

UNDP/GEF Danube Regional Project

Danube Environmental Forum

National Trainings on Wetland Restoration and Nutrient Reduction

Training reports

In the framework of the DRP, eleven national trainings on nutrients and toxic reduction in the Danube River Basin were held in eleven countries in the period April-May 2003. Trainings were organised by the DEF National Focal Points based in each Danube country. The main target group was the NGO community. This report contains all national reports in alphabetical order. Additional information (agenda, lists of participants, training evaluations) are included as annexes to main document.

SUMMARY

Training objective:

- To improve the knowledge and skills of NGOs in Danube River Basin in the area of wetland restoration and nutrient reduction.

11 national trainings were organised by DEF members since beginning of April till end of May 2003 for NGO representatives from Danube countries. All trainings were focused on wetland restoration and water pollution reduction, with special focus on nutrients and toxics. All trainings included also open discussions, workshops and other training methods, which ensure effective knowledge dissemination and skills training. At all trainings professional experts and trainers took the leading role and helped with training preparation. All trainings were organised with the assistance of NGO representatives trained at the DEF International training 2002.

- Furthermore to help the NGOs to fulfil the requirements set by the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) in the National and Regional Small Grant Programme under the UNDP/GEF Danube Regional Project.

The training agenda in each country included presentation and discussion about the DRP Small Grants Program. In 10 countries this presentation was done by the representative of the national REC Country Office. In Ukraine representative of DEF NFP took over this task, because nobody from REC CO was available at the time of training. In each country number of national DRP Small Grant Program grant proposals was elaborated by NGOs. In most cases topics were selected based on issues presented at national trainings. Trainers were involved into project preparation phase, what increased the quality of projects. Less grant proposals were compiled for regional DRP Small Grants Program grant call, but this was not caused by DEF input and therefore could not be improved by DEF National Focal Points.

Training objectives were successfully accomplished in all 11 countries.

Workshops schedule:

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Sarajevo, 23th-24th April 2003
Bulgaria: Ruse, 4th-6th April 2003
Croatia: Varazdinske Toplice, 4th-5th April 2003
Czech republic: Litovel, 11th-13th April 2003
Hungary: Budapest, 14th April 2003
Moldova: Chisinau, 18th-19th April 2003
Serbia and Montenegro: Sremska Mitrovica, 11th-13th April 2003
Slovakia: Herlany, 14th-16th April 2003
Slovenia: Rače, 2nd April 2003
Romania: Galati, 4th-6th April 2003
Ukraine: Lviv, 7th May 2003

Target group for the training:

Non-governmental organizations in the country focused on protection of natural ecosystems and pollution reduction.

Methodology:

Participation included active discussion, input and exchange of information/experiences among participants.

Training size was between 11 and 60 participants.

Training duration was different among countries. The number of training days varied from 1 to 3.

Number of participants:

Together 356 NGO representatives from 11 countries participated at the DEF national trainings. The biggest interest in training on wetland restoration and water pollution reduction was identified among NGOs in Bulgaria (60 participants), Moldova (53), Bosnia and Herzegovina (41), Romania (38) and Ukraine (38).

The training agenda followed the structure of DEF International training from autumn 2002 (theoretical knowledge, case studies, and examples of effective measures). The national priorities were reflected in topics presented in detail. It was highly recommended to include practical exercises and/or excursions to the training agenda.

All countries, except Croatia, developed the training manual in national languages and distributed it among broader audience, not only training participants. Content of national training manuals reflects national priorities in wetland restoration and water pollution issues.

Evaluation templates in national languages were filled by majority of participants. Results are specified in individual country reports. In general the training topics were identified as very useful, training methods as appropriate. Participants were satisfied with the national trainers and training organization. Promotion of such events has to be improved in some countries in the future. Comprehensive theoretical part and not enough space for practical demonstrations were criticized in few cases.

Lessons learned / issues discovered

Meetings with local authorities and discussions on their involvement in environmental problem solving were identified as the necessary follow up of the workshops. In few countries plan for further communication with local authorities was elaborated already at the training. For elaboration of such a plan the involvement of professional trainers and facilitators is needed.

NGOs are aware of the fact that it is not possible to solve the problem of water pollution without intensive cooperation among state institutions, companies, farmers, industries, various organisations and without considerably increased public awareness. These stakeholders are not always willing to cooperate and incentives for their involvement are not developed and specified in legislation. That brings

difficulties and scepticism to NGO involvement in water pollution issues. It is needed to motivate NGOs to participate in this area of environmental problems.

Nutrient and toxic pollution issues are seen as very specific and sometimes too technical for the expertise of NGOs. Also the chemical analyses proving the presence of pollutants in waters are financially demanding and it is difficult for NGOs to cover these expenses. Without expert analyses the work of NGOs is either dependent on other institutions or very limited. Considering these difficulties NGOs see their role in water pollution reduction mainly in public relations – awareness raising and active involvement of local people in lobbying, decision making and concrete steps towards reducing pollution.

Experiences highlighted the importance of good organisational arrangements, access to the workshop materials prior the event and the need of some extra hours for informal gathering. Training agendas were very intense and in most cases the discussion on important future cooperation was not completed. Cooperation was initiated at the training and is being improved since then. But without follow up meetings, it will be difficult to maintain contacts.

In each country national representatives of GWP and ICPDR were invited to participate at the training. In countries where their participation was possible, the cooperation among these institutions and NGOs started or was improved and specified in concrete future steps. In these cases DEF trainings helped to eliminate the distrust between governmental and non-governmental institutions.

In some countries media representatives were invited to participate at national DEF training. It was identified as very effective and useful step for future cooperation in pollution issues. It is necessary to continue work with media representatives, because without background knowledge they are not willing to publish articles about complicated pollution issues. They also have to adopt the basin approach and get known with NGO roles and activities in society. NFPs have to focus more on media work in the future.

In all countries the co-operation and communication with the REC Country Offices was very good and helpful, and presentation of DRP Small Grants Program was without any difficulties.

Representatives from different target groups established contacts for future co-operation. This is very important for multi-stakeholder projects and participation in the River Basin Management processes.

New contacts and meeting of people active or interested in water pollution reduction issues from whole country was one of the big benefits of the DEF trainings.

Future needs identified

NFPs in majority of countries have identified the need to conduct more training courses throughout the year with more specific theme related to water pollution. Trainings with field trips and examples of practical applications of theoretical knowledge are seen as the most effective. Follow up trainings focused on nutrient

reduction possibilities, linked with discussion on experiences gained in meantime, would enable interested NGOs to maintain involvement in these complicated issues. It will be needed to focus next trainings on few prior problems discussed in detail, using the view from the different positions: ecology, water management, state administration, public involvement, etc. Possible topics were identified as follows: solid waste and sewage water purification, illegal/legal gravel excavation, illegal waste disposal, environmental friendly agricultural methods, water quality, river regulations etc.

Due to the short time-frame of the DEF trainings the practical part of training was in most cases very short. As the nutrient issues were new for most of training participants, this was identified as an important weakness. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds NFPs were not able to cover more training days. In countries where the interest in water pollution issues is very high, NFPs accepted big number of participants, what decreased the effectiveness of discussion in working groups. In the future it is highly recommended to accept the appropriate number of participants identified by training guidelines.

It is necessary do identify possible benefits of membership in international platform (DEF) for solving the water pollution problems at national level and to determine concrete action plan for cases when international assistance or support is essential.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Training title

National training on nutrients and toxic reduction in Danube basin

Place and date

Sarajevo, HEIS, 23-24th April 2003

Organiser

Centre for Environmentally Sustainable Development, S. Tomica 1, 71000 Sarajevo, B&H

Objectives

The workshop was prepared one month in advance. Invitation letters with draft agenda and a short description about objectives were sent to potential participants three weeks before the training.

Main objectives:

- To prepare NGOs for REC SGP.
- To encourage co-operation on the local and international level.
- To introduce NGOs to the details of the nutrient reduction and toxics in waters.

In order to fulfil these objectives participants were introduced to the subject nutrients and toxic substances and what is expected from them in project proposals and implementations for REC SGP. All objectives were fully met.

Trainers

Six different trainers, specialists from different fields:

Igor Palandžić, CESD, Sarajevo

Dragana Selmanagić, Hydro Engineer, HEIS, Sarajevo

Melina Džajić, Biologist, HEIS, Sarajevo

Viktor Bjelić, Geography and Eco-Tourism, Young Researchers Banjaluka

Prof. Husnija Resulović, Soil Expert, Soil Research Association, Sarajevo

Jasminka Bjelavac, Civil Engineer, HEIS, Sarajevo

Participants

More than 50 NGOs working in B&H on the environmental issues were invited.

Altogether 41 participants took part in the training. 31 participants come from 20 NGOs, one from the Ministry of Physical Planning and Environment of B&H, two from the UNDP Office B&H, two from Office of High Representative/Environmental Department, five from REC Office B&H. Both DEF members (CESD Sarajevo and Young Researchers Banjaluka) were present. 32 completed evaluation forms were received.

All NGO representatives, as well as participants coming from other institutions, were very appropriate. All of them are engaged with environmental issues and were eager for this kind of meeting. Next time more university professors and governmental representatives shall be invited and an increased media interest for this kind of event

will be generated (although this meeting was announced and reported in daily newspapers and on radio).

Some NGO representatives were very interested in DEF membership and they expressed their willingness to apply. In addition, they were asked to distribute information about the DEF network among the neighbouring NGOs that were not present at the Sarajevo meeting.

REC representatives

Nešad Šeremet, Country Director,
Đorđe Stevanović, REC Office Banja Luka Director
Enisa Pulić, Inka Šehović and Jasna Draganić, REC Office Sarajevo.

Co-operation with REC representatives was very good and their participation very useful. They had presentations on SGP. They also took active participation during discussion, and they tried to increase involvement of NGOs in solving environmental issues (project proposals, public participation, decision making, etc.).

Evaluation summary (based on evaluation forms filled by participants)

All the templates provided in the English training manual, except material on case studies, were used. All materials were translated into the national language. The presentation on Nutrients and Toxic Substances, as well as the presentation on Wetland Management and Restoration were modified (they may be downloaded from the web page <http://www.coor.ba/ba/def03.html#materijali>). One case study from B&H was presented with a 30 minutes video clip.

All participants filled out evaluation forms after training. All participants expressed that they were satisfied with training content. Concerning selected topics, an average mark of 4 was given by the participants. On the basis of this result it can be concluded that the selected topics were relevant to their knowledge and needs. The most interesting topics for most participants were presentations on NGO communication activities in the Danube River Basin, the DRP Small Grants Programs and the DEF presentation.

An invitation letter for all relevant media was sent before the training (TVs, Newspapers, Radio stations, press networks, etc.). Unfortunately, none of these media participated. Nevertheless the press release was sent to different media after training. The press release was published in a newsletter and on the web page of National news agency. Also, a 45 minute live show on local radio station was conducted.

Training outputs

Training material was prepared before training. Each trainer prepared her/his own presentation and sent it to us in PDF format. As was mentioned before, two presentations were modified; the presentation on Nutrients and Toxic Substances and the presentation on Wetlands Management and Restoration.

Printed versions of the presentations were published in a handbook. Each training participant received a handbook, agenda of training, list of participants (with name of

organisation and contacts), DEF bulletin and DEF leaflet. These materials were also put on CESD web page and may be downloaded freely.

Lessons learned

As most participants agreed, NGOs and governmental institutions need to work together on closer co-operation in solving environmental problems. Participants also discussed co-operation in a project proposal for REC SGP and they made preliminary agreements on projects.

Training needs for the future

Participants mentioned that it is necessary to keep continuity in these kind of events in the future and to try to improve involvement of media and governmental representatives in trainings. Some participants mentioned that it is necessary to widen training topics to other environmental problems (forests, soil contamination, solid waste, water treatment plants, etc.) in future.

DEF roles at the national level

NFP will continue its work on motivation of NGOs to become involved in DEF network and encourage them to work in co-operation with all stakeholders to solve environmental problems. Also DEF members will continue with promoting the DEF network within the NGO community and with governmental institution on local and regional level.

Attachments

Agenda

BULGARIA

Training title

Building of capacity for restoration and management of wetlands and nutrient reduction in the Danube River Basin

Place and date

Ruse, 4-6th April 2003

Organiser

Centre for Environmental Information and Education
Green Balkans Federation
Global Water Partnership

Objectives

Training guidelines were studied at the beginning of the year. Some of the planning forms were not appropriate for the NGO conditions in our country. The agenda was oriented to meet the training objectives. The agenda was implemented as planned.

Main objectives:

- To activate the potential of the local NGOs and to increase public participation in transboundary pollution reduction activities in the Danube River Basin.
- To improve the skills of the participants in wetlands restoration and pollution reduction in the basin and to provide assistance to NGOs in the completion of the Regional Environmental Centre's requirements, related to the Small Grants National and Regional Program in the Danube River Basin.

Trainers

Milena Dimitrova, CEIE
Margarita Mateeva, REC, Bulgaria
Milko Dimitrov, Burgas Wetlands
Hristo Nikolov, Green Balkans
Valentina Fidanova, Green Balkans
Marieta Stoimenova, Ministry of Environment and Waters
Galia Bardarska, Global Water Partnership
Maria Minkova, Ecoglasnost Movement
Stanislava Boshnakova, CEIE

Participants

Representatives of 35 NGOs, 4 mass media and 12 environmental institutions participated in the workshop. The total number of participants and lecturers is 60. 27 evaluation forms were returned.

The workshop was announced through the Blue Link Electronic Information Network among 300 NGO representatives. About 50 local groups of interest in the Danube Basin area were contacted via e-mail, phone, and/or fax. The number and correlation of NGOs' and institutions' representatives was appropriate.

Two new NGOs provided their interest in DEF membership.

REC representative

Margarita Mateeva – head of REC local office in Bulgaria

Evaluation summary

The template provided in the English training manual was used. It was also translated into the national language. Some changes were provided in the proposed template (see attachments).

According to the results of the evaluation form, participants were satisfied with the content of the training and the selected topics were relevant to their knowledge and needs.

The most interesting topics were deemed to be:

- Project development and fundraising opportunities
- Establishment of contacts with new partners
- Wetlands restoration management
- Practical advice and information on new developments, presented by the trainers
- Practical experience for management of a protected area (field trip)

A press conference was held in advance of the workshop on the 4th of April. The conference was attended mainly by journalists from Ruse, but also by two journalists from the national mass media (who participated in the workshop), two journalists from regional media in the Danube river basin, from Silistra and Troyan (who were also workshop participants). The list of journalists is attached to the report.

Only the case studies from the manual were translated and provided to all participants (hardcopy available only). The manual was printed in English and one copy was available during the training. All interested participants received the manual in electronic version after the training. The Bulgarian Environmental NGO Community was informed about the manual through the Bluelink Information Network. Several organisations outside the Danube Basin also received the electronic version at their request.

Training outputs

Results are expected now and the number of submitted project proposals to REC will be checked after mid-May. There is a need to organise a second training session. It was not possible to allow all candidates to participate. There were around 20 people interested who were not able to participate. Additional funding is needed for the second training. The agenda for the present training was oriented to provide initial information for wetlands management. There is a need for a more profound training for NGOs. Some technical and logistic recommendations were made by the participants too. The evaluation discussion among the DEF members in Bulgaria scores the training with 3-4 (according the evaluation form).

Lessons learned

Very good co-operation and division of tasks among the different DEF member organisations in Bulgaria. After the training NFP is ready to organise different events without problems. There was good co-operation and communication with the REC Country Office. Representatives from different target groups established contacts for future co-operation. This is very important for multi-stakeholder projects and

participation in the River Basin Management processes. Due to the short time-frame of the workshop (2,5 days) the practical part was small. Due to the number of participants, the working groups were relatively large.

Training needs for the future

There is a need to organise similar trainings for small groups, in different parts of the Danube Basin and for longer time-periods (3-4 days) and to continue work with media representatives. They need time to learn more about the basin approach and to understand the NGO role and activities.

DEF roles at the national level

It is difficult to estimate if new members will apply for the membership officially. In fact, the NFP works in close co-operation with local NGOs in the country. The next steps are planned in the working plan for the DRP, as well in the DEF-BG presentation for the General Assembly last year. The forthcoming consultation meetings with local NGOs will be used for further needs assessment of the different stakeholders from different areas of the Basin. The nutrient and toxic substances issue will be in the focus of the work in the next few months. But the River Basin Management problems now seem to be the 'hot topic' for the institutions and also for local people. Co-operation with the newly-established Danube Basin Directorate will be very important.

Attachments

Agenda

CROATIA

Training title

Nutrient and toxic reduction, and wetland restoration in Danube River Basin

Place and date

Varazdinske Toplice, 4-5 April 2003

Organiser

Green Action, Zagreb

Objectives

- To educate NGOs on nutrient and toxic issues, to share mutual experiences on similar projects and problems
- To present the Water Framework Directive.
- To start a dialogue, to invite non-member NGOs to join DEF, to spread more information about DRP.

The objectives were stated in the invitation letter with short description on what will be main training topics. The training met its objectives, more than we expected because NGOs met with the town mayor and other local authorities, and a representative from Varazdin County Public Health Department was also present and showed an intention to co-operate in the future.

Trainers

Dora Radosavljevic, Environmental NGO "Franjo Koscec"

Emilijan Levacic, Faculty of Chemical Technology, University of Zagreb

Dalia Matijevic, REC National Office

Mladen Borso, State Water Directorate, ICPDR EMIS Working Group member

Participants

Total participants: 19

Institutions presented: 16

DEF members: 10

DEF non-members: 6

NFP is very satisfied with professional and serious participants. ICPDR was invited but only one of the representatives participated except (Mr. Borso - EMIS WG) because, at the same time, a Public Participation Workshop was being held in Bratislava.

There were three NGOs interested in DEF membership: the Croatian Ecological Society, the Ecological Society of Slavonski Brod and the Ecological organisation "Green Dream" Vinkovci. Another three non-member organisations were present, namely: WWF-DCP (represented by Mr. David Reeder), Ecological Organisation "Sunce" from Split (on Adriatic Coast - not in the Danube River Basin) and the "Vidra" Ecological Organisation from Ludbreg.

REC representative

Ms. Dalia Matijevic was very helpful both before and during the training. She also distributed invitations to the NGOs on the REC list, so information about it could be seen by all Croatian NGOs. During the training she was very co-operative as an adviser for everyone. The presentation on SGP was also very good and easy to understand.

Evaluation summary (based on evaluation forms filled in by participants)

The template provided in the Training manual was used, translated into the Croatian language without any changes. According to the evaluation results, the workshop met predefined expectations of participants. Their comments concerned some technical problems, the need for more practical examples and expertise from boundary countries, weak active participation of some participants and a too scientific content. The overall quality of the training was scored with the mark 4 (1-5). A detailed graphical summary of the evaluation is attached.

One representative from paper media was present and two short articles were published in national newspapers "Vecernji list"; a copy of the paper was sent to DEF Secretariat. The Local TV network was present: Ms. Popovic, Mrs. Radosavljevic and Mr. Borso gave short interviews, a TV crew recorded it and some parts of the training. It was broadcast the next day on local television.

As the NFP received the Training manual very late (only a few days before the start of the training) there was no time to prepare training materials, so the whole manual was copied and disseminated among participating NGOs to serve them as a work-book. All trainers prepared their own material to be used during the training.

Training outputs

It was agreed by the participants to collect all recorded material mentioning Drava River, its natural beauty or current problems, and to use it in promotional activities. Varazdin County Department for Environmental Protection showed great interest in future co-operation.

New DEF non-member NGO representatives from the Sava River basin were present. Some of them will probably apply to SGP and hopefully receive the grant.

Lessons learned/Experiences gained

Accommodation and logistics were good.

Technical equipment has to be double-checked: as highlighted by the failure of the notebook.

Employ professional trainers and facilitators - this time it was not possible because of finances, too much money would be spent on it because of tax according to Croatian law (some changes occurred this year).

New contacts were made, and future co-operation agreed.

Training needs for the future

Technical support should be improved.

An assistant should be hired to help organise this kind of training. A lot of mistakes would be thus avoided.

Other types of training:

Training about solid waste and sewage water purification.

The main problem with water bodies is illegal/legal gravel excavation, so the most questions are considering this issue and legislation, implementation of laws, how the DEF can be of help.

Good contacts with the State Water Directorate, and in Varazdin County local authorities, were made and these recognise NGOs as good potential partners and assistants in solving some of their problems.

DEF roles at respective national level

The NFP spread information about DEF and DRP among non-member NGOs, local authorities and media, so information was spread widely. The Croatian Ecological Society (members are Croatian natural-science experts) wish to join the DEF and in future there will be a good expert background.

Attachments

Agenda

CZECH REPUBLIC

Training title

Instructive training on the methods of the nutrient reduction in waters

Place and date

Litovel, Landscape Protected Area Litovel-Morava Floodplain, 11-13 April 2003

Organiser

Union for the Morava River

Objectives

Two objectives were clarified before the training:

- Presentation of a rather large spectrum of possibilities contributing to the reduction and/or elimination of the nutrients and toxic substances in waters.
- Propositions for the NGO activities as the topics of the planned national and regional REC projects.

Trainers and presented papers

Jarmila and Petr Filippov (Study Agency for Natural Sciences, Lipnik nad Bečvou):
Results of the inventory of wetlands in the South Morava border region and possibility of their improvement in context of Natura 2000.

Olga Skacelova (Hydrobiological department of the Moravian Land Museum, Brno):
Methods of the reduction of nutrients in dams and lakes by the improvement of the water management and extensification of the fish production.

Jaroslav Ungerman (Ecological institute Veronica, Brno): Diffused nutrients pollution from intensive agriculture activity and the possibility for their reduction by the improvement of land-use structure and agricultural methods (application of the "Nitrate Directive" in the Czech Republic).

Two planned papers were not presented because of the excused absence of the specialists: Milena Forejnikova (Water research institute TGM, Brno) to the theme of application of Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plans and Vaclav Cermak (Union for the Morava River, Brno) to the theme of the restoration of river systems as an effective method of nutrients depollution in running waters.

Participants

Total participants eleven people:

5 from the Union for the Morava River as the member of DEF

3 from the other NGOs

2 from the Agriculture Water Agency, Brno

1 from the Masaryk University, Brno

Marcela Fabianová from UNDP/GEF presented the Danube program and Monika Kovacova from DEF Secretariat participated and presented DEF involvement in the Danube program.

The majority of participants were from NGOs as the candidates for REC projects (more than 40 NGOs were invited). In the future, the same address list will be used.

No new NGOs applied for DEF membership.

REC representative

Tomáš Kažmierski - good communication with him during the preparation of the workshop, his presentation of the National and Regional REC grants in the workshop was very instructive and sufficiently motivating for the REC projects conception. No difficulties reported.

Evaluation summary (based on evaluation forms filled by participants)

NFP used the template provided in English training manual. It was not translated into Czech, but the Slovak version was used with no changes. All participants responded that were satisfied with the training. As far as relevance of topics was concerned, the majority responses evaluated with a 2-3, one a 1, one a 4. The most interesting topics were wetlands, discussion, presentation of Danube project, REC projects instruction.

The media were not involved in the training.

The training material used was the publication-manual "Rivers for the Life" (in the Czech language "Reky pro život"), which was distributed to all members of the Union for the Morava River

Training outputs

The results of the training will be reflected in the number and quality of the national and regional projects from the Czech NGOs that will apply for the REC grants.

Lessons learned

An analysis is necessary as to how to attract more participants to such trainings.

Training needs for the future

To concentrate the training to the narrow problem using the view from the different positions: ecology, water management, state administration, public involvement, etc.

DEF roles at respective national level

Union for the Morava River will discuss with the NGO-members their independent membership in the DEF network.

Attachments

Agenda

HUNGARY

Training title

Nutrient loads and possibilities for their reduction in water bodies (NLPR)

Place and date

Centre of the Federation of Technical and Scientific Societies (MTESZ), H-1027, Budapest, Fő u. 68.; 14 April 2003.

Organiser

Gabriella Bajnóczi, Csilla Dorogman, Zoltán Rogovszky; FTK, DEF-Hungary

Objectives

- Present the problem of nutrient loads in water bodies from different perspectives.
- Enable a multi-focal insight into training participants on this matter.
- Introduce DEF
- Workshop planning form filled in

Trainers

6 people (HÉ – Riverwatch Network (NGO); VITUKI (scientific institution); ELTE - University of Science; KÖRTE – Organica; BITE NGO)

Participants

Total number: 13 people

NGOs presented: BITE, VIZA – Foundation for Living and Dead Rivers, Malom-műhely (Mill-workshop), HÉ – Riverwatch Network, FTK (Club of Young Naturalists)

Institutions: ELTE, VITUKI, KÖRTE-Organica

DEF members: 2 NGOs

ICPDR was present.

All participants were appropriate, they were very interested and stressed need for such trainings. Unfortunately, not all appropriate people were able to participate. One NGO (VIZA) provided interest in DEF membership.

REC representative

László Perneczky, good co-operation. The co-operation continued. He informed NFP about NGO meetings and other REC business. All the participants were delighted to get information about SGP.

Evaluation summary (based on evaluation forms filled by participants)

The template provided in English training manual was used. It was not translated into Hungarian language.

Participants were satisfied with the training content to great extent, because they heard lots of new things and had the opportunity to exchange experience.

The selected topics were applicable to the knowledge and needs of participants. The most interesting topics were: SGP, Living machines technology, nature conservation experiences in the lower-middle Danube.

The participants received invitations with the objectives and agenda 4-6 weeks before the workshop. Objectives spelled out at the beginning of the workshop.

Workshop partly met its predefined objectives. The problem was low number of participants. Overall quality was scored 4, level of participation 2-3, training methods appropriate 4-5, as most important parts were identified presentations and SGP. Recommendations made by participants were more PR and more preliminary information.

Media were not present since there was lacking time to organise it properly.

Training outputs

Extended knowledge about the nutrient problem and establishing personal contact between participants; e-mail connection, telephone, fax, letter, meeting.

Lessons learned

More input in organising, more information to distribute about the training contents, but first of all more time to prepare NFP. DEF Hungarian mailing list should be created, more personal contacts, without personal contacts Hungarian NGOs don't react.

Training needs for the future

Local discussions/workshops are needed in the future.

DEF roles at respective national level

Building local connections, links to other WebPages, media involvement, contact other NGOs personally.

Attachments

Agenda

MOLDOVA

Training title

Nutrient reduction in the Danube River Basin

Place and date

Chisinau, 18-19 April 2003

Organiser

Ecological Movement of Moldova

Objectives

- To improve NGO knowledge in the restoration of humid zones within the Danube Basin.
- To inform and train NGOs in order to fulfil REC requirements in the Small Grants Program.

All objectives were met. A training agenda was structured as follows: 1. agricultural sector, 2. industrial sector, 3. municipal sector, 4. humid zones sector and 5. REC SGP. Specialists for every sector were invited. It was very useful for everyone because training materials were written in understandable language with many case studies.

Trainers

A total of 19 speakers attended. An introduction was made by Mr. Alecu Renitsa, President of the EMM, Victoria Resetnic, DEF co-ordinator in Moldova and Mrs. Lucia Nastasiuc, Representative of the R. Moldova for EMIS commission in the ICPDR.

Trainers were specialists in different areas:

- **Agricultural sector:**
 - Serafim Andrieş, academician, Ph for agricultural sciences, member for the Academy of Sciences of the R. Moldova, director of the „N.Dimo” Institute
 - Filip Zubafii – specialist in agronomy
- **Industrial sector:**
 - Valentin Bobeică NGO “EcoMedia”
 - V. Brega, Ph, Atmospheric processes sector INECO
- **Municipal sector:**
 - Vladimir Garaba President of the EMM Chisinau Territorial Branch
 - Octavian Ivanov Mayor of the Criva village, Edineţ district
- **Humid zones:**
 - Ion Bejenaru, Protected areas section şeful secţiei arii protejate, MECTD
 - Alexandru Teleuţă Ph, “Biodiversity conservation” Project Manager
 - Valeriu Ţarigradschi, “Princely Forest” Scientific Reservation Director
 - Vladimir Gârneţ, Environmental Information Centre Cahul
 - A. Nebunu, Environmental Consultation Centre, Cahul
- **REC – Small Grants Program**
 - Victor Cotruta, Executive Director of REC Moldova
 - Ina Coseru, Program Officer REC Moldova

Participants

Approximately 60 people applied to participate at the training. The NFP selected 46 participants from this number, but 53 people actually participated (planned 25-30 people). Participants were very interested in this theme. 45 people were representatives of NGOs, 7 of them are DEF members. Two representatives from the Ministry were invited – a Minister and a representative responsible for the ICPDR Commission in Moldova. Unfortunately neither of them were able to be present. NFP then asked Lucia Nastasiuc, representative of the R. Moldova for EMIS commission in the ICPDR, to be present at the training and to make short presentation. All participants filled in evaluation forms and returned them to the organisers. The majority of participants were representatives of NGOs, people who are working locally with local people.

After the training NFP received 7 application forms for DEF membership.

REC representative

Only 25-30 people were included in the budget for the national training. We agreed with REC Moldova to invite all interested people eligible for the training – NGOs from Prut River and its tributary basins, specialists in this field. REC Moldova contributed part of the expenses for the training organising.

Mr. Victor Cotruta, Executive Director of REC Moldova and Mrs. Ina Coseru, Program Officer REC Moldova participated in the training. They presented SGP National and Regional in Romanian and information/materials were distributed; they motivated NGOs to participate in the SGP national and regional level; they answered all questions very clearly. Everyone was satisfied with the presentation.

Evaluation summary (based on evaluation forms filled by participants)

The template provided in English training manual was partly used. It was translated into the national language and distributed together with other materials. The majority of participants were satisfied with training content. All sectors were explained in normal language, all questions were answered. Selected topics were relevant to the participants' knowledge and needs. NGOs' potential to improve the real situation, to reduce nutrient pollution, was discussed. Most important of all were the discussions held after each presentation. Participants asked questions relating to real situations and they received clear answers. Presentations were very interesting because this is the first time such a training has been carried out.

Before the training a press release was prepared and sent. An interview was made by national radio news programme and "EcoTerra" programme. Articles were published in "Natura" magazine. Interviews were also published in the REC Moldova bulletin.

Preparation of the training manual in the national language is still in progress. NFP intends to have first version ready in mid-May.

Training outputs

All participants were satisfied with the information. As a result they will apply for the SGP on the national level, and some of them even on the international level. It was recommended to organise more trainings in the same field and for more days.

Lessons learned

In the future ministerial representatives should be invited earlier, at least a month in advance. At the beginning of the training it is necessary to have the brochure ready and to distribute it.

DEF roles at respective national level

There is a necessity for training in the population awareness raising and increasing of the project results.

Next steps for DEF in Moldova:

- To expand DEF activity into the region
- To organise meetings, round tables in the territory.

Attachments

Agenda

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Training title

Training on nutrient reduction and wetlands management

Place and date

Sremska Mitrovica, 11-13 April 2003, Hotel Sirmium

Organiser

Danube Environmental Forum of Serbia and Montenegro

Objectives

- To introduce basic information on nutrients, toxic substances, wetlands management, the Ramsar Convention.
- To introduce DRP Grants.
- To increase awareness on pollution problems and the possible ways of pollution reduction.

In addition to the above mentioned topics participants had the opportunity to learn about the impact of mine works on wetlands and rivers and about the campaign “The Lim is Our River – Clean the Lim”. Besides that, a field trip to the Special Nature Reserve of *Zasavica* was organised. During the one hour boat ride alongside the old riverbed of the Sava the participants did not only admire the nature beauties of the *Zasavica* but learned a lot about reserve management.

After the work in plenum and field trip the work was continued in three working groups:

1. Role of networking in pollution reduction
2. Wetland management and legislation
3. River basin management and public participation

(Report of working groups Annex 1)

Trainers

Momir Paunović, Institute for Biological Research “Sinisa Stankovic”

Nataša Đereg, CEKOR

Miloš Grujić, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mining and Geology / MANEB

Ana Paunović, Natural History Museum / Society for Nature Protection “Mustela”

Participants

Total number of participants: 38

Evaluation form: 29 participants filled the evaluation form

Institutions presented: Ministry for Nature Resources and Environment Protection, Agency for Recycling, Faculty of Mining and Geology, Institute for Biological Research “Sinisa Stankovic”, Natural History Museum, Secretariat for Environmental Protection of City of Belgrade.

DEF members: 19 NGOs

Other NGOs: 8

New NGOs interested in DEF membership after workshop: 3

REC representative

REC representative Maja Spasojević explained clearly REC's Small Grants Programme and encouraged participants during the discussion to apply for grants. Had of delegation and representatives to the ICPDR were invited but not presented.

Evaluation summary

Evaluation form was translated and disseminated to the participants. Most of participants received invitations with the agenda and objectives 4 weeks before the workshop. The objectives were spelled out at the beginning of the workshop and the workshop fully or partly met its predefined objectives. Overall quality of the training was scored 4-5 as well as level of participation. Majority pointed out that info on nutrient reduction through wetlands management and info on REC Grant Programme were not valuable for them.

Representatives of local media (TV and radio) from Sremska Mitrovica were present in the morning of the first training day and short interview on purpose of meeting, project and DEF was given to them. Press release was widely distributed to the media after the workshop and magazines "Moc prirode" and "Ekologija" were interested in broader story about nutrient reduction and NGO activities in Danube basin.

Training manual

The training manual contains information on nutrients, wetlands management, the Ramsar Convention, and the impact of mine works on wetlands and rivers. The manual was given to the participants before the beginning of the training.

Training outputs

NGOs representatives were trained to be able to write project proposals for the forthcoming REC Grants Programme. NGOs representatives are fully aware about the problems of the pollution in the Danube River basin. It was recommended that whole Danube watershed area in Serbia and Montenegro would be covered by this grant programme by establishing NGO co-operation in subwatersheds (Tisa, Sava, Morava, Tara).

The workshop was well-prepared and very well run. All objectives were fulfilled, all participants were active and the meeting can be ranked as successful.

Training needs for the future

The consultation meeting of local NGOs from the Morava watershed area was set for May 7, 2003 with the purpose of adoption common action strategy. Follow up training focused on nutrient reduction possibilities, linked with discussion on experiences gained after the first training is needed.

DEF roles at respective national level

The future of the whole DEF SCG network will be discussed during the meeting in Beograd at the end of May.

Attachments

Agenda

SLOVAKIA

Training title:

Protection and Restoration of Wetlands and Water Bodies

Place, date:

14.-16.April 2003, Herľany, Slovakia

Organiser:

SOSNA Civic Association and DEF Slovakia

Objectives

- To improve the knowledge of NGOs on wetland restoration issues and about nutrient removal from water in the Danube watershed.
- To train non-profit NGOs to prepare good quality projects for the prepared granting scheme, provided by the REC in frame of national and regional grants for the Danube Regional Project funded by UNDP/GEF.

Medium-term target was reduction of water pollution by organic substances (N,P) through implementation of high-quality projects prepared by environmental NGOs.

Short term objectives of the training were met, medium – term objectives will turn out in the near future.

Training program was announced in advance and distributed to the participants in beforehand (and updated continually, according to minor changes in a program), contents of the workshops were published and distributed to participants on the workshop.

Trainers

Representatives of 9 institutions:

state institutions (Záhorie Protected Landscape Area, Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, Slovak Water Treatment Council, Technical University Košice)

NGOs - DAPHNE, SOSNA, BROZ, SOVS

others - UNDP/DEF, REC

Participants

Representatives of 15 Institutions:

NGOs - DEF, DAPHNE, SOSNA, o.z. TATRY, Ipeľská Únia, Fauna Carpatica, Ekosvinka, UMBRA, BROZ, SOVS

schools - ZŠ Ždaňa

regional state agencies - RRA Ipeľ-Hron

State Water Treatment Council - SVP š.p. oz PBaH

protected areas management representatives - National Park Veľká Fatra

others - REC

Slovak representatives of GWP and ICPDR were invited to participate and also to give lectures at the training. Unfortunately neither was able to participate personally, but both delegated another colleague.

Not all appropriate participants were present at the training. Some NGOs dealing with water issues were missing from the list of participants and trainers, in spite of that they were informed about training through electronic media in advance. 5 DEF members were present. 2 NGOs expressed interest in DEF membership.

REC representative

3 representatives from REC were present at the training - Richard Müller, Milan Chrenko, Vlado Hudek. Their involvement was useful, co-operation went well, no difficulties appeared.

Evaluation summary

Template provided in DEF training manual was translated into Slovak language and used for training evaluation. Small changes were made to adjust the template to national and local conditions. All participants were satisfied with the training content and chosen training methods were also marked by 4 or 5 by majority of people. Selected training topics were relevant to knowledge and needs of participants. Examples of practical wetland and river restoration, information on river-coalitions, different approaches to nutrient reduction and examples of environmental education were identified as the most relevant to participants work.

There is a big demand for information on nutrient reduction issues and there is almost no information produced by governmental institutions or NGOs on this important topic. This gap should be filled in the near future and information should be widely distributed among public in understandable form.

Press release was prepared and distributed to Slovak newspapers and radios. Information was put on Cassovia webpage (www.cassovia.sk), short articles were published in 2 newspapers, an interview was released in Slovak Radio.

Training manual in national language was prepared on the basis of materials received from trainers/lecturers. Content: Introduction (UNDP/GEF, DEF) 1st part: Protection, management and restoration of wetlands (2 basic lectures about wetlands, 3 case studies of successful restoration projects), 2nd part: Wetlands and nutrient – reduction in waters (3 lectures, examples, case study, biological water-treatment plants – wetland type), 3rd part: Public relations (information about EU – Water Framework Directive, information and training about preparation of projects for the REC national granting scheme, lecture about LA 21, case study – River coalition in a watershed), 4th part: Environmental education (case study).

Training outputs

Experiences and skills were exchanged among NGOs from different parts of Slovakia. This was very important for the whole water protection movement in the country, because NGOs in different parts of Slovakia have their own way for dealing with restoration and pollution problems and their cooperation is not well developed yet. Successful case studies to be repeated, but also mistakes and problems to be prevented were discussed at the training. Special attention was given to needs and possibilities of public involvement into water management and protection. NGOs are trained to follow the best examples and to prepare good and effective grants for the next grant calls (not only under REC) with improved public participation in wetland and watershed management.

Lessons learned

This was the first occasion, that so big country-wide NGO event, focused on nutrients, was organised in Slovakia and it was a good experience for all of the participants. NGO representatives identified the need for improved cooperation in water protection activities. At the same time it was start of the deeper dialogue between NGOs and state institutions on water pollution issues. There was excellent co-operation with the DEF Secretariat in Bratislava. Support was provided also by universities from Kosice (technique, lecturers). Dissemination of information about the training worked well – through electronic media (Changenet e-mail network), other media had lower importance in spreading the message. Next time more NGOs should be contacted and invited personally.

Changes/improvement for the future

Maybe ensure more participants, even if the topic is quite specific. But interest should be higher and participation also should be better in the future.

Training needs for the future

There was a suggestion to organise further training activities on different topics related to nutrients, WFD and public participation by some active NGOs for other NGOs, or NGO activists, students, etc.

Attachments

Agenda

SLOVENIA

Training title

Wetlands – Their Importance and Threat

Place and date

Rače, 2 April 2003

Organiser

DPPVN, Ptujška c. 91, SI-2327 Rače, Slovenia

Objectives

- To present some main threats for wetlands, not only to NGOs who are more or less already familiar with various threats, but also to more wider audience, e.g. local communities, schools etc. (To many of them some new data and findings were presented, especially about artificial snow and its effects on wetlands, river pollution and problems with sediments.)
- To present SRP to the participants. (It was not of high priority at the training since almost all present NGOs were already familiar with REC's small grants.)

Due to the specific situation the focus was more intensively laid on present threats and on the importance of wetlands also on the basis of an intensive discussion throughout the training. In this way, many new ideas and co-operations will exist among present NGOs in the future. The workshop was not attended by representatives of competent ministries and respective international bodies.

Trainers

Bračko Franc, ornithologist, DPPVN

Kaligarič Simona, biologist, National Institute for Nature Protection, Local Branch in Maribor

Kolar Boris, biologist, Institute for Health Protection, Maribor

Kopitar Marjana, architect for Environment, community Žalec

Krajnc Martin, forester, National Institute for Forestry, Local Branch in Maribor

Sovinc Andrej, biologist, Head of Landscape Park Sečovlje salina, Ramsar coordinator

Šorgo Andrej, biologist, DPPVN/Secondary School Maribor

Participants

Together with the local REC office, more than 150 NGOs who work in Slovenia in the environment field were invited – with help of the REC national office who holds a register of all NGOs. Moreover, many local communities, schools, and representatives from national Ministries, ICPDR, GWP and Ramsar, were invited.

Altogether 25 participants participated at the training. Among them 16 from ten NGOs, one from the Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning and Energy, 1 from the National Institute for nature protection, 3 from local communities, 3 from schools, 1 from the media. From DEF members all three members had their representatives.

From the already mentioned ICPDR and GWP representatives an apology was accepted because their members were occupied with some other meetings.

Two of present organisations asked for more details on DEF membership. All participants received DEF leaflet and Bulletin.

REC representative

Mrs. Julija Škarabot was present. The presence of REC representative was useful but only for to SGP since all questions were related to SGP. Moreover, all NGOs present at the training already had experiences with REC small grants so there were no difficulties on account on this topic.

Evaluation summary

The training material was prepared before training, and the response for the material was taken over by Milan Vogrin with help of trainers, who prepared summaries of the lectures. The template provided in English training manual was used. It was translated into national language and modified a bit. A book of abstracts together with agenda was prepared. The book of abstracts is available also in libraries and is mentioned also in the on-line catalogue COBISS-ID under the number 49928705. All participants received it at the training and it was also sent to the representatives of ICPDR, and GWP.

Participants were very satisfied with training contents due to very diverse themes presented and due to the fact that a lot of various trainers were present. Participants had an opportunity to speak with many specialists from various fields. Selected topics were relevant to the knowledge and needs of participants (ranked 4 and 5). Renaturation, Sediments in the river and Artificial snowing were identified as most interesting topics.

Three interviews were conducted, one on the local radio on the same day (live), the other two on the next day. On the national radio the interview lasted 15 min. An article in one of the national newspaper (Večer) on April 17 was written (copy sent to DEF secretariat)

Training outputs

As most participants expressed, the organisers fully agree with them: they wish more such training courses, but with more specific topics on each (e.g. biodiversity, pollution, restoration,...)

Lessons learned

The content and overall organisation of the training was good, the problem was weak participation.

Training needs for the future

To motivate NGOs to participate in trainings. More training courses/workshops throughout the year on various topics are needed. It has been already discussed with the national GWP and the Ramsar Commission.

DEF roles at respective national level

To organise field training courses on the national level.

Attachments

Agenda

ROMANIA

Training title

Romania's Training Workshop on Wetland Restoration and Nutrient Reduction (RTWR)

Place and date

Galati, 4-6 April 2003

Organiser

Eco Counselling Centre Galati (ECCG)

Objectives

The main training course objectives:

- To raise awareness and improve the knowledge and skills of NGOs representatives about wetland importance in the process of restoration and nutrient and toxic reduction in the DRB.
- To assist NGOs in meeting the requirements set in the frame of the REC Danube Grants within the Danube Regional Project.

The short- term objectives focused on the participants' acquisition of the necessary knowledge and abilities to practically implement wetland restoration measures; once the course was over, they were expected to be very familiar with the guidelines, requirements, criteria, and deadlines regarding Danube Grants Programme.

The planned medium-long term objectives focused on the expectations that the NGO workshop participants would be able to develop effective measures to secure WR and NR, would design and submit to REC Offices good proposals for financing, once the national priorities have been identified.

The objectives had been stated clearly before the workshop, incorporated in the first workshop announcement, in the press releases (starting with Wetland Day –February 2, and the World Water Day –March 22) and, once interests confirmed, in the final invitation. The workshop planning form had been filled in before the workshop (according to the training guidelines).

The national training objectives were quite satisfactorily met.

Trainers

Total number: 5 (from REC Country Office, ECCG, PRODELTA Tulcea, and the Prut Barlad Council-Iasi.)

Mainly, Mr. Marian Tudor (PRODELTA NGO), trainer and participant at the international training workshop in Vinicne, Slovakia, proved to be very supportive, and helpful in preparing the training course materials and running the workshop itself.

As the ICPDR recommendation was to invite the Country Heads of Delegation, the workshop participants were honoured by the presence of:

Mr. Stadiu Florin –Secretary of State (MoWEP, and the ICPDR representative), and Mrs. Ane Marie Ciurea (MoWEP) on behalf of Mr. Gheorghe Constantin, the Country Water Director

Galati "Romanian Waters" Company, Mr. Dobrea.

Participants

40 NGO representatives were formerly invited to Galati, out of which 35 confirmed and participated in different days. The constant number of participants was 27, and they were members of:

- environmental NGOs (22), and DEF members (3),
- Central governmental institutions:
 - the Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection (MoWEP),
 - the Romanian Water National Company (Bucharest),
 - one representative of ICIM, on behalf of Mr. Liviu Popescu,
 - WWF Office Bucharest, Mr. Sevastel Mircea
 - Environmental Experts' Association, Bucharest.
- Regional and local governmental institutions: Galati Environmental Protection Inspectorate (3 representatives), Romanian Waters Company from Iasi and Galati
- Central and local Media: The Romanian Environmental Journalists' Association, and the local 'Monitorul' Newspaper.

A special guest was Mrs. Victoria Resetnic from Ecological Movement of Moldova (NFP) invited to join the group; Mrs. Resetnic also presented briefly the draft conclusions from the latest DEF Board Meeting from Slovenia.

The appropriate participants were present, and came from all main areas of the country: Transylvania – Baia Mare, Cluj, Alba-Iulia, Dobrogea with the Danube Delta – Tulcea, Northern Moldova – Suceava, Pascani, Iasi, and Southern Romania – Turnu Severin.

In the future, it is recommended that the NGO representatives within the River Basin Councils, representatives of the local agriculture-related bodies and members of the emergency units (flood, landslide, etc) be invited.

13 NGOs were interested in DEF membership, but the issue was planned to be addressed later on, after May 15 (Deadline for Project concept papers).

REC representative

The REC representative, Ms. Roxana Schiopu, has been very supportive and helpful from the very beginning. The co-operation between ECCG and REC Office was very good from the launching of the event; it had always been good, in spite of the few critical opinions ECCG presented. REC involvement was very useful in providing quality info on SGP, on the REC policy, and a little less in motivating NGOs to participate. The explanations provided by her to those who were very critical about the eligibility criteria highlighted the REC policy. No difficulties were reported.

Evaluation summary

Almost everybody filled in the evaluation form once the course over, with very few exceptions mainly those who had to leave earlier (3).

All the participants confirmed that the objectives were clearly spelled out at the beginning of the workshop. The workshops fully met its predefined objectives. The

overall quality of the training was excellent and the level of participation was very high. Training methods were appropriate and the content applicable to the working context of participants.

The template provided in English training manual was used and translated to Romanian with no changes. A brief summary of its content was prepared in Romanian before the course, and the participants had access to its entire text on CDs.

Participants appreciated that documentation was made available by organisers prior the event, training materials and extra documentation was provided during the course. Folder's Contents was a number of 19 materials were provided to each participant, in hard copies and also CDs with all the relevant information both in Romanian and English, including the Joint Danube Survey Report (Sept. 2002). DEF – related materials were provided to the participants, also, extensive information about the DRP, Strategic Partnership, DABLAS, too. A list of nutrient and wetland – related an e-mail address was also included. An inventory list of 31 titles available at the ECCG Green Library was added to it. The presenters' PowerPoint new materials were recorded and just disseminated

There were press release articles published in the local newspapers, TV interviews, and broadcasting on local stations: TV Express and Mega TV.

Training outputs

- Wide, interested participation; committed NGO and GO representation.
- Knowledge and clearer understanding of DEF network challenges, roles and requirements stated by ICPDR, UNDP, GEF; of course, DRP was the main issue, and the REC's and DEF's roles and responsibilities related to DRP were highlighted.
- A better understanding of the GO representatives about the need to co-operate with the NGO sector.
- A topic related to information acquisition, on CDs.
- Interest for DEF membership versus REC.
- New partnerships were created, and the older ones were re-enforced.
- The Galati sightseeing tour, with a short trip across the Danube by ferry, that helped raise awareness about what the 'former Danube Floodplain area' really meant.

Recommended follow-up or actions

- To keep contacts and exchange information.
- The available information needs fully processing and carefully studying.
- To identify possible concept papers idea, relevant to the DRP objectives.
- To establish formal partnership with the local administration and get in touch with the River basin Council in the area.
- Another training course was considered necessary and equally important.

Lessons learned

- The importance of communication, accountability and transparency for securing successful co-operation.

- Practical application: Danube Delta, and the Jijia Wetland Case Studies.
- Experiences gained highlighted the importance of good organisational arrangements, access to the workshop materials prior the event, some extra hours for informal gathering needed, site sightseeing equally important for the group feeling.
- The course should have more practical applications.

Training needs for the future

- Trainings with practical field trip component.
- More NGOs from all over the country should participate and these, subsequently should organise meetings with local authorities on the local level and discuss their involvement in solution seeking of the environmental problems.

DEF roles at respective national level

- To disseminate the workshop conclusions to the river Basin Councils.
- To continue / improve campaigning for DEF within the national and international environmental events.
- To keep the momentum going and extend the network development.
- To secure co-funding so as to ensure the organisation of similar courses in other places in order to train as many people as possible.
- To ensure the translations of the required training materials.
- To provide more examples about best agricultural techniques (BAT).
- To maintain the communication within the network.

Attachments

Agenda

UKRAINE

Training title

Wetlands – enhancement of public awareness and interregional co-operation

Place and date

Lviv, Ukraine, “Suputnyk” hotel, 7 May 2003

Organiser

The Western Centre of the Ukrainian Branch of the World Laboratory, 4 Mateyko Street, 79000 Lviv, Ukraine

Objectives

Main objectives, purposes and aims of the training were mentioned in the invitations distributed between the participants some time before the workshop:

- To present the examples of the best practices on wetland restoration in the Carpathian region.
- To present main threats to wetlands and biodiversities in the Carpathian region because of the extensive forest usage to a wide audience (except NGOs the representatives of three universities were present).

The problem of investigation of the organic carbon reserves in the upper region of the Prut river ecosystem was also presented. The loss of carbon in the Carpathian region ecosystem is about 20-25%. There was an intensive discussion throughout the training. In this way, many new ideas and co-operation will exist among present NGO in the future.

Trainers

7 different trainers, specialists from different fields:

V. Maltsev, Director of the Institute for Environment of the National Environmental Centre of Ukraine

A. Bodnariuk, vice-director the State Administration of Ecology and Natural Resources in Lviv Region

P. Khalaim, Society for Nature Protection

A. Kovalchuk, Uzhgorod National University

L. Tasinkevych, WWF expert, State Museum of Natural History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

Yu. Chornobai, Director of the State Museum of Natural History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

O.Maryskevych, vice-director of the Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, there was also present the public Adviser of the Verkhovna Rada Committee of Ukraine on Environmental Problems

Participants

More than 50 NGOs working in Ukraine on environmental problems together with local REC office were invited. Moreover, also many local communities, universities, and representatives from national ministries were invited.

All together 38 participants participated in the training. Among them 18 from 16 NGOs, one from the Ministry of Ecology, 3 from national universities, 19 students, one from the media. Two DEF members had representatives.

The DEF application forms were distributed among the participants during the training and all participants received also DEF leaflet and Bulletin and a DEF poster prepared by us, especially for a workshop.

REC representative

Mr. Petro Pavlichenko, Director of REC-Kyiv promised to come, however he has apologised since he was occupied with other meeting. So he asked Petro Hrytsyshyn as a member of Forum REC-Kyiv to present information about SGP, which Petro Pavlichenko passed from Kyiv.

Evaluation summary

The template provided in English training manual was used. It was translated in Ukrainian with no changes.

The participants were satisfied with the training. Different themes were presented and a broad discussion took place. Though the training was conducted by one trainer, his presentation was very lively with involvement of all the participants in discussion of some issues. The selected topics were relevant to the needs of participants. Most interesting topics were identified problems of biodiversity protection and biological factors of the soil coating of the basin ecosystems of Carpathians.

There was one interview on the local radio on the same day.

Training material was prepared before training, response for the material was taken over by Andrii Kovalchuk. The training material in the national language was distributed among the participants before the workshop.

Training outputs

Most participants wish more such training courses but with more specific themes.

Lessons learned

The number of participants 35 was optimal for fruitful work.

Training needs for the future

To conduct more training courses throughout the year.

DEF roles at respective national level

To have workshops with a smaller number of participants at specific hot spots. It is necessary to have a workshop in the Danube river mouth (Odessa region).

Attachments

Agenda

ATTACHMENTS

Bosnia and Herzegovina

23/04/2003	
11, 30 – 12, 00	Arrival and registration of participants
12, 00 – 12, 20	Welcome and introductions Mladen Rudež, Ministry of Physical Planning and Environment of F B&H Nešad Šeremet, REC BiH Country Director Branko Vučijak, CESD, Sarajevo
12, 20 – 13, 00	DEF presentation Igor Palandžić, CESD, Sarajevo
13, 00 – 14, 00	Presentation on Nutrients and Toxic Substances Dragana Selmanagić, Melina Džajić, HEIS, Sarajevo
14, 00 – 15, 00	Lunch brake
15, 00 – 16, 00	Wetland Management and Restoration Viktor Bjelić (Mladi istraživači Banjaluke)
16, 00 – 17, 00	Case Studies Agriculture and diffuse pollution, Husnija Resulović, Soil observing association, Sarajevo
17, 00 – 17, 30	Discussion and Conclusion
24/4/2003	
9, 00 – 10, 00	Integrated Watershed Management Jasminka Bjelavac, HEIS, Sarajevo
10, 00 – 11, 00	NGOs Communication activities in the Danube River Basin Igor Palandžić, CESD, Sarajevo
11, 00 – 11, 30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11, 30 – 13, 00	Working Groups
13, 00 – 14, 00	Lunch Break
14, 00 – 16, 00	DRP Small Grants Programs, Enisa Pulić and Djordje Stefanovic, REC BiH
16, 00 – 16, 30	Coffee Break
16, 30 – 17, 00	Discussion on DRP Small Grants Programs
17, 00 – 17, 30	Final discussion, closing and departure of participants

Bulgaria

4th of April 2003

Arrival

14,30 - 14,45	Opening of the workshop, presentation of workshop participants
14,45 – 15,30	Danube Environmental Forum and Danube Regional Project – Milena Dimitrova (Centre for Environmental Information and Education)
15,30 – 16,30	Regional Environmental Center, Sofia – presentation of Small Grants Program
16,30 – 17,00	Coffee break
17,00 – 18,00	Regional Environmental Center, Sofia – presentation of Small Grants Program
18,00 – 18,30	Further NGO initiatives in the frame of Danube Regional Project – discussion
19,00 – 20,00	Supper

5th of April 2003

8,00 – 8,45	Breakfast
9,00 – 10,30	Restoration and management of wetlands (Milko Dimitrov – Burgas Wetlands)
10,30 – 10,45	Coffee break
10,45 – 12,15	Restoration and management of wetlands (Lower Danube Green Corridor - Hristo Nikolov – Green BalkansValentina Fidanova – Green Balkans)
12,15 – 12,30	Questions and discussion
13,00 – 14,00	Lunch
14,45 - 15,30	European Water Framework Directive and wetlands management (Galia Bardarska – Global Water Partnership)
15,30 – 16,30	Pollution of waters with pesticides and heavy metals – Maria Minkova (Ekoglastnost Movement)
16,30 – 17, 10	NGO Communication Activities – Stanislava Boshnakova (Centre for Environmental Information and Education)
17,10 – 17,25	Coffee break
17,25 – 18,30	NGO Communication Activities - Exercise
19,00 – 20,00	Supper

6th of April 2003

8,00 – 8,45	Breakfast
9,00-13,00	Visit of “Kalimok Brashlen” protected area

Departure

Croatia

DAY 1, Friday 4 April 2003, 14.00-19.30

14.00-14.15

Welcome and introduction, presentation of training agenda

14.15-15.00

Presentation of DEF Network and activities, role of DRP (Irma Popovic)

15.00-15.45

Short presentation of activities held by present NGOs on nutrients and toxics problems

15.45-16.15

Introduction to wetland habitats

16.15-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-17.15

Introduction to Water Framework Directive and Croatian water legislation (Mladen Borso, State Water Directorate)

17.15-18.30

Nutrients in waterbodies and their consequences for environment and human health (Emilian Levacic, Wetland restoration and its use in water purification processes, Case studies from Denmark and Sweden

18.30-19.30

Group work

DAY 2, Saturday 5 April 2003, 9.00-17.00

9.00-10.15

Toxic substances in water bodies

10.15-10.45

Coffee Break

10.45-12.00

Presentation of REC Small Grants Programme (Dalija Matijevic)

12.00-13.00

Lunch

13.00-14.00

Work with media, local authorities and local stakeholders

14.00-16.00

Group work

16.00-17.00

Wrap up session and closing

Czech republic

11 April: arrival of the participants during afternoon, meeting of the speakers of the Union for the Morava River to the working groups programs (Waterway DOL plans, Decision process participation, Protection against floods, Public involvement)

12 April: 9 - 12 - Presentations of the professional approach to the role of the reduction nutrients pollution of selected components - wetlands, water management fishery production activity, agriculture land use and production activity.

12 April: 14 - 16 - Information of the ICPDR member to the structure of the Danube program, information of the DEF secretariat on the involvement of the NGO activities in Danube states. Presentation of the REC responsible person to the National and Regional Grants projects.

13 April: 9 - 15 - Excursion to the Morava river floodplain in Protected Landscape Area (CHKO Litovelské Pomoraví).

Hungary

April 13th, Sunday	
16, 00 – 18, 00	Arrival
19, 00 – 21, 00	<i>Dinner</i>
April 14th, Monday	
7, 00 – 8, 30	<i>Breakfast</i>
8, 30 – 9, 00	Registration
9, 00 – 9, 30	Introduction of participants, about DEF, clarifying aims of training
9, 30 – 10, 00	Revitalization of small water courses (Igor Dukay - HÉ)
10, 00 – 10, 30	The biological water quality of Hungary's rivers with special respect to the nutrient loads (Béla Csányi – VITUKI)
10, 30 – 10, 50	<i>Coffee break</i>
10, 50 - 11, 50	Decreasing pollution in surface waters (Viktória Marczisák – VITUKI)
11, 50 - 12, 20	Pollution in under-surface waters and their connection with surface waters (Artúr Köhler)
12, 20 – 13, 45	<i>Lunch</i>
13, 45 - 14, 15	Small Grants Program (László Perneczky – REC)
14, 15 - 14, 45	„Living machines” sewage treatment technology (Zoltán Takács – KÖRTE – ORGANICA)
14, 45 - 15, 15	Nature conservation experiences with wetlands on the lower-middle part of the Danube (Enikő Tamás – BITE)
15, 15 - 15, 40	<i>Coffee break</i>
15, 40 - 17, 45	Summary of the training, conclusions
18, 00	Departure

Moldova

18/04/2003 Friday	
8,30 – 11,00	Registration
11,00 – 11,30	Welcome and Introductions Mr Alecu Reniță, President of Ecological Movement of Moldova Mr Andrei Conișescu, President of Parliamentary Commission for Ecology and Territory Development R. Moldova <i>Mr Gheorghe Duca, Minister of Ecology, Constructions and Territory Development (MECTD)</i> Mr. Victor Cotruță, Executive Director REC-Moldova
11,30 – 11,40	Danube Regional Project – cooperation on the governmental level Mrs Lucia Nastasiuc, Representative of the R. Moldova for EMIS commission in the ICPDR
11,40 – 12,00	Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) – National Focal Point Moldova. Danube Regional Project – cooperation on the nongovernmental level Mrs Victoria Reșetnic, DEF Coordinator in the R. Moldova
12,00 – 12,40	Natural resources, agricultural soil exploitation improving and complex of measures in order to reduce nutrient pollution in the Danube River Basin Mr Serafim Andrieș, academician, Ph for agricultural sciences, member for the Academy of Sciences of the R. Moldova, director of the „N.Dimo” Institute
12,40 – 13,10	Environmental friendly agricultural practices which contribute to the nutrient reduction Mr Filip Zubatîi – specialist in agronomy
13,10 – 14,30	Lunch
14,30 – 14,50	<i>RAMSAR Convention and its applying on the R. Moldova territory Mr Ion Bejenaru, Protected areas section șeful secției arii protejate, MECTD</i>
14,50 – 15,20	International, regional and national legislation for the biodiversity conservation through the humid zones and protected areas conservation Mr Alexandru Teleuță Ph, “Biodiversity conservation” Project Manager
15,20 – 15,50	<i>Industrial sector – nutrient pollution Mr Valentin Bobeică NGO “EcoMedia”, Mr V. Brega, Ph, INECO</i>
15,50 – 16,20	Municipal sector: water quality and nutrient pollution Mr Vladimir Garaba President of the EMM Chisinau Territorial Branch
16,20 – 16,40	Coffee-break
16,40 – 17,10	Local Public Authorities participation for the nutrient reduction in the Middle Prut River Basin Mr Octavian Ivanov Mayor of the Criva village, Edineț district
17,10 – 17,40	“Princely Forest” Scientific Reservation as an ecological balance factor for the nutrient reduction in the Prut River Basin Mr Valeriu Țarigradschi, “Princely Forest” Scientific Reservation Director
18,00 – 20,00	Dinner
19/04/2003 Saturday	
9,00 – 9,30	Euro regions contribution for the initiation of cooperation between different partners for the nutrient reduction in the region Mr Vladimir Gârneț, Environmental Information Centre Cahul
9,30 – 10,00	Scientific Reservation “Lower Prut”: area for the RAMSAR Convention application Mr A. Nebunu, Environmental Consultation Centre, Cahul
10,00 – 10,45	<i>Discussions and Final conclusions</i>
10,45 – 11,00	<i>Coffee-break</i>
11,00 – 13,00	<i>Small Grants Program – National and Regional, Presentation and Discussions REC Moldova</i>
13,00 – 14,00	<i>Dinner</i>

Romania

3/04/2003	
16, 00 – 22, 00	Arrival of participants
19, 00 – 21, 00	Welcome Dinner
4/4/2003	
8, 30 – 9,30	<i>Breakfast</i>
10,00 – 11,30	Registration of participants
	Welcome and introductions
	Heads of Delegation and Representatives to the ICPDR Romania – DRP - main objectives. Main Training Objectives (Moisi Petruta - ECCG)
11,30 – 12,00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12,00 –14,00	DRP Grants Programme; DRP Regional and National Grants (– REC CO) Roxana Schiopu
14,00 – 15,30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
15,30 –16,30	DRP Grants Programme, questions and answers: R. Schiopu, P. Moisi
16,30 – 17,00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17,00 – 18,30	Nutrients and toxic substances – sources and toxic effect (Marian Tudor) Eutrofication (causes, mechanisms, impact) (MT) Eutrofication in Danube RB and Black Sea area. (Ibram Orhan) Nutrient reduction (approaches, methods) (Marian Tudor) Others
19,30	<i>Dinner</i>
5/04/2003	
8, 30 – 9,30	<i>Breakfast</i>
10,00-11,30	Summary: Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of Danube River, Danube Green Corridor , Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, (Wise use of wetlands) (Moisi Petruta,)
	Harmful toxic substances – national legislation, (Madalina Leonte)
	National priorities - Data Base: Joint Danube Survey; Sustainable Danube River (P. Moisi) <i>Finacing Programmes-Information</i>
11,30 – 11,45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11,45-13,30	Nutrient reduction - best practices (case studies, participants) Role of wetlands in nutrient reduction (case study Danube Delta) (Ibram Orhan)
13,30 – 15,30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
15,30 – 17,00	Role of River Basin Councils and NGOs (Water Framework Directive): case studies- the Mures, Prut –Barlad River Basins (P. Moisi, Anca Savin)
17,00 - 17,15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17,15 –18,30	Working groups – transfer of knowledge and experience, projects ideas, partnerships
19,30	<i>Dinner</i>
6/04/2003	
8, 30 – 9,30	<i>Breakfast</i>
10,00-12,00	Plenary - reports from working groups
12,15 – 13,30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14,00 – 16,00	Conclusions, Evaluations
16,30	<i>Departure</i>

Serbia

11/04/2003	
16, 00 – 18, 00	Arrival of participants
19, 00 – 21, 00	Dinner
12/4/2003	
7, 00 – 8, 30	<i>Breakfast</i>
8, 30 – 9, 00	Registration of participants
9, 00 – 9, 15	Welcome and introductions
9, 15 – 9, 30	DRP - main objectives, objectives of the workshop (Mirjana Bartula – DEFYU)
9, 30 – 10,00	Role of REC in DRP -Small Grants Programme (Maja Spasojevic – REC CO)
10, 30 – 10, 45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10, 45 – 11, 0	Role of wetlands in nutrient reduction (Natasa Djereg, CEKOR)
11, 30 – 12, 00	Impact of mine works on wetlands and rivers (dr Milos Grujic, Faculty of Mining and Geology)
12, 00 – 12, 45	Discussion on REC Grants Programme
12, 45 – 15, 30	Field trip to “Zasavica” and lunch
15, 30 – 15, 50	Ramsar Convention (Ana Paunovic, Society for Nature Protection “Mustela”)
15, 50 – 16, 15	«The Lim is our River – Clean the Lim» (Nada Pesic, Ecological Society Friendf of the Sopotnica River)
16, 15 – 16, 30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16, 30 – 18,00	Working groups
19, 00 – 21, 00	Dinner
13/4/2003	
7, 00 – 9, 00	<i>Breakfast</i>
9, 00 – 12, 00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Report of working groups ➤ Conclusions ➤ Evaluations
12, 00 – 13, 30	<i>Lunch</i>
13, 00 – 14, 00	Departure

Slovakia

1st day, Monday, 14.4.2003, 13:00 – 17:30

- 11:30 – 12:00 participants' arrival, registration of participants)
12:00 – 13:00 lunch
13:00 – 13:05 welcome, introduction, program presentation
13:05 – 13:15 Information about Danube Regional Project UNDP-GEF (*Marcela Fabianová, UNDP Austria*)

I. block of themes: Conservation, management and restoration of wetlands

- 13:15 – 14:00 Definition and importance of wetlands (*Milan Janák, Daphne*)
14:00 – 14:45 Classification of wetlands in Slovakia, contemporary state of wetlands (*Milo Galvánek, Daphne*)
14:45 – 15:15 coffee and tea break,
15:15 – 16:00 Principles of ecological wetland restoration (*Jaro Šíbl, CHKO Záhorie*)
16:00 – 16:30 Case study: Restoration of ecological function of disconnected branches on the Latorica river (*Doc. Ing. Švecová, Ing. Bendiková, TU KE*)
16:30 – 17:00 Case study: Renovation of wet meadows on Morava river flood plain (*Milo Galvánek, Daphne*)
17:00 – 17:30 Case study: Example of management planning at the Ramsar location „Wetlands of Turiec“ (*Milan Janák, Daphne*)

II. block of themes: Wetlands and reduction of nutrients concentration in the water

- 17:30 – 18:00 Monitoring of surface water quality in Slovakia (*Alexandra Vančová, SHMÚ*)
18:00 – 18:20 Current legislation in water resources management (*Alexandra Vančová, SHMÚ*)
18:20 – 18:50 New agricultural policy and water conservation against nutrients (*Igor Sobotský, SVP*)
18:50 Dinner

2nd day, Tuesday, 15.4.2003, 9:00 – 17:00

II. block of themes: Wetlands and reduction of nutrients concentration in the water

- 9:00 – 9:30 Case study: Value of nutrients elimination (N, P, K) on the Morava river flood plain as an example of biodiversity economical evaluation. (*Rastó Rybanič, SOVS*)
9:30 – 10:00 Experiences with use of biological sewage treatment plants (*Róbert Zvara*)

III. block of themes: Relationship with public

- 10:00 – 10:15 Participation of non-governmental organizations in basin management plans according to the EU Water Framework Directive (*Richard Müller, REC*)
10:15 – 10:45 Coffee and tea break
10:45 – 11:15 Experiences of non-governmental organizations with interlinking different subjects in part of the Hornád river basin into River Coalition (*Štefan Szabó, SOSNA*)
11:15 – 12:15 Information about the REC grant call: National grant program

of the Danube Regional Project - presentation, explanation of grant call aims + discussion
(*Richard Müller, REC*)

12:15 – 12:30 Agenda 21 (*Milan Chrenko, REC*)

12:30 – 13:00 lunch

IV. block of themes: Environmental education focused on wetlands and rivers

13:00 – 14:00 Case study: Project: „We care for our river“ (*Samuel Pečeňovský, SOSNA*)

14:00 – 17:00 Workshop – Environmental education and water ecosystem conservation
(*Sylvia Szabóová, SOSNA*)

17:00 – 17:10 End of the training

18.00 Dinner

19:00 Practical examples of revitalizations + video (*Jaro Šíbl, CHKO Záhorie*)

3rd day, Wednesday, 16.4.2003

9:30 – 12:00 Excursion to the Hornád river branch Budov kút and to Hornád river meanders
(*organized by SOSNA, Bodrog and Hornad river Basin - PBAH*)

Slovenia

2/04/2003	
8 ⁰⁰ -9 ⁰⁰	Arrival of participants, Registration of participants
9 ⁰⁰ – 9 ¹⁵	Welcome and introductions (Milan Vogrin, DPPVN, major of community Rače-Fram, Mr. Branko Ledinek)
9 ¹⁵ – 9 ³⁰	Information about DEF and DRP - main objectives (Matjaž Kerček, DPPVN)
9 ³⁰ -10 ³⁰	DRP Small Grants Programme (Julija Škarabot, REC Slovenija)
10 ³⁰ -11 ⁰⁰	Pollution Starts in Spring - the Role of Artificial Snowing (Martin Kranjc, Institute for Forestry)
11 ⁰⁰ -11 ²⁰	Coffee Break
11 ²⁰ – 11 ⁵⁰	Nutrients and Toxic Substances in Rivers with Special Emphasis on Sediments (Boris Kolar & Mojca Durjava, Institute for Health)
11 ⁵⁰ -12 ²⁰	<i>Krajinski park Drava in nekateri primeri posegov v naravo na zavarovanem območju</i> (Simona Kaligarič, Institute for nature protection)
12 ²⁰ -12 ⁵⁰	Local examples 1 – Vrbje pond and Savinja river (Marjana Kopitar, community Žalec)
12 ⁵⁰ – 14 ⁰⁰	Lunch
14 ⁰⁰ -14 ³⁰	Importance of Wetlands and Ramsar Convention (Andrej Sovinc, Landscape park Sečovlje salina)
14 ³⁰ – 15 ³⁰	Importance and Threat of Mura River (Franc Bračko, DPPVN)
15 ³⁰ -16 ⁰⁰	Local examples 2 - Renaturation of Bičje Stream near Grosuplje (Andrej Sovinc, Landscape park Sečovlje salina)
16 ⁰⁰ -16 ¹⁵	Coffee Break
16 ¹⁵ – 17 ¹⁵	Role of Schools in Environment Education (Andrej Šorgo, DPPVN)
17 ¹⁵ -18 ³⁰	Conclusions

Ukraine

07/05/2003	
9.00 – 10.00	Registration of participants. Distribution of training materials
10.00 – 10.20	Welcome and introductions
10.20 – 11.00	Information about Framework convention on the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians, Danube Regional Project
11.00 – 11.45	Co-operation on River network of Ukraine with DEF V. Maltsev, Director of the Institute for Environment of the National Environmental Center of Ukraine
11.45 – 12.00	Coffe-break
12.00 – 13.00	Practices of water managing in the Carpathian and Danube regions A. Bodnariuk, the State Administration of Ecology and Natural Resources in Lviv Region P. Khalaim, Society for Nature Protection
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	General approaches to wetlands restoration in the Danube basin, Ramsar Convention A. Kovalchuk, Uzhgorod National University
15.00 – 15.20	Problems of protection of biodiversity of beech original woods and floodplain forests in the Tysa river basin L. Tasinkevych, WWF expert, State Museum of Natural History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
15.20 – 16.00	Biotic factors of the soil of the basin ecosystems of the Carpathians Yu. Chornobai, Director of the State Museum of Natural History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine Investigations of the reserves of organic carbon in the upper region of the Prut river ecosystem O.Maryskevych, vice-director of the Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
16.00 – 16.15	Coffe-break
16.15 – 17.00	REC SGP presentation P. Hrytsyshyn, Director of the Western Center of the Ukrainian Branch of the World Laboratory, Member of the Forum REC-Kyiv
17.00 – 17.30	Discussion, Conclusions
18.00	Dinner