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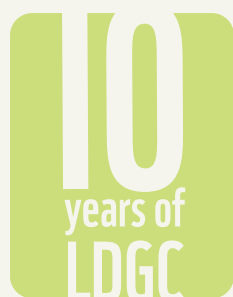
Nature Restoration

# Restoring the balance

Linking nature protection with community development in Lower Prut wetlands in Moldova



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1,4 million

THE LDGC TARGET  
FOR PROTECTION  
HAS BEEN  
EXCEEDED, 1,4  
MILION HECTARES  
BEING DESIGNATED  
AS PROTECTED  
AREAS

## Contribution to the LDGC

The Prut River serves as the state border between Moldova and Romania. The overall length of the site is 147 Km and its area is 21,850 ha, including 6,114 ha of wetlands.

In spite of extensive alterations and intensive human use, the area still holds a wide range of biotopes, supporting a high level of biodiversity of international significance, especially migratory birds. In 1991, an area of 1,691 ha (the Lake Belevu) of the Prut floodplain was designated as state reserve under strict level of protection and nominated as the first Ramsar site of Moldova.

## Wetlands management across borders

Lower Prut floodplain has preserved natural features despite human pressures on both sides of the river in Romania and Moldova.

In 2003, in Romania, an area of 8,247 ha was designated as Nature Park, just across the most important wetlands in Moldova, Belevu and Manta Lakes.

Joint planning between Romania and Moldova is essential to ensure the long-term viability of the lower Prut floodplains by establishing a cross-border protected area (53,000 ha).



## Stakeholder engagement

A strategic partnership is essential to promote the designation of a cross-border protected area.

Key actors are the managers of the existing protected areas in Romania (Lower Prut Nature Park Administration) and in Moldova (Lake Beleu Reserve Administration), National Forest Authorities (RomSilva and MoldSilva), NGOs and local communities.

## Vision

Protect nature beyond borders following nature's design.

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### Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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