



EU FOR NATURA 2000 IN SERBIA

Training Seminar – Natura 2000 designation process; field mapping methods, data gathering and management

The process to identify and designate the Natura 2000 network is based, mainly, on the analysis of biodiversity data; species distribution, occurrence and representativity. This fieldwork is completely connected with the good knowledge and understanding of the management of data through the information system. Altogether are the main baseline of necessary knowledge for the preparation of the Natura 2000 network.

Because of that, the training aims to cover topics such as:

- The identification of the Natura 2000 sites are base on analysing the data on species and habitat types
- Use of Terenska mobile app, use and functions of mobile app and management of data from the mobile app
- Improvement of data management
- Organising data and developing the tools for their analysis is an essential prerequisite for mastering the process of identifying significant Natura 2000 sites
- Defining boundaries for Natura 2000 sites
- Structure and role of the Standard Data Form (SDF)
- The NATURA 2000 IS business processes, the system user interface, functionalities, and underlying workflow
- Integration of field data in the Natura 2000 information system
- Using GIS tools for data analysis and designation of pSCIs based on set criteria

The purpose of the training is:

- To gain knowledge and skills of main principles to identify the Natura 2000 network in Serbia,
- Key issues, priorities and needs in designation and building of Natura 2000 in Serbia
- EU framework requirements for the designation, conservation, and management of Natura 2000 sites
- The consultation process in Natura 2000 establishment
- To learn to develop existing databases to fit the requirements of inventory and monitoring of habitats and species of EU interest.
- To learn to analyse the data for different nature conservation purposes (identification Natura 2000 sites, identification of the key elements of nature protection, management, monitoring, reporting, assessment of the activities etc.).
- To get to know with EU requirements regarding the data and attributes about the species, habitat types and Natura 2000 sites
- How to use existing and developed mobile and web applications in practical management with inventories of species and habitat types
- Introducing the information systems and relevant applications on data processing about nature



TRAINING SEMINAR AGENDA

Natura 2000 designation process; field mapping methods, data gathering and management

Day 1 – 8 th June		
Timing	Session and topics	Covered topics
9:00 – 9:15	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	
9:15 – 10:00	<p>NATURA 2000 REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS OF THEIR DESIGNATION AND IMPLEMENTATION IN NEW MEMBER STATES FROM THE CROATIAN EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Mr Aljoša Duplić - REPUBLIC OF CROATIA Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. Director of the Institute for Environment and Nature</p>	<p>The overall time frame of the establishment of Natura 2000 network in the associated member state - Natura 2000 preparation, list of pSCIs, SCIs, SAC, SPAs, Emerald Network, national protected areas, national ecological network and relations between them;</p> <p>The main focus in the preparation Natura 2000 network, what to aware of in preparation the Natura 2000 network</p> <p>The main features of the Natura 2000 proposal - an optimal overall proportion, a number of sites, their sizes, area, species and habitat types distribution, their proportion, the relevance of the data etc.)</p> <p>The adequate protection of Natura 2000 sites in the different stages of preparation the Natura 2000 and related consequences (which requirements/need to be taken into account when creating the Natura 2000 network)</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Questions, answers & comments (All participants)</p>	
10:30 – 11:00	<p>DATA GATHERING AND DATA PROCESSING TO PREPARE THE BEST NATURA 2000 NETWORK IN SERBIA</p> <p>Mr Pavol Polák, Key Expert (Deputy Team Leader) of the EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia</p>	<p>The data about the occurrence of target habitats and species (Annexes I and II of Habitats Directive and Annex I of Birds Directive) within the country's territory are alpha and omega of preparation of Natura 2000 network proposal of high quality.</p> <p>It results from the Habitats Directive - Annex III and Birds Directive, which considers the habitat area (or size of species population) in relation to the overall area of occurrence (size of population) within the country territory one of the key criteria for evaluation of the proposed site.</p> <p>Examples of good approaches in preparation the Natura 2000 and examples of possible solutions which can be replaced in Serbia</p> <p>The opportunities to use the process of the preparation the Natura 2000 network to better nature conservation in Serbia</p> <p>The requirements for designation of the Natura 2000 network</p> <p>The possibilities of Serbia to fulfil the requirements</p>
11:00 – 11:15	<p>Questions, answers & comments (All participants)</p>	
		<p>The main gaps in the process of gathering the data for Natura 2000</p>



11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 12:00	THE PROCESSING OF THE FORESTRY DATA FOR NATURA 2000 PURPOSES Mr Pavol Polák , Key Expert of the EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia	The description of forestry data The importance of forestry data for preparation the Natura 2000 network The main principles and methods of forest data transformation
12:00 – 12:15	Questions, answers & comments (All participants)	The possibilities of improving and updating the forest data transformation
12:15 – 12:45	THE PROCESSING OF THE NON – FOREST HABITAT TYPES DATA FROM THE FIELD MAPPING Mr Pavol Polák , Key Expert of the EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia	How to process and evaluate data from field mappings of habitat types for Nature Conservation purposes Spatial analysis – from GPS coordinates to polygons and spatial data of habitat types
12:45 – 13:00	Questions, answers & comments (All participants)	

Day 2 – 9th June		
Timing	Session and topics	Expected Outputs
9:00 – 9:30	INFORMATION SYSTEM OF THE NATURA 2000 SPECIES, HABITAT TYPES AND POTENTIAL SITES OF NATURA 2000 NETWORK Mrs Jasna Vujnović , Key Expert (IT Expert) of the EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia	The data integrated and visualised through the Information system is collected and maintained the main features and information about wildlife species and natural and semi-natural habitat types. The collected data could be used for environmental reporting and assistance to the Natura 2000 process (EU Birds and Habitats Directives) and fulfil other nature conservation objectives.
9:30 – 9:45	Questions, answers & comments (All participants)	Dealing with the key benefits of an integrated information system for species and habitat types.
9:45 – 10:45	GATHER DATA FROM THE FIELD AND MANAGEMENT DATA ON THE DESK: THE USE OF TERENSKA, THE MOBILE APPLICATION FOR THE FIELD MAPPING SPECIES AND HABITAT TYPES IN SERBIA, AND DATA MANAGEMENT AT THE WEB APPLICATION FOR DATA MANAGEMENT AND DATA BROWSING IN SERBIA Mr Dušan Gvozdenović , Senior Non-Key Expert of the project EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia	The field mobile application is a mobile platform for collecting field data on biodiversity (diversity of wild species and habitats) and a tool for mapping the presence of priority and reference species to establish an ecological network. The description of the main functionalities of the mobile application. Explore how to process data on species and habitat types in a prepared web application. The description of the main functionalities of the web application.
10:45 – 11:15	Questions, answers & comments (All participants)	How to edit data through the web application



11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 12:00	<p>THE DATA ANALYSIS AND DATA PROCESSING – THE DESKTOP MODULE</p> <p>Mr Rastislav Lasák, Specialist in GIS/database applications for environment and field mapping</p>	<p>The main objective of preparing the desktop module is the analysis of the occurrence and representativity of species and habitat types and the method of their processing, which leads to the identification of sites included in the Natura 2000 network in Serbia.</p> <p>The presented proposal is not considered final since there are still many gaps in the processed data. Despite that, the proposed sites are supported by enough data in order to be able to stand the evaluations within the context of their bioregion.</p> <p>With further data and knowledge on the occurrence and distribution of species and habitats, it will be necessary to repeat the analyses.</p> <p>Knowledge of the main principles of the Desktop module is also essential for the use of information for nature conservation purposes</p>
12:00 – 12:15	<p>Questions, answers & comments</p> <p>(All participants)</p>	<p>The GIS analyses are the main tool to identify the significant areas for Natura 2000 network or other nature conservation spatial objectives</p>
12:15 – 12:45	<p>THE PROPOSAL OF METHODOLOGY FOR DESKTOP ANALYSIS FOR pSCI IN SERBIA AND THE CONCEPT OF DATA TRANSFORMATION INTO THE SDF</p> <p>Mr Pavol Polák, Key Expert (Deputy Team Leader) of the EU for Natura 2000 project in Serbia</p>	<p>This section aims to provide information about the proposal of methodology for desktop analysis, which describes a method of data processing of the data of species and habitat types in Serbia to establish a list of proposed Sites of Community Interest.</p> <p>The final proposal is fulfilled to SDF – Standard data form and the Concept of data transformation presents the transformation of data from the national database (information system) into the SDF format.</p> <p>The structure of data on sites, habitats and species are based on the methodologies for the field mappings, data processing and structure of the current databases, so it needs to be adapted to the structure of the SDF format.</p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p>CONCLUSIONS AND ROAD MAP TO PREPARE, DESIGNATE AND IMPLEMENT THE NATURA 2000 NETWORK IN SERBIA</p> <p>Natura 2000 project Team</p>	



About the International speakers:

Mr Aljoša Duplić, b.a. Director of the Institute for Environment and Nature at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. He has PhD in Biological Sciences from the Faculty of Science at the University of Zagreb. Prior to being b.a. Director, he was head of the Sector for nature protection at the Institute for Environment and Nature. He was also an employee of the Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature, Karlovac University of Applied Sciences and State Institute for Nature Protection. During 14 years of experience in the field of nature conservation, he worked on different topics from nature conservation, mostly connected with species conservation and sites. He actively participated in preparing the proposal of the national ecological network and the Croatian proposal of the Natura 2000 ecological network. He worked on the development of the framework for implementation of the management of the Natura 2000 ecological network (sites) in Croatia through the Operational Program for cohesion and competitiveness. Additionally, he worked on developing and implementing the system for monitoring, rapid response, control, and eradication of the invasive alien species. During whole his professional career, he has been especially focused on the conservation of freshwater fish and freshwater ecosystems.

Mr Rastislav Lasák, Specialist in GIS/database applications for environment and field mapping. He was designing and developing several information systems and methodologies for data gathering: National IS of Grasslands of Slovakia; National IS of Peatlands of Slovakia; IS of taxa and biotopes for State Nature Conservancy of Slovakia; IS for identification of Natura 2000 pSCIs in Slovakia and Montenegro; Biodiversity IS for gathering data on Habitat Directive annex species in Bosnia and Herzegovina; online Carpathian Biodiversity IS dealing with data from 7 countries; IS for management planning of protected sites in the northern part of Cyprus, an online expert system for identification of biotope types from mapped field forms; online IS for wetland mapping in Slovakia, creation of methodology and data gathering of biotopes, fish and bird species for management planning in Ukraine. He has worked with databases and GIS systems for 20 years. He has 20 years of professional experience in biotope mapping, mostly of vegetation on the volcanic substrate and floodplain vegetation.