



IUCN
The World Conservation Union

EU Liaison Office
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Introduction

Welcome to the November update from the IUCN EU Liaison Office (EULO), based at the IUCN Regional Office for Europe in Brussels.

In this edition, we focus on the extension of the Natura 2000 Network as decided by the European Commission this month, on the call for evidence on the economics of the loss of biodiversity, as well as the call for proposals for the ENRTP Programme to be launched by the European Commission before the end of the year. Information on the IUCN's presence at the European Development Days 2007 in Lisbon and on the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Governance Initiative can also be found in this month's update.



Since our last update, the EULO has three new colleagues:

Irina Dragan joined the EU Liaison Office in October as an intern. She is pursuing this internship with EULO to get an insight on the work of IUCN's Regional Office for Europe and its relations with the European institutions.

Alain Lambert has become a part of the EULO team in November as consultant for the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Governance Initiative (PREGI) and for the next months he will be working on the further elaboration of this programme.

Jerôme Petit joined IUCN Regional Office for Europe in October 2007. During the next 6 months, he will write the background paper for the IUCN International Conference on Climate Change and Biodiversity in the EU Overseas Entities (Ile de la Réunion, July 2008).

Extension of the Natura 2000 Network



On 13 November 2007 the European Commission adopted a significant extension of the Natura 2000 network, by adding to the list of Sites of Community Importance 4.255 sites from the newer Member States, amounting to a total area of approximately 90 000 square kilometres.

The four decisions adopted by the Commission concern sites in four biogeographical regions: For the first time, sites in the Pannonian region in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia were added to the list of Sites of Community Importance and existing lists in the Atlantic, Boreal and Continental biogeographical regions were extended.

The Commission also announced to update, by the end of 2007, the Community lists for the Alpine and the Macaronesian bio-geographical regions, as well as the list for the Mediterranean bio-geographical region in January 2008.

For more information, visit [EC's Nature & Biodiversity homepage](#) or contact [Janice Weatherley](#).

ENRTP Call for Proposals 2007 – 2008 expected

The Call for Proposals 2007-2008 for the Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP) is expected to be issued just before the Christmas holidays of this year.

Within the new financial perspectives of the European Union for 2007-2013, the ENRTP replaces the following former programmes in the field of environment: "Tropical Forests and Environment in Developing Countries", LIFE Third Countries and Intelligence Energy Europe – Cooperation on Energy in Developing Countries IEE – COOPENER, which expired at the end of 2006.

The ENRTP will be allocated for projects in the fields of environment, energy, cooperation & development, agriculture-fisheries focusing on dissemination of information, exchange of know-how, technical assistance, and development aid. The regions eligible for funding under the ENRTP are: EU, Candidate countries, ACP Countries, New Independent States and Developing countries.

The submission of proposals is envisaged to take place in 2 stages: First, the European Commission will request the submission of Concept Notes for the applicant projects and afterwards, in a second stage, a reduced number of full project proposals will be requested.

IUCN members will receive an *IUCN Funding Information* once the call is issued.

All existing information on the ENRTP can also be found [here](#).
For more information please contact [Anouska Plasmeijer](#).

Call for evidence on the economics of biodiversity loss



The recent [Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change](#) has made a significant impact on international climate change policies. Inspired by this success, and with a view to the forthcoming Ninth Conference of the Parties (COP9) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in May 2008, the G8+5 environment ministers have asked for an assessment of the economic arguments to conserve biodiversity.

In order to conduct this assessment, the European Commission has asked for evidence on the economics of biodiversity loss. The evidence will be collected during a public consultation and will provide the basis for the Review, to be presented at the COP9 in Bonn, Germany, in May next year.

The European Commission is today asking interested stakeholders in Europe and worldwide, including government, academic, private sector, scientific, NGO and other experts, to submit evidence to the Review. Evidence on all areas related to the annexed terms of reference will be welcomed. The internet-based inquiry will close just after Christmas. More information can be found [here](#).

Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation

As a follow-up to the Paris Conference on Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation, and to implement the message from Paris, IUCN ROFE is elaborating the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Governance Initiative (PREGI) as part of the Conservation for Poverty Reduction Initiative (CPRI) that was launched by IUCN headquarters in 2005.

The aim of PREGI is to improve environmental governance in key countries and regions through EU development cooperation interventions and sustainable development strategies, to better maintain ecosystem services and biodiversity that underpin the livelihoods of the poor. The elaboration of PREGI is an ongoing process. The project will follow a 3-phase approach and will focus on several pilot countries plus one Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). Also regional organisations will be included where it is expected that PREGI can have considerable added value or can bring useful lessons for other countries and for EU policies and procedures.

PREGI will also focus on supporting the European Commission in identifying its own priorities in mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services in the development cooperation strategy while identifying with some Member States ways and means for better addressing ecosystem services in some pilot countries.

The first partners meeting will take place in Brussels in the beginning of December 2007. More information available from: [Jean-Claude Jacques](#).

IUCN at the heart of the European Development Days 2007

From 7-9 November, The European Commission and the Portuguese Presidency organized the second edition of the [European Development Days \(EDD\)](#) in Lisbon. Over 1,000 participants from Europe, Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) as well as major international development organizations exchanged their views on the best possible ways to address climate change issues in developing countries.



As a panelist in a ministerial roundtable on Global Public Goods and Climate Change, Dr. Alice Kaudia, IUCN Regional Director for Eastern Africa, delivered a striking and well received message which you can read [here](#). She pointed out that the international community is not sufficiently listening to Africa's voice while this continent is the most vulnerable to climate change and ecosystems degradation. Africa needs capacity building to access the carbon market and put in place adaptive and low-carbon growth strategies. She insisted that any solution to be adopted should be based on the local knowledge, be affordable and adapted to local technologies. Finally she stressed the importance of raising awareness among the young generations and underlined the need for negotiation training of African representatives in international fora.

The IUCN EU Liaison Office also organised 2 side events: a roundtable on "Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss on the EU's Development Agenda" with participation of the European Commission, CONCORD (European NGO confederation for relief and development), WWF European Policy Office and a presentation of IUCN's Poverty Reduction and

Environmental Governance Initiative (PREGI). This was followed by a presentation of the initiative “Islands and the EU: Facing Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss”. Both side events were well attended and followed by interactive discussions with participants.

IUCN had also a well located booth, which received numerous visitors, many of them not familiar with IUCN but very much interested in its vision and fields of activities. Overall, IUCN's second participation to the European Development Days reinforced its links with the development community, and demonstrated that a growing number of European stakeholders consider biodiversity and climate issues at the heart of development.

For more information please contact: [Anouska Plasmeijer](#).

For more information please contact eu.liaison@iucn.org