

## Abbreviations

a.s.l., above sea level

AC, Archaeological Centre

AD, Anno Domini

ASP, Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning

BC, Before Christ

BGT, Botanical Garden of Tirana

CEMSA, the EU project Consolidation of Environmental Monitoring System of Albania

CPWB, Norwegian Co-operation Program on Research and Higher Education with the countries of the Western Balkans

DA, Domoic Acid

EC, European Community

ECAT –Tirana, Environmental Center for Administration and Technology in Tirana

EU, European Union

FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FNS, Faculty of Natural Sciences

GDP, Gross Domestic Product

HECs, Hydro-Electric Power Plants

IBAs, Important Bird Areas

INTERREG III- CADSIS, Cross-border Cooperation Program Italy-Albania

IPAs, Important Plant Areas

ISUV, Institute of Food Security and Veterinary

IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature

LNG, Liquefied Natural Gas

MAFCP, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection

METE, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy of Albania  
MNS, Museum of Natural Sciences  
MoEFWA, Ministry of Environment Forests and Water  
Administration of Albania  
MW, MegaWatt electrical  
NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
NP, National Park  
OM, Organic Matter  
PPNEA, Association for Protection and Preservation of Natural  
Environment in Albania  
RAMSAR, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance,  
especially as Waterfowl Habitat  
REC, Regional Environmental Center  
SCOPES, Scientific co-operation between Eastern Europe and  
Switzerland  
SEM, Scanning Electron Microscopy  
SNSF, Swiss National Science Foundation  
SPAs, Special Protected Areas  
StEMA, the EU project Strengthening of the Environmental  
Monitoring System in Albania  
TAP, Trans-Adriatic Pipeline  
TSS, Total Suspended Solids  
UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organization  
UT, University of Tirana  
WFD, EU Water Framework Directive  
WISER, Water bodies in Europe: Integrative Systems to assess  
Ecological status and Recovery