

# Report on the international workshop “Capacity-Building for Biodiversity in Central and Eastern Europe”

- Results and Recommendations -

Horst Korn, Rainer Schliep & Cordula Epple (Eds.)





**Report**  
**on the international workshop**  
**“Capacity-Building for Biodiversity in**  
**Central and Eastern Europe”**  
**December 03 – 06, 2003**

**Convened by the**  
**German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation**  
**at the International Academy for Nature Conservation,**  
**Isle of Vilm**

**- Results and Recommendations -**

**Editors:**  
**Horst Korn**  
**Rainer Schliep**  
**Cordula Epple**



Editors' addresses:

Horst Korn                    Bundesamt für Naturschutz  
Cordula Epple                INA Insel Vilm  
                                  18581 Lauterbach/Rügen, Germany  
                                  E-Mail: horst.korn@bfv-vilm.de  
                                  cordula.epple@bfv-vilm.de

Rainer Schliep                Consultancy for Ecosystem Management  
                                  Offenbacher Str. 17A  
                                  14197 Berlin, Germany  
                                  E-Mail: Rainer.Schliep@gmx.de

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                                  Tel.: +49 228/ 8491-0  
                                  Fax: +49 228/ 8491-200  
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## 1 Introduction

The international workshop „Capacity-Building for Biodiversity in Central and Eastern Europe“ brought together 27 experts from 12 European countries from December 03-06, 2003. It was organized by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation at its conference centre, the “International Academy for Nature Conservation” on the Isle of Vilm.

The aim of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas and experiences between representatives from governmental and scientific institutions as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations involved in capacity-building activities with regard to biodiversity issues in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Among the main topics for discussion were the possible tasks and functioning of a regional centre or network for capacity-building to promote the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the capacity needs of countries in the region.

The idea of developing a network of regional centres or partners for capacity-building in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe has been proposed by the Executive Secretary of the CBD for further examination in document UNEP/CBD/MSP/5. In organising the workshop, the Federal Agency was also led by Decision VI/27 of the Conference of the Parties, which “invites Parties, Governments, and relevant organizations to strengthen their existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building and to contribute inputs regarding their experiences into the wider assessment process” with regard to regional and subregional instruments and mechanisms for enhancing CBD implementation.

The workshop was set up as an informal scientific meeting and the participants attended in their personal capacity as biodiversity experts. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Horst Korn. The outcomes presented here do not necessarily mean that consensus has been achieved on every individual point.

In this report the results of the five working sessions are summarized and recommendations are given to help individuals and organizations in their work and to contribute to further discussion on the issue.



## 2 Background

### **The Role of Capacity-Building in the CBD Process - An Overview of Relevant Documents and Developments**

CORDULA EPPLE

#### **Introduction**

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is the most important international agreement dealing with the challenge to maintain biodiversity in spite of the many threats to which it is currently exposed. Its implementation requires a wide range of activities at the national and local level. Building and/or enhancing the capacity of potential actors in all member states to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is therefore a central concern in the CBD process. Already in the preamble of the Convention, the "urgent need to develop scientific, technical and institutional capacities" in order to be able to "plan and implement appropriate measures" is mentioned.

Among the articles of the CBD, the following contain provisions which relate to capacity-building: Article 12 (Research and Training), Article 13 (Public Education and Awareness), Article 17 (Exchange of Information) and Article 18 (Technical and Scientific Cooperation). Article 18 (3) calls for the establishment of the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM), which aims to facilitate cooperation and information exchange within and between the Parties to the Convention.

#### **Understanding of Capacity-Building**

There is no definition of "capacity-building" in the text of the Convention or in the decisions of its governing body, the Conference of the Parties (COP). However, the use of the term in CBD documents is generally supportive of a wide understanding of capacity-building, which includes not only the training of individuals and the build-up and strengthening of institutions, but also the creation of enabling environments. This latter aspect may involve for example the development of supportive legal and policy frameworks, institutional mechanisms for policy integration and the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the work of other sectors, mechanisms for stakeholder involvement and participation, support for networks and information exchange systems or the introduction of appropriate incentive measures.

Over the past years, such a broad notion of the scope of the term has come to be widely accepted in international fora dealing with environmental issues. According to a definition based on the work of the Capacity Development Initiative led by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) (GEF 2001), "'capacity building' can be taken as 'the actions needed to enhance the ability of individuals, institutions and systems to make and implement decisions and perform functions in an effective, efficient and sustainable manner.'"

### Relevant documents and developments

The implementation of the CBD has to be based on both the convention text and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Already at the first meeting of the COP in 1994, in Decision I/9 on the medium-term programme of work up to 1997, the Parties emphasized "the importance of capacity-building as one of the elements of successful implementation of the Convention" (Dec. I/9, Annex (4)). Capacity-building was also included among the programme priorities for support by the financial mechanism of the Convention (Dec. I/2, Annex I (III e)).

Since then, guidance on capacity-building has been given in the decisions of every COP meeting and is included in the work on almost all of the thematic programmes and cross-cutting issues treated under the Convention. As a consequence of the declared shift of focus from policy formulation to implementation at COP 6 in 2002, the weight accorded to capacity-building and the degree of detail of the provisions have increased further.

The following list gives an overview of the thematic areas of COP decisions which make reference to capacity-building:

- Access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing
- Agrobiodiversity
- Art. 8j and rel. provisions (traditional knowledge)
- Alien invasive species
- Biodiversity of Inland Waters
- Biosafety
- Clearing House Mechanism
- Dryland Biodiversity
- Ecosystem Approach
- Education and Public Awareness
- Ex-situ collections
- Forest Biodiversity
- Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
- Identification and monitoring
- Impact assessment
- Incentive measures
- Indicators
- Liability and redress
- Marine and Coastal Biodiversity
- Coral Reefs
- National Reporting
- Sustainable Use
- Taxonomy
- Tourism

According to the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the COP up to 2010 (cf. document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5), the refinement of mechanisms to support implementation of the Convention (such as the financial mechanism, the clearing-house mechanism, technology transfer and capacity-building) will also be considered as a separate item on the agenda of every meeting until COP 10.

The "Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity" (Dec. VI/26), which was adopted by COP 6 in 2002, identifies the improvement of the financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity of Parties to implement the Convention as one of four central goals. This goal is further elaborated among others by the following objectives:

- "All Parties have adequate capacity for implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategy and action plans." and

- “Developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States amongst them, and other Parties with economies in transition, have sufficient resources available to implement the three objectives of the Convention.”

In promoting the implementation of the CBD, regional and subregional mechanisms and networks can play an important role, which is acknowledged in Decision VI/27. The same decision invites Parties, Governments, and relevant organizations to strengthen their existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building.

The Clearing-House Mechanism, which was established on the basis of Article 18 (3) to promote technical and scientific cooperation (see above), has over the past years developed into an extensive network with a large number of national and thematic focal points. It has a strong internet component, which should, however, not be seen as the only element of the CHM, but rather as the fundament on which further activities can be developed. In the strategic plan of the CHM for the period 1999-2004, “training and capacity-building” is identified as one of six key areas of cooperation to be promoted by the work of the mechanism (cf. UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3).

The importance of capacity-building is also emphasized in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which was adopted by the COP in 2000 as the first supplementary agreement to the CBD and entered into force in September 2003 after ratification by 50 Parties. In 2001, an Action Plan for building capacities for the effective implementation of the Protocol was endorsed. To support capacity-building activities, internet databases on capacity-building opportunities, ongoing projects and initiatives, lessons learned from completed projects and national and regional capacity-building needs have been set up (see <http://bch.biodiv.org/Pilot/CapacityBuilding/GettingStarted.shtml>).

When considering developments relevant to capacity-building in the framework of the CBD, one should also keep in mind the work which is under way on related issues such as Technology transfer (especially with regard to "soft technologies", i.e. skills and knowledge), Education and public awareness, and issues connected with the creation of enabling environments, such as Incentive measures.

## References

Global Environment Facility (2001): "A Guide for Self-Assessment of Country Capacity Needs for Global Environmental Management"

The documents and decisions cited in the text can be found at the website of the Secretariat of the CBD at <http://www.biodiv.org>



### 3 Results and Recommendations of the Workshop

#### Working Group 1: Instruments for Capacity-building

*Introductory remark: In this working session, a list of commonly applied instruments for capacity-building was drawn up and discussed. It was noted that for certain categories of capacity needs, a lack of available instruments is apparent.*

#### Results

Capacity-building is an integral part of development work. To achieve its goals, capacity-building work should be organised at three levels:

##### 1. Individual/human resource

If e.g. inspectorates are the important units for environmental law implementation at the local level, adequate skills can be enhanced for more effective work on the ground by training the inspectors of the ministry of environment.

##### 2. Organisational

If e.g. a ministry fails to provide relevant working conditions for the skilled personnel, their skills and knowledge won't be applied and erode over time.

##### 3. Systemic

If e.g. there are no functional legal mechanisms at the systemic level, inspectorates will not be able to perform accordingly.

These levels are highly interconnected and precondition each other, therefore enabling environments should be created at all three levels. Albeit knowledge and skills of individuals are important (level 1), they alone are not sufficient.

The working session identified the following instruments for capacity-building:

##### 1. Printed material:

- ⇒ Publications
- ⇒ Studies
- ⇒ Assistance tool kits
- ⇒ Manuals
- ⇒ Articles

##### 2. Face –to –face:

- ⇒ Training
- ⇒ Training of trainers
- ⇒ Info days
- ⇒ Study visits / Exchange visits / Twinning
- ⇒ Seminars (for various purposes: training, exchange of ideas, elaborating concepts etc)
- ⇒ Pilot projects

- ⇒ Helpdesks
- ⇒ Expertise exchange
- ⇒ Coaching

### 3. E –tools:

- ⇒ Providing information on the internet
- ⇒ Web based learning
- ⇒ Clearing House Mechanism

**Other instruments**, which have been mentioned, are:

- Public participation
- Lobbying (Advocacy)
- Schools
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

The above-mentioned instruments mainly relate to individual human resource development (level 1). More work needs to be done on level 2 and level 3.

The participants identified the following **subjects for further discussion**:

- The role of information exchange for capacity-building
- The importance of networking (for information exchange and/or integration of activities) as an instrument for capacity-building
- The significance of financial instruments for NGOs and governments in capacity-building
- The significance of Needs Assessments for capacity-building
- The role of mass media in capacity-building
- The use of local knowledge for capacity-building
- The use of scientific knowledge for capacity-building

Generally participants expressed the need for new capacity-building instruments and the need for a further development of existing capacity-building instruments for (a) local people, (b) politicians, and (c) media.

## **Working Group 2: Tasks and Structure of a Regional Centre or Network for Capacity-building**

*Introductory remark: The aim of this working session was to outline the main tasks and structural features of a regional centre/network for capacity-building as they could be applied for the Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs), but also in other regions of the world.*

Regional background information gathering (e.g. taking into account results from National Capacity Self-Assessments (NCSA)) and needs identification are prerequisites for establishing a regional centre for capacity-building. The establishment of the centre will be based on and will further strengthen the existing structures. This centre could serve as a hub for a larger regional network of actors, and its activities will be open to all stakeholders. For fulfilling the aims of the centre, experiences and information gathered by national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) should be considered.

The centre should be structured into two parts: a virtual centre with links to the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM), and a physical centre to provide a forum for face-to-face communication. According to this structure, the tasks of the two branches would be the following:

### **A Physical Centre**

- ⇒ Organizing workshops and training as means of capacity-building
- ⇒ Continuously keeping track of capacity-building needs in the region to appropriately direct the activities of the entire centre
- ⇒ Providing advice in project development, management and fund raising
- ⇒ Facilitating flow of information among the different actors
- ⇒ (Act as an auditor of CBD implementation process – invited by a country and gives recommendations)

### **B Virtual Centre**

This will reflect the activities that have taken place at the physical centre and will additionally provide information on:

- ⇒ The capacity needs of the countries ( including the results of the NCSAs)
- ⇒ Developments in the CBD process with regard to capacity-building (e.g. COP guidance, results of questionnaires)
- ⇒ Implemented and ongoing projects as well as opportunities for new capacity-building activities
- ⇒ ‘Best practices’, lessons learned and case studies
- ⇒ A roster of experts

In its capacity-building mission the centre should take a proactive role as well as respond to the specific demands of the stakeholders. It should maintain a flexible approach to adapt to future needs and trends (future developments), and motivate other actors to incorporate the objectives of the CBD into their capacity-building activities.

## **Working Group 3: Priority Areas for Capacity-Building for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in Central and Eastern Europe**

*Introductory remark: The aim of this working session was to identify thematic areas in which capacity-building would be particularly valuable in Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs). Every participant from a CEEC was asked to select a maximum of three priorities from a list of thematic areas which had been drawn up based on COP guidance on capacity-building and on input from presentations at the workshop. The participants were asked to state the reasons behind their choice with special regard to the situation in CEECs. A drafting group condensed the resulting statements into a coherent text.*

The order of the following priorities and thematic clusters reflects the prioritisation carried out by the participants from CEECs.

Areas of priority and thematic clusters:

### **1. Integrated Policy Formulation and Implementation**

Rationale:

Integrated policy formulation and implementation is a crucial element of precautionary principles.

A major obstacle for the implementation of CBD objectives is the inadequate public attitude concerning biodiversity conservation, including the associated individual activities. This must be addressed by capacity-building. Therefore it seems appropriate to address the human factor in terms of changing people's understanding and attitudes towards biodiversity conservation in various thematic areas.

Capacity-building in nature conservation has to be integrated with other environmental and non-environmental activities to accomplish a full and targeted action (to avoid overlooking certain aspects).

One of the major problems in CEECs is a sectoral and isolated way of development and implementation of nature conservation and other relevant policies for the sustainable use of natural resources.

- Stakeholders have to understand the necessity of nature conservation and participate in identifying possible cross-cuts between nature conservation and other areas.
- Decision and policy makers often do not have the capacity to identify nature conservation goals, which results in a lack of structure in strategies.
- Non-integrated policies and strategies are created.
- It is essential to put designated goals and aims into practice and enforce executing bodies to establish an integrated policy approach.

Capacity-building in this matter should consider the use of new approaches and models, case studies and existing best practices.

## 2. Sustainable Use

Rationale:

Sustainable use is a cross-cutting issue related to a wide range of sectoral activities and the various ecosystems affected by them. It bears a challenging task for capacity-building. The conservation of biological diversity through its sustainable utilization is one of the key objectives of the CBD.

Especially in CEECs, the overarching concept of sustainable development needs to be communicated on a broader scale, as the term and its meaning are often poorly understood by actors and stakeholders.

Concerning the field of capacity-building, the task is to communicate the ecological, social and economic implications of sustainable use to actors and stakeholders.

*The following thematic areas were selected as important aspects (in order of priority):*

### a) Agriculture:

Extensive agricultural practices resulted in a valuable rural landscape in CEECs and are currently maintaining great biodiversity values for the benefit of all of Europe.

- Agriculture plays a key role in the field of biodiversity conservation, because conservationists do not have the means to achieve biodiversity conservation in the cultural landscape by themselves alone.
- It is important to educate, train and inform decision makers and those implementing agriculture policies to ensure the implementation of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) making full use of its opportunities for sustainable agricultural practices in line with conservation goals.
- It is important to train, educate and build capacities of stakeholders to represent their concerns related to the sustainability principles, e.g. within the CAP at EU administrative and decision making level.

### b) Forests:

Issues related to forests must be dealt with using a comprehensive and holistic approach including environmental, economic and social values. In the context of capacity-building, forestry in CEECs needs enhanced resource management, as e.g. deforestation, loss of native species, mono-cultures and the insufficient use of native species and varieties for afforestation are topics of critical importance for sustainable forestry in this region.

- Training, educating and informing forest authorities with regard to forest certification schemes and to improve forest management in the sense of nature conservation is a target for capacity-building.

c) Inland Waters:

In the context of sustainable use inland waters play an important role because of the goods and services they provide (e.g. energy, food, transport, recreation).

- Focus capacity-building on those human activities that cause pollution affecting ecosystems and resulting in a reduced productivity concerning goods, services and ecological functions.

d) Tourism:

Tourism is recognized by the CBD as an important component of sustainable use. Therefore, the CBD developed guidelines for tourism in vulnerable areas. Concerning CEECs, tourism is one of the fastest growing economies, having at these times mostly a negative impact on the environment. This implies that tourism is not planned, managed and organized in a sustainable way.

- Minimize impacts on the environment and maximize benefits for all stakeholders through training of decision makers as well as tourism and biodiversity managers.

e) Ecosystem Approach:

The Ecosystem Approach developed under the CBD is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. As a framework of the objectives of the CBD it forms the fundament for building capacity, e.g. on sustainable use issues.

- The capacity of relevant sectors and stakeholders at all levels on the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the CEECs needs to be enhanced.

### 3. Monitoring

Rationale:

Monitoring focuses on the changes of and impacts on ecosystems, which should be incorporated in the development of policies and management approaches, considering the Ecosystem Approach.

A special issue in relation to the EU accession is the monitoring of the favorable conservation status of species and habitats, as required by the Habitats Directive.

With regard to sustainable use it is necessary to evaluate project design and to monitor implementation taking into account possible negative impacts on biodiversity.

- Institutions/individuals currently developing monitoring systems need to be linked to each other in order to identify gaps and avoid fragmentation or duplication of work.

*Thematic areas related to Monitoring:*

a) Indicators

- Indicators should be used to monitor and evaluate projects and to identify weaknesses and successes in order to facilitate effective adaptive management.
- It is necessary to gather and assess existing indicator systems and distribute information.

b) Valuation Methods

The economic benefits of governmental investments raise legitimate and important public policy questions, but the answers are often ambiguous and difficult to justify. Agency staff may not always be able to provide acceptable answers with regard to the environmental costs and/or benefits of a project - no matter how much money they spend on analysis. However, if there are no substantiated estimates on a sound theoretical basis of the benefits of environmental programmes, investment decisions will be based on other factors.

- There should be descriptions of how economists value the beneficial ways in which ecosystems affect people

#### **4. Clearing-House Mechanism**

Rationale:

The Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) of the Convention on Biological Diversity is a platform to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation and information exchange related to biodiversity conservation and its related issues.

Through the CHM, a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity is being developed.

- The dissemination of project reports and of information about legislation issues or best practices through the CHM should be an integral part of capacity-building.

#### **5. Information Management**

Rationale:

Partners involved in biodiversity conservation are responsible for providing the relevant information to education and capacity-building centres.

- The centres are dealing with the management of the received information for further dissemination.

#### **6. Public Awareness/Education**

Rationale:

Capacity-building for enhanced public awareness and environmental education forms the base for the social acceptance of biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity components. It is an essential tool to support development management and the implementation of nature conservation issues.

To some extent, CEECs are still lacking public awareness programmes supporting the implementation of programmes or actions for biodiversity conservation (e.g. by showing best practices or lessons learned).

- In terms of the CBD implementation, awareness raising programmes, training sessions or workshops should enable all stakeholders, including local communities, to understand the nature and importance of the respective topics.

### 7. In-situ Conservation

Rationale:

In-situ conservation is the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings (Art. 2, CBD).

It is crucial to build capacities and relevant frameworks for in-situ conservation within and outside protected areas in CEECs. In the context of the increased loss of biological diversity, capacities and incentive measures for in-situ conservation should be mandatory.

Further actions regarding in-situ conservation are:

- Education on site management plans for in-situ conservation.
- Developing the skills of site managers.

*Thematic areas related to in-situ conservation:*

#### a) Protected Areas Systems

- The systems of protected areas guarantee measures undertaken for biodiversity conservation.
- They provide gene-pools, therefore they are outmost important for the existence of biological diversity by having sufficient genetic varieties for responding to the change of the environment.

#### b) Alien Species

- Alien species can threaten ecosystems, habitats or species. There is need to promote concrete actions for dealing with this problem in CEECs.
- There is a need to train scientists and protected areas managers on how to cope with eliminating the negative effects of their occurrence and their impacts on native species.

### 8. Topics for future consideration

The following areas have been identified as potential areas for capacity-building but were not chosen to be of higher priority. The order is alphabetical and does not follow specific priorities.

- Benefit sharing
- Contributing to/following CBD process
- Drylands
- Ex-situ conservation
- Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
- Impact assessment

- Incentive measures/compensation
- Integration of research in decision making
- Liability and redress
- Marine and coastal biodiversity
- Taxonomy
- Traditional knowledge

### **Working Group 4: Integrated Policy Formulation and Implementation as a Priority Goal for Capacity-building**

*Introductory remark: In working session 3, “Integrated Policy Formulation and Implementation” was identified by the participants as the single most important area for capacity-building in Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs). Because of the complex nature of the issue, the fourth working group decided to further specify the capacity needs of relevant actors and discuss the instruments which could be used to address them.*

The **reasons** for the prioritisation of “Integrated policy formulation and implementation” as a goal for capacity-building were identified as follows:

- ⇒ It can help to increase public involvement
- ⇒ Improvement of horizontal and vertical integration is needed
- ⇒ Integration is needed on strategic level
- ⇒ Enforcement of existing regulations etc. can be improved
- ⇒ The effectiveness/utilization of existing capacities can be enhanced
- ⇒ There is a need to build new partnerships for biodiversity conservation

The following **actors** in integrated policy formulation and implementation were considered important:

- ⇒ Technical staff in relevant administration
- ⇒ Politicians on the local, regional and national level
- ⇒ The public
- ⇒ NGOs
- ⇒ Science / academia

## Results and Recommendations

The **needs** for capacity-building for these actors were described as the following:

Technical staff	Politicians	Public	NGOs	Science/academia
1. Number of staff	6. Knowledge on means for integration	9. Awareness of opportunities for involvement (e.g. Århus-Convention)		13. Education of specialists in governance
2. Awareness of need for integration		8. Awareness of need for integration	10. General knowledge on relevant international processes	14. Identification of research demands
3. Interdisciplinary skills and knowledge	7. Awareness of need for expertise		11. Knowledge on means for integration	15. Holistic approaches
4. General knowledge on relevant international processes (guidance, obligations, opportunities)			12. Networking in a thematically wide range of NGOs	16. Communication skills
5. Capacities for communication				
17. Acknowledgement of importance of traditional knowledge				

The working group identified the following **capacity-building instruments** that could be used to address the needs listed above (the numbers in brackets refer to the numbering of needs in the table above):

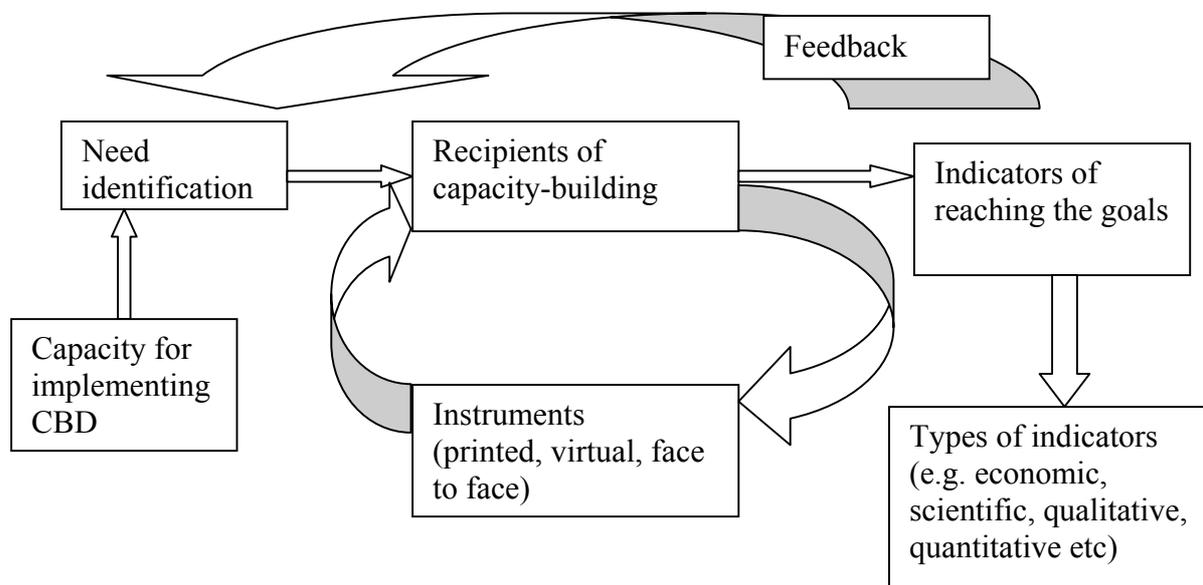
- ⇒ Encourage allocation of environmental focal persons in other sectors (1)
- ⇒ Seconding of experts (1)
- ⇒ Outsourcing of services by collaboration with NGOs and science (1)
- ⇒ Dissemination/presentation of case studies and best practice (2, 12, 17)
- ⇒ Present financial benefits and advantages (2, 6, 8)
- ⇒ Advertising for training in cooperation with National Focal Points (3, 4, 5)
- ⇒ Training (3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 16)
- ⇒ Publications (3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11)
- ⇒ Web-based information services/thematic e-groups (3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12)
- ⇒ Networking/conferences/expert meetings (3, 14, 15)
- ⇒ International meetings (4)
- ⇒ Promoting peer-to-peer education (4, 12)
- ⇒ Set-up/improvement of relevant advisory services (6)
- ⇒ Advertising sectoral integration by involving key decision-makers (6)
- ⇒ Gap analyses and needs assessments (7, 14)
- ⇒ Assist educational institutions to develop curricula (8, 9, 11, 13, 15)
- ⇒ Media (8, 9, 10)
- ⇒ Adult education (8, 13)
- ⇒ Start-up meeting (12)
- ⇒ Creating science-policy interlinkage platforms (14, 15)
- ⇒ Inventory, codification and dissemination (17)

## Working Group 5: Monitoring the Success of Capacity-Building

*Introductory remark: The question of how the success of capacity-building activities can be monitored was taken up in several presentations held at the workshop and proved during discussions to be a matter of interest to many participants. It was therefore decided to further discuss the issue in a separate working group.*

In order to ensure the effectiveness of capacity-building activities regular monitoring should be conducted. Monitoring requires appropriate indicators for evaluation, which are different for each group of recipients. In the discussion, a list of recipients was pointed out which the participants perceived as the most important with regard to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Many of the suggested indicators are fairly general and could be applied to any organisation / any form of capacity-building. Prior to applying the indicators they should be adapted and elaborated further in order to match them with the existing needs and trends in the region.

The presented list of indicators is aimed to measure the achievement of goals rather than to evaluate the performance of instruments in capacity-building (see figure 1).



**Figure 1: The monitoring process in capacity-building**

The following are the recipients and the corresponding indicators:

### GOVERNMENT:

- ⇒ Governments spend more money and man power to the subject (e.g. in CBD agency)
- ⇒ New legislation in place and enforced (e.g. nature park)
- ⇒ Governmental ranks which appear on international level (Queen, Prime Minister, ministers...)
- ⇒ interoperability of data / compatibility of data
- ⇒ number of interviews given on CBD issues by government representatives
- ⇒ implementation of green (eco-) taxation schemes

### NGO:

- ⇒ number of staff working on CBD issues
- ⇒ number of them in contact with the SCBD
- ⇒ number of contacts with National Focal Points (NFPs)
- ⇒ number of invitations to take part in decision making
- ⇒ number of seminars and training run by NGOs in CBD context
- ⇒ number of functioning NGOs working on CBD issues
- ⇒ amount of financial resources

### SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS:

- ⇒ number of publications and media appearance on CBD issues
- ⇒ number of scientists and institutions cooperating with NFPs
- ⇒ number of research projects (funding allocation) about and within CBD
- ⇒ ranking of CBD issues on list of research priorities
- ⇒ number of databases and inventory work
- ⇒ presence of scientific community in decision making and visibility in public
- ⇒ interoperability of data / compatibility of data

### PUBLIC:

- ⇒ public awareness on CBD
- ⇒ appearance and frequency of CBD issues in media
- ⇒ number of websites (private and institutional)
- ⇒ number of hits on websites including those of the CHM
- ⇒ ranking in search engines
- ⇒ size of environmental membership organisations
- ⇒ number of visitors at biodiversity events

### BUSINESS:

- ⇒ decrease in number of harmful or non-sustainable projects and products
- ⇒ number of green (eco)-label products and firms
- ⇒ number of green (eco) jobs
- ⇒ number of companies having functioning environmental strategy in place

## Glossary of Acronyms

CAP	Common Agricultural Policy (EU)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEECs	Central and Eastern European Countries
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness Initiative (CBD)
CHM	Clearing-House Mechanism
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of the Parties
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GSPC	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
SCBD	Secretariat of the CBD
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

## List of Participants

Last name	First name	Institution	Address
Adamescu	Mihai	University of Bucharest Department of Systems Ecology	Spl. Independentei 91-95/Sector 5 76201 Bucharest ROMANIA phone: +40 21 4112310 e-mail: <a href="mailto:adacri@bio.bio.unibuc.ro">adacri@bio.bio.unibuc.ro</a>
Böhmer	Franz	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation	Mallwitzstr. 1-3 53177 Bonn GERMANY phone: +49 228 8491-449 e-mail: <a href="mailto:franz.boehmer@bfn.de">franz.boehmer@bfn.de</a>
Bozso	Brigitta	WWF Hungary	Nemetsölgyi ut 78/b. 1124 Budapest HUNGARY phone: +36 1 214 5554 e-mail: <a href="mailto:brigitta.bozso@wwf.hu">brigitta.bozso@wwf.hu</a>
Brozova	Jana	Ministry of the Environment	Vrsoviccka 65 100 10 Prague 10 CZECH REPUBLIC phone: +420 267 122 375 fax: +420 267 310 328 e-mail: <a href="mailto:jana_brozova@env.cz">jana_brozova@env.cz</a>
Chachibaia	Keti	UNDP	35 Grosslingova 81109 Bratislava SLOVAK REPUBLIC phone: +421 2 59337 422 e-mail: <a href="mailto:keti.chachibaia@undp.org">keti.chachibaia@undp.org</a>
Domashlinets	Volodymyr	Ministry of the Environment Protection of Ukraine / Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals	United Nation Premises in Bonn Martin-Luther-King Str. 8 53175 Bonn GERMANY phone: +49 228 815 2431 fax: +49 228 815 2449 e-mail: <a href="mailto:vdomashlinets@cms.unep.de">vdomashlinets@cms.unep.de</a>
Eglite	Liga	Baltic Environmental Forum	Peldu iela 26/28 rm.505 LV 1050 Riga LATVIA phone: +371 735 7547 fax: +371 750 7071 e-mail: <a href="mailto:liga.eglite@bef.lv">liga.eglite@bef.lv</a>
Epple	Cordula	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation	INA Insel Vilm 18581 Putbus GERMANY phone: +49 38301-86136 fax: +49 38301-86150 e-mail: <a href="mailto:cordula.epple@bfn-vilm.de">cordula.epple@bfn-vilm.de</a>
Fercej	Darko	The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe Country Office Slovenia	Slovenska cesta 5 1000 Ljubljana SLOVENIA phone: +386 1 425 6860 e-mail: <a href="mailto:rec-slovenia@guest.arnes.si">rec-slovenia@guest.arnes.si</a> <a href="mailto:darko.fercej@siol.net">darko.fercej@siol.net</a>

Last name	First name	Institution	Address
Freiberg	Horst	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation	Konstantinstr. 110 53179 Bonn GERMANY phone: +49 228 8491-232 fax: +49 228 8491-200 e-mail: <a href="mailto:horst.freiberg@bfn.de">horst.freiberg@bfn.de</a>
Haas	Fabian	Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart German GTI Focal Point	Rosenstein 1 70191 Stuttgart GERMANY phone: +49 711 8936 172 e-mail: <a href="mailto:haas.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de">haas.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de</a>
Haczek	Bozena	Ministry of the Environment	52/54 Wawelska St. 00-922 Warsaw POLAND phone: +48 22 5792 282 fax: +48 22 5792 555 e-mail: <a href="mailto:bozena.haczek@mos.gov.pl">bozena.haczek@mos.gov.pl</a>
Hajdu	Klara	Central and East European Working Group for the Enhancement of Biodiversity (CEEWEB)	Kuruclesi ut 11/a 1021 Budapest HUNGARY phone: +36 1 398 0135 fax: +36 1 398 0136 e-mail: <a href="mailto:hajdu@ceeweb.org">hajdu@ceeweb.org</a>
Höhn	Stefanie	Ecological Tourism in Europe	Am Michaelshof 8-10 53177 Bonn GERMANY phone: +49 228 359008 fax: +49 228 359096 e-mail: <a href="mailto:oete-bonn@t-online.de">oete-bonn@t-online.de</a>
Korn	Horst	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation	INA Insel Vilm 18581 Putbus GERMANY phone: +49 38301-86130 fax: +49 38301-86150 e-mail: <a href="mailto:horst.korn@bfn-vilm.de">horst.korn@bfn-vilm.de</a>
Krolopp	Andras	Central and East European Working Group for the Enhancement of Biodiversity (CEEWEB)	Kuruclesi ut 11/a 1021 Budapest HUNGARY phone: +36 1 398 0135 fax: +36 1 398 0136 e-mail: <a href="mailto:krolopp@ceeweb.org">krolopp@ceeweb.org</a>
Liimand	Kristiina	Wildlife Estonia NGO	Veski 4 51005 Tartu ESTONIA phone: +372 7422767 e-mail: <a href="mailto:kristiina.liimand@mail.ee">kristiina.liimand@mail.ee</a>
Liro	Anna	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	30 Wspolna St. 00-930 Warsaw POLAND phone: +48 22 623 1754 fax: +48 22 623 2051 e-mail: <a href="mailto:anna.liro@minrol.gov.pl">anna.liro@minrol.gov.pl</a>

## List of Participants

Last name	First name	Institution	Address
Metera	Dorota	IUCN Office for Central Europe	ul. Wloska 4 00-777 Warsaw POLAND phone: +48 22 841 0757 fax: +48 22 851 8482 e-mail: <a href="mailto:metera@iucn-ce.org.pl">metera@iucn-ce.org.pl</a>
Meyer	Michael	Ecological Tourism in Europe	Am Michaelshof 8-10 53177 Bonn GERMANY phone: +49 228 359008 fax: +49 228 359096 e-mail: <a href="mailto:oete-bonn@t-online.de">oete-bonn@t-online.de</a>
Nagy	Dénes	Ministry of Environment and Waters Department of International Treaties for Nature Conservation	Költö utca 21 H-1121 Budapest HUNGARY phone: +36 1 395 6857 fax: +36 1 275 4505 e-mail: <a href="mailto:nagyd@mail2.ktm.hu">nagyd@mail2.ktm.hu</a>
Penu	Oana-Dominica	The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe Country Office Romania	Bdul. I. C. Bratianu, no. 44 bis, ap23, scara B, Bl. P7, Bucharest ROMANIA phone: +40-21-315 3526 fax: +40-21-315 3527 e-mail: <a href="mailto:oana.penu@recromania.ro">oana.penu@recromania.ro</a> <a href="mailto:rec@recromania.ro">rec@recromania.ro</a>
Schäffer	Norbert	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	The Lodge, Sandy Bedfordshire SG 19 2DL UNITED KINGDOM phone: +44 1767 683211 e-mail: <a href="mailto:norbert.schaffer@rspb.org.uk">norbert.schaffer@rspb.org.uk</a>
Schliep	Rainer	Consultancy for Ecosystem Management	Offenbacher Straße 17 A 14197 Berlin GERMANY phone: +49 30 89733164 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Rainer.Schliep@gmx.de">Rainer.Schliep@gmx.de</a>
Stankova	Jindriska	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic	Kalisnicka 4-6 130 23 Prague 3 CZECH REPUBLIC phone: +420 2 2258 2423 e-mail: <a href="mailto:stankova@nature.cz">stankova@nature.cz</a>
Stolpe	Gisela	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation	INA Insel Vilm 18581 Putbus GERMANY phone: +49 38301-86113 fax: +49 38301-86150 e-mail: <a href="mailto:gisela.stolpe@bfn-vilm.de">gisela.stolpe@bfn-vilm.de</a>
Susic	Srdjan	Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe Country Office Serbia and Montenegro	Primorska 31 11000 Belgrad SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO phone: +381 11 3292 899 fax: +381 11 3293 020 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ssusic@recyu.org">ssusic@recyu.org</a>

## Workshop Programme

### **Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

Arrival of the participants

18.30 *Dinner*

21.00 Welcome of the participants (H. Korn, BfN)

### **Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

08.00 *Breakfast*

09.00 Introduction to the topic (C. Epple, BfN)

09.30 Presentation of current activities and potential for capacity-building at the International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm (G. Stolpe, BfN)

10.00 Experiences with building capacities for biodiversity conservation – the 'pros and cons' of NGO networking (A. Krolopp, CEEWEB)

10.30 *Coffee*

11.00 Capacity Building in Implementation and Enforcement of the EU Nature Conservation Policy in the Baltic States (L. Eglite, Baltic Environmental Forum)

11.30 Promotion of Networks and Exchanges in the Countries of South Eastern Europe (S. Susic, REC Serbia and Montenegro)

12.00 Romanian NGOs and Natura2000 (O. Penu, REC Romania)

12.30 *Lunch*

14.00 *Guided tour through the nature reserve "Isle of Vilm"*

15.30 *Coffee*

16.00 Capacity development for global environmental management: UNDP lessons, tools and approaches (K. Chachibaia, UNDP)

16.45 Supporting the build-up of NGOs in the field of nature conservation (N. Schäffer, RSPB)

17.15 The Clearing-House Mechanism of the CBD – strengths and weaknesses of the internet as a means to promote international cooperation for capacity-building (H. Freiberg, BfN)

17.45 Discussion/Summing up

18.30 *Dinner*

### **Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>:**

08.00 *breakfast*

09.00 The work of IUCN for capacity-building in Central and Eastern Europe – activities and experiences (D. Metera, IUCN)

09.30 Capacity-building and the Global Taxonomy Initiative (F. Haas, GTI Focal Point Germany)

10.00 Experiences with "twinning" as an instrument for capacity-building at the example of EU species protection regulations (F. Böhmer, BfN)

## Workshop Programme

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- 10.30 *Coffee*
- 11.00 Working session I: Instruments of capacity-building and their opportunities and problems
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.00 Convention on Migratory Species - possibilities for synergy with the CBD and contribution to capacity-building for biodiversity (V. Domashlinets, CMS Secretariat)
- 14.30 Working session II: Tasks of a regional centre/network for capacity-building and how to fulfil them
- 15.30 *Coffee*
- 16.00 Continuation of working session II/Presentation of results of working session II
- 17.00 Experiences with conducting an assessment of capacity needs at the national level – the case of Hungary (A. Krolopp)
- 17.10 Experiences with conducting an assessment of capacity needs at the national level – the case of Slovenia (D. Fercej)
- 17.20 Short statements by participants on capacity needs and possible priorities in their countries
- 18.30 *Dinner*

### **Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 08.00 *breakfast*
- 09.00 Capacity Needs in Central and Eastern Europe – the example of sustainable tourism development (M. Meyer, E.T.E)
- 9.30 Working session III: Priority areas for capacity-building for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in Central and Eastern Europe
- 10.30 *Coffee*
- 11.00 Continuation of working session III
- 12.00 Working session IV: Towards a strategy for addressing identified needs – what can we achieve?
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.00 Continuation of working session IV
- 15.30 *Coffee*
- 16.00 Preparation of draft workshop report and final plenary discussion
- 18.30 *Dinner*

### **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

- 08.00 *breakfast*
- 09.30 Departure from Vilm.