



LIFE NATURE thematic conference
“Protecting Europe’s Nature: Learning from LIFE”



Brussels

- Bedford Hotel Conference Centre -

November 17-19, 2008

Final program (11/2008)

MONDAY 17.11.2008

11.00	Arrival and registration
12.00	Buffet lunch
13.00	Opening session Venue: Armstrong Welcome and introduction by Mr. Phillip Owen, Head of the LIFE unit, DG ENV.
13.30	4 parallel thematic sessions – Best practice for conserving EU’s habitats
17.30	Session 1: Forests Session 2: Marine Session 3: River Session 4: Grassland
17.45	Poster session
19.45	End of day one

TUESDAY 18.11.2008

09.00	4 parallel thematic sessions – LIFE NAT and the Biodiversity strategy
13.00	Session 5: Climate change Session 6: Invasive and alien species Session 7: Species conservation Session 8: International cooperation
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Plenary session – LIFE NATURE as a tool for implementing EU nature protection/biodiversity policy Venue: Armstrong Chairman: Ms. Aminda Leigh
14.00	Scoping – Ms. Aminda Leigh
14.15	EU Nature protection and Biodiversity Policy: What is the current status and where do we go from here? Mr. Ladislav Miko, Director,



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	directorato B DG.ENV
14.45	Nature protection and Biodiversity Policy: an NGO perspective, Mr. Tony Long, WWF
15.15	Reporting from sessions 1 to 4
15.35	Coffee break
16.05	Reporting from sessions 5-8
16.25	Discussion
17.00	The way forward, lessons learned for the LIFE program , Ms. Soledad Blanco Director, directorato E DG.ENV

WEDNESDAY 19.11.2008

Post conference excursions

Excursion program and information will be provided in the bus

8.00	Depart from Hotel Bedford
	LIFE06 NAT/B/000087 ZENO Contact person <i>Ms. Isabel Silva, Astrale- Prospect C&S</i>
	LIFE04 NAT/BE/000010 Lieremann Contact person <i>Mr. Egger Topper, Astrale- Soges</i>
8.00 – 17.00	LIFE03 NAT/B/000019 Saint Hubert Contact person <i>Mr. Jean-Paul Herremans, Astrale- Prospect C&S</i>
	(A light lunch and refreshments will be served during the excursion)
	You are kindly reminded to bring walking boots and water proof gear.
17.00	Approximate time of return



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Session 1 Forests habitats

Venue: Armstrong

Chairman: Mr. Alberto Cozzi, Astrale- Timesis
Co-chairman: Mr. Michele Lischi, Astrale- Timesis

13.35	Start of the session Opening words <i>Alberto Cozzi, Astrale- Timesis</i>
13.40	Restoration of boreal forests and forest-covered mires LIFE03 NAT/FIN/000034 <i>Mr. Stig Johansson, Metsähallitus</i>
14.00	Restoration of deciduous forest in Söderåsen National Park LIFE02 NAT/S/008483 <i>Mr. Oddvar Fiskesjo, County Administrative Board of Skåne / Söderåsen National Park</i>
14.20	The forests with <i>Pinus nigra banatica</i> part of NATURA 2000 LIFE04 NAT/RO/000225 <i>Mr. Ilie Chincea, EPA Caras Severin</i>
14.40	Conservation and management of Danube floodplain forests LIFE03 NAT/SK/00097 <i>Mr. Tomáš Kušík, Regional Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development (BROZ)</i>
15.00	Coffee break
15.30	Rehabilitation of <i>Coppice Quercus frainetto</i> woods (9280) and <i>Quercus ilex</i> woods (9340) to high forest LIFE03 NAT/GR/000093 <i>Mr. Christos Georgiadis, Business Architects Consultancy</i>
15.50	Conservation and restoration of "Aiako Harria" LIC (ES2120016) LIFE05 NAT/E/000067 <i>Mr. Ibai Portu, Diputación Foral Gipuzkoa - Servicio de Montes</i>
16.10	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Mr. Alberto Cozzi, Astrale-Timesis Invited comments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Tor-Björn Larsson</i> <i>European Environment Agency, Programme BSS1 - Biodiversity and ecosystems, Project manager - Forest and biodiversity</i>• <i>Mr. Gianluca Piovesan</i> <i>University of Tuscia (Viterbo) ecological research project on old-growth forest and climate-forest interactions</i>• <i>Mr. Daniel Vallauri</i> <i>WWF -France Protection et Restauration des forêts</i>
17.15	Summarising the lessons learnt <i>Mr. Michele Lischi, Astrale- Timesis</i>
17.30	End of the forest session



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Session 2 Marine habitats

Venue: Da Gama

Chairman: Mr. Jon Taylor, Astrale- HTSPE
Co-chairman: Mr. Donald Lunan, Astrale- HTSPE

13.35	Start of the session Opening words <i>Jon Taylor, Astrale-HTSPE</i>
13.40	Marine IBAs – Important Bird Areas for seabirds in Spain LIFE04 NAT/ES/000049 <i>Dr José Manuel Arcos, SEO/BirdLife</i>
14.00	SCANS II – Small cetaceans in the European Atlantic and North Sea LIFE04 NAT/UK/000245 <i>Dr Kelly Macleod, Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St Andrews</i>
14.20	LINDA – Limitation of the negative impacts of interactions between dolphins and humans LIFE03 NAT/F/000104 <i>Denis Ody, WWF France</i>
14.40	LIFE-Nature: a key tool in implementing a Conservation Strategy for the critically endangered <i>Monachus monachus</i> in Greece LIFE05 NAT/GR/000083 & related projects <i>Stella Adamandopoulou, MOFI Project Leader</i>
15.00	Coffee break
15.30	Baltic MPAs – Marine Protected Areas in the Eastern Baltic Sea LIFE05 NAT/LV/000100 <i>Ms. Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum</i>
15.50	Cetáceos Mediterráneo - Conservation of cetaceans and turtles in Andalusia and Murcia LIFE02 NAT/E/008610 <i>Ricardo Sagarminaga van Buiten, Sociedad Española de Cetáceos</i>
16.10	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Mr. Jon Taylor, Astrale-HTSPE With guidance and expertise from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr Euan Dunn</i> <i>Head of Marine Policy, RSPB</i>• <i>Mrs. Ilona Jepsen</i> <i>European Commission DG.MARE, Research and Scientific Data Collection Unit</i>• <i>Dr. Mark Tasker</i> <i>Head of Marine Advice, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, UK</i>• <i>Mr. Carlos Berrozpe Garcia</i> <i>European Commission DG ENV, Water Unit</i>
17.15	Summarizing the lessons learnt <i>Mr. Jon Taylor, Astrale- HTSPE</i>
17.30	End of the marine session



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Session 3 River habitats

Venue: C. Colomb

Chairman: Mr. Jörg Böhringer, Astrale- Particip
Co-chairman: Ms. Cornelia Schmitz, Astrale- Particip

13.35	Start of the session Opening words <i>Jörg Böhringer, Astrale- Particip</i>
13.40	Restoration of alluvial floodplain and river banks of the River Danube LIFE98 NAT/A/005422 & LIFE02 NAT/A/008518 <i>Mag. Carl Manzano, Nationalpark Donauauen, Austria</i>
14.00	Optimisation of the Lippe flood plain – Lippe-Aue LIFE05 NAT/D/000057 <i>Mr. Oliver Schmidt-Formann, city of Hamm, Germany</i>
14.20	Conservation of the habitats created by the dynamics of the river Ain LIFE02NAT/F/8482 <i>Ms. Céline Thicoïpé, Syndicat Basse Vallée de l'Ain, France</i>
14.40	Conservation of Atlantic salmon in Scotland LIFE04 NAT/GB/000250 <i>Mr. Andrew Wallace, Association of Salmon Fishery Boards, Edinburgh, Scotland</i>
15.00	Coffee break
15.30	IBM - Central Posavina - Wading toward Integrated Basin Management LIFE05 TCY/CRO/000111 <i>Mr. Goran Gugić, Lonjsko Polje Nature Park Public Service, Croatia</i>
15.50	Life in Upper Drau River LIFE06 NAT/A/000127 <i>Mr. Klaus Michor, Ziviltechniker GmbH, Austria</i>
16.10	Facilitated discussion Chairman: <i>Mr. Jörg Böhringer, Astrale- Particip</i> Invited comments from <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Bart Fokkens</i> <i>European Centre for River Restoration, president</i>• <i>Mr. Andreas Baumüller</i> <i>WWF European Policy Officer</i>• <i>Ms. Ursula Schmedtje</i> <i>European Commission, DG. ENV, Water Unit</i>
17.25	Summarizing the lessons learnt <i>Mr. Jörg Böhringer, Astrale- Particip</i>
17.30	End of the river session



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Session 4 Grassland habitats

Venue: Marco Polo

Chairman: Mr. Mikko Tiira, Astrale-ELLE

Co-chairman: Mrs. Camilla Strandberg-Panelius, Astrale-ELLE

13.35	Start of the session Opening words <i>Mikko Tiira, Astrale-ELLE</i>
13.40	Farming for conservation in the Burren, Ireland LIFE04 NAT/IE/000125 <i>Dr. Brendan Dunford, National Parks and Wildlife Service Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government</i>
14.00	Kinneulle plateau mountain – restoration and management, Sweden LIFE02 NAT/S/008484 <i>Ms. Maria Thordarson, Västra Götaland County Administrative Board</i>
14.20	Restoration of dry grasslands in Denmark LIFE04 NAT/DK/000020 <i>Mr. Søren Rasmussen, Danish Forest and Nature Agency</i>
14.40	Restoration of grasslands in Hortobágy National Park examples on pannonic grasslands and marshes, Hungary LIFE02 NAT/H/008634 <i>Ms. Szilvia Göri, Hortobágy National Park Directorate</i>
15.00	Coffee break
15.30	Habitat management model of the SCI La Serena, Spain LIFE00 NAT/E/007327 <i>Mr. David Howell, SEO (BirdLife Spain)</i>
15.50	Re-wetting of fens in western Dümmer and Ochsenmoor, Germany LIFE98 NAT/D/005085 & LIFE02 NAT/D/008456 <i>Mr. Heinrich Belting, Federal State of Lower Saxony</i>
16.10	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Mr. Mikko Tiira, Astrale-ELLE Invited comments from <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Agata Zdanowicz</i> <i>European Commission DG.ENV, B2, Biodiversity unit</i>• <i>Ms. Regina Lindborg</i> <i>University of Stockholm, COCONUT-project, ecological research project on semi-grasslands</i>• <i>Mr. Ariel Brunner</i> <i>BirdLife International, Agricultural policy officer</i>• <i>Mr Michael Pielke , unit consistency of rural development</i> <i>European Commission DG. AGR</i>
17.15	Summarising the lessons learnt <i>Mr. Mikko Tiira, Astrale-ELLE</i>
17.30	End of the grassland session



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Session 5 Climate change

Venue: Marco Polo

Chairman: Ms. Aixa Sopeña, Astrale- IDOM
Co-chairman: Mr. Jon Taylor, Astrale- HTSPE

09.00	Start of the session Opening words <i>Aixa Sopeña, Astrale-IDOM</i>
09.10	Arctic foxes - Saving the endangered Fennoscandian <i>Alopex lagopus</i> LIFE03 NAT/S/000073 <i>Dr Anders Angerbjörn, Stockholm University</i>
09.30	Mr MoToWFO - Managed Realignment Moving Towards Water Framework Objectives LIFE06 ENV/UK/000401 <i>John Pyggot</i>
09.50	European Consortium for Modelling of Air Pollution and Climate Strategies LIFE06 PREP/A/000006 <i>Dr Jean-Paul Hettelingh, Coordination Centre for Effects, Netherlands</i>
10.10	Coffee break
10.40	Several Belgian projects LIFE03 NAT/B/000019; LIFE 05/NAT/B/000087; LIFE05 NAT/B/000088; LIFE05 NAT/B/000089; LIFE06 NAT/B/000091 <i>Gérard Jadoul</i>
11.00	ABBW – Conservation of active blanket bogs in Wales LIFE06 NAT/UK/000134 <i>Dr Jared WILSON, Severn Trent Estate Office</i>
11.20	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Mr. Aixa Sopeña, Astrale-IDOM Invited comments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Agnieszka Janowska, European Commission, Unit C1 – Climate Strategy, International Negotiation and Monitoring of EU Action</i>• <i>Dr Rhys Green, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, and Principal Research Biologist at the RSPB</i>• <i>Dr Pam Berry, Senior Research Fellow of the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford</i>
12.45	Summarising the lessons learnt <i>Facilitated by Aixa Sopeña, Astrale-IDOM</i>
13.00	End of the climate change session



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Session 6 Invasive and Alien Species

Venue: Da Gama

Chairman: Juan Perez Lorenzo, DG Environment, LIFE Unit
Co-chairman: Georgia Valaoras, Astrale- Prospect C&S

9.00	Start of session Opening words <i>Juan Perez Lorenzo, LIFE Unit</i>
9.10	Conservation of areas with threatened flora on the island of Minorca LIFE00 NAT/E/007355 (& Management and conservation of temporary ponds in Minorca-Basses LIFE05 NAT/E/000058) <i>Pere Fraga i Arguimbau</i> <i>Department of Environment, Menorca</i>
9.30	Mink control to protect important birds in SPAs in the Western Isles LIFE00 NAT/UK/007073 <i>David MacIennan</i> <i>Area Manager for the Western Isles, Scottish Natural Heritage</i>
9.50	Restoration of Dune Habitats along the Danish West Coast LIFE02 NAT/DK/008584 <i>Hanne Stadsgaard Jensen</i> <i>Ministry of Environment, Danish Forest and Nature Agency, Regional Office Thy</i>
10.10	Canna seabird recovery project LIFE05 NAT/UK/000141 <i>Richard Luxmoore, Senior Nature Conservation Adviser for the National Trust for Scotland</i>
11.00	Coffee break
11.30	Preservation of alluvial forest habitats in the Moravka river Basin LIFE06 NAT/CZ/000121 <i>Roman Bartak, Czech Union for Nature Conservation</i>
11.50	Control of exotic vertebrates in Islands of Portugal and Spain LIFE02 NAT/CP/E/000014 <i>Juan Luis Rodriguez Luengo</i> <i>Biodiversity Service, General Directorate of the Natural Environment, Canary Government</i>
12.10	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Juan Perez Lorenzo, LIFE Unit Invited comments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Karin Zaunberger</i> <i>Nature and Biodiversity Unit, Environment DG</i>• <i>Clare Shine</i> <i>Barrister and Consultant in Environmental Policy and Law IUCN</i> <i>Invasive Species Specialist Group & Commission on Protected Areas</i>• <i>Riccardo Scalera</i> <i>Consultant, IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group</i>
12.45	Summarising the lessons learnt <i>Juan Perez Lorenzo, LIFE Unit</i>
13.00	End of the invasive and alien species session

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Session 7 Species conservation

Venue: Armstrong

Chairman: Mr. Jan Sliva, Astrale- Particip

Co-chairman: Mr. Ľuboš Halada, Astrale- ILE

09.00	Start of the session Opening words Jan Sliva, <i>Astrale-Particip</i>
09.10	‘Pilot network of plant micro-reserves in Western Crete’ LIFE04 NAT/GR/000104 (2004-2007) <i>Mr. Costas Thanos, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece</i>
09.30	‘Conservation of habitats of Pearl Mussels in Belgium ’ LIFE02 NAT/B/008590 (2002-2007) <i>Mr. Grégory Motte, Centre de Recherche de la Nature, des Forêts et du Bois, Belgium</i>
09.50	‘Restoration of the mid Cornwall Moors for <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ’ LIFE03 NAT/UK/000042 (2003-2007) <i>Mr. Wesley Smyth, Natural England, Cornwall, Devon and Isles of Scilly Team, Truro, UK</i>
10.10	‘Conservation of Lesser White-fronted Goose on European migration route’ LIFE05 NAT/FIN/000105 (ongoing) <i>Mr. Petteri Tolvanen, WWF Finland, Helsinki, Finland</i>
10.30	Coffee break
11.00	‘Conservation and Management of Wolves in Croatia’ LIFE04 TCY/CRO/000014 (2002-2005) <i>Ms. Ana Štrbenac, State Institute for Nature Protection, Zagreb, Croatia</i>
11.20	‘Iberian lynx’ LIFE06 NAT/E/000209 (ongoing), LIFE02 NAT/E/008609 (2002-2006) <i>Mr. Rafael Canedas de LLano Aguilar, Consejería de Medio Ambiente. Junta de Andalucía, Sevilla, Spain</i>
11.40	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Jan Sliva, <i>Astrale-Particip</i> Invited comments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Prof. Anca Sarbu, President of the Planta Europa network. - and director of the Botanical Garden of the University Bucharest, Romania</i>• <i>Dr. Nigel Bourn, Director of species conservation in Butterfly Conservation, UK. Chair of the Wildlife and Countryside Links Biodiversity Group</i>• <i>Dr. Jan Plesnik, Head of division in the Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic,</i>• <i>Mr. Boris Barov, European Conservation Manager of the BirdLife International, Brussels</i>
12.45	Summarizing the lessons learnt Jan Sliva, <i>Astrale-Particip</i>
13.00	End of the species conservation session



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Session 8 International cooperation

Venue: C. Colomb

Chairman: Mr. Egger Topper, Astrale- SOGES

Co-chairperson: Mrs. Katerina Raftopoulou, Astrale- Prospect C&S

09.00	Start of the session Opening words <i>Egger Topper, Astrale-SOGES</i>
09.10	LICENSE: Local Institutional Capacity Development in Environmentally Sensitive Areas. LIFE00 TCY/BiH/000041 <i>Mr. Boris Jandrić, Faculty of Architecture and Civil Engineering, University of Banjaluka, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>
09.30	Protection of Biodiversity of the Sava River Basin Floodplains LIFE06 TCY/INT/000246 <i>Mr. Boris Erg, Project Director, IUCN- Office for South East Europe, Belgrade, Serbia</i>
09.50	PA's for LIFE - Bringing Regional Protected Areas of the Leningrad region (Russian Federation) into European Context LIFE04 TCY/ROS/000050 <i>Mr. Nikolay Shmatkov, Project Coordinator, IUCN - Office for Russia and CIS, Moscow, Russia</i>
10.10	Baltcoast LIFE05 NAT/D/000152 (ongoing) <i>Mr. Hauke Drews, Project manager, Stiftung Naturschutz (Foundation for Nature Conservation), Molfsee, Germany</i>
10.30	Coffee break
11.00	Black vulture conservation in Mallorca and in other ZEPAs in Spain LIFE00 NAT/E/007340 <i>Mr. Juan José Sánchez Artés, Project manager, Fundación para la Conservación del Buitre Negro (Black Vulture Conservation Foundation), Spain</i>
11.20	IBAS Marinhas Important bird areas for seabirds in Portugal LIFE04 NAT/P/000213 <i>Mr. Iván Ramírez, Project Manager, Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves (Portuguese Society for Bird Studies)</i>
11.40	Facilitated discussion Chairman: Mr. Egger Topper, Astrale-SOGES Invited comments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr. Leon C. Braat, Senior Researcher International Nature Policy, Alterra, Netherlands.</i>• <i>Mr Pierre Galland, Biologist, Consultant for SDC, and active IUCN member.</i>• <i>Mr. Stefan Leinert, deputy Head of Unit, Nature and Biodiversity Unit (B2) DG. ENV</i>
12.45	Summarizing the lessons learnt <i>Mr. Egger Topper, Astrale-SOGES</i>
13.00	End of the international cooperation session

Tuesday 18.11.2008