

**Nature conservation and regional development in South-East Europe
illustrated by the examples of Romania and Bulgaria**

NatuRegio-Seminar

Nature Conservation and Agriculture

**The EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), changes in
landuse and effects on nature conservation**

The NatuRegio-network

How to keep it alive and growing?!

Date	Monday 9 th of November 09 – Friday 13 th of November 09
Location	Nisowo, Rusenski Lom Nature Park, Bulgaria

Overall Programme

Date	Time	Activity morning	Activity afternoon
9 th Nov 09 (Mon)	Ca. 19h00 - 20h00		Arrival of Participants in Nisowo, Hotel Black Stork
10 th Nov 09 (Tue)	9h00 – 18h00	Seminar – CAP, agriculture and conservation	Field trip in the Nature Park, Ivanovo Rock churches
11 th Nov 09 (Wed)	09h00 – 18h00	Seminar - CAP, agriculture and conservation	Field trip meeting villagers, farmers, rangers in Nature Park
12 th Nov 09 (Thu)	09h00 – 18h00	Networking Workshops	Field trip to Ruse
13 th Nov, (Fri)			Departure of participants

Detailed Programme

Monday, 09th November 2009

- 12.15 - 16h10 Arrival to Bucharest-Otopeni Airport
- 16h30 Shuttle bus to Ruse (ca. 2 h - 90 km)
- Shuttle bus to Nisowo (ca. 40 min – 35 km)
- Ca. 20h00 Arrival in Nisowo
- 20h30 Dinner

Tuesday, 10th November 2009 – Agriculture in Europe - CAP

- 08h30 – 08h45 **Welcome**
Prof. Dr. Johann Schreiner (NNA), Gunther Willinger (EuroNatur)
- 08h45 – 10h30 **Agriculture in Europe: Industrialized Food Production, the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU (CAP) and effects for Landscape management and Nature Conservation**
Presentation, working in teams and discussion
Prof. Dr. Rainer Luick (University of Applied Forest Sciences Rottenburg)
- 10h30 – 10h45 Coffee Break
- 10h45 – 11h30 **Best practice examples from Romania for nature-friendly ways of agriculture**
The Whole Village Project - a model for rural regeneration through conservation in Transylvania
Luminita Holban (Director of the Mihai Eminescu Trust)
- 11h30 – 12:15 Developing a conservation strategy for HNV grassland, linking Agri-environment, ecological research and traditional farming
Dr. Andrew Jones (Fundatia ADEPT)
- 12h15 – 13h15 **Poster Session I**
Bulgarian NatuRegio-Trainees present their posters
- 13h15 – 14h15 Lunch Break
- 14h15 – 17h15 **Presentation and field trip in the Nature Park Rusenski Lom:**
Restoration and conservation of a small river section
Ivan Hristov (WWF-Bulgaria)
- Visit of the rock monasteries of Ivanovo**
- 17h15 – 18h00 **The Lomovete – Regional advantages and challenges**
Presentation and discussion
Teodora Kopcheva (Nature Park Administration)
- 19h00 Dinner

Wednesday, 11th November 2009 –

Agriculture and Nature Conservation- two sides of the same coin?

- 08h30 – 10h30 **Agriculture and Biodiversity Conservation in Europe:**
Presentation of team work and discussion
Prof. Dr. Rainer Luick (University of Applied Forest Sciences Rottenburg)
- 10h30 – 11h00 **Coffee Break**
- 11h00 – 12h00 **Nature Conservation through Agriculture: How to raise money for sheep and cattle farms in order to save vultures, sousliks and their high biodiversity habitats** – experiences from Kotel mountains, Bulgaria
Presentation and discussion
Emilian Stoynov (Fund for Wild Flora and Fauna – FWWF)
- 12h00 – 13h00 **Poster Session II**
Romanian NatuRegio-Trainees present their posters
- 13h00 – 14h00 **Lunch Break**
- 14h00 – 17h00 **Field trip in the Nature Park Rusenski Lom:**
Meeting and discussion with local farmers, mayors, guest house owners etc.
Teodora Kopcheva (Nature Park Administration)
- 17h00 – 18h00 **The Hotel Black Stork and tourism in the Nature Park Rusenski Lom:**
Presentation and discussion with hotel manager
N.N. (Hotel Black Stork, Nisowo)
- 18h00 – 19h00 **Evaluation Discussion with current NatuRegio-Trainees (Year 4)**
Dorothe Lütke Möller (University of Lüneburg)
and
Reimbursement of travel costs (don't forget the receipts!)
- 19h00 **Dinner**

Thursday, 12th November 2009 – Networking Workshop

Facilitator: *Peter Townsend, Environmental Consultant, Bamford UK*

- 08h30 – 09h30 **Networking the NatuRegio**
Brainstorming: Collection of ideas and plans, creation of teams
- 09h30 – 10h45 **Working in teams**
Discussion and elaboration of actions/initiatives for the NatuRegio-network
Participants
- 10h45 – 11h15 *Coffee Break*
- 11h15 – 12h30 **How to keep the network alive**
Presentation of results from teamwork and discussion
- 12h30 – 13h30 *Lunch Break*
- 13h30 – 18h30 **Field trip to Ruse**
Including visit of Nature Park Head Office in Ruse
Teodora Kopcheva (Nature Park Administration)
- 19h00 *Dinner/Party in the Hotel*

Friday, 13th November 2009

Ca. 09h30 Departure to Bucharest Airport

Speakers/Facilitators:

Prof. Dr. Rainer Luick - Professor for nature conservation, landscape management and limnology at the University of Applied Forest Sciences in Rottenburg, Germany (www.hs-rottenburg.net) and Director of the Executive Committee of the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (www.efncp.org). His research activities are focused on low intensity farming strategies, rural development and economics, rural- and conservation-policy evaluation and renewable energies.

Luminita Holban is Director of The Mihai Eminescu Trust (www.mihaieminescutrust.org) a British-Romanian charity working for the conservation of the natural and cultural landscape of the Saxon villages of Transylvania. Her activities focus on the development and management of integrated conservation projects in rural areas with significant architectural, landscape and biodiversity values, but which face complex economic and social problems - from poverty and unemployment, to depopulation, abandonment and the destruction of heritage.

Dr. Andrew Jones is an agri-ecologist and conservationist working as a technical advisor with Fundatia ADEPT. With a PhD in plant genetics, he has a background in the UK scientific civil service working as a higher scientific officer and project manager at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research which is now part of the University of Aberystwyth, Wales. Research has included grassland habitat restoration and management, especially under agri-environment, and also conservation of plant genetic resources. He went on to work in the NGO sector for the UK Wildlife Trust network (the UK's main conservation NGO, with branches in every county) as advisor on grassland conservation, representing the network on UK government steering groups. Following this, he helped set up 'The Grasslands Trust' NGO, which addressed the dramatic loss of UK grassland habitat, before becoming Head of Biodiversity at the Institute of European Environmental Policy, based in Brussels. He has been increasingly involved in the conservation of Romanian grasslands over the last 7 years and under EU funding helped to formulate the agri-environment components of the new Rural Development Programme with the Ministry of Agriculture. In collaboration with three Romanian Universities (Babes Bolyai Cluj, Lucian Blaga Sibiu, Medicine & Pharmacy Targu Mures), he is continuing to conduct research on some of the most diverse and extensive grasslands remaining in Europe, in the Tarnava Mare SCI (Natura 2000 Site), south east Transylvania.

Ivan Hristov is the freshwater coordinator of the WWF Danube-Carpathians Programme in Bulgaria. He is involved in several wetland restoration and floodplain forest restoration projects along the Danube and its tributaries. Ivan Hristov has been working during the last 4 years for the enlargement and protection of Rusenski Lom Nature Park. One of his model projects is the restoration of Rusenski Lom river near Ivanovo.

Teodora Kopcheva is public relations officer at the Rusenski Lom Nature Park Administration. There she deals with the educational programmes and tourism, she translates the publications of the Park to English in order to allow an international audience to get acquainted to the beautiful nature, the problems and the possibilities of the Nature Park. In the past she has worked in public relations for a number of ecological projects and as a journalist for the biggest local daily newspaper throughout the years 1996-2002. She is also a professional guide for a tourist company in her hometown of Ruse.

Emilian Stoynov is Director of Fund for Wild Flora and Fauna (www.fwff.org) Bulgarian NGO that is active on restoration of populations of threatened species and their habitats especially dependent on sustainable livestock breeding and related agricultural practices. Restocking and re-introduction and habitat improvement and maintenance of species like vultures, suslicks, freshwater crayfishes and rare breeds of livestock animals are now in focus of the organization activities. The work for conservation of vultures and other threatened birds of prey and predators needs very complex approach that involves also work with the Man/Predators conflict and improvement of the pastoral systems and against poison actions etc.

Peter Townsend - Environmental Consultant from Bamford UK, from 1974-2000 he was Director of Losehill Hall, Peak National Park, Training and Environmental Education Centre, during NatuRegio he worked with all of the trainees as their English teacher and professional "fire side chatter".

Conference venue:

Hotel Black Stork

Nisowo
municipality Iwanowo, region Rousse
Postcode 7079
www.black-stork.com
e-mail: black_stork@yahoo.com
tel: 0039-08196233

Organisation & Logistics:

Nature Park Rusenski Lom

Teodora Kopcheva
office - +359 82 872397
mobile: +359 887 800 267
e-mail - button_bg@yahoo.com

EuroNatur Foundation, Konstanzer Str. 22, D-78315 Radolfzell

Gunther Willinger
office: +49 07732 – 9272 -11
mobile: +49 163 – 14 10 536
e-mail: gunther.willinger@euronatur.org

NatuRegio-Programme is coordinated by:

Alfred Toepfer Academy for Nature Conservation (NNA)

Hof Möhr , D-29640 Schneverdingen

Project Coordination:

Dr. Annika Frech: annika.frech@nna.de
Tel: 0049-(0)5199-989-25
Fax: 0049-(0)5199-989-46
www.nna.niedersachsen.de