solutions*
- **Ukraine, war's impacts on biodiversity and PAs**

Cross Border Cooperation (CBC) is a key element of the EU policy towards its neighbours.

It supports **sustainable development** along the EU's external borders, helps **reducing differences** in living standards and **addressing common challenges** across these borders.

CBC promotes cooperation between EU countries and neighbourhood countries sharing a land border or sea crossing.

3 MAIN OBJECTIVES OF CBC:

- **PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN BORDER AREAS**
- **ADDRESSING COMMON CHALLENGES (ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY)**
- **PUTTING IN PLACE BETTER CONDITIONS FOR PERSONS, GOODS AND CAPITAL MOBILITY**

Land-Border programmes

[Kolarctic Programme](#)

[Karelia Programme](#)

[South East Finland-Russia Programme](#)

Estonia-Latvia-Russia Programme

[Estonia-Russia Programme](#)

[Latvia-Russia Programme](#)

[Latvia-Lithuania-Belarus Programme](#)

Lithuania-Poland-Russia Programme

[Lithuania-Russia](#)

[Poland-Russia](#)

[Poland-Belarus-Ukraine Programme](#)

[Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Programme](#)

Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova Programme

[Romania-Ukraine Programme](#)

[Romania-Republic of Moldova Programme](#)

Sea-crossing programmes

[Italy-Tunisia Programme](#)

Sea-basin programmes

[Black Sea Programme](#)

[Baltic Sea Region Programme \(managed by DG Regio\)](#)

Source: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/cross-border-cooperation_en



Welcome to this learning platform

Do you need support in developing a cross-border or transnational project? Or do you want advice in implementing your project successfully?

Have a look at our video tutorials, guidance and material on project preparation and management! We frequently update the platform, so please come back to us regularly.

We wish you fruitful online learning and success in your projects!



Watch the Teaser above introducing the platform

Preparing your project



Project Development



Partnership



Budget



Managing your project



Project Implementation



Project Closure



SECOND EDITION

Youth4Cooperation: Cross-Border Ambassadors

 Deadline: 10 September 2024

APPLY NOW

#Youth4Coop



Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/faafe02a-1059-98a4-3f8d-16225db81f88>

Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



Q Morocco

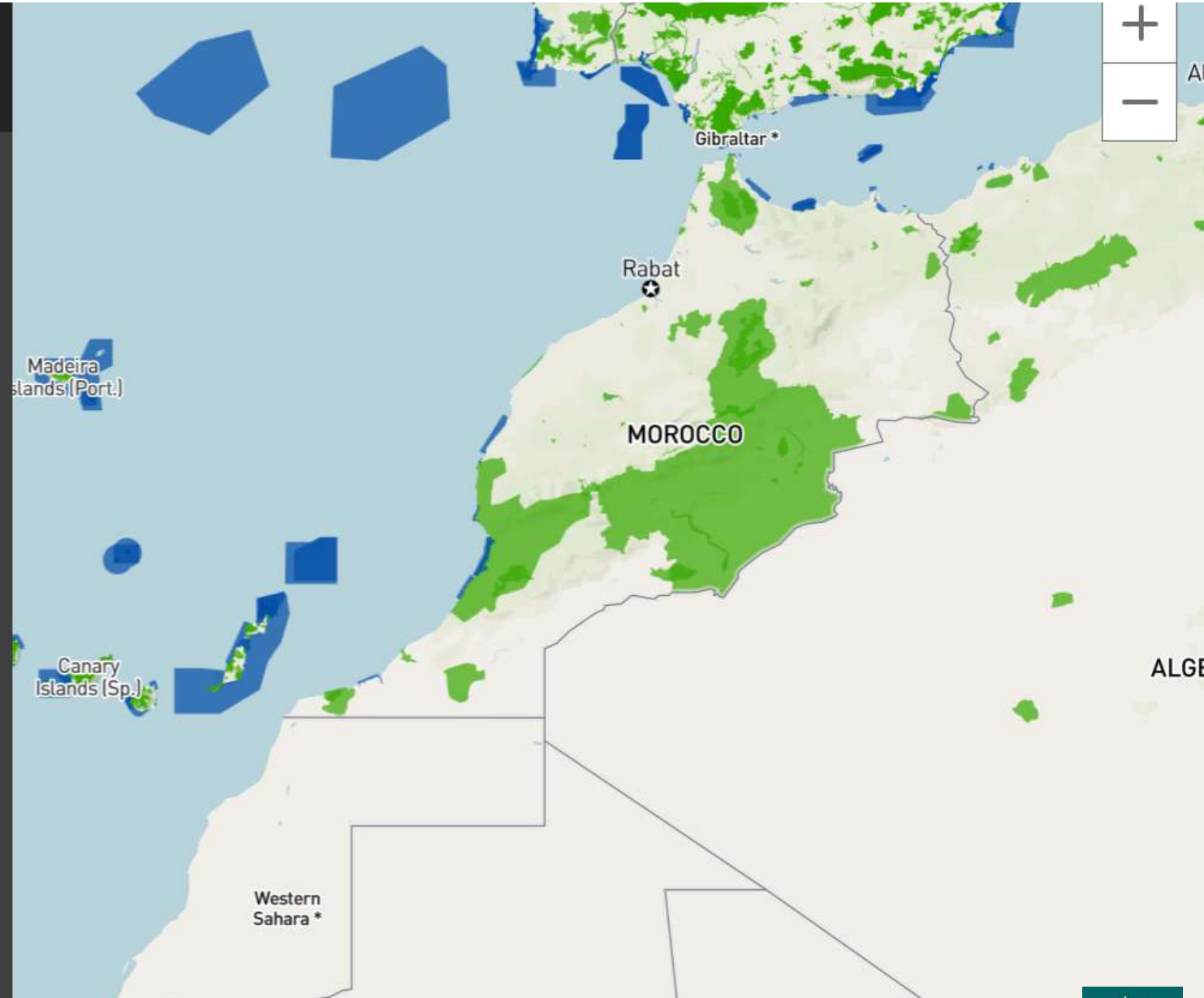


- Terrestrial and Inland Waters Protected Areas
- Marine Protected Areas
- Other effective area-based conservation measures

Map Disclaimer

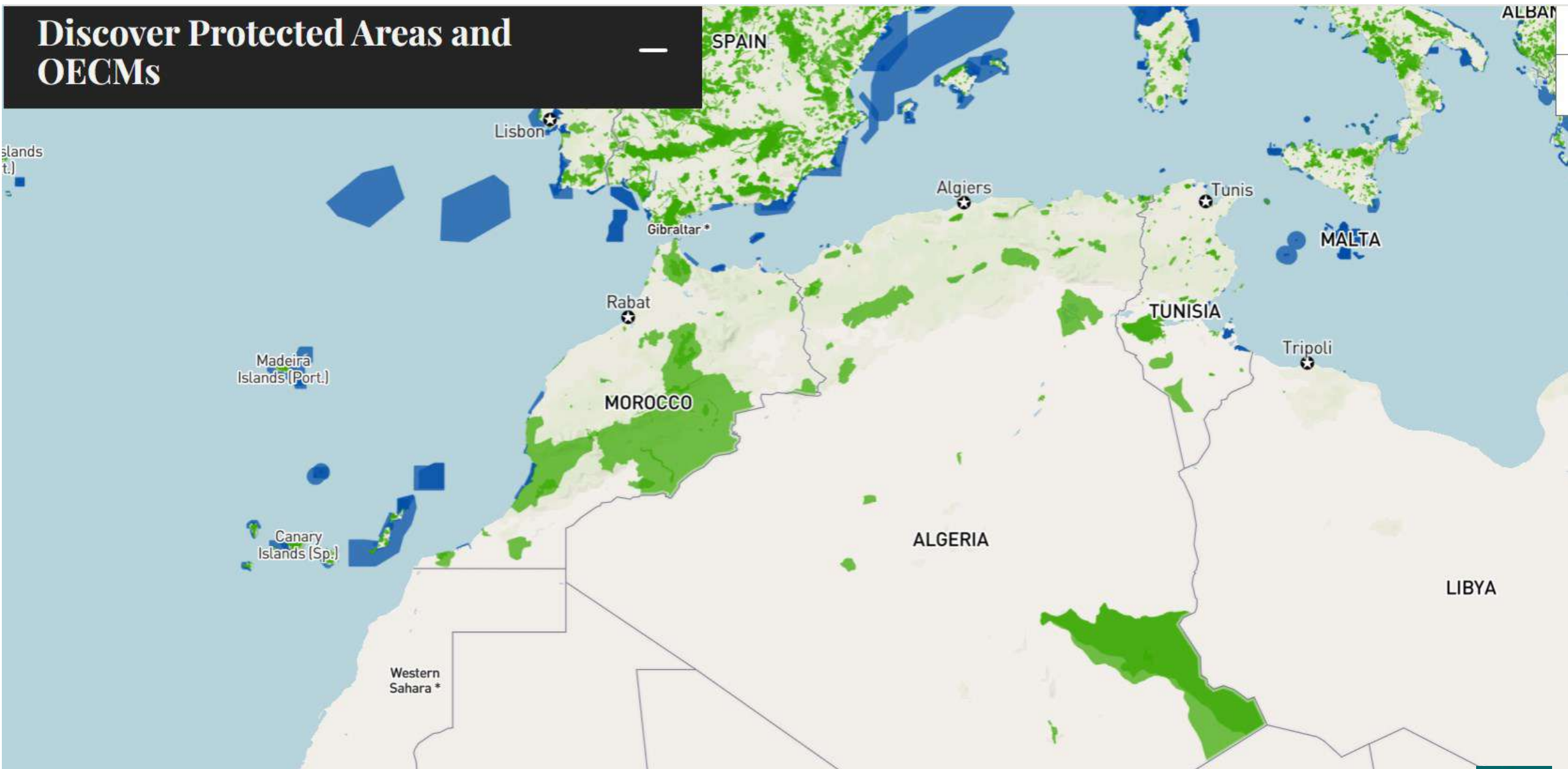
The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

- Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.
- Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.



Source: <https://www.protectedplanet.net/en>

Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



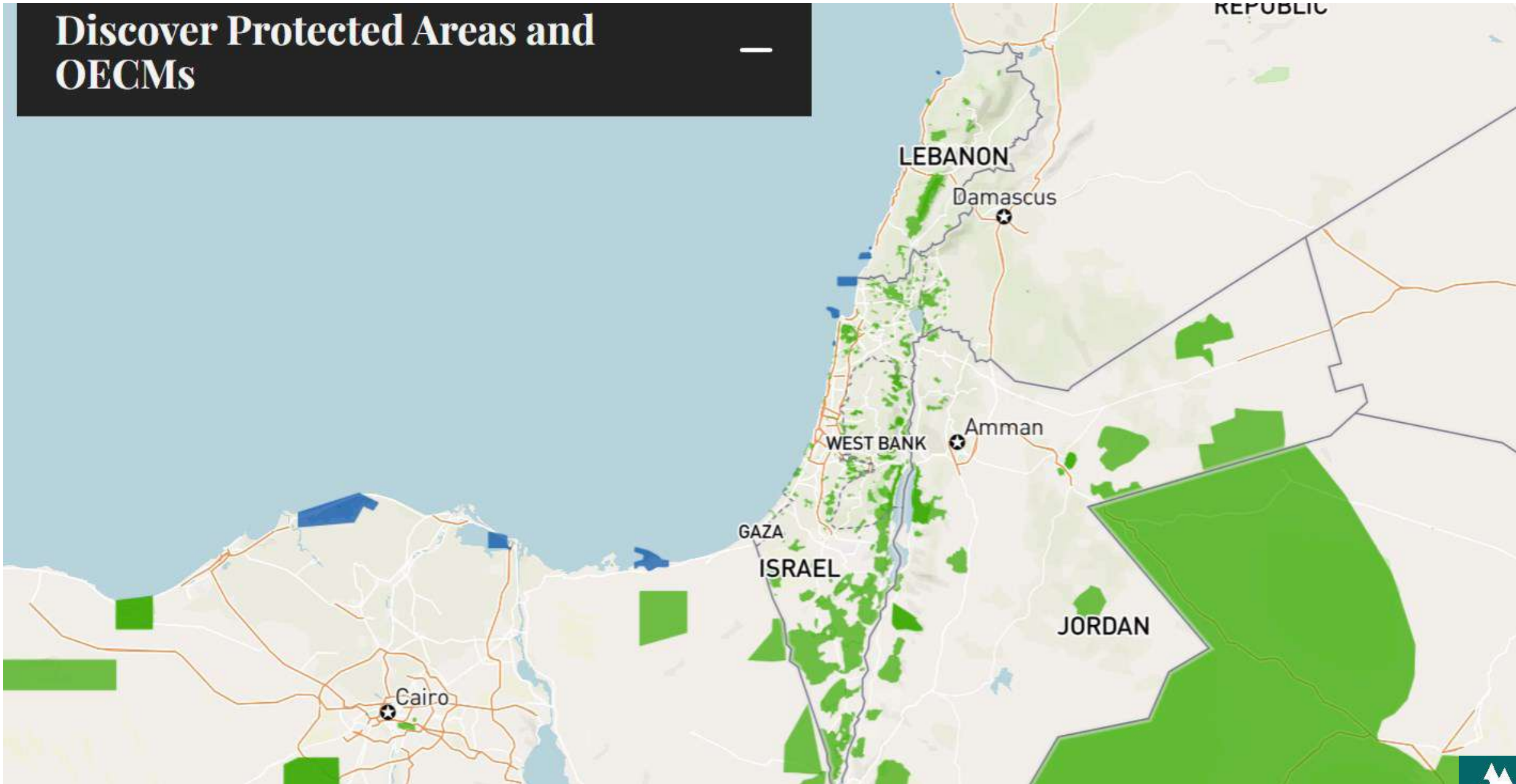
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Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



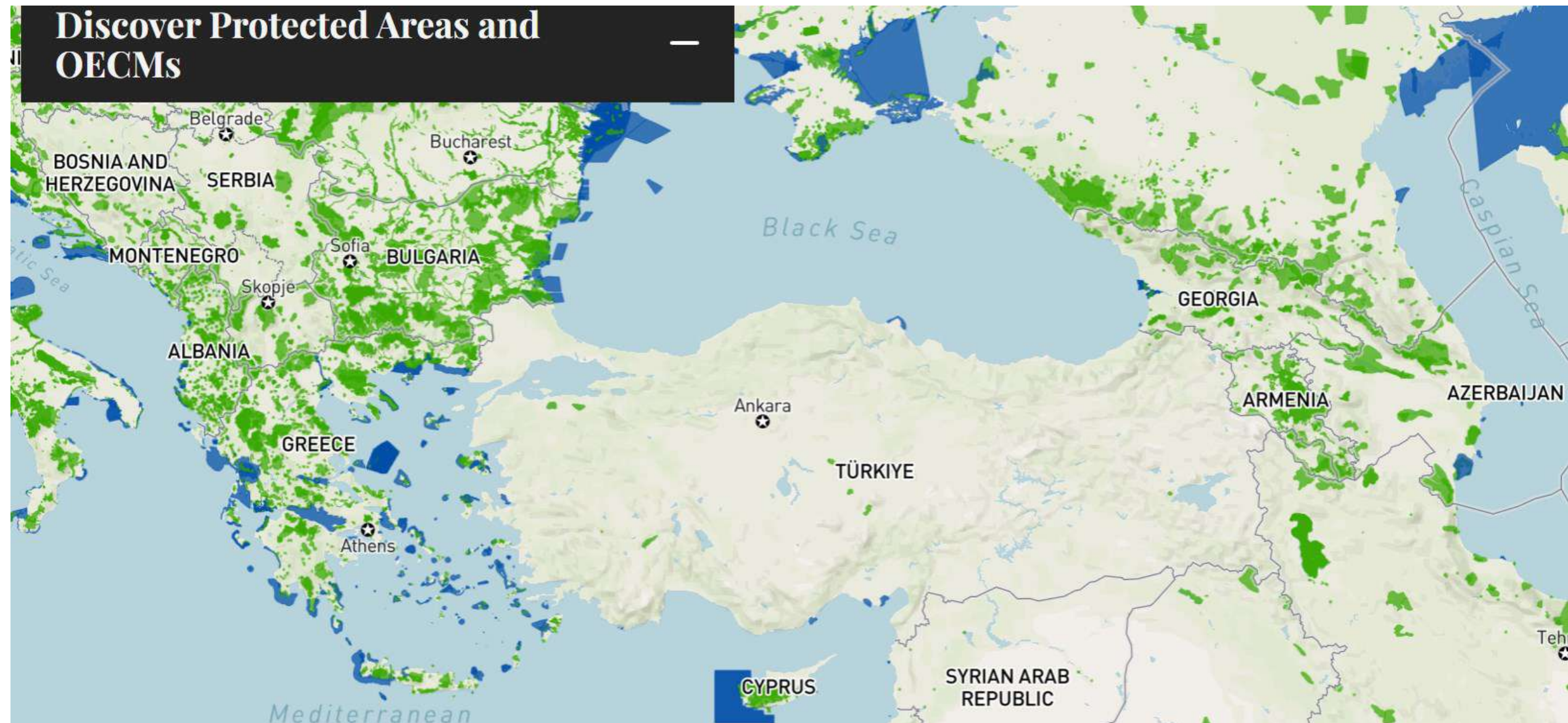
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Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



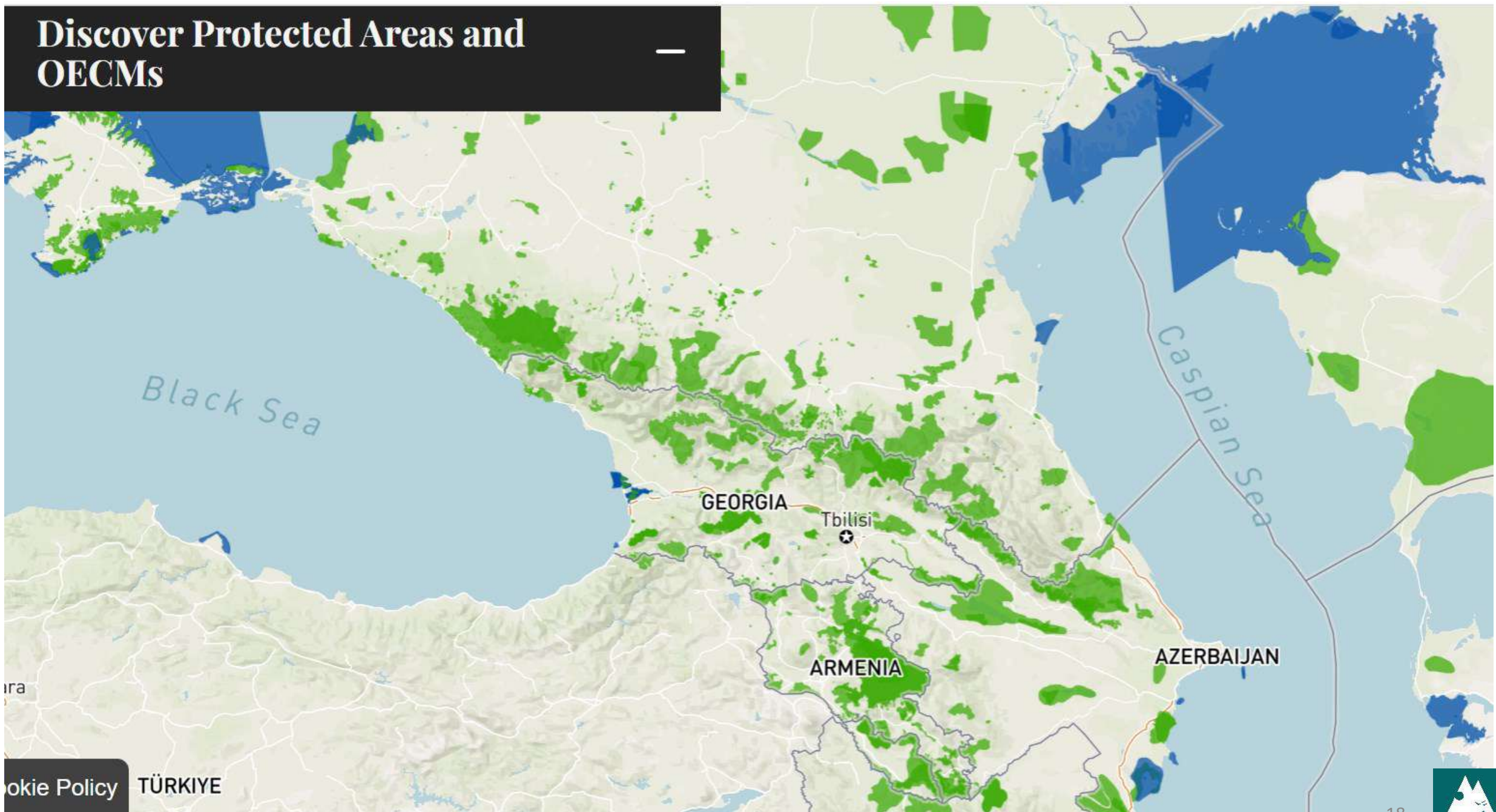
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Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



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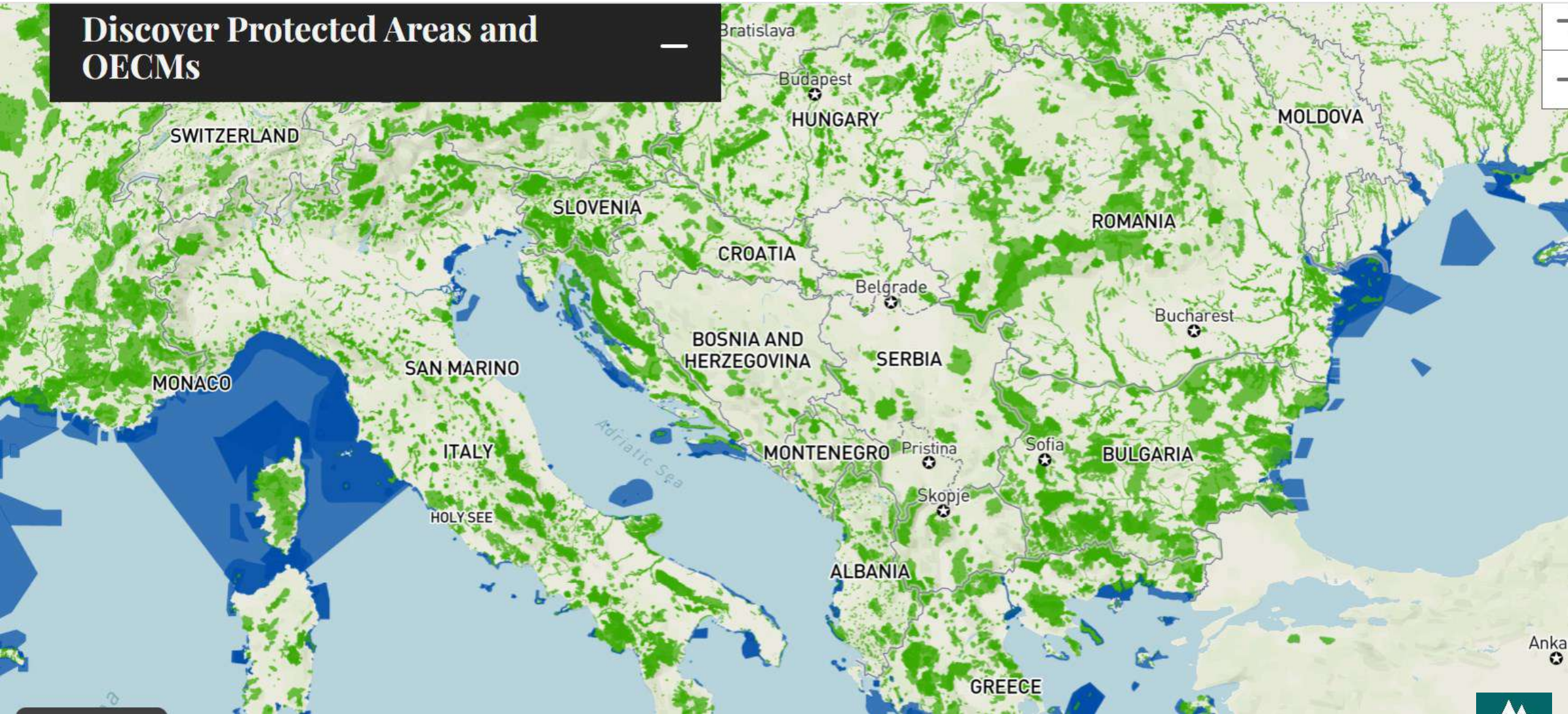
Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



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Discover Protected Areas and OECMs



UNESCO MAB



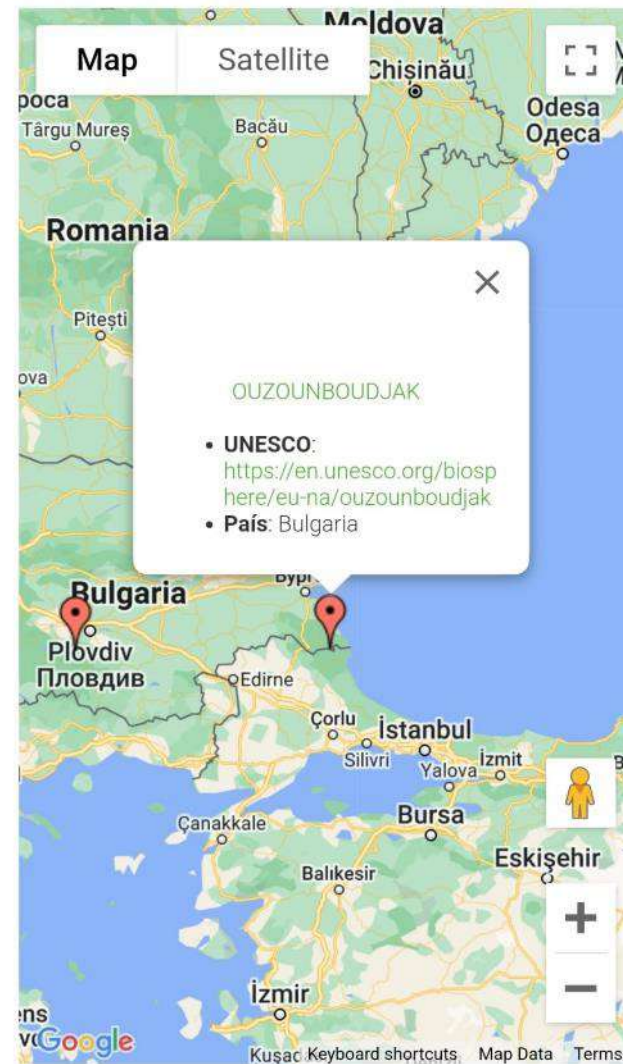
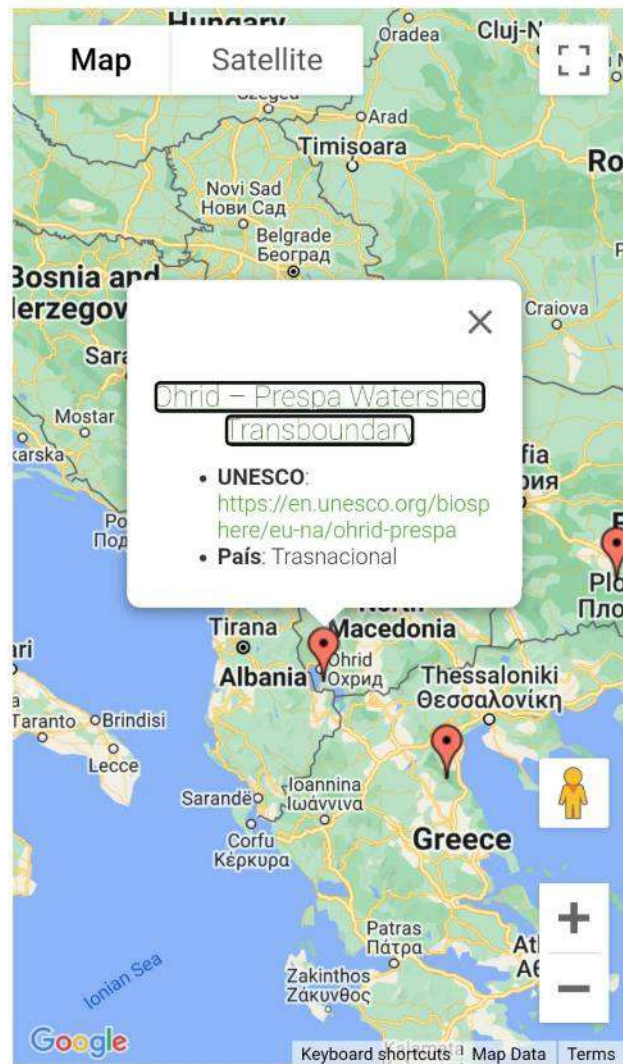
unescomedcenter.org/rrbbmed-red-de-reservas-de-la-biosfera-mediterran



27



Source: Google Maps



MORE...

Source: Google Maps

UNESCO MAB - Regional and Thematic Networks

EuroMAB

World Network of Mountain Biosphere Reserves

Mediterranean Biosphere Reserves Network

...

Source: <https://www.unesco.org/en/mab/networks>

Some more ideas for TransParcNet

- *Of course*: explore new connections with crossborder PAs in Neighbourhood Countries
- Increase relations with international and regional networks (Dinarides Parks, IUCN, Unesco, ...)
- Explore NDICI and IPA regional programmes, and the possibility to use CBC instruments
- Biosphere reserves in the land and the sea (e.g. Spain-Morocco)
- Explore other possibilities to establish first contacts:
 - **TWINNING** : supports transfer of knowledge between an EU country and a not-EU country
 - **SIGMA** (Support for Improvement in Governance and Management) is a joint European Commission and OECD initiative, principally financed by the EU. It focuses on strengthening public management in areas such as administrative reform, public procurement, public sector ethics, anti-corruption, and external and internal financial control.
 - **TAIEX** is the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission. TAIEX supports public administrations with regard to the approximation, application and enforcement of EU legislation as well as facilitating the sharing of EU best practices (Workshops, Expert missions, Study visits)

A final look to the political landscape, today and in the next future

War and instability in Ukraine, in Middle East...

The future of the EU GREEN DEAL and the international commitments of EU

Climate and biodiversity spending targets : EC needs to increase the implementation of actions on biodiversity or biodiversity mainstreaming in the cooperation with NEAR countries

**The New EU Commission
and the new Commissioner**

To be continued....



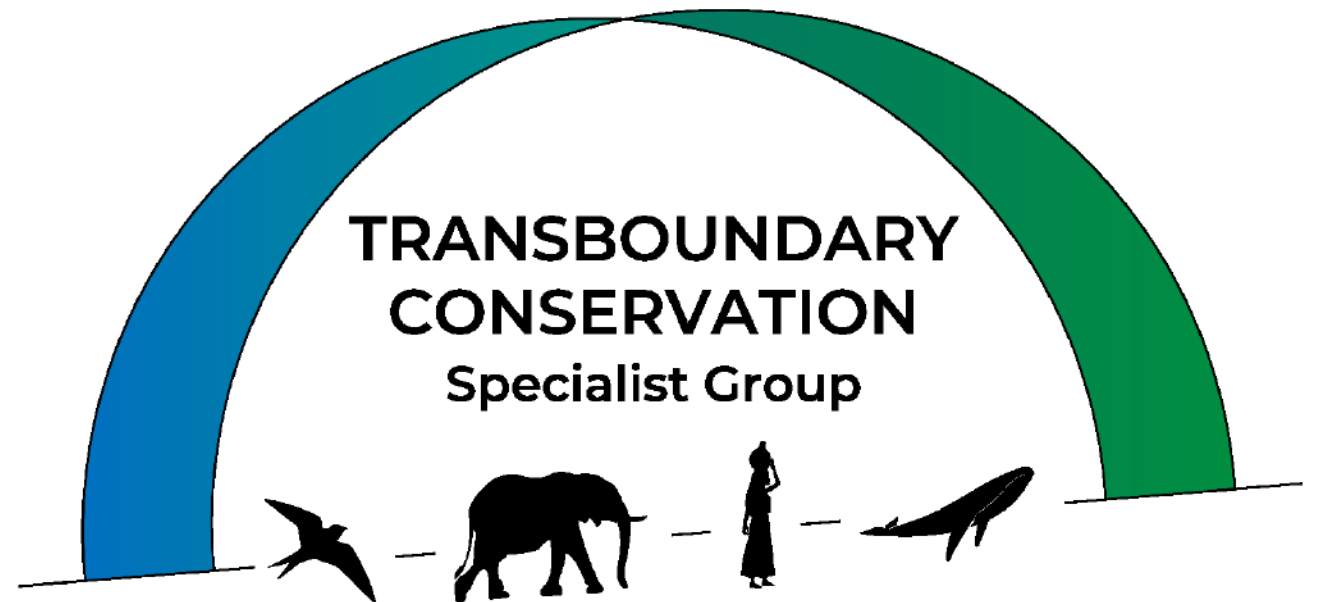
NEWS FROM THE TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION SPECIALIST GROUP

By Stefania Petrosillo

Co-chair

stefpetro@yahoo.com

September 2024





7 Commissions:

- ...
-



Within the commission:
Working Groups, Specialist
Groups, and Task Forces:

- ...



Our mission is

*"to promote and encourage **transboundary conservation**
for the **conservation of nature**
with associated **ecosystem services**
and **cultural values**
while **promoting peace and co-operation among nations**,
through enhancing **knowledge and capacity**
for **effective planning and management**
of **transboundary conservation areas**"*

www.tbpa.net

To join the group: <https://www.tbpa.net/page.php?ndx=15>

Outcome 1:

Strengthen knowledge and information on transboundary conservation areas

Promote and encourage the development of a comprehensive global database of transboundary conservation areas by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

Coordinate and update the Global Transboundary Conservation Network (www.tbpa.net), a virtual hub of transboundary conservation related knowledge

Enable efficient learning and knowledge exchange through the **electronic newsletter TB eNEWS**.

Synergies with TPN ?

SPONSOR of 1 or more numbers
Visibility of your project
(costs around 400-500 euro)

Outcome 2:

Provide technical guidance for successful implementation of transboundary conservation initiatives

Facilitate the development of a **resource portal** (through the Global Transboundary Conservation Network) for members to access tools, resource documents, research and scientific documents, and reference materials...

Promote the establishment of a Community of Practice to discuss and collaborate on aspects relating the further establishment of transboundary conservation areas

Synergies with TPN ?

CASE STUDIES AND CONNECTION
WITH TPN KNOWLEDGE HUB

Outcome 3:

Contribute to capacity development and networking of transboundary conservation specialists

Promote and contribute to the development and implementation of training modules for **capacity building**

Promote, facilitate, and contribute to international, regional and local **webinars** and workshops

Promote **learning exchanges** and study visits among members

Establish partnerships with relevant specialist groups, institutions and initiative

Synergies with TPN ?

Some WEBINARS
together

STUDY TOURS:
participate, receive

WEBINARS

Youtube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1kPnrFu3pE>



Date and time: TBC

River basin management and
Crossborder Protected Areas

Experiences, challenges, lessons learned

The TBCSG WEBINARS
Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group

INFO: tbcsg.webinars@gmail.com

The slide features a background image of a person in a boat on a river. At the bottom, there are logos for IUCN, WCPA (World Commission on Protected Areas), and the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group.



28.05.2024 - h 12:00 CET

Welcome!!

The TRANSNATURE interactive MAP:
An overview of relevant examples of
transboundary biodiversity protection.

www.transnature.eu/map

How the TBCSG can use and contribute to the map?

The TBCSG WEBINARS
Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group

INFO: tbcsg.webinars@gmail.com

The slide features a world map background. At the bottom, there are logos for IUCN, WCPA, and the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group.

Other ideas TBC:

Seas have not borders

Communities, biodiversity and borders

Tools for transboundary parks management

Crossborder wildlife monitoring and management

Crossborder tourism and protected areas

...

STUDY TOURS



Study-tour to the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park

Planned in 2025

Peace Park

<https://www.peaceparks.org/tfcas/great-limpopo/>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9zKgRacyfo>



Home to more than 850 animal and 2000 plant species.

One of the first formally established peace parks in southern Africa.

35 000 km²

Links the **Limpopo National Park** in **Mozambique**, the **Kruger National Park** in **South Africa**, and the **Gonarezhou National Park** in **Zimbabwe**.

Co-chairs



Stefania PETROSILLO



Piet THERON

Senior Advisors



Kevan ZUNCKEL



Maja VASILJEVIĆ



Regional Coordinator **Asia** : Liyuan QIAN, China



Regional Coordinator **Central & South America**: Francisco ASTURIAS, Guatemala



Regional Coordinator **East & South Africa**: Steve COLLINS, South Africa



We are looking for Regional coordinators for West & Central Africa, North Africa & West Asia, North America & the Caribbean, and Europe.

To Support and promote the presence in the Group of Transboundary areas of his/her region:

- Participate in the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- Support for the implementation of the key initiatives and activities;
- Grow the membership of the specialist group;
- Facilitate learning and knowledge sharing.



Thanks for your attention !

Stefania Petrosillo

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