

Train-the-Trainers Capacity building workshop

WWF-Accession Initiative/Natura 2000 team, CEEWEB and EPCE Romania organized a capacity building workshop on Natura 2000 for NGO representatives from Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia between 12-14 January in Cluj Napoca, Romania.

The objective of this workshop was to prepare NGO representatives to play an active role as independent advocates for timely and effective implementation of Natura 2000 in their home countries. By developing a training material and making it available for all the participants and also for others interested in this topic, NGO representatives can be also able to organize and conduct training programs for other NGOs in their countries on Natura 2000, with a special focus on NGO contribution in the implementation process of N2000.

There were 28 NGO representatives from 3 countries (2 from Croatia, 8 from Bulgaria and 18 from Romania) representing 20 different NGOs.

On the first day a general overview was given about the conservation policy of the EU by András Krolopp, the General Secretary of CEEWEB, including biodiversity strategy and 6th Environmental Action Plan, followed by short presentation about the Habitats and Birds Directive (trainer Dorottya Papp, Natura 2000 program coordinator). After it the participants started working in parallel working groups aiming a better understanding of Natura 2000 related issues. The second day there was a lecture about financing Natura 2000 followed by a discussion about the role of NGOs and networks. In the afternoon there was opportunity to get to know more about the experiences of Daphne with introducing LIFE and SAPARD in Slovakia and making shadow lists by Veronica in Czech Republic (trainers Eva Viestova). Mojmir Vlazin, member of Natura 2000 working group was present as a trainer and he gave a lecture and practical advise about the importance and process of making shadow lists.

In order to make the workshop more interactive there were presentations about the present situation in Croatia, Bulgaria and Romania. Jagoda Munic, another member of the Natura 2000 working group was talking about the present state of Natura 2000 process in Croatia.

On the third day the participants were asked to develop plans including what they would do in order to help Natura 2000 establishment in their home country. They intend to organize workshops, to give training to other stakeholders, establish national and international level NGO platforms, prepare shadow lists, to help to amend the Annexes of the Habitats Directive on Black Sea biogeographic region. You can find the detailed training report including planned activities of the trainees on CEEWEB website (www.ceeweb.org) and a shorter version below.

Romania

Activity/project	Time
Three regional training courses for NGO's - Phare Access project	February-March
Workshop for national governmental and NGO representatives on developing a common vision and work plan	
Pilot awareness raising projects	
High Level seminar for stakeholders, to raise awareness	Mid-August
NGO platform meeting	
"The implementation of the EU Nature Conservation Legislation in Romania"	Jan. 2004 - Dec. 2005
Carry out scientific work , gap analysis of data from NGO's, start with a workshop for all taxonomic groups (separate for birds)	Mid-February

Build capacity on Natura 2000 with local environmental agencies	
Work with the government to carry out SWOT analysis and clarify cooperation	March
Respond to threats to potential Natura 2000 sites , communications work among NGO's, prepare actions	ongoing
Maintain close communications with Bulgaria (cooperate on Shadow List)	ongoing

Bulgaria

Conservation of species and habitats in Bulgaria (DANCEE-project) - implementing Natura 2000	
Supporting the review of the borders of the Alpine biogeographic region, including Mediterranean biogeographic region	2005
Facilitate cooperation between Bulgarian NGO's and scientists to create working groups on habitats, certain groups of species, financing N2000, lobbying awareness rising and other N2000 related issues	Sept. 2004
Status report , analysis of current situation on Natura 2000	February
Cooperation with Romania on Black Sea bio geographic region, including amendments to annexes and review of habitats and species	Sept. 2004
Maintain N2000 information exchange within the platform	ongoing
Establish platform with Romanian colleagues, develop common positions , statements on threats	Dec. 2004
Training of Stakeholders at national and regional level	May 2004
Preparation of national Shadow List – define the criteria for selection and threats for the potential N2000 sites	Dec. 2004
Continue developing inventories of especially habitats	ongoing

Croatia

Activity	Time
Capacity building workshop with governmental representatives	March

Dorottya Papp