Second Regional Workshop for Europe on "Capacity Building for National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans and Mainstreaming of Biodiversity"

REPORTING ON NBSAP – ROMANIA The Enabling Project of UNDP – GEF Assistance

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INTRODUCTION

- Romania ratifies CBD in 1994, and issues a legal enforcement doc for (Law no. 58);
- Romania's first National Strategy for Biodiversity was elaborated in 1996, and revised in 2001, but never adopted as government policy, through a formal (legal) act; it's been a scientists work;
- The last National Report to CBD, is the Third one/ 2005 developed with UNDP-GEF support;
 - The National Capacity Self Assessment process (2004-2005) also developed under UNDP-GEF assistance, produced: a National Report and Action Plan (for the identified needs); three reports on the three Rio Conventions; and formed the foundation of other official documents, e.g. the National Communication to UNFCCC.
- The current Ministry reference doc is the National Strategy for Sustainable Development/ 2006 also of UNDP-GEF grant.



NEEDS FOR ALIGNMENT

The existing NBSAP is weak and outdated (since 2001), and needs urgent revision and alignment to CBD and national priorities and EU requirements; besides, it is not out of a participatory process, and nor of a governmental endorsement.

There is only the appropriate equipment, and some scattered data-bases, to enable establishing of a comprehensive CHM. The country data that can be provided is limited, and subjective, by lack of technical/ human resources.

There is little and non-formalized cooperation among various stakeholders, there are not enough institutional partnerships established, and the scientific community is insufficiently involved, in supporting country efforts to compliances.

There are not many data sharing agreements established with neighboring countries, and, although, some data is collected and stored, data sharing is hampered by lack of protocols for. **UNDP-GEF NBSAP-ROMANIA/** 3

PROJECT MAIN FEATURES - 1

- TITLE: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and development of CHM - PIMS no. 3955
- SOURCE/ ASSISTANCE: UNDP-GEF Enabling Activities Project - ATLAS #59788
- PERIOD: March 2008 October 2009

PROJECT MAIN FEATURES - 2

• INVOLVED PARTIES:

- GEF Funding Source/ NEX Project
- UNDP Implementation Agency
- Ministry of the Environment Executing Agency
- Ecological University of Bucharest Delegated Executing Agency

• PROJECT TEAM:

- National Steering Committee (MM, MADR, UNDP)
- Project Management Unit (PM + PA)
- International Expert/ TL (Professor Roy Hagen)
- National Key Expert (Professor Dan Manoleli)
- Short Term Experts (13 +)

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To enhance the national capacity to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provisions, through addressing institutional and human capacity gaps, and adopting a more integrated approach to biodiversity conservation.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

Aligning the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligations under the CBD.

Strengthening Romania's CHM.

Undertaking detailed capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority to the CBD implementation.

METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

- Highly participative, through broad consultation of relevant stakeholders.
- Mechanisms of voluntary cooperation will be explored in order to improve the biodiversity related information flow between the institutions.
- Tailor-made training modules will be designed, targeting the key stakeholders responsible with the CBD implementation.

PROJECT PHASES

- Stocktaking, including country priorities
- Strategy and Action Plan elaboration
- CHM setting-up and Training of Operators
- Capacity Needs Assessment Report



CONSULTATIVE ASPECTS

- First and Second National Workshops of relevant Stakeholders participation, on debating the Stocktaking Synthesis, and for the NBSAP Draft;
- Posting, on the relevant professional group forums (e.g. biodiversity_conservation), MM and UNDP sites, other web-pages, of these reference documents;
- Via e-mail calls for feed-back and comments.



PROJECT PROGRESS

- Stocktaking phase Synthesis Report: Threats, Root causes, Barriers to Conservation and potential Strategy Elements (document circulated around);
- Close to preparing the First National Consultative Workshop (June, 26th, 2009);
- On the verge of hiring the consultancy services for the CHM component (TOR for the bid on, posted through June 15th, 2009).

PROJECT CHALLENGES - 1

- PAST:
 - Several political changes of parties representatives;
 - Operational and bureaucratic procedures, of meeting multi-parties and multi-level requirements;
 - Lack of organized and reliable data;
 - Difference of structural approaches of habitat areas, not eco-systemic;
 - Lack of maps of Romania's ecosystems;
 - Gaps, overlaps or confusions in the administrative aspects (Natura 2000, PA)

PROJECT CHALLENGES -2 FUTURE:

- Representativeness of stakeholders to the consultative process, and validity of their possible inputs/ full and effective stakeholders' participation;
- Identification of individual ministries strategically assumed obligations, through accession docs, and their correspondence to CBD requirements;
- Governmental ownership reaching, for the final project outcomes/ ensure adoption of new NBSAP as formal, and long term government policy.

THANK YOU!

Your experience is very precious and most welcome to us, especially since, with the NBSAP and CHM practically still ahead of us, to elaborate, any advice, know-how transfers, or forms of assistance you can provide, and share, could not be any more appropriate then now, for us, to take full benefit of!

Thank you!!!