

Work Programme of CEEweb for Biodiversity for 2012

To be realised with co-financing from the European Commission Operating Grant for 2012
April 2012

CLIMATE CHANGE

1.1 CLIMATE CHANGE – Development and implementation of EU policy

Objectives:

- Following UNFCCC COP 17, the EU adopts an ambitious climate change policy with regards to its mitigation target
- The European Commission adopts a strong ecosystem based-approach in its climate change adaptation strategy as well as in integrating agriculture and forestry into achieving the mitigation target
- Energy resource use becomes a centrepiece of mitigation policy
- Biodiversity and ecosystem services decline is halted as a contribution to both mitigation and adaptation to climate change
- Greater understanding of the interrelations between climate change, ecosystems and biodiversity among CEE national decision makers and NGOs
- Future LIFE fund supports innovative projects beneficial for biodiversity and climate change at the same time

Activities:

- Provide input to the work of DG Climate Action related to the development of the EU Climate Change Adaptation Strategy as well as the integration of the LULUCF sector in achieving the EU's mitigation target; emphasising the role of ecosystems and using the experiences from the previous national and local seminars as well as national examples
- Provide input to DG Climate Action in their the work of defining criteria to the future LIFE fund, by recommending innovative demonstration project ideas which address the link between climate change and biodiversity targets in CEE region
- Provide input to the climate change discussions through the Resource Cap Coalition and emphasise the role of reducing energy use in climate change mitigation (see more under 4.1)
- Participate in the work of the EC WG on Climate change and biodiversity
- Work with at least five CEE national governments for improved ecosystem based climate change adaptation and mitigation following the direction set by EU policies with the involvement of CEEweb members, subcontracted experts and transfer the experiences to the EU level discussions

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong biodiversity considerations are integrated into the LULUCF legislation and the EU Climate change adaptation strategy • Future LIFE+ criteria put sufficient emphasis on ecosystem based adaptation • The European Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation Clearinghouse puts more emphasis on ecosystem based adaptation • CEE countries put more emphasis on ecosystem-approach in their national climate adaptation strategies as well as relevant sectoral policies (e.g. forestry, agriculture, water management and nature conservation) • CEEweb members are regularly updated about the relevant EU processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for the EU Adaptation Strategy sent to DG Climate Action • Positions sent to the MSs before the respective Environment Council meetings on legislation for accounting for the LULUCF sector in achieving climate change mitigation target, as well as for the strong ecosystem approach of the EU Adaptation Strategy • Recommendations for LIFE project criteria sent to DG Climate Action • CEEweb is a registered organisation and provides input in the European Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation Clearinghouse • National lobby papers are developed and lessons learned at the national lobby summarized and channelled to discussions at EU level • Press releases on least 2 international and 8 national media channels, three relevant mailing lists and internet communities

1.2 CLIMATE CHANGE – Awareness raising/environmental education

Objectives:

- Greater understanding of the interrelations between climate change, ecosystems and biodiversity among CEE national decision makers and NGOs

Activities:

- Provide input to the European Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation Clearinghouse and raise the awareness about it within the CEE region
- Publicise the results of the IPCC reports to underpin the advocacy and awareness raising work of CEEweb

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The European Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation Clearinghouse puts more emphasis on ecosystem based adaptation • Decision makers and stakeholders are more aware of the biodiversity-climate change interlinkages and their effect on wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEEweb is a registered organisation and provides input in the European Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation Clearinghouse • Communication on the issue through the newsletter, email lists, press releases, etc.

1.3 CLIMATE CHANGE – International aspects

Objectives:

- The EU continues to play leading role in the international climate negotiations, and is committed to a strong global agreement with highly ambitious emission reduction target
- Non-EU (potential) candidate countries adopt similarly ambitious position
- the UNFCCC process results in strong global post-Kyoto agreement, eligible to maximise global

temperature rise at 2 °C

Activities:

- Evaluate the results of UNFCCC COP 17 and disseminate the message among EU and CEE national decision makers as well as towards the public through different media channels
- Channel the above messages to DG Climate Action as well as CEE national governments, with the aim of supporting their strong commitment for achieving ambitious emission reduction target globally, and for adoption of the ecosystem-approach in both mitigation and adaptation at the UNFCCC COP 18

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greater pressure and support for ambitious climate agreements including ecosystem based mitigation measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Position and press release on an ambitious post Kyoto international agreement published through international and CEE national media, relevant mailing lists and internet communities

NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY

2.1 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – Development and implementation of EU policy

EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020

Objectives:

- Achieve the biodiversity conservation targets through the full implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020 (focusing among others on the restoration target, green infrastructure, the integration into agriculture, the biogeographic seminars on management, financing, reducing indirect drivers, see also further below)
- Achieve that effective conservation tools are put into practice at EU and in the Member States
- Strong political commitments from the European Parliament and MS ministries to support the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy and the Common Implementation Framework
- Enhanced stakeholder involvement in carrying out the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy’s actions
- Increased and ring-fenced financial resources in the new Multiannual Financial Framework for biodiversity

Activities:

- Follow up on preparation and the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy’s Common Implementation Framework and get involved on specific issues including the restoration target, the no net loss principle and offsetting through providing expert input to consultations and through other means (through the EC expert groups, CGBN meetings, etc. as appropriate)
- Engage in and advocate for more sectoral cooperation among Member States ministries, the Commission and other stakeholders for the more successful implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. Approach CEE MS sectoral ministries/ cross sectoral institutions at personal consultations focusing on common targeted messages (e.g. on sustainable management of agricultural areas, integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services into national accounting systems) and press work through the CEEweb members and National Focal Point system.
- Provide specific recommendations (including criteria) on the implementation of the restoration target of the EU Biodiversity Strategy by organising a workshop on the issue to involve the scientific and private sector representatives to discuss possible baselines and concrete roles and activities and channel the recommendations into the EU policy discussions
- Continue the close cooperation with other networks (EHF, EEB, Birdlife, WWF, etc.) on the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater political support for the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy Actions • Enhanced co-operation among stakeholders for the more successful completion of the EU Biodiversity Strategy • Enhanced financial resources for conservation targets • EU policy process on restoration is used to its full potential focusing on the most needed issues • Active engagement with the science and business community for the implementation of the restoration target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation at relevant EU level consultations (expert groups, consultation meetings) • National level communication towards sectoral ministries on the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy in ten CEE countries with the help of members • Recommendations on the restoration target of the EU • At least three press releases on national languages on these activities

Green Infrastructure, wilderness and land use

Objectives:

- The EU's Green Infrastructure Strategy in 2012 and the further discussions on no net loss of ecosystems and their services and land use (communication planned for 2014) include considerations for an innovative sustainable land use concept and can ensure the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Wilderness areas are adequately protected and new sites become designated as wilderness, also as a contribution to establish Europe's Green Infrastructure and to fulfil the restoration target of the Biodiversity Strategy
- The connectivity of Natura 2000 sites is a central element of Green Infrastructure and largely benefit from the realization of the Green Infrastructure Strategy and other EU land use related policies

Activities:

- Organise a conference in Brussels to share experiences and recommendations from Visegrad countries (both governments and NGOs) on Green Infrastructure and its potential targeting different stakeholders. This work will build on the NGO assessment and strategic recommendations done in 2011 in Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland about Green Infrastructure and by the Polish Presidency Conference on "Planning for Biodiversity"
- Follow up on these recommendations and further discuss an innovative sustainable land use scheme for integrating green, grey and black infrastructures, and elaborate a joint NGO proposal with a set of criteria for transforming land use to be channelled into the work under the 7th EAP and other sectoral policy discussions (including the future work on the no net loss of ecosystem services and a land use Communication planned for 2014). Getting prepared by subcontracted experts a concept of a pilot study for a selected site using the proposed scheme.
- Prepare a publication about the land use scheme and a short report on how Natura 2000 would benefit from a land use reform proposal developed by CEEweb (editing and printing is subcontracted).
- Campaign for moving towards sustainable land use at the EP, EC and MSs (involving members) and through innovative tools, which could contribute to the discussions on the future EU initiative on no net loss of ecosystem services and to the 7th EAP discussions
- Present the outcomes of the above discussions at the CEEweb Academy in October 2012 on water management, Natura 2000 and biodiversity conservation.
- Follow up the preparation of the Green Infrastructure Strategy development and once published, lobby for its strong endorsement by the Council and the Parliament, also with the view to integration with grey and black infrastructures and other land use policies in its implementation
- Prepare a briefing a note to CEEweb Members on the Green Infrastructure Strategy to help national level lobbying for ensuring sufficient funding and policy integration
- Lobby on national level for increasing and properly protecting wilderness areas in connection to ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change
- Provide input to the wilderness register and Natura 2000 management guidance (through public consultations and the EC N2000 Management Group) and cooperate with other NGOs and networks on the wilderness issue

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEE experiences are used as an input to the GI Strategy and its implementation • There is strong support for the GI Strategy and its implementation within the EP, Council, and by Member States • Higher awareness about the needs and possibilities of integrating green, grey and black infrastructures and introducing a sustainable land use scheme among decision makers, also as a preparation for the further work on the no net loss initiative and the Communication on land use • Increased understanding on the links between Natura 2000, Green Infrastructure and land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A conference in Brussels in March on green infrastructure involving Visegrad and EU decision makers • Proposal for integrating green, grey and black infrastructure and realising a sustainable land use scheme • Concept of a pilot study about the land use scheme • Publication about the land use scheme • Report on the benefits of the innovative land use concept for Natura 2000 • A session assigned to the topic at the CEEweb Academy in October, 2012 • Lobby and information materials in support for the GI Strategy addressing the EP and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEE national governments consider wilderness management as a strong tool for adaptation to climate change • CEE NGOs are mobilised and their experiences and views are integrated into the above policy discussions 	<p>Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing note to CEEweb members on Green Infrastructure • Positions and press releases (in English and about six CEE national languages) on the above issues • CEE input collected for the wilderness register
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Natura 2000 management, capacity building and financing

Objectives:

Management of Natura 2000 sites

- The management of Natura 2000 sites ensures the favourable conservation status of species and habitats of Community importance
- The new Biogeographic Process defines strong conservation objectives, explores the crucial challenges of Natura 2000 management and results in strong concrete recommendations as solutions with the contribution of independent NGO views
- Outcomes of the boreal biogeographic seminar are implemented on national level and integrated into the PAFs, agri-environment schemes and Natura 2000 management planning
- Experiences from the boreal seminar contribute to further improve the biogeographic style process on management
- Effective management guidance are worked out to further support reaching the FCS
- CEE NGOs and other stakeholders are more capable to contribute to adequate Natura 2000 management and participate in management planning and implementation
- The nature directives and the WFD are implemented in a coordinated manner in CEE MSs

Financing Natura 2000

- Enhanced ring-fenced sources for Natura 2000 sites and more effective use of biodiversity resources due to well-designed PAFs and agri-environmental measures

Activities:

Management of Natura 2000 sites

- Cooperate with other networks (especially with EEB, IUCN and WWF) within the EHF and specifically before the boreal biogeographic style seminar with the Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF) in providing the NGO input:
 - coordinate NGO input on behalf of EHF to the boreal seminar, assist in the selection of NGO delegates from the Baltic states, in collecting national data, and in compiling NGO comments on the draft Seminar Document,
 - set up a dedicated webpage on the processes and related activities,
 - provide input to the preparatory meeting organised by BEF building on CEEweb's previous experiences in the biogeographic seminars on site designation,
 - follow-up the national implementation of the seminar recommendations in Baltic states together with BEF (and also channel into the CEEweb workshop in agri-environmental schemes and the work on PAFs),
 - compile strategic recommendations of NGOs for the next biogeographic regions and discuss these ideas with DG Environment and the Steering Group.
- Based on the good examples from the previous years, organise a consultation with the EC on Natura 2000 and biodiversity related issues also in 2012.
- Continue participation in the EC Expert Groups on Natura 2000, the Subgroup on Management Farmland in Natura 2000, and other relevant meetings (CGBN, other expert groups under the Biodiversity Strategy)
- Provide capacity building on Natura 2000 planning and stakeholder involvement through organising a workshop (in May, Poland for at least 35 participants) and compiling a publication by early May, and compiling national summaries of the publication and providing national recommendations for governments of CEE countries. Subcontracted expert(s) will held the capacity-building workshop. In this work build on the pilot process on Natura 2000 management planning organised by CEEweb and its members in Poland in 2011.

Natura 2000 and the Water Framework Directive

- Organise a CEEweb Academy on the interlinkages among water management, Natura 2000 and biodiversity conservation as well as sustainable land use to build capacities and support their joint and effective implementation on MS level (in September, Budapest, with at least 50 participants).

Financing Natura 2000

- Engage in the development of Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAF) on national level with CEEweb members based also on activities in 2011 (collecting national good and bad examples from the current financing period on financing Natura 2000 from the various EU funds):
 - Prepare NGO recommendations on effective measures for Natura 2000 financing building on the previous experiences
 - Share these CEE experiences with governmental representatives (possibly linked to a CGBN) in 2012 and consult the national governments on the recommendations.
 - Channel the NGO experiences to the NGO-governmental workshop organised by CEEweb on the agri-environmental (see below)
- Lobby on EU and national level for sufficient funding to support Natura 2000 system with special regard to agri-environmental and climate measures; forest-environmental and climate measures; and a new LIFE also building on the future Commission’s staff working document on Natura 2000 financing
- Continue providing platforms to CEE NGOs to share their experiences on various Natura 2000 topics within the CEEweb Natura 2000 Working Group

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent NGO experiences and views on Natura 2000 management are reflected in the boreal seminar and lead to strong concrete recommendations and actions • CEE NGO experiences are reflected in EU N2000 management guidance • Increased capacities on Natura 2000 management planning and stakeholder involvement in CEE MSs as well as the integrated implementation of the nature and Water Framework Directives • Increased understanding of the previous financial frameworks’ good and bad examples on Natura 2000 financing and ways to improve N2000 financing in the next MFF • More effective use of EU sources for Natura 2000 at Member States level • CEE NGOs’ views are reflected in EU policy positions regarding the above various aspects of Natura 2000 implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One dedicated webpage for the biogeographic seminars’ related events and processes • NGO recommendations for the boreal seminar • Participation at the events related to the boreal seminar • NGO experiences collected to help preparing for the follow-up seminars • Workshop report on Natura 2000 management planning for CEE experts • Publication on Natura 2000 management planning with specific focus on the new Member States (editing and printing will be subcontracted) • At least five national summaries of the publication and recommendations for CEE MSs • Expert comments from the new member States for the EU implementation guidance consultation processes • Recommendations on Natura 2000 financing and PAFs for Member States • Personal and electronic consultations on the PAFs with MSs • Participation at relevant meetings (EC Natura 2000 Management WG, EHF, etc.) and reporting back to CEEweb constituency • Relevant information uploaded to the EC Natura 2000 Communication Platform and CEEweb’s Natura 2000 resource webpage • Two N2000 working group meetings to share experience among CEE NGO experts

Integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into the use of EU Funds

Objectives:

- Partnership Agreements between MSs and the European Commission include strong component on ecosystem services, biodiversity, including Natura 2000, and sufficient funding is ensured for these objectives
- Sustainability check for EU funded projects supported through Structural and Cohesion Funds is strengthened and biodiversity focused criteria to prevent loss of biodiversity and damaging of ecosystem services are included in the project proposal evaluation process on EU and national level

for EU funded projects

Activities:

- Communicate and disseminate the results of a Hungarian pilot study about applying biodiversity and sustainability criteria in Partnership Agreements on using Structural and Cohesion Funds (so that they do not further degrade ecosystem services) in various forums and by various means in Brussels and in the CEE region. Experts will be subcontracted for elaborating biodiversity criteria to be integrated.
- Build partnerships with other networks in the Coalition for sustainable EU funds in order to integrate biodiversity, ecosystem services and Natura 2000 considerations into the national Partnership Agreements and the criteria system in CEE countries.
- Link this work on the Partnership Agreements to the national work on PAFs and funding for biodiversity and Natura 2000 from the CAP budget.

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher awareness about funding needs and the importance of biodiversity, ecosystem services and Natura 2000 in the CEE MSs • Better integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services into the CEE Partnership Agreements • Better integration and application of biodiversity criteria in the project proposal evaluation process for EU funded projects in CEE MSs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set of recommendations for better integration of biodiversity into national Partnership Agreements, and relevant criteria for project evaluation process for EU funded projects disseminated • Joint lobby papers in the CEE region in cooperation with other NGOs

Greening of the CAP

Objectives:

- EU legislation include a strong greening component of the CAP
- There is stronger support among CEE MSs for greening of both pillars of the CAP
- There is sufficient funding for maintaining ecosystem services and Natura 2000, as well as rural development in the next financing period from the CAP budget

Activities:

- Continue lobbying for a greener CAP, including on sufficient funding for biodiversity, Natura 2000 and rural development and strong requirements for environmental and social benefit on EU level (mainly in the European Parliament)
- Examine how the greening component in pillar 1 and relevant measures in pillar 2 (about agri-environmental measures, HNV, Natura 2000, climate change, etc.) would be realised at MS level in the new Member States and lobby for strong measures
- Organise a CEE meeting linked to the Natura 2000 management planning workshop targeting MS ministries and NGOs at expert level to discuss CEE experiences and recommendations for agri-environmental schemes and other issues and lobby for strong biodiversity integration in the next period. Within this workshop the outcomes of the national level consultations about the PAFs and the management recommendations from the boreal biogeographic seminars will be also integrated.
- Continue cooperation with other networks (e.g. EHF, EEB) on this issue also linked to the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient funding is available in CEE for Natura 2000, maintaining ecosystem services and rural development • Strong integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as rural development considerations in the EU CAP legislation and CEE national measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positions on biodiversity integration • Meeting with NGOs and CEE ministries of agriculture about agri-environment and other relevant measures and funding in October (linked to the Natura 2000 management planning meeting) • Two meetings of the Rural Development Working group (linked to the meeting on

	agri-environmental measures and to the Annual Meeting)
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EU legislation and direct marketing

Objectives:

- Enhanced livelihood of more small farmers, which indirectly contributes to the mosaic landscape and more extensive farming delivering environmental benefits
- EU legislation is more favourable for enabling small farmers to sell their products through direct marketing

Activities:

- Collect legislative problems from the CEE region related to direct marketing and small scale farming particularly focusing the regional specific issues. This activity will be subcontracted. Lobby at DG Health and Consumers as well as at the European Parliament for more favourable legislation for direct marketing and small scale farming, follow up the quality package through a personal meeting with the EC and organising and intergroup event in the EP
- Help small farmers through the lobbying work and providing information and support in direct marketing

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU legislation is more favourable for enabling small farmers to sell their products through direct marketing • Enhanced livelihood of more small farmers, which indirectly contributes to the mosaic landscape and more extensive farming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEE report on legislative concerns and proposals • Meeting with DG Health and Consumers in autumn • Lobby and information materials and consultations with MEPs • Intergroup event in the EP

CITES and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulation

Objectives:

- EU Wildlife Trade Regulation (EU WTR) is enforced in CEE countries for combating illegal trade in endangered species
- CEE CITES Management Authorities actively influence EU and international discussions representing strong positions in support of endangered species

Activities:

- Continue the "TAKE A STAND" project for strengthening the strategic cooperation with CEE CITES Management Authorities in order to support them in more active involvement in EU and international negotiations. The workshop organised in 2012 will focus on the key subjects of the CITES CoP16 (held in March 2013). The coordination of this activity will be subcontracted.

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for CEE Management Authorities to actively represent their positions at EU and international level • Improved capacity of CEE NGOs in internet commerce monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second meeting with CEE CITES Management Authorities with about 30 participants in autumn

Biodiversity and tourism

Objectives:

- Enhanced contribution of CEE NGOs in promoting sustainable tourism in regional and local economy and while respecting the carrying capacity of ecosystems
- The development and implementation of the EU tourism policies fully take into account the existing and evolving EU biodiversity policies
- National tourism development strategies in CEE take into account EU tourism and biodiversity policies

Activities:

- Improve the developed methodology for reviewing national tourism development strategies in light of the EU biodiversity policies, the EU Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism and the CBD Strategic Plan
- Prepare assessments of CEE national tourism strategies based on the methodology and pilot study prepared in 2011. Preparation of the assessment will be subcontracted.
- Compile a summary document on the results of the national assessments and disseminate it among CEE and EU decision-makers as well as among CEE NGOs.
- Follow the development of Sustainable Tourism Strategy under the Carpathian Convention (within the framework of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee meetings) and build an NGO collation for its implementation
- Stimulate information exchange within the CEEweb Sustainable Tourism Working Group and involve the other expertise from the CEEweb network in order to contribute to the finalization of the Carpathian Convention Sustainable Tourism Strategy

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEE NGOs promote more the importance of sustainable tourism in local economy and wellbeing while respects the carrying capacity of ecosystems • CEE and EU decision-makers are more aware of the importance of sustainable tourism in local economy and wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved methodology for the assessments of five national strategies and summary of those assessments • Common CEE NGO statement and further work on the Sustainable Tourism Strategy of the Carpathian Convention

2.2 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – Awareness raising/environmental education

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Habitats Directive

Objectives:

- Increase public support for Natura 2000 on the 20th anniversary of the Habitats Directive
- Support the effective implementation of Natura 2000 by stakeholders

Activities:

- Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Habitats Directive by highlighting Natura 2000 on the main page of the CEEweb website and developing an online gallery with nice photos from the CEE region on different aspects and benefits from Natura 2000
- Update the CEEweb publication “Services of nature - How Natura 2000 contributes to the provision of ecosystem services for human wellbeing” in English and six EU national languages and disseminate it electronically among CEE stakeholders (local authorities, farmer associations, schools, NGOs, ministries, etc.)
- Continue the Green Go international competition and festival of short films (organised by CEEweb and its partners first in 2011) also focusing on Natura 2000 and ecosystem services in 2012
- Prepare the next issue of the successful Children and ministers (editing and printing subcontracted) series about land use and its links to Natura 2000 and other policies and disseminate among non-biodiversity stakeholders
- Publicise the scientific results of the SOER and other scientific reports and fora to underpin the advocacy and awareness raising work of CEEweb

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher awareness and support for Natura 2000 and biodiversity in general in CEE MSs • Better implementation of Natura 2000 by stakeholders • Better understanding on the links among Natura 2000, land use and other policies and relevant scientific findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natura 2000 banner and pictures on the main page of the renewed CEEweb website in 2012 • Thematic online galleries on the Natura 2000 on the CEEweb website • Publication about Natura 2000 and the benefits it provides disseminated among thousands of stakeholders in seven languages in CEE • Short films also focusing on Natura 2000 and ecosystem services collected and publicised on the internet and at a festival in Budapest • Next issue of Children and Ministers series published in English in 500 copies • CEEweb electronic newsletter including these issues and results

2.3 NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY – International aspects

Emerald network

Objectives:

- The European Emerald network is designated in the West Balkans on scientific basis and protected from damaging development
- NGOs provide independent input to the designation process

Activities:

- Provide expert advice and specific information for West-Balkan NGOs in cooperation with the EHF, and transfer NGO experiences from the Natura 2000 designation seminars to the follow-up process of the second biogeographic Emerald Seminar of the West Balkan
- Organise one preparatory meeting for West-Balkans NGOs, involving EU Natura 2000 experts and allowing NGOs to cross-check transboundary data, , identify possible gaps and agree on coordinated action before the seminar
- Lobby at West-Balkans national governments for the protection status of the designated sites, and in particular for preventing the use of EU funds for potentially damaging investments
- Provide updated information to the European Habitats Forum, the Bern Convention Standing Committee and the European Commission
- Participate in the Third Biogeographic Emerald Seminar of West Balkan Countries with coordinated NGO input

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designation of the Emerald network is based on scientific basis and sufficient data • EU pre-accession funds are designed to avoid conflict of interest between development projects and the Emerald network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO input including standardised datasets of shadow Emerald sites based on GIS methods provided to national governments and to the ETC-BD • One preparatory meeting organized for west-Balkan NGOs and further electronic assistance provided for their participation in the Emerald process • Positions on protection status of Emerald sites channelled to relevant consultations and meetings (e.g. EC DG Environment, Bern Convention Standing Committee)

Implementing the Nagoya outcomes and preparing for CBD COP 11

Objectives

- Strong CBD decisions at COP11 contribute to the implementation of the CBD Strategic plan 2011-2020 (specifically through the Resource Mobilisation Strategy including agreed baseline, mobilisation of innovative financial mechanisms and indicators)
- Nagoya outcomes are implemented at national level
- Increased NGO capacity in relation to the CBD process

Activities

- Follow up the preparations for COP11, specifically focusing on resource mobilisation for biodiversity and innovative financing mechanisms. Expert input will be provided by subcontracting.
- Build NGO capacities related to the CBD process and preparation to COP11 in consultation with the Danish incoming Presidency and with the NGO networks
- Continue involvement in the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS), continue the active cooperation with UNEP Brussels and contribute to developing holistic responses on resource and land use, following up the CEEweb policy proposal developed in 2011 for such a process on Pan-European level. This policy work shall also contribute to the implementation of the Nagoya CBD Strategic Plan.
- Co-organise with the UFZ Helmholtz Centre and chair a session in the 'Planet under pressure' conference in March 26-29 2012, London titled 'Financial instruments for local biodiversity action: Thinking ecological fiscal transfers across scales'

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased NGO capacity in relation to Nagoya process and national biodiversity strategies • Enhanced efforts for the implementation of COP10 outcomes and strong input for COP11 • Higher profile of biodiversity finance through innovative financial mechanism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations on COP10 outcomes and preparation for COP11 • Position and publication of NGO recommendations e.g. focusing on resource mobilisation • Press releases • A conference session chaired by CEEweb in the 'Planet under pressure' conference and results disseminated widely through press release, newsletter, website

RESOURCES AND WASTE

4.1 RESOURCES AND WASTE – Development and implementation of EU policy

Resource use and biodiversity

Objectives:

- Limiting resource use makes a major contribution to fighting biodiversity loss and climate change and to realizing sustainable development
- Tools for reducing absolute resource use of the EU is discussed during the implementation of the Resource Efficiency Roadmap
- More environmental and social NGOs are involved in lobbying for EU wide resource cap and support of EU level and national decision makers is enhanced

Activities:

- Continue working in the European Resource Cap Coalition (RCC) building on the experiences and results of 2011 (such as the international expert meeting with concrete policy proposals), organize a core group meeting and electronic discussions to further develop the policy proposal and examine and report how the proposals could work in practice
- Compile a detailed publication on how to realize absolute resource use reduction in practice through applying an integrated resource use policy tool with the RCC
- Present the results of the RCC (policy document, leaflet, poster) and lobby for further discussions on an integrated policy tool in the ongoing policy processes (such as the implementation of the Roadmap for a Resource Efficient Europe, elaboration of indicators of resource use, negotiation of the Rio+20 Zero draft document, discussion related to the 7th EAP) and events (such as Rio+20, CBD COP11, EU event(s) on resource use indicators).
- Expand further the RCC through involving more environmental and social NGO partners and establish partnerships with other existing platforms, institutions and stakeholders (e.g. International Resource Panel, Green Budget Europe, New Economics Foundation, Consumer International, IFOAM, FoE, EEB, WWF, further scientific institutions and universities, etc.), discuss
- Publicise the results of the International Resource Panel (with special emphasis on the Decoupling report from 2011 and the upcoming report on policy options in 2012) to underpin the advocacy work
- Cooperate with other NGOs and networks to lobby for binding measures to achieve 20% energy efficiency goal emphasizing the need for limiting energy use, as an effective way to achieve the EU's climate change mitigation target

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher understanding on the necessity and social and environmental benefits of resource use limitation among a wider range of environmental and social NGOs decision makers and other interested partners based on scientific basis • More NGOs are involved both in the RCC and in the discussions on resource use at EU level • Resource use limitation appears in the discussions about the implementation of the Roadmap for a Resource Efficient Europe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one core group meeting organised in 2012 with RCC key partners • RCC policy document further developed • RCC publication on how to achieve resource use limitation • RCC materials (policy document, leaflet, poster and publication) disseminated at relevant processes as well as exhibited at relevant events • Participation in stakeholder consultations and relevant EU events • Press releases, positions and articles on the electronic newsletter on resource use and related issues

4.2 RESOURCES AND WASTE – Awareness raising/environmental education

Resources and Biodiversity

Objectives:

- General public is informed on the importance of limiting resource use and the social and environmental benefits

Activities:

- Use the winning entries of the 2011 “Green-Go” international short film competition and festival (<http://greengofest.eu/>) linked to the dissemination of the results of the RCC (e.g. within Generation Awake campaign of the European Commission, on the International Biodiversity Day, International Environment Day, day of no consumption).
- Publicise the results of the International Resource Panel (with special emphasis on the Decoupling report from 2011 and the upcoming report on policy options in 2012) to underpin the advocacy work (see also above)

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher public awareness on the need for reducing resource use • More public support for introducing resource use policies and a binding energy efficiency target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The received short videos (http://greengofest.eu/entries) related to resource use reduction are disseminated through various channels • Publicising results through website, electronic newsletter, press releases, etc.

4.3 RESOURCES AND WASTE – International aspects

Resources and Biodiversity

Objectives:

- Resource use is high on the political agenda of the United Nations (UN)
- International agreement in the long term on limiting energy resource use as a major contribution to achieve sustainable development

Activities:

- Building on the achievements of the RCC (see under 4.1) lobby for international resource cap in realizing Green Economy within the negotiations towards Rio+ 20, in particular in the 3rd Intersessional Meeting of UN Commission on Sustainable Development (March, New York) and the [negotiations \(informal, formals\) on the draft](#) texts to the Rio+20 conference (June, 2012, Rio de Janeiro) and follow up the commitments made at Rio+20 and provide the tool for resource use reduction for delivering those commitments (also see under 5.3)

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher awareness on the need for limiting resource use at international level and global environmental and social benefits • RCC recommendations are discussed in the above policy processes • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCC recommendations on resource cap and its links to sustainable development and green economy to the processes up to and following Rio+20

5. HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES – Development and implementation of EU policy

7th Environmental Action Programme of the EU

Objectives:

- The 7th EAP provides a holistic policy framework for EU environmental policies, with a view to develop integrated policy tools for resource and land use
- Achieve the 2020 biodiversity targets through enhancing environmental policies within the 7th Environmental Action Plan
- Decision makers are more aware of the links among different sectoral policies and recognise the need for a policy framework, within which these sectoral policies can work towards common goals

Activities:

- Engage in the policy discussions on a 7th EAP of the EU with the upcoming and previous Presidencies particularly working with the incoming Danish Presidency through the Permanent Representation and the with the rapporteurs of the EP, as well as with the European Commission, and with key stakeholders (e.g. EEB, IEEP).
- Prepare recommendations for a holistic 7th EAP. CEEweb will build upon its work in 2011 (proposals and discussions about the structure of the EAP, as well as main tools)

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher awareness among decision makers in different sectors about holistic environmental policies and interlinkages • More holistic 7th EAP, which aims to develop integrated policy tools for resource and land use • Higher awareness on the links between biodiversity loss and socio-economic pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations on the 7th EAP distributed among EU decision makers • Participation regularly in relevant meetings • Regular interactions with the key players in Brussels for channelling in the specific concerns of the new member States to the discussions

EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Objective

- Create awareness and establish partnership among CEE NGOs about the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, especially on the thematic field of tourism

Activities

- Organize capacity building workshop with the lead of subcontracted lecturers on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the linkages between tourism and biodiversity. Based on the discussion develop a priority list of actions to be implemented over the next years.
- Coordinate consultations among NGOs in order to draft a project for implementing the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger cooperation among CEE NGOs in implementing the EU Strategy for the Danube Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting in which 20 CEE NGO representatives take part • Elaborated proposal for implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, especially its commitments related to tourism

HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES – International aspects

Rio+ 20 Conference

Objectives:

- Discussions in Rio make a significant step towards a global deal on green economy, based on the equitable sharing of resources on global level and reducing our resource and land use within the carrying capacity of the earth also as a means of stopping global biodiversity loss
- NGO views are channelled into the further elaboration of the EU position for the Rio+20 Conference

Activities

- Evaluate the shortcomings and future tasks related to the Rio+20 themes, namely transition to Green Economy and the international framework for sustainable development
- Channel the recommendations to the EU discussions in preparation for the and communicate it towards the public

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher awareness about NGO views on green economy and institutional framework for sustainable development among decision makers and the public• Increased NGO knowledge and capacity regarding the topic in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NGO evaluation and recommendations disseminated• Press releases

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Communication and cooperation

Objectives:

- CEEweb is widely known and respected as a proactive lobbying force with sound scientific background (resource use – biodiversity, land use – green infrastructure - restoration, etc.), building on its member organizations and cooperating partners with valuable experience in various fields related to EU policies and implementation
- Effective functioning of the network by assuring efficient information flow
- Various stakeholder groups (web-users, media, general public) are widely involved in the work of CEEweb

Activities:

- Continue issuing CEEweb’s regular electronic newsletter (four times a year), send it to CEEweb members and political decision-makers, media contacts and donors
- Improve the communication of CEEweb through the modernized and improved website
- Continue using modern social media and web-based communication channels (e.g. Facebook) and email lists for regular communication
- Publish the Biennial Activity Report for 2010 and 2011 of CEEweb (editing and printing subcontracted)
- Further develop and extend media relations through press releases, press conferences also on national level with the involvement of the National Focal point system by subcontracting
- Further build cooperation with other NGO networks for mutually enhancing the multiplier capacity of the organisations regarding exchanging and disseminating news and information

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEE NGOs are more aware of relevant EU policy processes and CEEweb activities and positions • The messages of CEEweb appear on several internet-based channels • The messages of CEEweb appear in the press and other mass or independent electronic media, including in national languages • Greater recognition of CEEweb by decision-makers as well as donors and other stakeholder groups • Better cooperation with other NGO networks with regards to information management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent information exchange through the e-mail lists and website • Regular posts on modern social media and web-based communication channels (e.g. Facebook) • At least 15 press releases issued in English, at least 15 press releases in CEE languages • At least four issues of the electronic newsletter sent to at least 500 addresses • Improved and frequently updated website • Biennial Report made available on-line (www.ceeweb.org), and printed in 100 copies • Diversified and broader-based news and information service is provided

Cooperation within the network and communication through the members

Objectives:

- A stronger and more cohesive and inclusive network of a growing number of CEE NGOs working towards a common goal
- CEEweb is well known within and outside the region among stakeholders and NGOs and decision makers
- Coordinated inter network and national communication with the use of the National Focal Point system

Activities:

- Carry out member visits
 - Organize local field visits by Head Office staff to CEEweb member organizations to provide trainings on CEEweb policy, on NGO proactivity and ways to increase success in

- the NGO field
- Use these visits to activate sleeping or inactive CEEweb members and to recruit new members who are open to the topics (CEEweb policy and proactivity)
- Build the cohesion of the network by personal interaction
- Operate the National Focal Point system of at least 10 active NFPs from 10 CEE countries in order to
 - 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
- 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 three-day Annual Meeting for the members of the network and thematic working group meetings, provide a forum for exchange between the whole membership of CEEweb, the Policy Office and invited decision makers and experts

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher motivation of members to participate in the activities of the network • Enhanced cooperation among CEEweb members • CEEweb members become more committed to the network • A growing network that is a more effective lobbying force 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local visits by Head Office staff to CEEweb members in two countries • New members join the network • Inactive members get involved in CEEweb activities • Interns/volunteers hosted in the Policy Office • Annual Meeting organised with at least 30 participants

Capacity building

Objectives:

- Improved skills and knowledge of network members and Policy Office staff
- Common level of understanding among CEEweb members on CEEweb positions

Activities:

- Organize a CEEweb Academy on water management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use schemes for decision makers and CEEweb members with academic presentations and ample time for discussions in order to develop common level of understanding within the network. Lecturers will be subcontracted.
- Organize one-day professional skills training on effective lobbying for staff and CEEweb members linked to the workshop on agri-environmental schemes (see under 2.1). Trainers will be subcontracted.
- Provide time and encourage staff for self development activities

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEEweb member NGOs’ knowledge on CEEweb policy and EU policies increased • Members as well as CEEweb Policy Office staff have better skills and more solid knowledge for organizational and individual performance • Policy Office staff is motivated, the retention force of the office is enhanced, staff is motivated • Professionalism and stability of the office is increased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEEweb Academy organised for CEE NGOs • One-day skills training in which 20 participants from the Policy Office and from CEEweb members take part

Organisational and financial issues

Objectives:

- New and more professional structure inside CEEweb Policy Office and improved internal communication
- Better performance by each staff member, and so improved performance of the whole organisation
- Strengthened financial independency of the organisation
- Continued financial rigour regarding the financial operation of the organisation
- Higher efficiency in the operation
- Real and long-term prospects for staff based on individual professional development
- Increased advocacy power as well as personal and organizational performance of CEEweb network members and Policy Office staff

Activities:

- Define clearly divided responsibilities among staff members, rethink the internal structure in light of the changes in staff
- 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 2011

Expected results	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more professional and more active headquarter for the CEEweb network • Better organised professional work • Lessons from past activities integrated into the future work and operation for better performance • More visibility for (potential) donors • New strategic partners involved for fundraising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular staff meetings • Individual and team performance evaluation and bilateral feedbacks within the Policy Office • Team performance evaluation within the network as well as evaluation of CEEweb performance at events organized by CEEweb