

# WORK PROGRAMME 2009

*Fundraising actions have been done or being done for the highlighted priority activities (see the sources of possible funding below)*

*Some activities "only" require human resources within the office, which we try to ensure if the situation allows*

## CLIMATE CHANGE – integration into other policies

Input to the EU discussion on biodiversity and climate change

### Objectives:

- Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change integrate all sustainability aspects and do not harm biodiversity
- Shape EU and national policies accordingly and enable EU-10 NGOs to engage in EU and national discussions
- Raise awareness of EU and national decision makers on the relationships between climate change, ecosystems, energy production and other sectors

### Activities:

- Continue to participate in the work of the Consultation/ Interest Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change and represent CEE NGO position based on sustainability principles
- Channel EU-10 experiences related to national climate change policies building on the assessment work done by CEEweb in 2008 to EU consultations and meetings (e.g. the conference on biodiversity and climate change by the Swedish Presidency)
- Follow-up the EU discussion in all EU institutions on the EC Communication on climate change adaptation possibly published in the end of 2008
- Influence the joint EU position on climate change mitigation and adaptation (also in view of UNFCCC COPs) indirectly through national level consultations in some EU-10 countries
- Channel the results back to the member organisations (on e-mail lists, Natura 2000 WG meetings) and thus enable them to get more engaged in national discussions
- Prepare a publication on different aspects of climate change mitigation and adaptation related to biodiversity as an input to EU and national discussion

### Expected results and outputs:

- CEE NGO participation in stakeholder, personal and electronic consultations on EU level
- Publication on different aspects of the links between climate change and biodiversity
- Consultations on national level in EU-10
- Biodiversity and sustainability are considered better in the EU climate change discussions

### Expected sources of funding:

- A proposal will be submitted to the Swedish government (or others, if needed) for the work on climate change and biodiversity (participation in the international consultations, processes, organising national forums, preparing a publication/leaflet)
- A proposal has been sent to UNEP/PEBLDS on providing NGO input into the 5<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity in Europe conference on climate change and biodiversity (preparing background documents, concrete tasks at the Conference), but further consultations are still necessary with UNEP

## NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY

### 2.1 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – EU policy formulation

Post 2010 Biodiversity Policy in the EU

### Objectives:

- Explore the drivers behind biodiversity loss and raise awareness of sustainability considerations of biodiversity conservation
- Promote holistic approach in developing future biodiversity policies, which can ensure the maintenance of ecosystem services in the long term

- Promote the preparation of a post 2010 target with high level adoption of EU decision makers in cooperation with other NGO networks
- Prepare within CEEweb for future EU discussions on post 2010 biodiversity policies and legislation

#### Activities:

- Organise two Policy Working Group meetings in 2009 to further elaborate the CEEweb policy on biodiversity in a sustainability context (based on the biodiversity vision of CEEweb developed in 2008)
- Provide input into the EU level negotiations on a post 2010 policy through EU consultations and meetings (Nature Director Meetings, European Habitats Forum, EU conference on post 2010 policy, meetings with the Commission, forum on BAP in the EP etc.) also using the findings of the CEEweb assessment of the BAP mid-term review
- Follow up the discussions on the BAP mid-term review in the EU institutions and MSs
- Draw attention of decision-makers to the links between biodiversity and ecosystems and socio-economic issues (financial crisis, social equity, etc.) through media communication and consultations
- Contribute to the further development of the post-2010 vision for biodiversity within the post 2010 subgroup of the European Habitats Forum
- Prepare a publication on sustainable development and biodiversity (also in relation to the BAP)
- Organise national discussions for decision makers in some EU-10 countries on the BAP and holistic policies for biodiversity conservation, also with a view to influence later discussions in the Environment Council and the EP about post 2010 policies
- Communicate the CEEweb position related to post 2010 policies through the media

#### Expected results and outputs:

- Two Policy Working Group meetings
- Publication on sustainable development and biodiversity
- National consultations on sustainable development, biodiversity and the BAP
- The drivers behind biodiversity loss and the sustainability considerations of future biodiversity policies are better considered in the negotiations and there is a greater awareness on them

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Funding inquiries have been sent to more than a dozen foundations on a biodiversity campaign in relation to the post 2010 biodiversity policy discussion (e.g. Fundación Biodiversidad, Wallace Foundation, Oak Foundation, etc., from some places we already received rejections)
- A proposal to be sent the Belgian Government

### Channelling scientific results on biodiversity into decision-making

#### Objectives:

- Biodiversity policies are based on sound scientific basis

#### Activities:

- Organise a forum for scientists and policy makers on EU level for strengthening the science-policy interface in the field of biodiversity (this project idea came from our partners recently)

#### Expected results and outputs:

- A forum organised in autumn

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal to be sent to the Swedish government

### The role of wilderness concept in the EU biodiversity policy

#### Objectives

- Ensure that the wilderness concept can be used to its full potential in areas where non-management is appropriate and ensure that the concept is not misused in Natura 2000

- Influence the formulation of policies under the new EU wilderness initiative

#### Activities

- Organise a CEEweb Academy on wilderness in spring in preparation for the EU debate
- Provide input into the debate about the wilderness concept at the Wilderness Conference under the Czech Presidency and provide technical support for the organisation of the conference
- Follow up and continue to provide input into the debate in the EP on the wilderness report as appropriate

#### Expected results and outputs:

- CEE position on the wilderness initiative channelled to the conference and the EP report
- CEEweb Academy for CEE NGOs
- The wilderness concept provides a clear and effective contribution to EU biodiversity conservation

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal sent to the Finnish government, and inquiries sent to CEE governments
- Possible funding from the Italian government?

### EU policy in Invasive Alien Species

#### Objectives:

- Effective EU policies are developed focusing on the prevention of spreading of IAS, which respond to the drivers behind

#### Activities:

- Lobby for sufficient support in EU institutions for developing EU legislation on IAS (e.g. through generating support within the framework of a possible EP resolution on BAP and the report on wilderness) in cooperation with other NGOs (e.g. Birdlife)

#### Expected results and outputs:

- CEEweb position, consultations with the involvement of members
- Support for the development of EU legislation on IAS by EU institutions

#### Expected sources of funding:

### Building up contacts with new EU-10 MEPs

#### Objectives:

- Raise the interest and present the CEEweb position on biodiversity, sustainability and other issues for new EU-10 MEPs and thus provide overall guidance for their future legislative work
- Build up contacts with new MEPs in a view for later lobbying and cooperation

#### Activities:

- Approach EU-10 MEP candidates on biodiversity and other policies during the election campaign through questionnaire and communicate the CEEweb position also through the press
- Organise a forum in autumn for the new EU-10 MEPs in Brussels on biodiversity and other EU policies presenting the CEEweb biodiversity vision and position on future EU policy directions in 2009-2014

#### Expected results and outputs:

- Forum for new EU-10 MEPs in autumn
- Press release, position paper on biodiversity vision and future EU biodiversity policies
- Greater understanding of the drivers behind biodiversity loss, sustainability and other issues among new EU-10 MEPs, which will help their future work

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Heinrich Böll – rejected for 2009
- Proposal sent to Humane Earth

## Influencing EU discussions regarding the Business and Biodiversity Initiative

### Objectives:

- Promote the involvement of business into biodiversity conservation through the EU “Business and Biodiversity” Initiative

### Activities:

- Follow up the EU discussions on the EU “Business and Biodiversity” initiative and the establishment of the European platform, and provide EU-10 positions with special focus on the small and medium enterprises
- Cooperate with other civil organizations and NGO networks active in this process (e.g. ECNC, IUCN, RSPB) and participate in consultations and relevant meetings

### Expected results:

- CEE NGO and stakeholder views and needs are represented in consultations and integrated into actions (e.g. the establishment of a technical facility) under the Business and Biodiversity initiative

## 2.2 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – EU policy implementation

### Supporting the implementation of CBD COP decisions

#### Objectives:

- Support that CBD COP decisions, which provide guidance for the European Community and its MSs all being Parties to the CBD, are better implemented on EU level and in MSs through the mechanism provided by the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS), the regional arm for implementation of the CBD, where all EU MSs participate and the European Commission is an observer
- Ensure that PEBLDS provides an added value for biodiversity conservation at EU level and promote (sub)regional cooperation on practical activities starting under PEBLDS in 2009-2010 for achieving the global (CBD), Pan-European (PEBLDS) and EU (BAP) biodiversity targets

#### Activities:

- Provide NGO input into the preparation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity in Europe conference in 2009 summer (e.g. for the preparation of agenda)
- Organise CEE NGO input into the 5<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity in Europe Conference through preparatory NGO consultations and meetings
- Support practical activities providing added value under PEBLDS based on the regional CEEweb assessment on the state of biodiversity, the main pressures, problems and achievements at national level and the BAP mid-term review
- Mobilize NGOs for actions relevant for the achievement of Pan-European and EU biodiversity targets and BAP implementation through the PEBLDS

#### Expected results and outputs:

- NGO preparatory meeting and consultations
- Strong CEE NGO lobby for practical activities on CBD implementation under PEBLDS and effective implementation based on the regional assessments
- More active involvement of NGOs and countries in implementation of the CBD, EU biodiversity targets and policies
- Enhanced implementation of the global, Pan-European and BAP targets in MSs

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Funding ensured from the Swiss Government already

### Better enforcement of biodiversity legislation

#### Objectives:

- Strengthen the enforcement of European biodiversity legislation in EU-10
- Ensure the adequate representation of EU-10 concerns regarding biodiversity policy implementation in the work of the European Commission and MSs

#### Activities:

- Develop EU-10 NGO positions related to Natura 2000 implementation utilising the great and diverse technical expertise existing within the CEEweb Natura 2000 WG (e.g. on art. 6 of the Habitats Directive as an input to the NDM in June)
- Represent these EU 10 positions at consultation meetings with the European Commission (e.g. through bilateral meeting and the Nature the Director Meetings) and in relevant international NGO networks (the European Habitats Forum, European Environmental Bureau Biodiversity and Agriculture Working Groups)
- Continue participating in Greenforce meetings to provide input into the ongoing discussion on practical implementation problems of EU legislation in the EU-10 countries

#### Expected results and outputs:

- The specific EU-10 concerns are represented, position papers prepared as necessary

#### Expected sources of funding:

- A bilateral meeting between Ladislav Miko and the Natura 2000 WG is planned this fall. It might be linked with the CEE MEP forum

### Natura 2000 designation in new MSs

#### Objectives

- Natura 2000 site designation is based on purely scientific ground, and the sites are sufficient to provide favourable conservation status of the species or habitats of Community importance

#### Activities

- Provide input into the repeated Polish biogeographic seminar and ensure adequate representation of NGOs in the seminar
- Lobby for the participation of observers from (potential) candidate countries at the Polish seminar
- Support the finalisation of Natura 2000 designation in Romania according to the conclusions of the biogeographic seminar through preparing scientific proposals and lobby activities at national and EU levels
- Support the speedy elimination of the remaining gaps of site designation in all new MSs

#### Expected results and outputs:

- Natura 2000 designation in the new Member States is based on the best available scientific basis and is sufficient to maintain species and habitats of European importance

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Maybe some small funds for bilateral experience exchange is secured from the Hungarian Civic Fund (no official reply received yet)
- CEEweb has been helping to fundraise for preparing N2000 shadow list in Romania since autumn, after several rejections from governments (Finnish, Dutch, German), a proposal has been sent to German partners

### N2000 management

#### Objectives:

- Natura 2000 sites are appropriately managed in EU-10 to ensure the favourable conservation status of species and habitats of Community importance
- Raise awareness and achieve support for Natura 2000 management from various stakeholders

#### Activities:

- Organise two meetings for the Natura 2000 Working Group which provide a platform for knowledge, information and best practice exchange related to Natura 2000 designation and management, as well as for formulating and articulating common NGO positions in EU-10
- Follow up on national level how Natura 2000 sites are managed

- Lobby for better N2000 management on national level using the results of the composite Art. 17 report
- Communicate the results of the EU composite Article 17 report in national media
- Explore the possible ways of discussing and ensuring the appropriate management of Natura 2000 sites on biogeographic level at a Natura 2000 Working Group meeting
- Continue cooperation with Ministries of Defence, Ministries of Environment and other relevant bodies to ensure the conservation of natural values in military training areas of conservation importance in CEE countries

Results and outputs:

- National level press work on Art. 17 composite report and Natura 2000 management
- CEEweb Natura 2000 Working Group meetings
- CEEweb proposal on how to discuss and ensure the appropriate management of Natura 2000 sites
- Greater awareness on Natura 2000 management issues at national level among stakeholders and better implementation of necessary measures

Expected sources of funding:

- Discussions on N2000 are planned to be held back to back with the CEEweb Academy on Wilderness, and with the AM

Natura 2000 in forests

Objectives

- Ensure that forested Natura 2000 sites are reaching favourable conservation status

Activities

- Collect case studies and scientific documentation on how different forestry management systems and methods affect species and habitats of Community importance
- Initiate a strategic complaint on forests and Natura 2000, if relevant

Results

- Problems of management of forested Natura 2000 sites are better understood and dealt with at EU level
- Case studies on Natura 2000 and forests are collected highlighting the negative and positive management methods

Expected sources of funding:

- The needs for these activities and the ways of the implementation are still being discussed with the European Commission and within the N2000 WG. If necessary, fundraising will be made.

Monitoring the implementation of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulation

Objectives:

- Better enforcement of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulation (EU WTR, transposing the CITES provisions) in CEE countries and thus also contribute to the implementation of the EC Biodiversity Communication (Action 8.1.8)

Activities:

- Monitor the internet commerce of CITES listed species in CEE countries based on the CEEweb methodology, publish the results before CITES COP-15 with a view to influence MSs' position at the COP in January 2010

Expected results:

- Data on implementation of EU WTR gathered and report prepared
- Enforcement of EU WTR promoted through feedback about implementation

Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal sent to IFAW

2.3 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – integration into other polices

## Promoting the implementation of the EU Business and Biodiversity initiative

### Objectives:

- Promote the involvement of business in biodiversity conservation and in the EU Business and Biodiversity initiative
- Contribute to the development of an enabling financial environment for pro-biodiversity businesses

### Activities:

- Inform small and medium enterprises and other stakeholders about the Business and Biodiversity initiative
- Explore the needs of small and medium enterprises and other stakeholders in the framework for a joint workshop with Dutch partners
- Compile training material for the business and biodiversity workshop participants
- Share CEE experiences on pro-biodiversity business initiatives and possibly expand the collection of case studies on the website

### Expected results:

- Workshop and training material for CEE SMEs (about 30 participants)
- The accumulation of best practices which can be used as good examples in other countries and regions in Europe
- More and more SMEs get involved in pro-biodiversity businesses

## Sustainability in CAP and rural development

### Objectives

- Greater understanding among decision makers of the drivers behind biodiversity loss, which are related to agriculture and rural development
- Better cooperation and information exchange between EU-10 NGOs, EU institutions and other stakeholders on agriculture and rural development

### Activities

- Promote understanding among EU decision-makers and other (potential) partners through electronic and personal consultations and lobby for the CEEweb policy
- Participate in the Advisory Group on Agriculture and Environment
- Prepare a publication/leaflet on the drivers behind biodiversity loss related to the CAP and rural development targeting decision makers, and provide as an input to the forum for new EU-10 MEPs in autumn
- Organise a CEEweb Rural Development Working Group (RDWG) meeting to discuss issues related to CAP and rural development and share EU-10 experiences

### Results

- One RDWG meeting
- Better understanding among decision makers on the sustainability context of CAP and rural development
- Established working contacts with decision makers
- Publication on the CAP and rural development in a sustainability context

### Expected sources of funding:

- An RDWG meeting planned back to back with the AM

## Supporting Leader programmes and revitalizing rural communities

### Objectives

- Empower the local communities to be better able to take responsibility for their wellbeing
- Make use of the opportunities of direct marketing of local products for rural development and Leader programmes
- More sovereignty for local communities through properly designed and implemented Leader programmes

### Activities

- Continue capacity-building for Leader communities on the basis of needs collected at the Leader Forum in November 2008 through organising a follow up forum in autumn
- Support direct marketing of environmentally friendly agricultural products in EU-10 for better livelihood of farmers and conserving genetic diversity of agricultural breeds and varieties
- Evaluate the relevant EU and national legislation on direct marketing in a few CEE countries, as well as lobby for simplifying and optimising quality standards and regulations, which make use of the opportunities provided by EU legislation

#### Results

- International forum on Leader programmes
- Suitable regulations and therefore more opportunities for direct marketing
- Direct marketing more widespread in EU-10

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal on promoting direct marketing sent to the DOEN Foundation (if rejected, will be submitted to others), and complemented with funds from the Hungarian Civic Fund (submitted)
- Inquiry on funding for Leader forum has been sent to the Austrian government

### Organic and environmentally friendly farming

#### Objectives

- Promote traditional and environmentally friendly methods of agricultural production

#### Activities

- Cooperate with farmers' associations, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders on environmentally friendly methods by involving them in CEEweb activities
- Publish a briefing about better use of available EU funding opportunities for organic production at national and EU level

#### Results and outputs

- Policy briefing on funding for organic farming
- Better understanding of the importance of organic farming among NGOs and producers
- More farmers switching to organic and environmentally friendly farming

### Environmentally sound use of biomass

#### Objectives

- Policies and financial subsidies ensure the environmentally sound use of all forms of biomass in the EU

#### Activities

- Keep on lobbying for moratorium on agrofuels with cooperation with FoE, EEB, Birdlife, etc. and disseminating the CEEweb/Friends of the Earth Hungary publication on the threats of biomass among decision makers and stakeholders

#### Results

- Better understanding of the social, environmental and economic impacts of biomass use and production

### Influencing tourism-related policies of EU

#### Objectives

- Influence tourism-related EU policy formulation so that it integrates biodiversity and Natura 2000 considerations and respect sustainability principles

#### Activities

- Participate in the work of Tourism Sustainability Group (TSG) of DG Enterprise through a representative; collect and provide CEE input to TSG work based on the practical experiences of the CEEweb Sustainable Tourism Working Group



- Regularly inform CEEweb members about the activities of TSG and exchange experiences of NGOs working on policy level
- Collect positive and negative case studies on tourism developments in Natura 2000 sites in EU-10 countries
- Use the case studies for lobbying on EU level: draw the attention of the European Commission, the Council and the new European Parliament to the a) negative impacts of unsustainable tourism developments in Natura 2000 sites in CEE countries, b) benefits that tourism may bring to the conservation of Natura 2000 sites

#### Results and outputs

- Information sharing among CEE NGOs and with TSG of DG Enterprise
- Background material on tourism impacts on Natura 2000 sites in CEE countries
- Lobbying activities

### Best practices in implementing and promoting the CBD Tourism Guidelines

#### Objectives

- Support the implementation of the EC Biodiversity Communication (action A 4.4.1) namely to promote and implement best practices of CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism development
- Promote and implement best practices of the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism
- Build capacity of NGOs in CEE to implement the CBD Tourism Guidelines

#### Activities

- Develop further the manual on the implementation of the CBD Guidelines by NGOs based on CEE experiences in model sites
- Share experiences and build capacity at meetings on the implementation of CBD Tourism Guidelines with the involvement of other NGOs from CEE
- Discuss experiences, case studies and the manual with the CBD Secretariat and with the EU Tourism Sustainability Group of DG Enterprise

#### Results

- Capacity building meeting for CEE NGOs
- Draft manual on the implementation of CBD Guidelines by NGOs in electronic version
- Knowledge and skills of stakeholders regarding tourism and the implementation of the CBD guidelines is increased

## 2.4 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – awareness raising/environmental education

### Ecosystem services and their link to human well-being

#### Objectives:

- Higher awareness of the decision-makers on the importance of ecosystem services in human well-being and thus contribute to the EU debate on post 2010 biodiversity vision and communication of values of ecosystem services as envisaged in the EC Biodiversity Communication

#### Activities:

- Disseminate the prepared easy-language publication “Why biodiversity loss matters? Answers to children and ministers” among national and EU policy and decision-makers dealing with agriculture, forestry, economy, trade, regional planning, etc.

#### Expected results and outputs:

- Raised awareness and interest on the issue first of all among CEE and EU decision makers

#### Expected sources of funding:

- Funding secured from the Swiss government, publication in English and Russian printed

- Proposal for the Hungarian version and other publication to be submitted to the Hungarian Civic Fund

## Pan-European Biodiversity Picnic and Natura 2000

### Objectives:

- Higher awareness of the public and decision-makers on the importance of biodiversity and Natura 2000 in human well-being and thus contribute to the EU debate on vision on biodiversity
- Contribute to the better management of Natura 2000 sites

### Activities:

- Promote and support the organisation of the Biodiversity Picnic on national level in EU countries on International Biodiversity Day if possible, linked to the issue of Natura 2000 management on the occasion of the publishing the composite Art.17. report
- Communicate the results of the Picnic with photos and posters at EU and other international events and thus facilitate the involvement of more countries in biodiversity discussions in and around 2010

### Expected results:

- National Picnic events organised in 2009 with wide stakeholder involvement and great media attention
- Raised public awareness on biodiversity and Natura 2000 through the media

### Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal sent and informal endorsement received from UNEP/PEBLDS

## Awareness raising on EU Wildlife Trade Regulation

### Objectives:

- Higher awareness and improved knowledge about the obligations of EU WTR among the public and authorities in CEE

### Activities:

- Continue the photo exhibition on EU WTR (started to prepare in 2007) through displaying it for altogether half a year in the next round of four CEE countries targeting the public

### Expected results:

- Photo exhibitions in four CEE countries
- Increased awareness and knowledge on EU WTR in CEE countries

### Expected sources of funding:

- Resources secured from previous funding

## 2.5 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – international aspects

### Preparing for EU accession in the field of agriculture and rural development

#### Objectives:

- Improved knowledge and understanding of EU legislation among NGOs from (potential) candidate countries and the possibilities of NGOs in involvement on EU and national levels

#### Activities:

- Organize capacity-building workshops for NGOs from (potential) candidate countries to provide fresh EU-10 experiences on the legislative and practical background of EU rural development policy, especially agro-environmental schemes, and on the NGO lobbying opportunities at national and Community level related to CAP implementation
- Promote the sharing of this knowledge within the countries concerned with the active participation of our partners

#### Expected results and outputs

- Meetings organized for SEE NGOs, background materials prepared
- Improved capacities of SEE NGOs, governments and other stakeholders

Expected sources of funding:

- Support from the Hungarian Civic Fund (only informal info received on endorsement), proposal sent to Central European Initiative

## HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

### HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES – EU policy formulation

Strategic approach and a written CEEweb policy for lobbying in the EU

Objectives:

- EU policies, strategic objectives and the EU budget fully support sustainability in a holistic way and thus the currently conflicting policies and decisions are reconciled
- Develop a strategic approach and CEEweb positions as response to the drivers behind biodiversity loss

Activities:

- Continue the work of the Policy Working Group (PWG) established in 2008, which develops a common level of understanding of the drivers behind biodiversity loss and develops a strategic approach for holistic policy responses
- Lobby for a strategic approach in EU policy formulation and provide input to ongoing EU discussions (future biodiversity policy, the future of EU SDS, the Budget Review, CAP reform, etc.) through positions and consultations with decision makers and other stakeholders, in cooperation with other networks (e.g. EEB, Birdlife)
- Communicate the CEEweb policy through the media, the website and all CEEweb publications

Expected results and outputs:

- Positions prepared
- At least two meetings of the PWG in 2009 and electronic consultations on positions
- Improved EU policies, with more holistic approach

Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal on the PWG and biodiversity policy to be sent to the Belgian government

# ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Strategic approach for lobbying in the EU

## Objectives:

- Develop a strategic approach and written policy for CEEweb, which provides guidance for lobbying and the work of the WGs

## Activities:

- Continue the work of the Policy Working Group (PWG) which develops a common level of understanding of environmental problems and necessary responses from society, and develops a written policy through meetings and consultations
- Broaden the understanding of the strategic approach within the CEEweb network through the CEEweb Academy and other meetings and information channels (e-mail lists, website, biannual magazine, publications, etc.)

## Expected results:

- At least two meetings of the PWG
- Written policy and positions, which also reflect upon the challenges related to biodiversity loss in a holistic way

Information sharing and cooperation inside and outside the CEEweb network

## Objectives:

- Communicate that CEEweb is a proactive lobbying force comprising member organizations with valuable experiences in the various fields related to EU policies and implementation
- More effective work and cooperation within the network
- Activated network with more motivated and strongly dedicated members through better communication and sharing of best practices, fundraising opportunities through the website, mailing lists and the magazine

## Activities:

- Implement the CEEweb communication plan for better internal and external information sharing and communication
- Explore innovative means of communication for delivering the message to decision makers and the members and organise a staff retreat for that purpose in January
- Publish the magazine 'Diversity' twice a year targeting member organizations and relevant EU and CEE policy makers
- Regularly inform on EU and national policy developments, activities of members and the network, news and positions from the network through the mailing lists and the CEEweb website ([www.ceeweb.org](http://www.ceeweb.org)), including the further development of a publications for WGs
- Better communicate CEEweb positions through members to national decision makers and other NGOs with the help of media and with the help of national NGO mailing lists
- Create a new page on our website for NGOs inside and outside the network about planned joint projects and activities and participation of involvement
- Issue press releases and other materials aimed at the media to let the public know about important environment-related policy events in CEE

## Expected results and outputs:

- Twice a year the magazine 'Diversity' is published (A5 format, both on high quality paper in 600 copies and in digital version), website is up to date, e-mail lists alive
- Press releases in English and national languages with the help of members
- Improved cooperation with the media, significantly increased number of appearances of CEEweb and its members in the press
- Improved communication within the Network and greater recognition of CEEweb by outsiders, targeting mainly decision-makers
- A more active nature conservationist network of professional CEEweb members
- More cooperation among CEEweb members in the countries (e.g. common projects, improved communication) and better outside communication of CEEweb projects

## Expected sources of funding:

- Possible sources still to be found to publish Diversity

## Strengthening the cohesion of the Network

### Objectives

- A cohesive network which is well-informed about the activities of the Policy Office and its members and actively cooperate in lobbying and promoting implementation on national level
- Strengthened professional and personal ties between member organizations and improved team spirit in the network
- Activated sleeping members and increased number of people dedicated to CEEweb
- Strengthened professional and personal ties with other networks

### Activities:

- Identify national “networking focal points” to activate national members, recruit new members, spread information about upcoming CEEweb events and activities on national level, and finally to coordinate meetings between members and the Policy Office at national visits
- Keep organize Annual Meeting with professional, cultural and social activities and keep up regular meetings within the CEEweb Working Groups
- Produce CEEweb promotion materials for use by members for strengthening common CEEweb identity
- Continue international internships within the Network by providing information for interested organisations on its mailing lists and website and host intern(s) in the Policy Office
- Visit members in a few countries linked to other events

### Expected results and outputs:

- Intern(s) from member organisations hosted in the Policy Office with mutual benefits for interns (work experience) and for Policy Office (focused thematic work and increased capacities)
- Better working relationships, more personalised contacts between Policy Office and members and understanding of the needs, more engagement of CEEweb members in the activities of the WGs and the network
- Highly motivated members with better understanding of what the network/members really do
- More cooperation and bigger transparency (e.g. common projects, improved communication) among CEEweb members in the countries
- CEEweb promotion materials for common CEEweb identity

### Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal to be submitted to the Mott Foundation

## Developing capacities within the Policy Office and the Network

### Objectives:

- Increased capacities of the CEEweb Policy Office and members for greater advocacy power and improved performance
- A broader understanding of professional issues related to biodiversity conservation and sustainability
- Real and long-term prospects for staff based on stable economic conditions and professional development

### Activities:

- Improve the skills of the Policy Office and the whole network through organizing at least one skills development training (e.g. on lobbying, team management, presentation skills)
- Continue the evaluation mechanism within the Policy Office between the head and the staff members
- Continue the evaluations within the whole staff after the implementation of activities and events, as well as ask for evaluation by participants at the end of each CEEweb event
- Continue bilateral feedbacks among staff members to improve personal cooperation
- Better develop the evaluation mechanism within the network with the involvement of the Board and International Advisory Committee and of the Networking Focal Points for the improvement of the whole CEEweb performance and implementation of annual work programmes
- Organise CEEweb Academy for CEEweb members on wilderness

### Expected results:

- Regular feedbacks, evaluations within the office and the network
- At least one training on skills development

- Better skilled staff and members
- Better personal cooperation among staff members
- Lessons learned from past activities are integrated into the future work and operation for better performance
- Increased technical competence in the fields where CEEweb is active

Expected sources of funding:

- Proposal submitted to the Ikszi Foundation for skills development
- Sources to be found for the capacity building of the network (e.g. on lobbying skills linked to the AM)