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EU/CoE Joint Programme Emerald Network Phase II (DCI-ENV/2012/289-173):

Project lifespan planning
(Updated version from October 2013)

Year	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2012				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signature of CoE/EU contract ▪ Inception phase: Re-establishment of the national Emerald teams and designation of project leader at national level, initiating cooperation with NGOs + identification of responsible at Ministry level
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inception phase: Quality check of the ecological and technical data delivered in 2011/12 for each site for all target countries ▪ Signature of the AAs for 2013 with all target countries, January 2013; AAs focussing on the identification of the remaining potential sites and the sites data collection and delivery in MD, UA, BL and RU; field research and data gathering through the national Emerald teams; technical data correction and if necessary identification of additional sites for AZ, AM & GE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project kick-off meeting (Kiev, 24-26 April 2013, 2 days): discussion on the project objectives and the results of the data quality checks; discussion on ways for identifying additional possible Emerald sites in the target countries; exchange of ideas on Emerald management plans and reporting obligations; dialogue on conservation standards for future Emerald sites, in particular the ones which straddle borders 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1st Steering Committee, November, Strasbourg (France), 18 October 2013, 1.5 days: discussion on the project planning, achievements in the frame of the AAs signed with the target countries for 2013, financial and narrative reporting under the AAs for 2013

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organisation of national technical workshops in the following target countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 25 April - Ukraine ▪ 13-14 May - Moldova ▪ 22-23 May - Belarus ▪ 5-6 June - Azerbaijan ▪ 11-12 June - Georgia ▪ 25-26 June - Armenia ▪ Consultations on the guidelines on Emerald Network management and reporting and monitoring mechanisms, including the agriculture/forestry activities and forests fires management 		
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 28/02/2014: Submission of individual QA/QC reports on the completeness of the national Emerald databases in view of their evaluation to all target countries ▪ February 2014: Signature of the AAs for 2014 with all target countries. AAs to focus on gaps identified in the QA/QC report on the 2013 National Emerald databases ▪ Coordination meetings with EEA-ETC/BD and BirdLife International 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National technical Emerald Seminars in all target countries (7 meetings x 2 days each) aiming at: (1) addressing remaining issues ahead of the initiation of Phase II of the Network constitution process; (2) facilitating the preparatory biogeographical Seminars to follow in the second half of 2014 and (3) involving local authorities, local stakeholders and national NGOs in the Emerald process <p>Dates to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April – Russian Federation and Ukraine ▪ May – Moldova, Belarus, Armenia and Georgia ▪ June - Azerbaijan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparatory Biogeographical Seminar (November, 1.5 days, Chisinau, Moldova) for the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia ▪ Preparatory Biogeographical Seminar (November, 1.5 days, Georgia, Tbilisi) for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2nd Steering Committee meeting, November, Strasbourg (France), 1.5 days

2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 28/02/2014: Submission of individual QA/QC reports on the completeness of the national Emerald databases in view of their evaluation, for countries submitting a new database ▪ January/February 2015: Signature of the AAs for 2015 with all target countries. AAs to facilitate action from national Emerald teams and authorities in a follow-up to the preparatory biogeographical seminars: (1) filling the gaps of sufficiency in the identification of potential sites; (2) correcting inconsistencies in databases, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finalisation of specific guidelines on Emerald sites' management and reporting for Central and Eastern European countries and South Caucasus; submission to the Group of Experts on Ecological Networks & Bern Convention Standing Committee 	<p>2 Biogeographic Seminars (5 days, venues tbd):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boreal/Arctic biogeographic region (RU, BU) 2. Seminar for all biogeographic regions of the 3 South Caucasus countries (AM, AZ, GE) (including evaluation of bird species) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3rd Steering Committee meeting, November, Strasbourg (France), 1.5 days
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signature of the AAs for 2016 with all target countries, January 2016 	<p>2 Biogeographic Seminars (5 days, venues tbd):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Continental biogeographic region (RU, BU, UA, MD) 4. Steppic biogeographic region (RU, UA, MD) 	<p>1 Biogeographic Seminar (3 days, venue tbd)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Evaluation of bird species for 4 target countries (RU, UA, BY, MD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final project event (1.5 days, Strasbourg or Brussels) for dissemination/awareness raising on project results and discussion of work ahead at national level on the designation of Emerald sites