

And if the lake dies

According to the objectives of the conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project in order to raise public awareness and increase public participation in the conservation and management of wetland ecosystems. The project with the support of the General Department of Environmental Protection of West and East provinces of Azerbaijan and the cooperation of government agencies and relevant non-governmental organizations in Lake Urmia is the largest wetland partnership program in the country as a public participation program in support of Lake Urmia in five cities Held around this lake.

This program, which is the second successful experience of the conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project in holding popular and participatory wetland festivals after the Parishan Lake Festival, aims to inform the people and officials of the region about the critical conditions of the lake that affect the lives of human communities in the lake Urmia basin.

Lake Uromiyeh (5000 km²) is a vast hypersaline lake in NW Iran, shared between the provinces of East and West Azerbaijan. It lies at the lowest point within a closed drainage basin of about 52000 km², a smaller part of which lies in the Kordistan province. The Lake is a National Park, is the largest inland lake in Iran, is one of the largest Iranian Ramsar Sites, and in 1976 was recognized by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve. The Lake is surrounded by a number of important freshwater-brackish satellite wetlands, several of which are also of global significance for their biodiversity.

The Lake is a National Park, is one of the largest Iranian Ramsar Sites, and has been recognized by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve. The Lake is surrounded by a number of important freshwater-brackish satellite wetlands, several of which are also of global significance for their biodiversity. The Lake and satellite wetlands have been selected as a demonstration site for the UNDP/GEF/DOE Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project. This project aims to demonstrate reduction of the major threats to the internationally important biodiversity of this wetland protected area through promoting ecosystem-based management, coordinated through an integrated management plan.

For the last decade, Lake Urmia has been in a critical condition, as a result of declining water levels and increasing salinity. Many of its satellite wetlands have also been damaged by infrastructure works, land conversion, pollution and decreased water inflows. These problems, exacerbated by a long period of drought, threaten the globally important biodiversity and the many benefits that the Lake provides to Society.

But what to do? This book describes the necessary Actions to save Lake Urmia.