

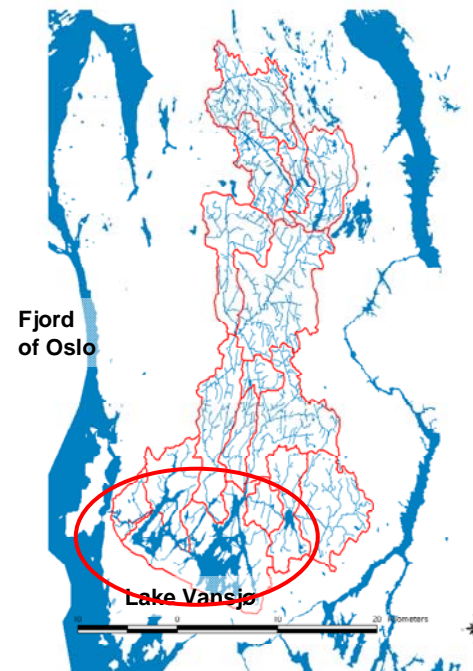
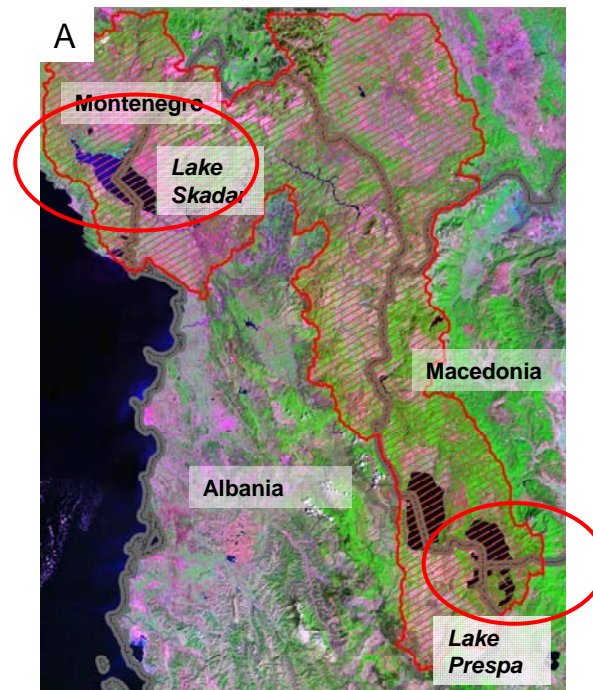


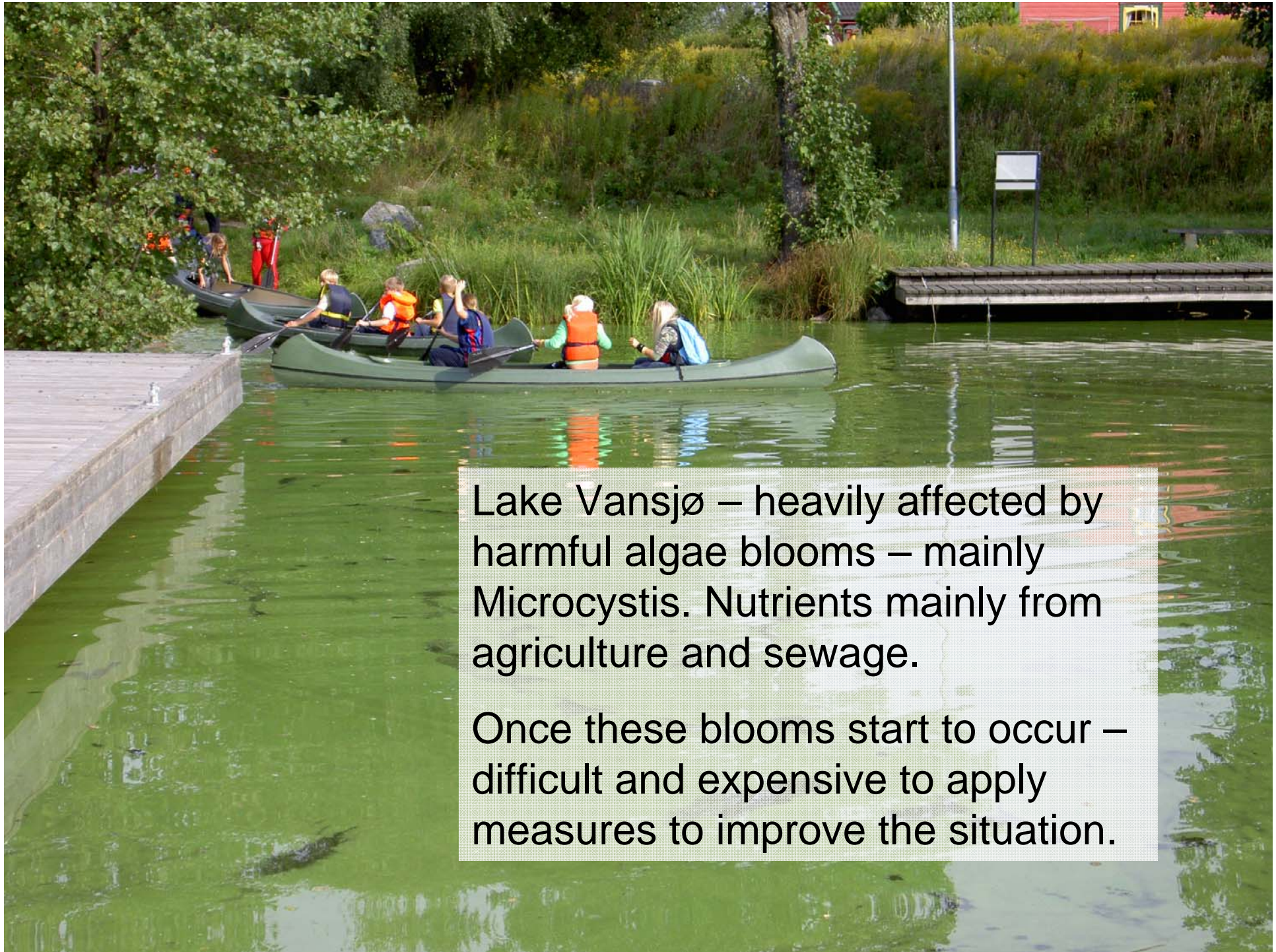
Transboundary Lakes in the Balkan Area, Monitoring and Management in Accordance with the EC Water Framework Directive

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3 lakes, 5 countries, numerous challenges!





Lake Vansjø – heavily affected by harmful algae blooms – mainly Microcystis. Nutrients mainly from agriculture and sewage.

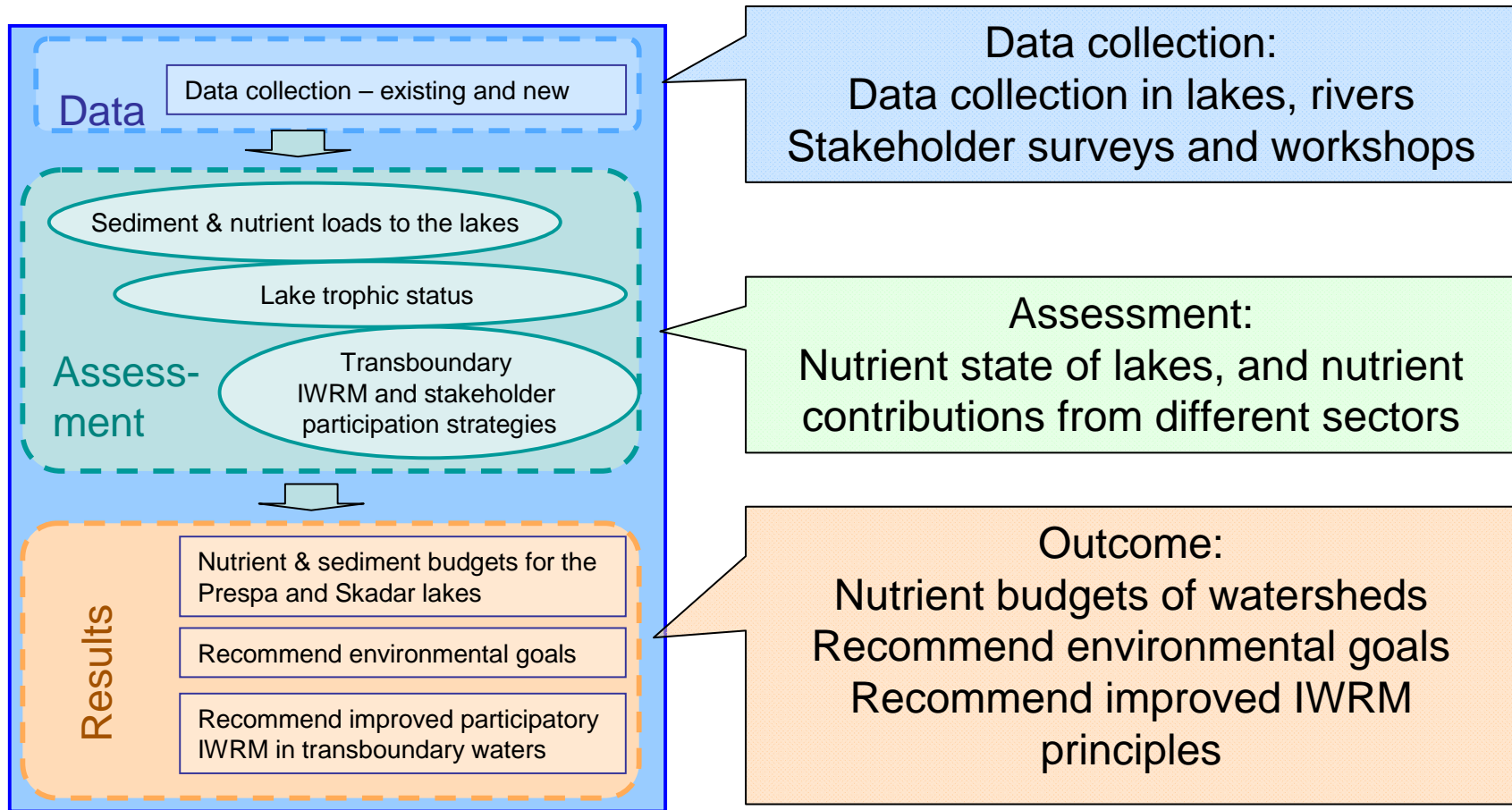
Once these blooms start to occur – difficult and expensive to apply measures to improve the situation.

Balkan lakes Skhodra and Prespa – what is their threshold levels?

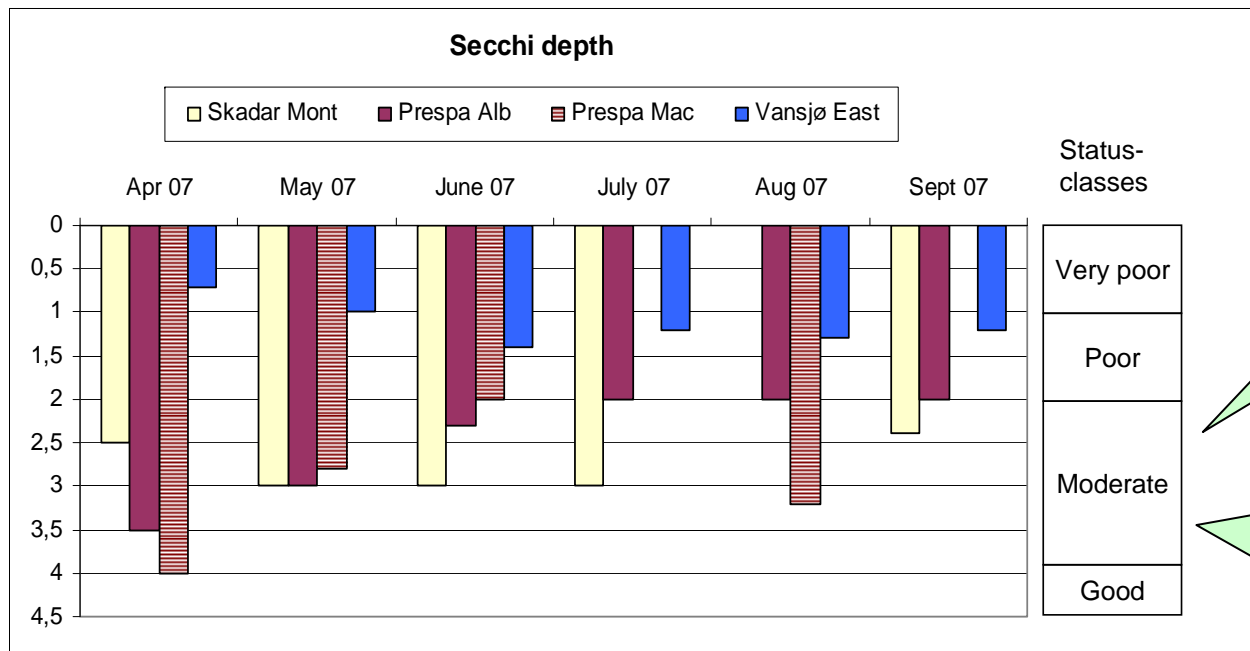
Need reliable data
and sound
environmental
management
strategies



The DRIMON project 2006-09



Water quality of the lakes and tributaries



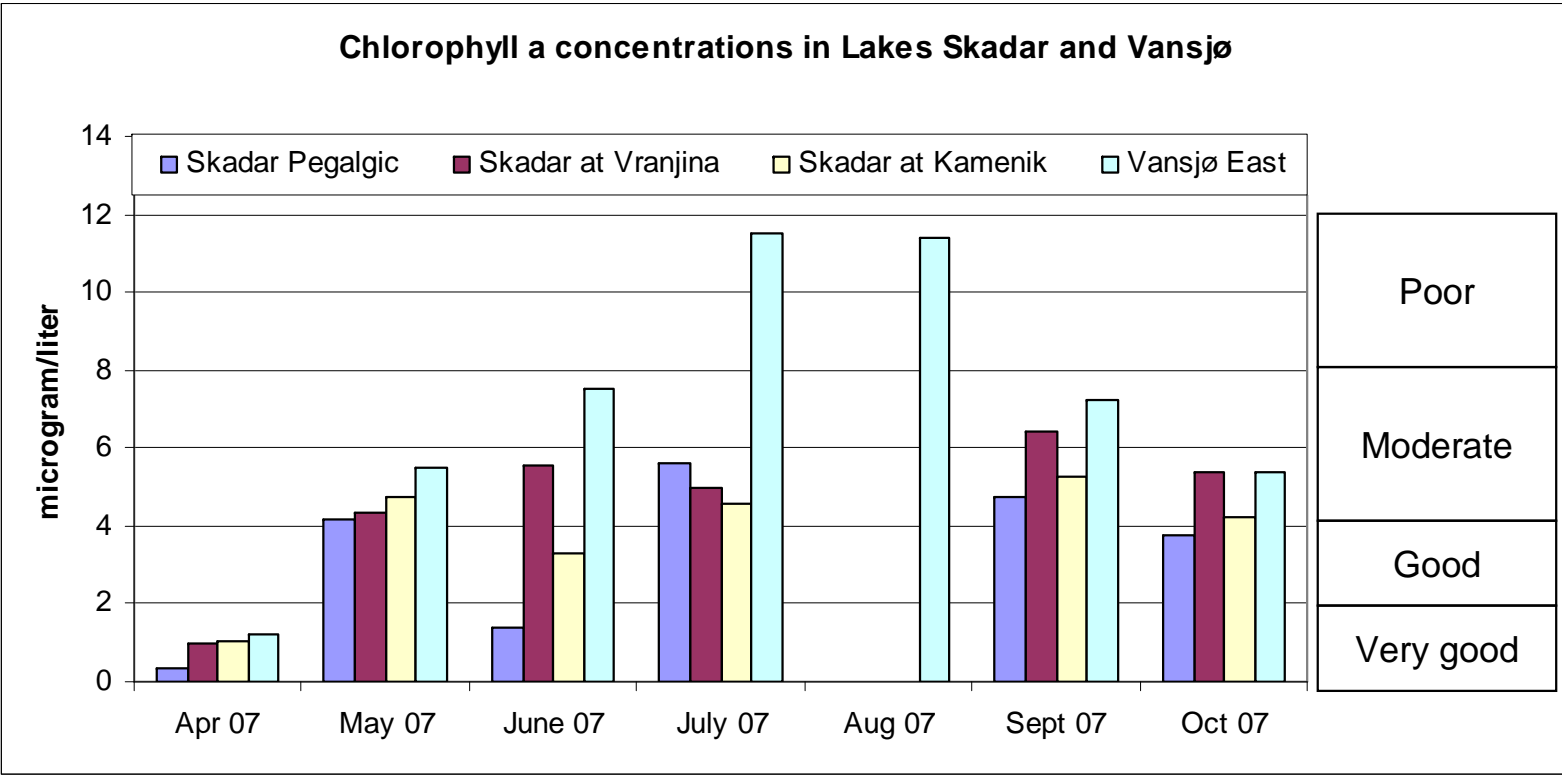
None of the lakes have good status in terms of water visibility

The Norwegian lake is in the poorest condition, but low visibility in Prespa during summer

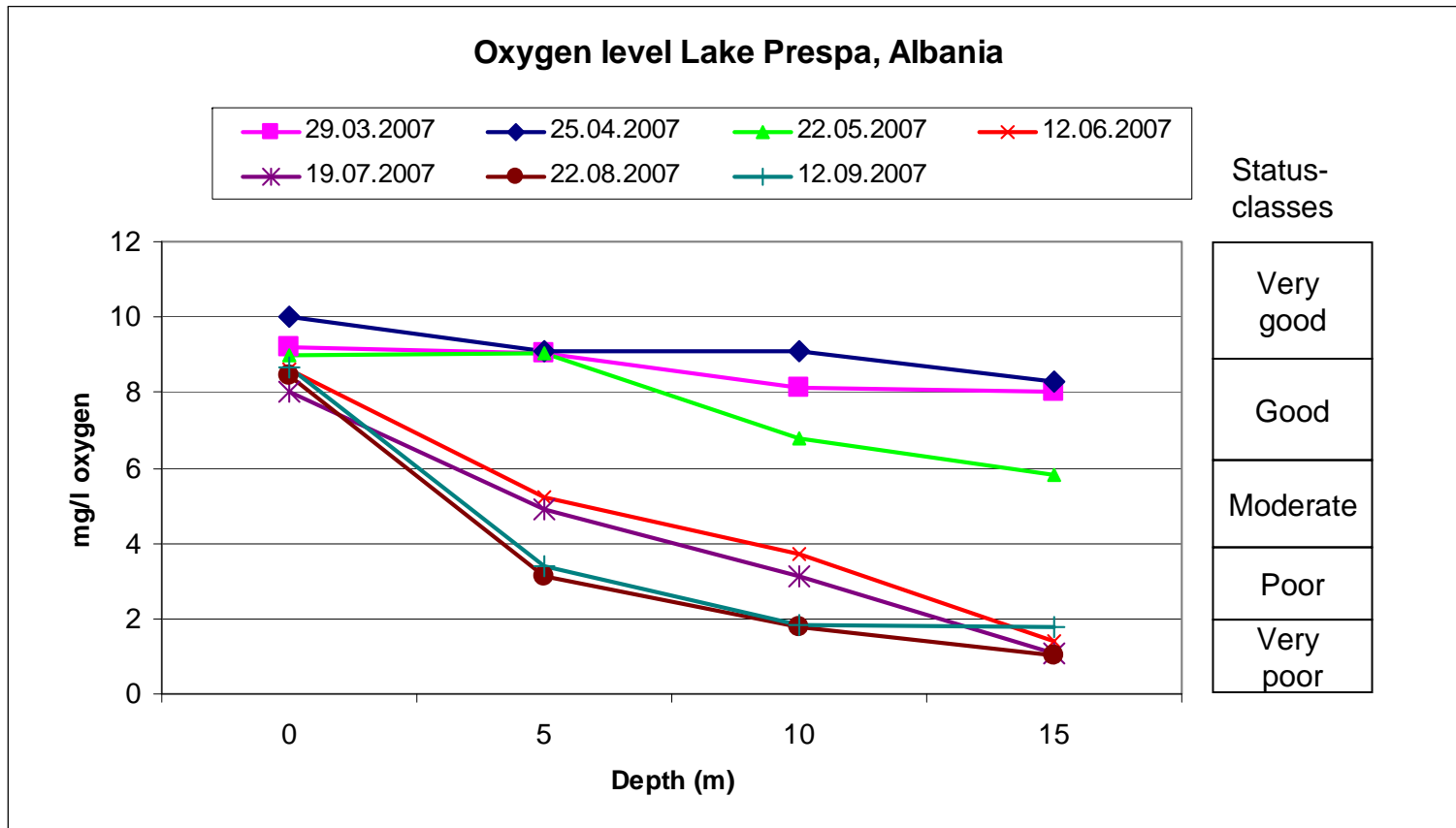


Skadar Chl a levels moderate to good

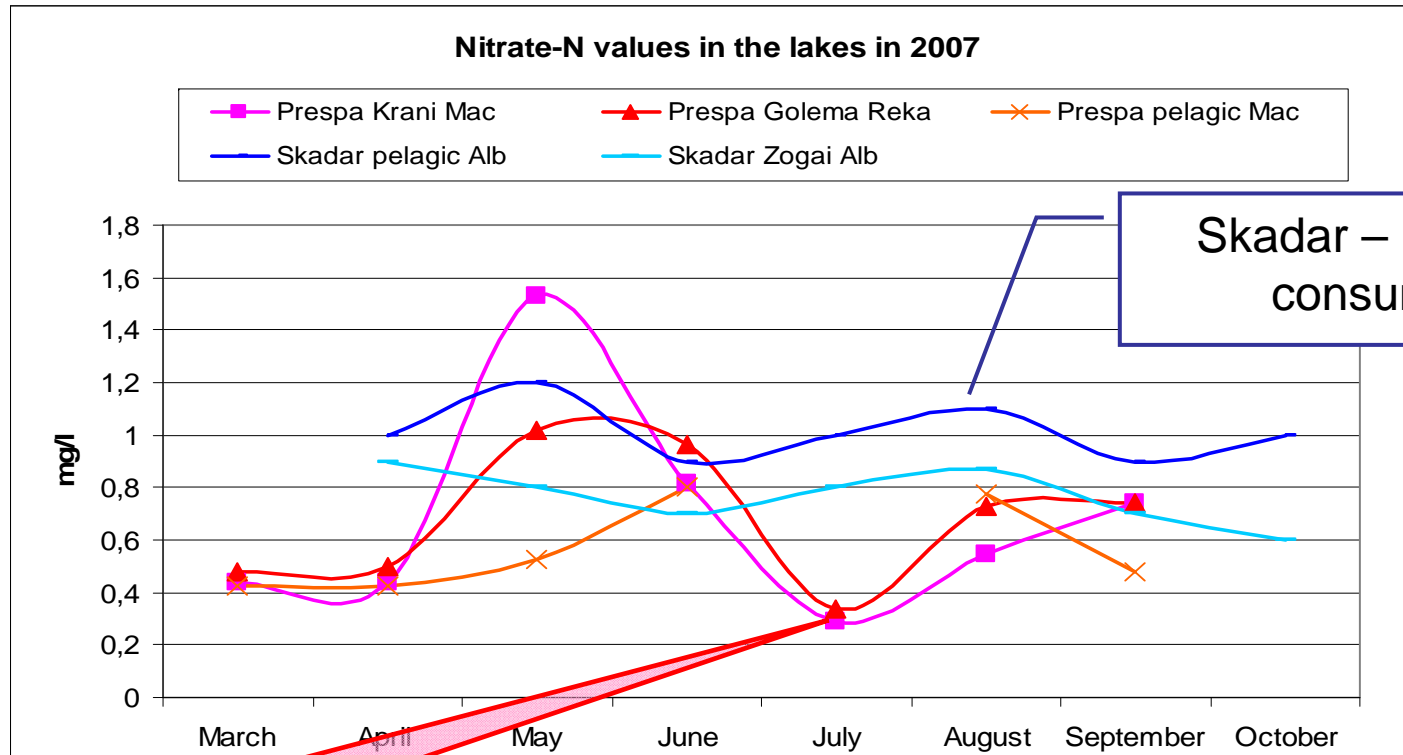
Lake Vansjø Poor status



Prespa Lake showed serious oxygen depletion at the bottom during the summer



Nitrate level variations



Skadar – less algae consumption

Prespa near shore:
Algae consumes NO₃,
or low inputs in summer



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Tourism Skadar Lake

In general, positive attitude towards increase

Government agencies keen to expand -- open the borders for foreign investors and relax legal systems to facilitate easy entry and operation

new employment opportunities

better prices for agricultural products and fish



Will invite more investments into the region

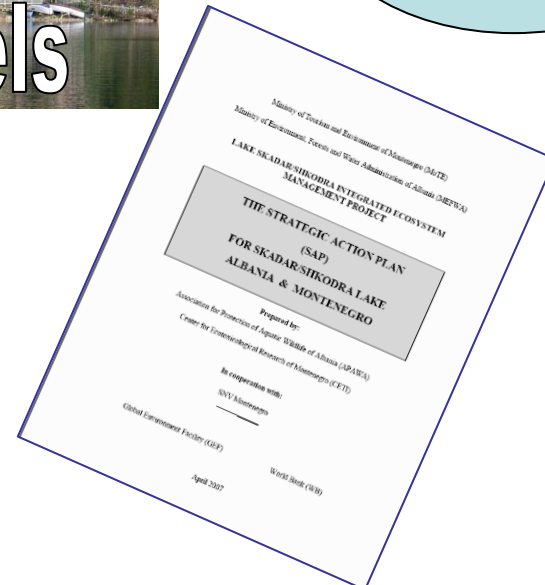
Sudden development likely to damage the environment if proper measures are not adopted to check environmental degradation.



Several agencies involved – but conflicting interests...



The prepared action plan for Skadar is yet to be implemented...



Is agriculture the greatest threat for the Prespa/Ohrid system .. or is tourism?



Stakeholder Workshop to be held just after the Balwois



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Management recommendations

- Focus on harmonised monitoring across states
- Improved data availability across countries
- Accreditation of laboratories
- Transboundary IWRM agreements to be followed up
- Abatement measures become more expensive the larger the problem becomes



Thank you for your attention



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