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Kick-off meeting of the Joint EU/CoE Programme on the setting-up of the Emerald Network (Phase II)

24 – 26 April, Kiev (Ukraine)

Convention de Berne
Bern Convention



Réseau Émeraude
Emerald Network



Objectives of the meeting: discussions/decisions

- ◆ State of play/consolidation of Emerald data
- ◆ Further identification of potential Emerald sites
- ◆ Methodology of the Emerald (N2000) biogeographical process
- ◆ Presentation and exchange on technical matters linked to the Emerald databases
- ◆ Exchange of views on the management and reporting on the Emerald sites
- ◆ How to reach necessary conservation standards for future Emerald sites, in particular the ones which straddle borders



Project objectives

- ★ (i) the further identification, checking of quality and assessment of the sufficiency of the potential Emerald sites in ENP East and the Russian Federation, in view of a full operational launch of the Emerald network in 2020;
- ★ (ii) supporting the implementation of the UN CBD in ENP East and Russia;
- ★ (iii) aligning nature protection in the target region with the standards of EU Natura 2000 and in that way approximating partner countries nature protection standards and the ones of the European Union.



Expected project results

- ★ 1. The remaining potential Emerald sites of protected areas in all target countries will have been identified and their ecological databases completed.
- ★ 2. Potential Emerald sites in all seven target countries will have been assessed in view of their sufficiency for ensuring the long-term survival of the Bern Convention species and habitats.
- ★ 3. Target countries will have implemented obligations under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, especially the “Aichi” headline target 11 on protected areas, decided at the high level UN Conference under this Convention in December 2010.
- ★ 4. Target countries will have further aligned their nature protection standards to EU ones, namely the Natura 2000 network based on the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, in view of completing the establishment of a pan-European ecological network of protected sites by 2020.



Project planning 2013 - 2016

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

Year	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2012				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 ▪ Project kick-off meeting (Kiev, March, 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"> ▪ Organisation of national technical workshops if considered necessary by the project scientific expert and the national teams: <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 in Emerald sites 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1st Steering Committee, November, Strasbourg (France), 1.5 days
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signature of the AAs for 2013 with all target countries, January 2014 ▪ 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 			

Project planning 2013 – 2016 cont.

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2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National technical Emerald Seminars for all target countries (7 meetings x 2 days each) aiming at facilitating the preparatory biogeographical Seminars to follow during the year (finalisation of the N2000/Emerald methodology compatibility and involving local authorities, local stakeholders and national NGOs) Continuation of the consultations on the guidelines on the Emerald Network management and reporting and monitoring mechanisms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparatory Biogeographical Seminar (1.5 days, Georgia, Tbilisi) for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparatory Biogeographical Seminar (1.5 days, Kiev, Ukraine) for the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd Steering Committee meeting, November, Strasbourg (France), 1.5 days
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signature of the AAs for 2014 with all target countries, January 2014 			
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National level: follow-up to the preparatory biogeographical seminars: additional field research identification of the remaining potential sites and the sites data collection and delivery 	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biogeographical Seminar (5 days, venue tbd) for all target countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd Steering Committee meeting, November, Strasbourg (France), 1.5 days
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signature of the AAs for 2015 with all target countries, January 2015 			
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 to 4 bilateral seminars (1.5 days, venue tbd) for target countries where there is a need 			<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

Proposed project activities 2013

★ National workshops:

- ★ 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 guidelines on Emerald sites management specific to target countries

★ Revised data deliveries by end December 2013

★ 1st Steering Committee meeting, October/November 2013, Strasbourg

