



STATE OF PLAY OF DATA ON EMERALD SITES IDENTIFICATION (BELARUS)

YURI SOLOVJEV
CHAIRMAN OF THE NGO “ECOLOGICAL INITIATIVE”



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO “Ecological Initiative”

Brief overview of the results of the implementation of the first Emerald Project (2009 – 2011)

- 12 Protected Areas were identified covering more than 50% of the territory of the potential Emerald Sites in Belarus;
- distribution per biogeographical region and populations of all species and habitats of Resolutions Nos. 4 and 6 of the Bern Convention and Annex I of the Habitats Directive was fulfilled
- distribution maps of selected species and habitats in the Geographical Information System (GIS) were created



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

Brief overview of the results of the implementation of the first Emerald Project

- Sites database for all proposed Emerald sites filled with all ecological data;
- Digital boundaries for proposed Emerald sites were mapped in GIS
- Emerald data base completed and delivered to the Council of Europe and its consultant for checking and integration in the European database



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

Belarus' Emerald sites

Belovezhskaya Pushcha



Yelnya – natural dystrophic lake



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

Species mapped (2009-2011)

Totally 47 species and 20 habitats were mapped

- Plants – 7
- Birds – 22
- Mammals – 6
- Amphibians – 2
- Reptiles – 1
- Fishes – 3
- Invertebrates – 6
- Habitats – 20



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

- Belarus acceded to the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats in February, 2013
- One of the key factors helped to reach the above goal – successful cooperation between Belarus and Council of Europe on implementation of the Emerald Project in 2009 – 2011



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

- Accession to the Bern Convention made a great impulse for continuing of work on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in Belarus, including the further Emerald Sites identification



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

- 3 new potential Emerald sites have been included in the list of the Ramsar sites by the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance:

– **Duleby Islands-Zaozerye.**

Location: Republic of Belarus, Mogilev Region;

Territory : 30,772 ha;

Coordinates: 53°40'00"N 029°30'00"E;

Status: International – Ramsar site; National – Hydrological Reserve.



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

– Morochno.

Location: Republic of Belarus, Brest Region;

Territory: 5,845 ha;

Coordinates: 51°51'36"N 026°37'53"E;

Status: International – Ramsar site ; National
- Biological Reserve.

Important: A cross-border Belorussian-Ukrainian
complex mire system



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

– Stary Zhaden.

Location: Republic of Belarus, Gomel Region;

Territory: 17,048 ha;

Coordinates: 51°53'01"N 027°35'52"E;

*Status: International – Ramsar Site; National -
Protected area with Sustainable Use of Natural
Resources.*



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

- Republican landscape reserve “Vygonoshchanskoye”, identified as a potential Emerald site during the implementation of the first phase of the project (2009 – 2011), has also received a status of the Ramsar Site recently



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

New Developments

- 2 protected areas (Republican landscape reserves “Vydritsa” and “Kozyanski”) to be identified as potential Emerald sites during the Phase II of the Emerald Project, have been nominated as Ramsar Sites to the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO “Ecological Initiative”

New Developments

- National Park “Prypiatski”, identified as a potential Emerald site during the implementation of the first phase of the project (2009 – 2011), has also been officially nominated as Ramsar Site



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO “Ecological Initiative”

New Developments

- National Park “Belovezhskaya Pushcha”, proposed in 2009 as Emerald site, has almost twice extended its protected area – from 30,700 till 57,000 ha
- In 2012 all related ecological data for the Government to create 4 new protected areas (Republican Reserves) was prepared by the Ministry of Environment



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

Key priorities of the National Strategy on Development and Management of the System of Nature Protected Areas until 2015

- Further increase of number of the Nature Protected Areas in Belarus
- Adoption of new legislative acts to promote national policies for the conservation of biodiversity
- Identification in the state budget additional financial sources to support the sustainable development of the Nature Protected Areas in Belarus



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"

Thank you for your attention!

- Tel./fax:
+375 17 306 53 67
- E – mail:
ecoin@tut.by



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Republic of Belarus



Ministry of Environment



NGO "Ecological Initiative"