1. Basic Information
   1.1. CRIS Number: 2004/016-829.03.03  Twinning No: PL2004/IB/EN/03
   1.2. Title: Elaboration of plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species in Natura 2000 sites and elaboration of management plans for certain species listed in Birds Directive and Habitats Directive.
   1.3. Sector: Environment

1.4. Location: Poland

2. Objectives

2.1. Overall Objectives


2.2. Project purpose:

   1. Carry out a localisation and revision of habitat boundaries in Natura 2000 sites, evaluation of their conservation status, assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation of certain species protected by the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive;
   2. Establish plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species to be found in Poland that are listed in the annexes to the Directives;
   3. Establish management plans for certain species that can be found in Poland and that are to be protected in accordance with the Directives;
   4. Carry out negotiation with stakeholders (legal entities or persons carrying out activities related to the functioning and conservation of Natura 2000 sites, in particular managers, owners and users of grounds covered by the Natura 2000 site and respective non-governmental organisations) in relation to the re-naturalisation plans of habitats and management plans for certain species.

2.3. Justification

   Reference to European Commission Monitoring Report: Development of Natura 2000 Network in accordance with the Habitat and Birds Directives requirements.

3. Description

3.1. Background and justification

   The main goal of this project is to develop re-naturalisation plans for habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species as well as management plans for species. The above-mentioned plans play a very important role in the proper management of the Natura 2000 network. The process of creating the Natura 2000 Network is a task that is stretched over years, during which different countries are obliged to undertake activities in order to create the Natura 2000 Network. According to article 6 paragraph 1 of the Habitats Directive, Member States shall establish the necessary conservation measures involving, if needed, appropriate management plans for the Natura 2000 sites.

   To this effect, a project financed under Phare 2001 that is currently being implemented in Poland, is aimed at establishing the management system for Natura 2000 Network. The project includes publishing the “habitats and species handbooks” with information on natural habitats and fauna and flora species that motivate the designation of Natura 2000 sites. The handbooks present general recommendations with no regard to particular situations within individual Natura 2000 sites.
In the scope of the above-mentioned project, 7 Natura 2000 sites will be provided with projects of management plans. As the 72 Special Protection Areas and 184 Special Areas of Conservation have been designed (the lists have been sent to the European Commission), an obligation to protect them has arisen. It is therefore necessary to undertake further tasks in order to assure the protection, namely:

- to make an inventory and to localise natural habitats and flora and fauna habitats in various Natura 2000 sites,
- to indicate the modalities and measures of protection, including re-naturalisation of the aforementioned habitats.

The documentation produced during this work will constitute a base for current protection activities in Natura 2000 sites as well as for the elaboration of management plans concerning natural habitats and those of fauna and flora within the Natura 2000 sites. This project is focused on the preparation of the organizational basis for the management of the whole network (definition of a national strategy, of monitoring methods, of a management structure, of methodological and scientific tools, acquisition of computer equipment, training of staff, communication) and of management methods for the sites themselves (preparation of 7 pilot sites management plans).

This first 7 conservation plans are considered as a limited pilot experience. There still will be a need for developing and deepening the methods tested on the pilot sites. This is the aim of this new project. One of the project purpose is establishment of plans of re-naturalisation of habitats and management plans for certain species protected by Bird's and Habitat's Directives.

3.2. Linked Activities


In 2002 the project “European Natura 2000 Network” (Desire Number: PL01.05.02; Twinning number: PL/IB/2001/EN/02) was commenced. The aim of this project is to develop a management system for the Natura 2000 Network as required by the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive. The above-mentioned project, among other activities (like harmonisation of the Polish law concerning the nature conservation with the European Union requirements), determines methods of re-naturalisation of habitats which will be covered by Natura 2000 Network and indicate species that should be regenerated.

3.3. Results

1. The localisation and revision of habitat boundaries within Natura 2000 sites carried out (including:
   - evaluation of their conservation status, assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation of certain species protected by Habitats Directive and Birds Directive);
2. Plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species to be found in Poland that are listed in the annexes to the Directives, established;
3. Management plans for certain species that are to be found in Poland and that are to be protected in accordance with Directives and established;
4. Negotiation with stakeholders (as defined in 2.2. Project Purpose) in relation to re-naturalisation plans of habitats and management plans for certain species carried out.

3.4. Activities

Twinning. The following activities are to be scheduled with the assistance of the twinning partner:

About 70 plans will be prepared for habitats located on whole territory of Poland, concerning the following types of habitats: freshwater habitats, natural and semi-natural grassland formation, raised
bogs and mires and fens. The number of plans for species should be about 10 for animals and 5 for plants. The cost of 1 average plan is approximately 20 000 - 40 000 euro.

1) identify habitats which need re-naturalisation and species for managing,
   - localisation and revision of habitat boundaries within Natura 2000 sites in river valleys, evaluation of their protection conditions,
   - assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation of certain species protected by Habitats Directive and Birds Directive;
   - wide co-operation with stakeholders (legal entities or persons carrying out activities related to the functioning and conservation of Natura 2000 sites, in particular: managers, owners and users of grounds covered by the Natura 2000 site and respective non-governmental organisations),
   - preparation of expert opinions and maps,
   Time of realisation is about 12 months;

2) decide upon the scope and content of the re-naturalisation plans for natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species, as well as management plans for species,
   - review the best available knowledge,
   - preparation of expert opinions,
   Time of realisation is about 3 months;

3) draw up the plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species protected by Directives as well as management plans for certain species listed in annexes to Directives,
   Time of realisation is about 8 months;

4) carry out wide negotiation with stakeholders in relation to re-naturalisation plans for habitats and management plans for certain species,
   - carry out seminars with stakeholders,
   Time of realisation is about 4 months;

5) prepare information and publicity materials concerning the re-naturalisation of Natura 2000 sites and management of fauna and flora species on the whole territory of Poland,
   Time of realisation is about 4 months.

Twinning is fundamental for the success of project implementation. Therefore, the selected RTA should have operational experience with the items listed above. The RTA should work for 21 months. The RTA's activities will be complemented by short and medium term experts. In addition to providing organisational and technical facilities for the RTA and co-operation with the twinning partners, the Polish side will ensure scientific and professional support as well as existing reports necessary for a proper implementation of the project.

Specific requirements for the twinning experts: knowledge of active protection of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species, knowledge of developing re-naturalisation or restoration plans for natural resources.

When preparing the budget of the project the following costs have been taken into account: the cost of preparing the re-naturalisation plans for natural habitats and for habitats of fauna and flora species and the cost of the RTA. The cost of 1 average re-naturalisation plan is about 20 000 – 40 000 euro, and the total cost of the RTA should be on the level of 300 000 euro.

3.5. Lessons learned
The project is continuation of the previous project Phare PL01.05.02 “Implementation of the European Ecological Network Natura 2000”.

Under the Interim Evaluation Report No. R/PL/ENV/02.097 recommendations were made which are relevant to current project. The recommendations mentioned below have been taken into consideration while designing current project:

Proposals for the management structure should be draft, future running costs estimated and sources of funding identified.

4. Institutional Framework

The Ministry of the Environment will supervise the project. It is expected that the supervisor will cooperate with other central government units, especially with the: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Infrastructure, State Office for Housing and Urban Development as well as Government Centre for Strategic Studies. The essential work of the project will be carried out only by institutions with appropriate qualifications and appropriate human resources.

There will be a project co-ordinator assigned from among the mentioned bodies. For the needs of consultancy and advice it is expected that the Ministry of Environment will appoint a Steering Committee composed of members representing different governmental institutions, municipalities, research centres and NGO’s.

5. Budget (MEUR)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Transition Support</th>
<th>Facility Building</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>National Cofinancing*</th>
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</table>

The co-financing funds for the project implementation will be available

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1. Implementing Agency

PAO: Mr Tadeusz Kozek, Under-Secretary of State, Office of Committee of European Integration (OCEI), Al. Ujazdowskie 9, 00-918 Warsaw, Poland, Tel/fax (+48 22 455 52 41).

CFCU: 00-444 Warsaw, Poland, 4A Górnośląska St., Tel.: (+48 22) 622 84 64, Fax: (+48 22) 622 95 69, E-mail: cfcu@cofund.org.pl

6.2. Twinning

The leading and responsible body for the project is the Ministry of the Environment. Implementation of this project will require co-operation of various central governmental authorities and governmental administration at the level of voivodship. The project will be enforced by research institutes, research centres and other specialised units.

Contact persons:

Mr Andrzej Langowski – Specialist, Department of Nature Conservation, Ministry of the Environment, Address: 52/54 Wawelska St., 00-922 Warsaw, Poland, Tel. (+48 22) 5792456, Fax (+48 22) 5792555, e-mail: andrzej.langowski@mos.gov.pl

Ms Grażyna Hadjirafts, Chief Specialist, Dept. of Foreign Funds Management, Ministry of the Environment, Address: 00-922 Warsaw, Poland, 52/54 Wawelska St., Tel: (+48 22) 5792763, Fax: (+48 22) 5792795, e-mail: Grazyna.hadjirafts@mos.gov.pl

6.3 Non-standard aspects

Not applicable

6.4 Contracts

Elaboration of plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species in Natura 2000 sites and elaboration of management plans for certain species listed in Birds Directive and Habitats Directive.
Twinning Contract 2800000 EUR is envisaged (Transition Facility Support 2500000 EUR, National parallel Co-financing 300000 EUR)

7. Implementation Schedule
7.1. Start of tender procedure – 1Q 2005
7.2. Start of project activities – 4Q 2005
7.3. Completion of project – 1Q 2007

8. Sustainability
Ministry of Environment will provide adequate staff and administrative support.

9. Conditionality and sequencing
Conditionality: identification methods of re-naturalisation of habitats which will be included in Natura 2000 Network (by project number PL01.05.02 European Natura 2000 Network – Twinning number: PL/IB/2001/EN/02)
Milestones:
1. Localisation and revision of habitat boundaries on Natura 2000 sites and identification of species which needs management plans.
2. Elaboration of re-naturalisation plans for habitats and management plans of fauna and flora species mentioned in Directives.
Annex 1: LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX

Elaboration of plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species in Natura 2000 sites and elaboration of management plans for certain species listed in Birds Directive and Habitats Directive

End Contracting: 31/12/2004 - End Disbursement: 31/03/2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall objective</th>
<th>Objectively Verifiable Indicators</th>
<th>Source of Verification</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening of re-naturalisation institutions and developing a management system for the European Ecological Natura 2000 Network on the territory of Poland according to the requirements of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna (Habitat Directive) and of the Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds (Bird Directive) and of the Commission Decision of 18 December 1996 concerning a site information format for proposed Natura 2000 sites (97/266/EC)</td>
<td>Develop a re-naturalisation of habitats on Natura 2000 sites</td>
<td>Periodic and final reports on the project progress; other reports concerning preliminary list habitats which needs re-naturalisation as well as species which needs management plans</td>
<td>Establish management plans for certain species that are to be found in Poland and that are to be protected in accordance with the Directives;</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project purpose</th>
<th>Objectively Verifiable Indicators</th>
<th>Sources of Verification</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Carry out a localisation and revision of habitat boundaries in Natura 2000 sites, evaluation of their conservation status, assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation of certain species protected by the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive;</td>
<td>Creation of the re-naturalisation plans for habitats and management plans for species</td>
<td>Commission regular reports; NPAA and other documentation</td>
<td>Proper co-operation with regional and local authorities, between different institutions involved in implementation; good and appropriate qualifications of the experts responsible for the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Establish plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species to be found in Poland that are listed in the annexes to the Directives;</td>
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<td>3. Establish management plans for certain species that can be found in Poland and that are to be protected in accordance with the Directives;</td>
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<td>4. Carry out negotiation with stakeholders (legal entities or persons carrying out activities related to the functioning and conservation of Natura 2000 sites, in particular: managers, owners and users of grounds covered by the Natura 2000 site and respective non-governmental organisations) in relation to the re-naturalisation plans of habitats and management plans for certain species.</td>
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<table>
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<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The localisation and revision of habitat boundaries within Natura 2000 sites carried out (including: evaluation of their conservation status, assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation of certain species protected by Habitats Directive and Birds Directive);</td>
<td>Creation of the re-naturalisation plans for habitats included to Natura 2000 network and management plans for certain species from Habitat Directive and Bird’s Directive</td>
<td>PAA and technical assistance reports; Plans and programmes; Reports on enforcement of conservation and monitoring; NPAA and other documentation</td>
<td>Available sources of financing; Support from other relevant institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species to be found in Poland that are listed in the annexes to the Directives, established;</td>
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<td>3. Management plans for certain species that are to be found in Poland and that are to be protected in accordance with Directives and established;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Negotiation with stakeholders (as defined in 2.2. Project Purpose) in relation to re-naturalisation plans of habitats and management plans for certain species carried out.</td>
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Total budget: 2.80 MEUR  Phare EUR: 2.50 MEUR
### Activities

About 70 plans will be prepared for habitats located on the whole territory of Poland, concerning the following types of habitats: freshwater habitats, natural and semi-natural grassland formation, raised bogs and mires, and fens. The number of plans for species should be about 10 for animals and 5 for plants. The cost of an average plan is approximately 20,000 - 40,000 euro.

- Localisation and revision of habitat boundaries on Natura 2000 sites in river valleys, evaluation of their protection conditions, assessment of external and internal risks as well as diagnosis of the status of conservation certain species protected by Habitat’s Directive and Bird’s Directive; decide upon the scope and content of the renaturalisation plans for natural habitats and habitats of species, as well as management plans for species; draw up the plans for renaturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of species protected by Directives as well as management plans for species listed in annexes to Directives; carry out negotiation with stakeholders in relation to renaturalisation plans for habitats and management plans for certain species; prepare information and publicity materials concerning the renaturalisation of Natura 2000 sites and management of species on the whole territory of Poland.

### Means

The Polish part of expenses will be drawn from the state budget, RTA, long and short term experts, reports, documentation.

### Assumptions

- Both organisations recruit adequate staff. Effective cooperation.

| Preconditions | European Natura 2000 Network (PL01.05.02) |
Annex 2-4. Implementation, contracting and disbursement schedules

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</table>

D = design of sub-project / C = tendering and contracting / I = contract implementation and payment

Elaboration the plans of re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of species occurring on Natura 2000 sites and elaboration the management plans of certain species listed in Bird’s Directive and Habitat Directive