

# Save our Vjosa

## Declaration against Dams and for a Vjosa National Park



We, the people of the Vjosa valley and other parts of Albania are concerned about the future of our river.

The Vjosa valley is our home. Its beautiful waters, meadows and forests support fishing, agriculture, livestock, as well as ecotourism and provide our communities with clean drinking water. Just as our UNESCO-listed polyphonic songs, its valley is an ancient treasure to be safeguarded. Moreover, it is home to around 400 endangered species. We learned that our river is one of the last big wild rivers in Europe.

However, 8 dams are foreseen along the Vjosa's course in Albania, threatening to destroy not only the natural and cultural heritage, but also affecting our future. We strongly oppose the dam projects and instead advocate to protect the river for us and for future generations.

**Therefore we appeal to our Prime Minister Mr. Edi Rama and the Albanian government to stop the dam projects and instead establish a Vjosa National Park according to international standards of the IUCN.**