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CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE
REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE
REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND CAPACITY-
BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON
PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY

Isle of Vilm, Germany, 27 November–1 December 2009

**REPORT OF THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE
REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 15 of decision IX/18 A, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, to convene regional and subregional capacity-building and progress-review workshops for the programme of work on protected areas. In paragraph 25 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties, while deciding on the process for preparation of in-depth review of the programme of work on protected areas at its tenth meeting, requested the Executive Secretary to prepare the in-depth review using, *inter alia*, information contained in the fourth national reports, relevant global and regional data bases and the results of the above-mentioned regional and subregional workshops and to propose ways and means for strengthening the implementation of the PoWPA for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

2. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary, with the generous financial assistance of the European Commission, the Governments of the Netherlands and Germany and in collaboration with the German International Academy for Nature Conservation, organized a regional workshop for the region of Central and Eastern Europe on the review of progress and capacity-building for the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, held from 27 November to 1 December 2009 on the Isle of Vilm in Germany.

3. The objectives of the workshop were: (i) to strengthen the skills and knowledge of protected area functionaries and others who implement the programme of work through an exchange of experiences, sharing of tools, available resources and capacity-building in two aspects of the programme of work on protected areas: (a) integration of protected areas into wider land and seascapes; and (b) governance; (ii) to review progress made in implementation of the programme of work on protected areas at

subregional and regional levels, including identification of constraints and opportunities to promote implementation; and (iii) inputs to the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to be held in May 2010 on the in-depth review of the programme of work on protected areas, including proposing ways and means for strengthening the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas post-2010.

4. The workshop was attended by 16 government-nominated experts from the following countries in Central and Eastern Europe: Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation and Ukraine; and a representative from the European Commission.

5. A representative from the University of Griefswald and from the IUCN Global Marine Programme also attended the workshop.

6. The UNDP-GEF, the World Wide Fund for Nature, the German International Academy for Nature Conservation of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, and GtZ provided resource persons.

7. The full list of participants is attached as annex I.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

8. The workshop opened on 27 November at 7:30 pm. Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda of the CBD Secretariat welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary, and thanked the European Commission, the government of the Netherlands and the Government of Germany for their financial support and the German International Academy for Nature Conservation for hosting the workshop. While projecting the logo of the International Year of Biodiversity, he described the background, purpose and objectives of the workshop and detailed some history and achievements of the PoWPA to date.

9. Ms. Gisela Stolpe of the International Nature Academy for Conservation of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, described the cultural history and biological wealth of the Isle of Vilm, and also welcomed the participants.

10. It was agreed that Ms. Gisela Stolpe would act as Chair of the workshop.

11. The participants adopted the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/WS-PA/CEE/1/1) and the organization of work attached as annex II to the annotated provisional agenda UNEP/CBD/WS-PA/CEE/1/add.1) on the morning of 28 November.

ITEM 2. STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR (i) INTEGRATING PROTECTED AREAS INTO WIDER LAND AND SEASCAPES; AND (ii) GOVERNANCE

12. Under items 2 and 3 a resource person introduced the topic reviewing the critical steps and associated tools. The presentation of item 1 was followed by country-specific case studies. Thereafter the participants worked in three sub regional groups: Group 1: Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Group 2: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Montenegro, Croatia, Bulgaria, and the European Commission, Group 3: Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Poland, Estonia.

13. Each group was facilitated and assisted by a resource person. In the sub regional groups participants were given key framing questions to guide their discussions to identify the state of progress, challenges and needs. Discussions in the sub regional groups allowed the participants to exchange their

views and practical experiences. Following the discussions a rapporteur from each group made a presentation to the plenary on the outcome.

A. Integrating protected areas into wider land and seascapes

14. Ms. Jamison Ervin of UNDP GEF provided an overview of the process of integrating protected areas into wider land and seascapes by explaining detailed steps, methodologies and examples. Ms. Andrea Strauss of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and Mr Jörg Lohmann of Montenegro presented case studies on integrating protected areas into wider land and seascapes.

15. The presentations under this item can be found in PDF format at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSPOWPA-CEE-01>.

16. The outcomes of the sub regional group work are presented in annex II.

B. Governance

17. Ms. Thora Amend of GtZ introduced a broad set of protected area governance types, their assessments and the framework for assessing implementation of these issues. Thereafter the sub regional groups discussed (i) innovations in governance (ii) advantages and opportunities (iii) changes needed for implementation of the governance matrix (iv) the roles and responsibilities of other organizations to enhance the consideration of governance types in protected area management.

18. The presentation under this item can be found in PDF format at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSPOWPA-CEE-01>.

19. The outcomes of the sub regional group work are presented in annex III.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS AT NATIONAL SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS, FOR THE IN-DEPTH REVIEW

20. Under this item Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda of the Secretariat presented a global overview on the status of implementation of the PoWPA based on 68 fourth national reports. Ms. Jamison Ervin presented a draft reporting framework and the draft comprehensive user-friendly webpage of the PoWPA for the CBD website.

21. In the sub regional groups, participants assessed progress in each goal of the PoWPA at country and sub regional levels, identified major gaps in implementation, and key obstacles and challenges. Participants also identified best practices and examples of implementing the PoWPA at national/sub regional level. A rapporteur from each sub regional group made a presentation on the outcome of the group sessions to the plenary, including comments on the reporting framework. The participants were also requested to provide any further comments on the framework by 20 December 2009.

22. The presentations under this item can be found in PDF format at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSPOWPA-CEE-01>.

23. The outcomes of the sub regional group work are presented in annex IV.

ITEM 4. INPUTS TO THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE TO BE HELD IN MAY 2010 ON THE IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS

24. Under this item Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda presented the suggested draft recommendations based upon the global review and the recommendations of the international workshop on the future of the PoWPA, organized by IUCN-WCPA, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Jeju Island, South Korea in September 2009.

25. The participants discussed the suggested draft recommendations in plenary and agreed on the following suggested draft recommendations for the pre-session document on the PoWPA in depth review for the 14th meeting of the SBSTTA:

- A. Strategies for strengthening implementation
- B. Issues that need greater attention
 - Generating greater political support of PAs by valuing and demonstrating PAs costs, benefits
 - Marine Protected Areas
 - Governance
 - Management Effectiveness
 - Finance
 - Climate change
 - Reporting
- C. Target and Time Table Issues

A Strategies for strengthening implementation

(a) National Level

COP requests Parties

1. Develop or align long-term strategic action plan (or reorient relevant existing plan) for PoWPA implementation and appropriate implementation mechanism (e.g., MoU, work plan) detailing list of activities, timelines, budget and responsibilities taking into account the results of key PoWPA assessments with a view of contributing to the implementation of the strategic plan of the Convention 2011-2020 and request the Executive Secretary to submit a report and preparation of such plans to COP 11.
2. Integrate PA system master plan into revised NBSAPs as soon as possible and no later than COP 12, and request the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the integration of the PA master plan into other national instruments to COP 12..
3. requests the national focal points to promote the establishment of multi sectoral (cop9 terminology) advisory committees for the effective implementation of the POWPA
4. requests the national focal points to Foster national-level “PoWPA Friends” (cop9 terminology) partnerships

(b) Regional level

5. Notes progress in regional initiatives – Micronesian challenge, Caribbean challenge, Dinaric Arc initiative, Amazonian initiative, etc, invites Parties to foster formulating such initiatives and formulate regional action plans in collaboration with IUCN-WCPA and other conservation organizations, based on country master plans for PoWPA implementation and through regional technical support networks coordinate funding, technical support and capacity building, particularly on Element 2

Promote and/ or establish regional networks of PAs networks to exchange experience and lessons learned

(c) Global Level

6. Request the Executive Secretary:

- continuing holding regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops in collaboration with... , with specific time table for planning and funding.

- provide additional technical support through the development of tool kits, best practices, guides on PoWPA themes in collaboration with partners, in particular on Element 2 (and translate existing ones and make them more accessible)

- increase awareness of PoWPA benefits to health, water and other sectors, climate change adaptation and mitigation, poverty alleviation and MDGs

- strengthen and expand the global “PoWPA Friends” network and develop a master plan for implementation

7. Invites relevant organizations (IUCN-WCPA, TNC, WWF, CI, WCS, BirdLife International) to establish a steering group to develop technical guidance on ecological restoration, conservation connectivity and corridors, climate change adaptation and mitigation

8. Invites these organizations and others to continue support regional implementation through a regional action plan

B. Issues that need greater attention (sequence does not show any priority or order)**(1) Sustainable Finance**

9. Development and implementation of sustainable finance plans by 2012 based on realistic needs assessment and a diversified portfolio of traditional and innovative financial mechanisms.

10. Timely and appropriate use of GEF 5 protected area biodiversity allocations, bilateral, multilateral and other aid using the master plan for implementing PoWPA as the basis for accessing funds.

11. Parties are encouraged to express funding needs via the LifeWeb Initiative, and donors are encouraged to support expressions of interest through this mechanism

12. Donors and Parties are encouraged to hold sub-regional and national donor roundtable meetings to mobilize funding

13. Invites GEF and its implementing agencies to streamline their delivery for expeditious disbursement and adhering to the projects to national PoWPA master plans for appropriate and focused interventions and continuity of projects

(2) Climate Change

14. Achieve target 1.2 of PoWPA by 2015, through concerted efforts to integrate protected areas into wider landscapes and seascapes and sectors, including conservation corridors to address climate change

15. Improve carbon sequestration potential of protected areas by improving management effectiveness and addressing the shortcomings identified in management effectiveness evaluation

16. Communicate and value the benefits of healthy protected area systems in climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience

17. Incorporate linkages of ecosystem-based adaptation into National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs).

17.bis Build capacity for responding to climate change in the PA management.

17.tris Invites the Executive Secretary to convene a special meeting in 2011 of the joint Liaison Group of the three Rio Conventions on the role of protected areas in the implementation of the objectives of the three Rio Convention with a view of recommending to UNFCCC COP 16 elements of a joint programme on protected areas, biodiversity, climate change and land degradation.

(3). Management Effectiveness

18. Continue to expand and institutionalize management effectiveness assessments to work towards assessing 75% of protected areas by 2015

18a incorporate governance into the management effectiveness process

19. Incorporate climate change adaptation into management effectiveness assessments and report on both the results of management effectiveness assessments, and the results of implementation

20. Ensure that the results of assessments are integrated into other PoWPA assessments (e.g., sustainable finance, capacity)

(4) Marine Areas

21. Urge the UN General Assembly to explore options for establishing MPAs in areas beyond national jurisdiction including taking into account the outcome of the in-depth review of the MCB PoW including and new biodiversity target of the revised strategic plan

22. Concerted efforts to improve the marine protected area coverage in territorial waters to achieve the 2012 target

(5) Valuing PA costs and Benefits (add ecosystem services)

23. Request Executive Secretary in collaboration with IUCN-WCPA and others (use the same wording as in c)7) to develop and implement a methodology and framework for measuring the values, costs and benefits of protected areas, building on existing work

24. Invites Parties to increase understanding of the role, importance and benefits of protected areas in sustaining local livelihoods, providing ecosystems services, reducing risks from natural disasters and adapting to climate change at all levels.

- increase awareness of PoWPA benefits to health, water and other sectors, climate change adaptation and mitigation, poverty alleviation and MDGs

(6) Programme Element 2

25. Encourages Parties to establish a coordination mechanism between PoWPA and other related process under CBD, including inter alia, forests, marine, ABS Article 8 j working groups and the processes related to Adis Ababa and Akwe-Kon guidelines for exchange of information on implementation of these programmes and recommendations on possible joint actions for enhanced implementation.

26. Establish clear mechanisms and processes for equitable benefit sharing related to protected areas and recognition of community conserved areas, collaborative management and diversification of governance types

27. Include indigenous and local communities in multi-stakeholder committees; in consultations for national reporting on PoWPA

28. Encourage a national indigenous and local community focal point under Article 8 j where appropriate

(7) Reporting

29. Adopt a reporting process that tracks the overall status of effective conservation of biodiversity within protected areas, as well as PoWPA actions and outcomes

30. Adopt a reporting process that fosters more periodic updates, using standardized, user-friendly, web-based frameworks (see annex) including guidance

31. Encourage voluntary in-depth reporting using standardized indexes and taxonomies

32. Allow for mechanisms for stakeholder input and review

33. Ensure that PoWPA reporting is clearly integrated with post-2010 biodiversity targets

34. Involve the full multi-stakeholder coordination committee in the reporting process

C. Target and Time Table Issues

35. Align the targets of PoWPA with specific indicators and timelines that are based on agreed post-2010 targets and the revised CBD Strategic Plan

36. Link these indicators and timelines to national targets and indicators

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

26. Mr. Rolf Hogan of WWF International presented on the morning of 28 November and on 29 November before lunch on the achievements of WWF in helping governments implement the PoWPA. He also spoke after lunch on 30 November on the CBD PoWPA and Natura 2000.

27. Mr. Christoph Nolte of the University of Greifswald spoke on the evening of 29 November on the preliminary results of a project to determine the extent and type of management effectiveness analyses in Europe.
28. Mr. Jörg Lohmann of Montenegro presented a video on the evening of 28 November regarding the possible damming of a river in Montenegro which would affect Skadar Lake.
29. Ms. Khatuna Tsiklauri of Georgia presented a video on the evening of 28 November on the protected areas of Georgia.
30. Mr. David Strobel of WWF spoke on 29 November before lunch on the background and achievements of the Danube-Carpathian Programme.
31. Ms. Alina Ionita, Consultant, spoke after lunch on 30 November on stakeholder involvement in the PoWPA in Central and Eastern Europe.
32. Ms. Carole Durussel of the IUCN Global Marine Programme presented a review of progress in the establishment of protective spatial measures on the high seas on the evening of 30 November.
33. Participants also engaged in an interactive exercise to identify future needs of the region and the possible ways and means to meet the needs. The outcome of this exercise is presented in annex V.

ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

34. The participants considered and adopted the procedural report of the workshop on Tuesday, 1 December 2009 at ... am with the understanding that the Secretariat would finalize the report with the inclusion of the final day proceedings and the annexes.