



CEEweb a Biológiai Sokféleségért
1021 Budapest, Széher út 40.
Telefon: 06 1 398 0135
Fax: 06 1 398 0136
ceeweb@ceeweb.org
www.ceeweb.org

2015 CEEweb Work Programme

1. Protect, conserve and enhance the EU's natural capital

1.1. *Natura 2000 management, capacity building and financing*

The Fitness Check of the nature directives and Natura 2000 management

- Inform and coordinate members' national activities during the Fitness Check stakeholder consultation process including producing background materials, position papers and national Fact Sheets for at least 8 CEE countries
- Represent CEE stakeholder views in the Fitness Check stakeholder consultation process (e.g. Green Week event, autumn stakeholder event)
- Cooperate with other European Habitats Forum NGOs in defending the Nature Directives, including contributing to the NGO event in Brussels and other joint lobby activities
- Identify the attitudes of selected key EU stakeholder groups (forestry, agriculture, infrastructure) through conducting short, standardised telephone interviews with their EU level representative federations (with the aim to build a Friends of N2000 Group on the long run) outcomes: collect 10 stakeholder N2000 champions and put their quotes on N2000 on CEEwebs website (photos)
- Organise an event together with a Bulgarian MEP in the European Parliament highlighting the contribution of Natura 2000 to CEE economies and society's wellbeing, as well as the EU added value of the Directives (in cooperation with other NGO)
- Prepare an alternative proposal on the revision of the Directives which strengthen some aspects of the legislation (e.g. connectivity, integration with ecosystem services concepts)
- Start to collect communication materials on a dedicated website www.ceeweb.org/lovenatura2000
- Start to collect personal (e.g. photo) messages of stakeholder groups from across the new Member States in which they demonstrate their love and compassion for nature to be used for a N2000 campaign in 2016
- Collect national cases from the CEE region that showcases concrete examples on the socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 (e.g. job provision, income provision)

- Organize on the International Day of Biodiversity at least in three CEE countries targeting 50 people stakeholder events on the importance of Natura 2000 and its socio-economic benefits
- Organize a GreenWeek Satellite Event in Budapest on the Natura 2000's contribution of socio-economic benefits

Management of Natura 2000

- Coordinate CEE NGO and also EU-wide NGO input (through the European Habitats Forum) to the Biogeographical Kick-off Seminar for the Continental/Pannonian/Steppic and Black Sea Region. Motivate and follow up and national post-seminar action by members.
- Participate at the Biogeographical process events through our members
- Advocate at member states level for the implementation of the process' outcomes and aid implementation and coordination of different stakeholders
- Disseminate the technical results of the Biogeographic seminar on different communication platforms
- Continue collecting and providing cases for the new guidance on Natura 2000 and hydropower and disseminate the Natura 2000 and Forestry guidance to CEE target audience
- Focus on dissemination actions of the results to targeted stakeholders

Financing Natura 2000

- Disseminate Innovative Financing Mechanism cases collected in 2014
- Train CEE business on the importance of preserving natural capital and on how to take part in its conservation
- Grow the CEE Business and Biodiversity network, and connect businesses and NGOs who are willing to cooperate on nature conservation and restoration projects

Experience exchange

- Compile a booklet based on Natura 2000 best management practice case studies received in 2014 for the CEEweb Award and disseminate it
- Organise at least two CEEweb Working Group meetings, one focusing on Natura 2000 management, the biogeographic process and another one attached to the Annual Meeting
- Continuously provide space for experience and knowledge exchange to Member Organisations and other Central, Eastern as well as Western European organisations

Mapping and Assessing Ecosystems and their Services

- Continue following the progress of the MAES process in the Central and Eastern European Members States and lobby for timely mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services across the Central and Eastern European region, building on the results of previous projects
- Continue operating and building up the MAES knowledge hub on CEEweb's website, and foster experience knowledge exchange between actors, facilitate the harmonization of different mapping and evaluation processes through mailing list, websites and other forums
- Coordinate a project with CEE Academies of Science and other research institutions on assessing MAES policies and mapping out a potential MAES research network in the Danube River Basin countries, map institutions, methodologies and capacities, collect much research in local languages that nobody knows about, refer to IPBES, re we going to the meetings, put together processes and provide information for CEE countries,
- Channel NGO experience from the region into EU policy making processes (e.g. through the MAES Working Group)
- Raise awareness on ecosystem mapping and assessment processes, initiatives, projects and methods

Restoration Prioritization Framework

- Continue disseminating lessons learnt to aid the implementation of the Restoration Prioritization Framework
- Advocate at Member States level the finalization and implementation of the Restoration Prioritization Framework

The No Net Loss Initiative and Offsetting

- Contribute to effective formulation and implementation of new directive/legislation regarding the No Net Loss initiative
- Contribute through the European Habitats Forum in consultations regarding the No Net Loss Initiative and Offsetting

1.3. Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change through Green Infrastructure and sustainable land use

Green Infrastructure and ecosystem based adaptation to climate change

- Provide information to policy makers, experts and stakeholders through the online CEEweb Green Infrastructure Knowledge Hub and carry out regular exchange on new policies/scientific outcomes, project cooperation and financing options. Continue to grow the Hub also through the LinkedIn GI Group
- In at least three new MS, organise round table discussion with ministries of water/forestry/health/agriculture/environment on how Green Infrastructure can contribute to the implementation of sectoral policies and EU directives; which the funding is available through OPs and RDPs; and the potential benefits/needs of establishing TEN-G in the CEE region.
- In at least three of these countries, organise, in cooperation with national development agencies or EU funds management authorities, 3 national level training for local and regional authorities on Green Infrastructure and EU, national and innovative financing

mechanisms available (one training to be dedicated to green infrastructures in the cities and the integrated city development plans)

- Share the results of the round table dialogues and national trainings widely through the GI Knowledge Hub, and channel them into the EU level policy discussion (Committee of the region, Land use communication)
- Translate the electronic GI training pack (Polish, and Hungarian) and disseminate it to all development agencies and EU funds implementing authorities, as well as to at least 500 regional and local decision makers in the new Member States in cooperation with ECNC and IUCN
- Identify at least 10 potential large scale green infrastructure projects (e.g. forest, watershed, floodplain restoration, ecological corridors, urban green spaces, etc.) in CEE countries for future implementation, e.g. under the EU Macro-regional territorial cooperation Funds (Adriatic-Ionian, Baltic, Danube, Balkan-Mediterranean). Present them also in a joint report to feed into national restoration prioritisation frameworks.
- Collect and summarise good examples of ecological restoration/Green Infrastructure measures in agricultural areas in a short electronic report and promote these measures in the new MS to be implemented as the 30% climate change measures. Use this as a lobby at national and EU levels during relevant meetings (CAP conference, national meetings)
- Screen RDP for potential restoration/Green infrastructure measure opportunities in one selected new Member State (Romania) and promote these measures among farmers through a targeted campaign.
- Contribute to the work of IUCN and ECNC on Green Infrastructure and local governments and regions through disseminating information to and raise the awareness of CEE local governments and regions
- Promote GI and the CEEweb GI Hub on different international and CEE events (regional development, climate change, green city events, interreg conferences) Regions Conference, (e.g. DG ENV Green Infrastructure implementation and Restoration Working Group (GIIR WG) Green Week)
- Lobby for the due reflection of resource efficiency, Green Infrastructure and Climate change aspects, as well as the TEN-G in the new EU Land-Use Communication.
- Translate CEEweb's Green Infrastructure brochure into Hungarian, Polish and Bulgarian.
- Raise awareness by a brochure, online campaign and national dialogues with decision-makers and stakeholders

1.4. Biodiversity proofing

- Mentor member groups and other NGOs, which implement national work on integrating biodiversity aspects to call for proposals and other programming documents, including local CLLD, LEADER, ITI plans.
- Organize a two-day long workshop in Hungary for approx. 10 NGO participants from at least 4 CEE Member States on the project selection criteria, methods for integration in local level planning and the related advocacy work at national level
- Carry out national level advocacy work at least in 3 Member States to include the biodiversity criteria to Operational Programmes' call for proposals with specific focus on Green Infrastructure elements. Subcontracted due to the need of local expertise and knowledge.
- Prepare a monitoring report how MSs incorporated biodiversity criteria to sub-programming documents (action plans, ITIs, LEADER etc.) and how implementation system of EU Funds support biodiversity proofing based on examples from at least 4 CEE

MSs.

- Maintain a specific website mostly for NGOs and other stakeholders in terms of Operational Programmes and biodiversity criteria and provide relevant materials
- Carry out extensive awareness-raising for stakeholders online through relevant email lists, websites and social media sites and through various forums including presenting at various events

1.5. Biodiversity in rural areas - Integration of biodiversity aspects in the National Rural Development Plans (actions to be fulfilled based on capacities and importance)

- Continue to provide NGO recommendations on the implementation of the Rural Development Programs and facilitate experience exchange within the region with specific focus on following-up measures' efficiency and provide suggestions for new, more efficient measures
- Facilitate CEE NGOs and decision-makers dialogues by providing advocacy work strategies, experiences from other countries and regular policy updates
- Organize a workshop to share national experience and advocacy work methods for at least 30 NGO participants from CEE in June in Budapest
- Organize workshops for approximately 30 participants from different sectors in at least three CEE Member States having cooperation measures in their national RDPs to induce Innovation Partnerships and their activities.
- Follow-up on the events and facilitate partnerships through a dedicated online system at national languages (e.g. Facebook group, LinkedIn group, website) and with specific opening hours and consultation period at the national offices.
- Follow, and contribute to, the European Commission's Working Group on Agriculture and Biodiversity, EIP Focus Groups and Working Groups and other events (e.g. Groupe de Brouges, EEB Agricultural Working Group)
- Contribute to the compiling of biodiversity indicators for CAP implementation built on last year's event and report
- Facilitate extensive experience exchange and cooperation with other stakeholders (mostly Academia, farmer groups and businesses) active in the field of agriculture, by organizing study visits and events
- Raise awareness on the concept of Green Infrastructure, their funding and benefits among agricultural actors through CEEweb's knowledge hub and relevant national seminars (see section on Green Infrastructure)
- Disseminate the results on CEEweb's website, social media, within EU NGO networks and to additional stakeholders and by participation at relevant events.
- Support the sustainable development of small-scale family farmers in the Western Balkans - especially in and around Emerald sites - through collecting and effectively transferring relevant CEE knowledge to them
- Develop and execute a questionnaire for surveying local farmers' and agricultural micro-entrepreneurs' knowledge and needs in the Western Balkans. Summarize results.
- Summarize the CEE experience on making small-scale sustainable family farming economically viable in an online guidance document containing thematic chapters, case studies, as well as policy recommendations. Translate the guidance to Serbian and Macedonian
- Develop a training material for local farmers/micro-entrepreneurs in English and translate it to Serbian and Macedonian
- Organise a workshop and conference in southern Hungary for Serbian and Macedonian stakeholders (ministries, farmers' associations, business, etc.) to disseminate the CEE experience

- Organise, for Serbian and Macedonian small-scale family farmers two study trips to local farms in the Czech Republic and to Slovakia
- Coordinate the organisation of six local trainings in Serbia and Macedonia for small-scale family farmers in Emerald communities held by local CEEweb members and farmer representatives
- Support the development of two-four model farm plans for Serbian and Macedonian farms
- Collect EU experiences on climate-friendly and water efficient agriculture and summarize them in a guidance document
- Prepare background materials and hold 2 one-day trainings on sustainable agricultural water use in Macedonia for agricultural stakeholders and decision makers
- Prepare a leaflet to promote CEE sustainable agriculture experience in Serbian and Macedonian and print it
- Set up a project website under the CEEweb domain to transfer CEE experience effectively to the Western Balkans' farmers. Use also CEEweb Members' websites to disseminate information. Post at least 50 articles and posts in the newsletters and social media sites of the participating organisations.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of knowledge transfer to Western Balkans through different means, like evaluation questionnaires
- Disseminate information on CEE experience on sustainable agriculture and small-scale farming through the Western Balkans' local media (TV, radio), local thematic websites and farmers' blogs and platforms

1.6. Nature and Biodiversity – International aspects

Reaching sustainable development and green economy at EU-wide and globally

Activities

- Further prepare joint as well as separate CEEweb positions on the SDGs
- Advocate for a new EU SDS focusing on the longer term (by 2050) integrating SDGs an at the same time providing guidance also to the Europe 2020 Strategy, and compile recommendations on how it can be transformed to bring real sustainability
- Channel the positions, recommendations to the EU discussions and United Nations negotiations, ECOSOC meetings, High-Level Political Forum (HLPF, national governments after the UN General Assembly adopted the SDGs and communicate them towards the public through CEEweb website and social media
- Follow up the Rio+20 commitments not only on SDGs, but also on governance and on beyond GDP
- Follow up *European SD-processes* (E.g. EUSDS, Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative, Raw Material Initiative, European Year of Development and inform interested stakeholders through the mailing lists and the website
- Cooperate closely with NGOs dealing with SDGs (e.g. EEB, CIDSE, CONCORD) building on the previous experience
- Communicate the results and outcomes of the above through websites, newsletters and social media sites
- Contribute to the outcome of the latest CBD CoP and advocate for its most effective implementation

CITES Environmental Crime and EU Wildlife Trade Regulations

Activities:

- Continue the "TAKE A STAND" project for strengthening the strategic cooperation with CEE CITES Management Authorities also involving Enforcement authorities in order to support them in more active involvement in EU and international negotiations. Subcontracted due to lack of expertise in the office.
- Organize a two-day workshop in early 2015 in Poland for around 40 participants from CITES management and enforcement authorities to increase capacities and monitoring practices especially in the field of internet trade. Subcontracted due to lack of expertise in the office.
- Disseminate the activities' results through CEEweb webpage and raise awareness on the importance of wildlife trade in the website and social media sites.

Business and biodiversity

Activities:

- Further distribute the Guidance on NGO and Business cooperation and the on-line training prepared in 2014
- Hold trainings for business based on the on-line material
- Further extend the on-line CEEweb database of CEE business and NGOs, which are open for cooperation
- Inform our CEE network of businesses and NGOs about the current EU processes in the field of business and biodiversity e.g. Accounting for Natural Capital, Innovation for Biodiversity and Business, Access to Finance and Innovative Finance Mechanisms
- Organize an international event for business and NGO participants in collaboration with the CBD Global Partnership
- Based on the positive feedback in 2014, continue to build further strategic cooperation with business stakeholders by a specialised newsletter, website, press release and event participation.
- Present CEEweb business and biodiversity activities at relevant international CSR events
- Connect CEE NGOs with companies that are interested in dedicating more efforts towards nature conservation
- Present the CEE region at international multi-stakeholder platforms such as CBD Global Partnership, EU Business and Biodiversity Platform
- Carry out joint research with University of Lodz, Poland and Global Nature Fund, Germany on how to enhance NGO and business cooperation in CEE

Resource Use and Waste

- Continue leading and broadening the European Resource Cap Coalition (RCC) and increase the number of RCC partners with 5, including science and research sector
- Organize at least one electronic RCC Core Group meeting to plan advocacy activities
- Elaborate RCC position on how to reach 40% energy saving and with it
- lobby for the proper implementation of 20% energy savings target for 2020 (with contribution from Climate Action Network Europe)

- Advocate further for a legally binding energy saving target within 2030 EU climate and energy package (in cooperation with European Environmental Bureau, Climate Action Network Europe, Institute for European Environmental Policy and partners of the CONVERGE FP7 project)
- Disseminate information among CEE NGOs through information sharing on the website and email lists
- Channel CEEweb resource use materials into relevant processes (the reviewed Europe 2020 Strategy and especially its Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative, EU SDS, Raw Material Initiative, POLFREE project, DYNAMIX project, the work of the Coalition for Energy Savings and CAN Europe, European Resource Efficiency Platform, International Resource Panel, etc.) and events (European Sustainable Energy Week, World Resources Forum, European Resource Forum), and through media (e.g. Small Footprint monthly newsletter)
- Collect some scientific literature underpinning the relevance of the resource capped economy, compile an E-book out of the collected articles
- Revitalize the communication materials of the RCC (website, leaflet, etc.)
- Organize a high-level event in collaboration with an MEP, TEQs, EEB in the European Parliament
- Continue the cooperation with the scientific community and channel RCC recommendations into their processes (SCORAI Europe, SERI Germany, ISEE, Absolute Reductions project, Journal of Cleaner Production, etc.)
- Organize a scientific workshop on specific focus on CEE countries, different policy needs in CEE countries in the field of reaching sustainable resource use

Sustainable Tourism

- The Carpathian Convention COP4 in September 2014 adopted the "Strategy for Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians". STWG would like to contribute to the implementation of the strategy e.g. through assessing feasibility on development of links between local producers and tourism actors in some of the Carpathian countries, assessing and improving situation of trails in natural areas for disabled people in Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, and other similar projects.
- One working group meeting will be held to coordinate the efforts of STWG members in supporting the implementation of the strategy and discuss further plans of STWG in the Carpathians and beyond
- Scientific institutions will be contacted to suggest further updates on the Methodology for Assessing National Tourism Development Strategies; the methodology will be updated based on their recommendations
- Assess at least two National Development Tourism Strategies in the countries from the Danube Strategy region
- Disseminate the results of assessments to stakeholders, e.g. via international institutions

3. Awareness-raising and communication

Media and public campaigns

- Organize the 5th Green-Go International short film contest focusing on urban green infrastructure, the 2015 European Year of Development and the social benefits of nature.
- Disseminate the masterpieces of previous years' International Green-Go Short Film Contest to various stakeholders (policy-makers, business, public, etc.) online (e.g. Generation Awake

campaign) and on different events, such as the International Biodiversity Day, International Environment Day as well as on big media festival in the summer (Sziget Festival Hungary)

- Organise the fourth Go-Wild! Photo Contest on Natura 2000 habitats and species with the cooperation of our members.
- Carry out, together with CEEweb Members, a Natura 2000 contest at schools in at least five CEE countries and send the children's' messages to EU and national decision makers who are involved in the Refit of the Habitats Directive
- Organize a Green Week Satellite event in Budapest in May/early June for at least 50 participants in Budapest.
- Organize, on the occasion of 22 May, International Biodiversity Day, at least three events in CEE MSs

4. Organisational development

- Head Office organizes at least three visits to CEEweb member organizations to provide trainings on CEEweb policy, NGO pro-activity and ways to increase success in the NGO field
 - Use these visits to activate passive or inactive CEEweb members, and to recruit new members
 - Build the cohesion of the network through mutual trust and personal interactions
- Activate national members
- Recruit new members
- Spread information about upcoming CEEweb events and activities on national level
- Coordinate meetings between members and the Policy Office at national visits
- Echo CEEweb activities in the national media
- Update CEE press list on political decision makers and the press
- Carry out various specific tasks related to CEEweb's work areas (e.g. gathering information, compiling studies on national level, carry out consultations with national ministries, etc.).
- Continue the internship programme in the CEEweb Policy Office for young professionals for gathering experience in EU policies and international cooperation and the internal work of the CEEweb network by "learning by doing"
- Continue updating CEEweb's contact lists, including national and CEE contacts for NGOs and other stakeholders, political decision-makers and the media
- Organize a two-day Annual Meeting along with the CEEweb Academy for the members of the network and thematic working group meetings, provide a forum for exchange between the whole network of CEEweb, the Policy Office and invited decision makers and experts
- Draw up quality management protocols for CEEweb activities at project management at least in the area of events, member coordination and communication

Communication within the network and with other stakeholders

- Continue issuing CEEweb's regular electronic newsletter (four times a year), to inform members about CEEweb Head Office and its members' activities
- Further build cooperation with other NGO networks for mutually enhancing the multiplier capacity of the organisations regarding exchanging and disseminating news and information
- Continue active participation in the European Habitats Forum and fulfil the position of EHF vice-chair

Capacity building

- Organize a CEEweb Academy on the most relevant biodiversity policies and CEEweb's role in it
- Provide time and encourage staff for self development activities

Organisational and financial issues

- Hold regular weekly meetings for the whole Policy Office for better personal management and prioritisation of issues, as well as for identifying internal synergies and redundancies thus increase efficiency
- Continue the evaluation and appraisal system, where the General Secretary evaluates staff members twice a year, each staff member is evaluated once a year by the members, and colleagues provide feed backs in the Policy Office to one another on an ad hoc basis
- Carry out overall evaluation of the whole organisation and the internal cooperation after closing projects or work packages, as well as at the end of the year and at the end of each event organized by the Policy Office
- Extend the fundraising activities of CEEweb, identify new (strategic) donors based on the experiences from previous years