



IUCN South-Eastern European e-Bulletin



Photo: IUCN/B.Erg, Pag island and Velebit Mountain, Croatia

Dear Readers,

It is our great pleasure to share with you the Summer issue of the IUCN SEE e-bulletin, a result of close cooperation between IUCN and a broad network of its Members and partners. We do see partnership as one of the key attributes of our work and will continue fostering it. In that spirit, we would like to emphasize an achievement that will mark the future of our region, and to congratulate Croatia for joining the European Union. We believe that this will ensure even more stringent implementation of international standards in nature conservation and serve as a great impetus for all of us working in the region. Join us in congratulating Croatia for its milestone achievement!

Wishing you a pleasant reading!

Boris Erg,
Director of IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe

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UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting



Italy - Mount Etna © IUCN/B. Bertzky

More than 1,400 delegates gathered in the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh for the annual UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting which took place on 16-27 June 2013. They recommended action to tackle major threats to natural World Heritage sites including the Great Barrier Reef in Australia and the Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee followed IUCN's recommendation to inscribe five new natural sites on the World Heritage List: The Namib Sand Sea in Namibia, Mount Etna in Italy, El Pinacate and Grando Desierto de Altar Biosphere Reserve in Mexico, Xinjiang Tianshan in China and the Tajik National Park in the Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan. This brings the total number of natural places demanding the highest levels of international protection to 222. Tajik National Park is the first natural World Heritage Site in Tajikistan, and covers almost one fifth of the country.

The protection of existing World Heritage sites should be the Convention's highest priority, according to IUCN. Support, including the available finance, for World Heritage sites in danger should be increased significantly, the advisory body said. IUCN raised its concern that a large and increasing number of natural sites around the world remain under pressure from a wide range of threats, in particular from industrial extractive activities, poaching and wildlife trafficking and large-scale infrastructure projects such as roads and hydroelectric projects.



2013 State of Conservation reports discussed at the 37th World Heritage Committee Meeting are accessible under http://iucn.org/about/work/programmes/wcpa_worldheritage/our_work/monitoring/conservation_reports/2013_reports/

The full list of this year's Committee decisions can be downloaded from <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/37COM/decisions/>

IUCN is the advisory body to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee on nature. Working closely with the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), IUCN's World Heritage Programme evaluates sites nominated to the World Heritage List, monitors the conservation state of listed sites, promotes the Convention as a leading global conservation tool, and provides support, advice and training to site managers, governments, scientists and local communities.

ProtectedPlanet.net is the online interface for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), a joint project of IUCN and UNEP, and the most comprehensive global database on terrestrial and marine protected areas. www.protectedplanet.net



China – Xinjiang Tianshan © IUCN/P.Galland

1. Ten years of European Green Belt



BUND Project Office Green Belt

The 10th Anniversary of the European Green Belt Initiative was celebrated in May 2013 in Berlin, Germany. The two-day event started with an official ceremony in the premises of the German Ministry for the Environment. The ceremony was attended by several ministers, ambassadors and other high-level representatives of the 24 adjacent states of the Green Belt. The Green Belt award was handed over to the official representatives of each country to acknowledge the commitment in the last ten years. The prize was awarded by BUND and EuroNatur on behalf of the Coordination Group of the European Green Belt Initiative.

Several of the attending representatives underlined the political will to strengthen their support of the pan-European initiative in the future: an official Joint Declaration of Intent was signed by ten states, three of them from the Balkan Green Belt. A number of other Green Belt countries announced to sign the declaration in the next months.

The anniversary celebrations were followed by the 7th Pan-European Green Belt Conference. Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment, welcomed the participants via video message and pointed out the great potential of the European Green Belt for building a green Infrastructure across the continent. In the course of the conference achievements and best practices in the different sections of the Green Belt have been presented. Future challenges and perspectives of the European Green Belt Initiative were discussed. Both events were financially supported the German Environmental Ministry and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and jointly organized with EuroNatur and BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany).

For more information please contact Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur at anne.katrin.heinrichs@euronatur.org.

2. Hutovo Blato Day



WWF MedPO

On the occasion of Hutovo Blato Day, a yearly event organised by WWF and local NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, WWF ran a Protected Areas Benefits Assessment (PA-BAT) workshop. The aim of the workshop was the assessment of social and environmental benefits provided by protected areas, in this case Nature Park Hutovo Blato.

PA-BAT workshops are realized through the filling out of a special questionnaire and by collecting information about the values and benefits of protected areas where the workshop takes place. The identified benefits are then used to promote and raise awareness of the population about the importance of protected areas, support decision making and management of protected areas.

The analysis of Hutovo Blato shows that it is one of the most productive ecosystems in the country. It distinguishes from other areas due to the quantity and quality of services it provides. Indeed it offers a wide range of jobs and services to local communities, from water purification and flood prevention to fisheries, eco-tourism, etc.

The WWF's methodology has already been used to assess the benefits of some of the most important the protected areas in Croatia and is now starting to be used in all the region of Dinaric Arc, with next workshops being organized in Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.

For more information contact Bojan Stojanovic, WWF Med PO at bstojanovic@wwf.panda.org.

3. Cross Border Cooperation in the Carpathians



M.Quinn

The 2nd Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) Conference held in the High Tatras Region, Slovakia, 23-26 April 2013 included a half-day workshop entitled “Protected Area Management Planning with a Focus on Cross-Border Cooperation.” The workshop was organized by Tomasz Pezold, IUCN SEE and included presentations on transboundary collaboration by international experts: M.Quinn (Canada), A.Lang (Austria), E.Zajac (Poland) and M.Komlós (Hungary).

Approximately 20 participants representing 10 different countries and more than a dozen protected areas discussed current initiatives and needs for improvement of transboundary cooperation across the CNPA. Excellent examples of formal arrangements between countries were mentioned, but also cases where manager-to-manager communications lead to cooperation in the absence of formal agreements.

Ongoing engagement through a Carpathian network was seen as essential to create and communicate common messages and to share the costs and benefits of cooperation. The CNPA serves as an ideal mechanism to develop, promote and implement innovative forms of governance.

For more information please contact Michael Quinn, Institute for Environmental Sustainability at mquinn@mtroyal.ca or Tomasz Pezold, IUCN SEE at Tomasz.pezold@iucn.org.

4. Balancing Alpine energy and nature



K.Brockmann

The Alps have great potential for the use of renewable energy. Thereby they can make a contribution to mitigating climate change. This, however, means increasing pressures on nature. What could be the impact of such changes on the habitats of animals and plants? How do they affect land use and soil quality? How much renewable energy can reasonably be used? 16 partners within the project recharge.green develop strategies and tools for decision-making on such issues. The analysis and

comparison of the costs and benefits of renewable energy, ecosystem services, and potential trade-offs is a key component in this process.

Common project activities regarding sustainable renewable energy production and use will be tested and implemented in six project pilot areas, among which there are two protected areas: the Triglav National Park in Slovenia and the Maritime Alps Nature Park in Italy. First results will be offered to the public at an international conference from 12 to 13 November in Brig, Switzerland, where they will be discussed by experts and decision-makers. Furthermore, workshops are planned to be held in Budapest and Barcelona for the project results dissemination and the knowledge **exchange with the mountainous areas** of the Carpathians and the Pyrenees.

The project will last from October 2012 to June 2015 and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund in the Alpine Space Programme.

For more information please contact Chris Walzer, Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology, University of Veterinary Medicine at viennachris.walzer@fiwi.at or visit www.recharge-green.eu.

5. Marine Protected Areas in Croatia



IUCN

A national workshop on Marine Protected Areas (MPA) was organized in Zagreb, Croatia by the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (UNEP/MAP – RAC/SPA) the IUCN Center for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med) and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (IUCN ELC) in June 2013.

The objective of this workshop was to review and discuss with national stakeholders, experts and NGOs the findings of the study regarding the legal and institutional framework for the establishment of marine protected areas in the country and then to examine options for improving the declaration and management of marine protected areas, including participatory mechanisms. This study was conducted under the MedMPAnet Project – Regional Project for the Development of a Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs) Network through the boosting of MPA Creation and Management (medmpanet.rac-spa.org).

The workshop was attended by 20 representatives from the central and local administrations (environment and tourism) and NGOs. Participants discussed preliminary documents and proposed modifications and additional elements to be included in the final version and edited by the end of the year. Similar activities are conducted in Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia Herzegovina.

For more details please contact Souha El Asmi, Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas at souha.asmi@rac-spa.org, Alain Jeudy de Grissac, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation at Alain.jeudy@iucn.org or Sarah Lucas, IUCN - Environmental Law Centre at Sarah.lucas@iucn.org.

6. Network for Nature Conservation in Albania active!



INCA

The Institute for Nature Conservation (INCA) established a non-governmental Network for Nature Conservation, in the frame of the project “Support for Environmental Civil Society Organisations in Albania (SENIOR-A)”, implemented by REC Albania and financed by the Swedish Agency SIDA. The network consists of 6 local NGOs operating all over Albania, while INCA has a leading role.

This network aims to: (i) strengthen and enhance the collaboration among NGOs working in the field of nature conservation; (ii) increase the management capacity of the NGO members of the network; (iii) support better management of protected areas and improve their actual situation; (iv) increase information exchange and awareness on nature protection. The network operates through specific activities, and will be active through joint meetings where responsibilities and obligations would be discussed. The first network meeting held in May approved the internal regulation, agreed to start to publish the electronic monthly journal Ditari i Natyres/Nature Daybook aiming to share information within the network. The action plan until the end of the year was also approved.

For more information please contact Marinela Mitro, INCA at marinela_mitro@yahoo.com.

7. Olm conservation



Olm (*Proteus anguinus*) is one of the very rare European vertebrate species, and the only amphibian species, who has managed to adapt to cave environment. It is only found in the area of the Dinaric karst, where it is a native endemic species, spreading from north-eastern Italy, through southern Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. According to IUCN Red list it is a vulnerable species, but its conservation status is very poorly known due to its inaccessible habitats.

The aim of this project was to improve the baseline information which is necessary to conduct strategic conservation action planning for the olm in locations across its range in Croatia, whilst raising general awareness among relevant stakeholders and local communities to facilitate future conservation projects. During the two years of project we established olm monitoring in four cave systems that are visited four times a year to estimate a population size. Detection of DNA is used in the inaccessible cave systems to confirm olm presence. During the project we established captive breeding and recovery centre in Zagreb ZOO where 20 olms are being rehabilitated.

The project is carried out by Croatian herpetological society-Hyla in cooperation with State Institute for Nature Protection, Faculty of veterinary medicine at the University of Zagreb, Autonomous Diving Club Society and Hungarian Nature History Museum. The program is supported by the Mava foundation, Zoological Society of London and The Mohamed bin Zayed species conservation fund.

For more information please contact Dušan Jelić, Croatian Herpetological Society-Hyla at jelic.dusan@gmail.com.

8. Sustainable Development Initiatives



On 4 June 2013, 11 organizations and associations, municipal officials and other local and international guests gathered to Peja, Kosovo, to a closing conference of Sustainable Development Initiatives. These initiatives, implemented in Rugova mountain region in Western Kosovo in 2012-2013, were supported by Environmentally Responsible Action (ERA) group with over 45,000 euros through small grants.

The Sustainable Development Initiatives Small Grant program is part of the initiative “Sustainable Alpine Development in Kosovo through Civil Society Development, Sustainable Mountains Education Centre and Rural Initiatives”. The initiative is funded by Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and it is implemented by ERA group in partnership with Connecting Nature, Values & People.

Initiatives were various in size, focus and approach, and included construction, marking and mapping of trails, reforestation and nature preservation, environmental awareness raising, preserving cultural heritage, cataloguing flora and fauna of the mountains. A local hunters’ association initiated actions to protect vulnerable wildlife from illegal hunting. In the conference the results of 11 projects were presented, ERA group featured a 20-minute documentary film about the work of the Initiatives, and revealed a booklet with case studies of each Initiative.

For more information please visit <http://eradirect.org/sustainable-alpine-development.html>

9. Photo exhibition “On the verge of extinction”



J. Carlos Munoz

Biodiversity – the magic of our Planet was celebrated once more on 22 May. WWF has joined the world celebration by opening the photo exhibition “On the verge of extinction” in three cities in Serbia – Novi Sad, Niš and Vršac. The exhibition showed globally the most endangered species and ecosystems and the major threats they are facing.

Ever-growing human population and demand for natural resources is putting a tremendous pressure on biodiversity. In the past few decades biodiversity loss got to an alarming level primarily caused by human activities. Today one quarter of all mammal species are endangered, every third amphibian species and one in eight bird species are on the verge of extinction. We have to understand that ecosystems and biodiversity are the foundation of the world economy and that lives of billions of people directly depend on forests, oceans, wetlands. Over exploitation of the planet’s natural resources is the biggest threat to biodiversity, but to human well-being as well.

For more information please contact Sonja Badjura, WWF DCP at sbadjura@wwfdcp.org.

10. International Biodiversity Day in Albania



INCA

On 22 May, the International Day for Biological Diversity, the Institute of Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA) with the Nature Conservation Network, other local NGOs and the community representatives organized a peaceful demonstration in one of the most damaged areas of the Lake Ohrid. Its degradation is caused by the reconstruction of the road near the lake shoreline.

More than 12 km of shoreline is polluted with the cement structure and inert materials. This action intended to raise a voice against the inappropriate management of the Lake Ohrid, affected by the reconstruction and expansion of a national highway. It is reducing the surface of habitat and deteriorating water quality by discharging debris into the lake. The lake shows biodiversity loss due to the overfishing and the use of ineffective practices. Simultaneously, the Albanian institutions are trying to designate the Albanian part of the lake as Natural Heritage. This action got good coverage on local and national TV stations.

For more information Marinela Mitro, INCA at marinela_mitro@yahoo.com.

11. Unusual Edelweiss



V.Kovchev

Edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum* Cass.), the tourists’ favourite flower of Central Balkan National Park, now has a different appearance. Its subspecies from central part of Balkan Mountains (Bulg. Stara Planina) can be found in the region of Mazalat Peak and Kozya stena Peak. It usually inhabits subalpine and alpine zones of Bulgaria, but here in many places it is found in low forest areas such as those in Sokolna Reserve, with altitude only 1000 m.

Unlike the typical species, the local subspecies or Balkan Edelweiss is distinguished by elegant, up to 35 cm tall stem. It grows mainly on limestone glades in forested belt of beech and fir. Soft silky hairs covering the plant are fewer and greener than those of other Edelweiss subspecies. Interestingly enough, plants

crowned with 2 or 3 inflorescences on a stem have been found in the Central Balkan. Edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum* Cass.) is listed endangered by the IUCN Red List. It is protected by the Bulgarian Biodiversity Act and included in the Red Book of Bulgaria. Locals also call it Balkan star and Lion foot, and its image is the symbol of the Bulgarian Tourist Union.

For more information please contact Diana Terzieva at did@centralbalkan.bg.

12. New researches in Biokovo Nature Park



M. Drakšić

Public Institution Biokovo Nature Park is, in collaboration with Association BIOM, working on a research of Balkan Snow Vole (*Dinaromys bogdanovi*), endemic and relict species of the Western Balkans. This small rodent is a species of high conservation importance and strictly protected according to Croatian law. It is listed as DD in the Red Data Book of Mammals of Croatia whilst it is VU according to the IUCN Red List. Croatia successfully proposed its addition to the Annexes of Habitats Directive. Biokovo Mt. is a species stronghold in the middle of its Croatian range thus the area was chosen for the pilot research. Eight research plots were selected using GIS analysis, and camera traps were placed in each of them. In this way, species distribution and abundance can be determined and monitored in a non-invasive way.

Same collaborators started the research of Ortolan Bunting (*Emberiza hortulana*) and Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). Biokovo Nature park is qualified as IBA because of those two species. Unfortunately, locally present steep decrease in Ortolan population and low reproductive success of Golden Eagle is raising conservation concerns. Ortolan Bunting is surveyed by mapping of territorial males in May and the Golden Eagle is surveyed year-round. Both species survey is done within the monitoring programme.

For more information please contact Ivana Gabrić, Public Institution Biokovo Nature Park at ivana.gabric@biokovo.com or Ivan Budinski and Ivana Selanec, Association BIOM at ivan.budinski@gmail.com and ivanaselanec@gmail.com.

13. My Green School visits Gornje Podunavlje



WWF/Coca Cola

Within the Arctic Home campaign launched in February this year, WWF in partnership with Coca-Cola has organized a school competition named “My green school”. Students and teachers from 22 schools have submitted their art work showing their vision of how their school can become more sustainable and support the global climate change challenges and solutions.

Students from Novi Sad Primary school „Branko Radičević“ and Belgrade High school „Nada Dimić“ have submitted the most inspiring vision, and shared the 1st prize – excursion to Special Nature Reserve “Gornje Podunavlje”. Solar panels and wind mills, green walls, water purification systems, a school garden with organic fruit and vegetable, waste separation system, a green roof and students biking to school – is how they imagine their school. The jury was impressed by the students’ knowledge on climate change, sustainable solutions and their creativity.

In SNR “Gornje Podunavlje” the students have visited the project site “Štrbac” where wetland restoration is taking place in order to provide vital habitat for the Danube’s rich flora and fauna. Students could learn about the project, the value and importance of wetlands, most endangered species of the nature reserve and as well learn about some traditional handcrafts of the local community in Bački Monoštor.

For more information please contact Sonja Badjura, WWF DCP at sbadjura@wwfdcp.org.

14. The Bojcin Forest status



M. Vukelic

Beginning of 2013, Secretariat for environmental protection of the City of Belgrade initiated legal procedure for the protection of the Bojcin Forest, one of the most beautiful natural areas in the city. This forest is located in South of Srem district, in the area of the alluvial plain of the Sava River. One of its greatest values is the oasis of the pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*). More than 185 flora species are registered in this area and 15 plants have the status of protected or strictly protected species. The forest is a habitat for more than 108 bird species, being around 30 % of all bird species in Serbia, while 86 of them have the status of strictly protected fauna species.

The Bojčin Forest is the habitat of numerous herbal species, such as ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*), wild strawberries (*Fragaria vesca*) and nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Sixty mammal species live in this forest, the most common being badger (*Meles meles*), roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*). This natural area has a great potential for eco-tourism, and development of activities such as hunting and fishing.

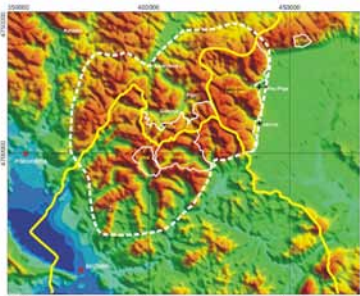
For more information please contact Tomislav Adzic, Secretariat for environmental protection at tomislav.adzic@yahoo.com.

15. Green Fest calls for entries



Short and amateur environmental film authors from around the world can apply for screening on 4th International Green Culture Festival "GREEN FEST", until 11 October. Festival is being held under the slogan "Four colours of Green" 13-15 November 2013 in Dom omladine Beograd, Serbia. The list of the selected films will be announced on official web page of the festival - www.greenfest.rs, where all the necessary information regarding the Call can be found. Organizer - Environment Improvement Centre conducts the festival with the support of City of Belgrade Environmental Protection Secretariat and Vip mobile company and in cooperation with Dom omladine Beograd.

16. Balkans Peace Park Project



The legal development of formal adjoining nature parks in Kosovo (UN1244) and Montenegro (Bjeshket e Nemuna/Prokeltije) is a huge step towards the Balkans Peace Park (B3P) Project's vision: a transboundary park protecting the mountain chain in three countries. The missing link is Albania, where B3P has been most active with Summer Programmes in four villages. Two small parks (not contiguous) in Thethi (Shala Valley) and Valbona (Tropoja) have existed largely only on paper since 1990s. The objective would be to revive these parks and connect them to those along

the border of Kosovo (UN1244) and Montenegro. In collaboration with UNEP and following IUCN guidelines, a new map shows how it would look.

The legislative frame setting in Albania will enable formal discussions between the three countries on common policies and cross-border collaboration. The 190 km long circular trekking trail 'Peaks of the Balkans' symbolically unites the three countries with new access points and border crossings (necessary police permission to cross the borders needed). A number of events are planned to promote the B3P idea, such as tree-planting, trekking and Earth Day festivals and to further motivate the authorities in Tirana, to make moves towards a trans-boundary protected area.

For more information please contact Peter Spafford at peter.spafford@ntlworld.com.

17. Albanian Network for the Vjosa/Aoos ecomuseum



INCA

The third project coordination meeting was held in Përmet (Albania), in the frame of the VAEcoM project, and organized by INCA in cooperation with the Forest Service Directorate in Përmet and the Greek partners Med-INA and Pindos Perivallontiki. Project partners have agreed on the final version of the proposed scenario for building up the routes of the ecomuseum. Four thematic routes (two in Greece and two in Albania) are identified, and the respective subthemes are consolidated and agreed upon. Targeted researches undertaken till now have created a body of knowledge on the main natural and cultural heritage of the Vjosa/Aoos river area and will serve as the basis for the Vjosa/Aoos ecomuseum guides.

To assure the institutional support to the ecomuseum, a MoU for the establishment of Albanian network for the Vjosa/Aoos ecomuseum was launched and signed. Its members are the representatives of the local authorities in the area (municipalities and communes), local NGOs and other local operators and academic experts from the region. The Multifunctional Centre of Përmet Municipality was agreed to be the Entry Point Centre for the Vjosa/Aoos ecomuseum in Albania. In the coming months another Joint MoU between networks in Albania and Greece will be discussed aiming to manage and develop further jointly the ecomuseum in both countries.

For more information please visit www.vjosa-aoos-ecomuseum.eu



The Project is co-funded by the European Union and by National Funds of Greece & Albania under the IPA Cross-Border PROGRAMME "Greece - Albania 2007-2013"



18. The business case for sustainability

On 21 May WWF organized a panel discussion in cooperation with Coca-Cola, Delhaiza Group, IKEA and Telenor, on "The business case for sustainability - Why companies should care about sustainability and how they might benefit from it". Many companies rely on natural resources like timber, water, metals, fossil fuels and their activities can have a significant impact on the environment. But businesses are not only part of the problem, on the contrary – with their innovative way of thinking and their power they also



WWF

have the potential to be a part of the solution. WWF is increasingly working with large corporations by developing Conservation Partnership which is designed to improve the sustainability of a specific supply chain, to reduce the companies' environmental footprint and encourage change and innovative solutions.

Our aim was to bring together various companies to share their experience in sustainable business, and to connect them with journalists and CSOs. After a short introduction given by WWF participants could rotate moving between tables and talk directly to representatives of the 4 companies and WWF. Topics covered in the round table were Water replenishment (by Coca-Cola & WWF), Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable forestry (by IKEA & WWF), Energy and recycling (by Telenor & WWF) and Marine Stewardship Council and Sustainable products (by Delhaize Group & WWF).

For more information please contact Sonja Badjura, WWF DCP at sbadjura@wwfdcp.org.

19. Blue-green Belgrade



Environmental Improvement Center

Natural resources of Belgrade and its surroundings and the environment were again the center of attention through the "Blue-green Belgrade" campaign, organized by the Environmental Improvement Center on Saturday, 25 May, in the park Tasmajdan. Belgrade was the first city in the world that has introduced an urban protected natural areas with the use of "augmented reality" technology, and the organizers invited the public to come to the park Tasmajdan and learn about the innovative platform "Blue-green map". The platform is comprised of web portal www.bgmap.rs and applications for smart devices made in "the augmented reality" technology.

Visitors had the opportunity to win interesting "green" prizes by participating in the quiz, which was prepared as part of the action. Campaign "Blue-green Belgrade" is a continuation of promotion of Belgrade's natural resources, raising awareness on the importance of protecting and preserving the natural resources of Belgrade, and contribution to the activities foreseen in the "Strategy of forestation of wider area of Belgrade."

"Blue-green Belgrade" campaign was held with the assistance of the Secretariat for Environmental Protection of the City of Belgrade, the Telenor Foundation and the support of the Faculty of Forestry, University of Belgrade and Belgrade Tourist Organization.

20. Arca-Net



Arca-Net, an online network of places that have traditional livestock breeds and cultivated plants to show to the general public, helps you to find out where you can experience the diversity of our varieties and breeds. Arca-Net presents to you over 600 Ark centres spread throughout 46 countries in Europe. With the search tool you can also look for holidays on the farm or a particular plant category or animal species. Arca-Net offers additional information on traditional livestock breeds, their distribution, degree of endangerment and their history.

Visit www.arca-net.info

21. New Sign of Nature Protection in Kosovo



On 20 May 2013 the Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning signed the Administrative Instruction No. 07/2013 on the Sign of Nature Protection, selected through a public competition. The Instruction determines the appearance of the nature protection sign and procedures and conditions for its use and bearing. It also specified the procedure required for issuing a permit and describes the register of issued permits that should be kept. The purpose of issuing the nature protection sign is to promote and ensure nature protection, and to support the work of inspectors and supervisors responsible for inspection and monitoring in this field.

For more information please contact Ismail Hetemaj at ihetemajmm@hotmail.com.

To access the list of major global conservation events please visit http://iucn.org/about/work/programmes/wcpa_worldheritage/events_presentations/

1. Secrets of the Underground



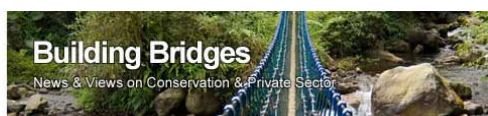
B. Jajić

The book *Secrets of the Underground (Tajne podzemlja)* was published by the Public Institute of Krka National Park in April 2013 and presented at the Juraj Šižgorić Library in Šibenik, Croatia.

The Krka River is a karst river with an uninterrupted course from its spring to its mouth, and as such represents a geological phenomenon. Its canyons, lake-like sections and waterfalls make it unique in comparison to other rivers of the Adriatic basin. There are 65 speleological structures in the NP Krka, the most prominent of which is the Miljacka 2 cave, the largest topographically mapped cave in the park with a studied length of 2800m. To date, 130 taxa have been recorded in the speleological structures in NP Krka and the area surrounding the course of the Krka River. All subterranean fauna is protected by law, under the Nature Protection Act. The Krka National Park area abounds in various types of subterranean habitats in which biospeleological investigations are yet to be undertaken. The research conducted to date indicates high diversity of the living world, with several very importance and rare taxa. Thus far, several taxa previously unknown to science have been discovered and described.

For more information please contact Katia Župan, Krka National Park at katia.zupan@npk.hr.

2. Cross-Sector Initiative and Collaborations



The new IUCN “Building Bridges” Newsletter focuses on Cross-sector initiatives and collaborations, whose importance is rapidly increased in an interconnected and globalized

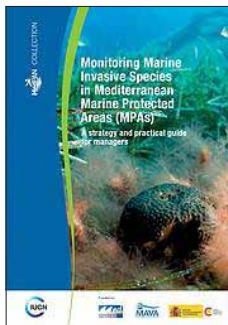
world. Linking the work of business with the public sector and civil society can promote a more reliable and resilient environment for sustainable development and nature conservation. IUCN can bring science and cross-sectoral thinking and solutions to complex and controversial conservation issues. To access the newsletter please visit http://www.iucn.org/knowledge/news/newsletters/building_bridges/june_2013.cfm?sType=email_version

3. TB eNEWS



The 7th issue of TB eNEWS, an electronic bulletin prepared by IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, can be downloaded from the website www.tbpa.net or accessed here <http://www.tbpa.net/newsletters/9/TBeNEWS-no7.pdf>.

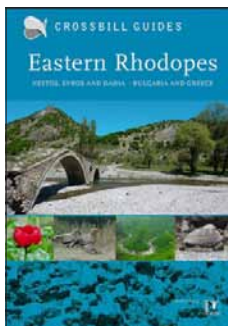
4. Fight sea invaders in the Mediterranean



The new guide by the IUCN, *Monitoring Marine Invasive Species in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas*, introduces the most dangerous invasive marine fauna and flora and pinpoints towards best management options to control and eradicate them.

Visit <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2013-008.pdf>

5. Eastern Rhodopes



The Crossbill Guides Series published the nature travel guidebook to cover the region of the Eastern Rhodopes on the border of Bulgaria and Greece. *Eastern Rhodopes* covers this wild, rugged mountain range in Bulgaria together with the adjacent National Park of Dadia, the Evros Delta and the Nestos Delta in Greece. This book describes the flora and fauna, landscape and traditional land use of this region, plus 18 detailed routes and many sites descriptions with concrete indications on where and how to find the birds, wildlife and flora.

Visit http://www.nhbs.com/title.php?bkfno=197538&ad_id=1508

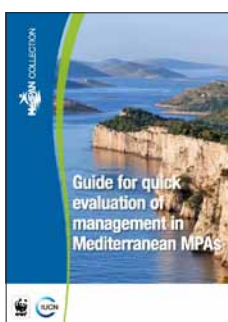
6. Amphibians of the Eastern Europe, Part 1: Order Caudata



This publication is concerned with the distribution, abundance, behavior, life history and modern taxonomic of the caudate amphibians of Eastern Europe. It is based on an extensive and comprehensive analysis of field studies, collections from the world's largest zoological museums, and the scientific literature. A detailed key for the determination of family, genus and species is provided along with an assortment of original photographs this group. Intended for a general audience it is published in English and Ukrainian.

Visit http://www.nhbs.com/title.php?bkfno=206024&ad_id=1508

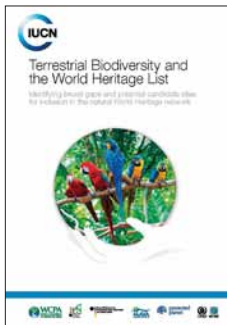
7. Guide for quick evaluation of management in MPAs



According to a recent survey conducted by the MedPAN Association in over 80 Mediterranean marine protected areas (MPA) more than half of them did not yet have a management plan for the sites and 75% of the Natura 2000 sites (in EU countries) still did not have a management body. In order to reinforce the effectiveness of Mediterranean marine protected areas and to achieve a more unified approach, the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation and WWF-Italy have worked in with MPA managers to create an inclusive yet synthetic tool to assess MPA management.

Visit <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2013-018.pdf>

8. Terrestrial biodiversity and the World Heritage List



The World Heritage List includes 156 properties explicitly recognized for their outstanding biodiversity values, which together represent the world's major ecosystems. However, some areas with outstanding biodiversity values are still not part of this network of 'biodiversity World Heritage sites'. To address this issue, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC have developed a global thematic study, with a focus on the terrestrial realm. The study updates previous analyses and identifies broad gaps as well as potentially outstanding biodiversity sites that may merit World Heritage listing. Visit <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2013-016.pdf>

9. Advance Albania Newsletter out



Albanian nature revealed! IUCN's project in Albania brings exciting results: hidden cameras show the rich wildlife of Shebenik-Jabllanicë National Park: a brown bear, a wolf, a red fox, badgers, a wild cat, a European hare and a wild boar. The camera trapping results will

be used for management plan development for this protected area. Check this photo gallery and read the latest project news in the newsletter:

<http://us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=c5259cf7e7cec92720f168f68&id=4c09ad00f2&e=>

1. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ online



IUCN has partnered with ConservationTraining (online learning resource that provides high-quality educational content on a broad set of conservation issues) to develop a free online training course on assessing species' extinction risk using the IUCN Red List methodology. The first two modules of the Red List training course have now been released:

- Module 1 – An introduction to the IUCN Red List and an opportunity to learn how Red List data are used to inform and catalyse conservation action,
- Module 2 – Information on the IUCN Red List assessment including a description of the process of publishing the assessments on the IUCN Red List.

More modules will be released soon, and accessible on the ConservationTraining website <https://www.conservationtraining.org>. For more information on Red List Training (the online course and more) see the Red List Training pages on the [IUCN Red List website](#).

2. Frogleaps for sustainable development



Frogleaps offers actionable intelligence to jump-start change strategies with marketing expertise. The new web platform supports professionals who help implement international agreements on biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development. Frogleaps provides free e-learning courses, tools, blogs and cases. The initiators Frits Hesselink and Peter Paul van Kempen are passionate about social change for sustainable development and are dedicated to share their expertise.

The first course now available on www.frogleaps.org is Strategic communication. IUCN CEC is the first partner to endorse Frogleaps.

3. World Wilderness Congress (WWC)

WILD10  **MAKE THE WORLD A WILDER PLACE**
10TH WORLD WILDERNESS CONGRESS • 4-10 OCTOBER 2013 • SALAMANCA, SPAIN

Involving up to 1200 delegates from over 50 nations, with an estimated

30,000 on-line, WILD10 is focused on state-of-the-art information, inspiration, and practical, positive results in policy, protected areas, economics, business, communications, and more. The WCC will convene 4-10 October in Spain to "Make the World a Wilder Place." With a significant history of accomplishments, the WWC is the world's longest-running, international, public project and process for wild nature and human society. WILD10's collaborative process was invited to Europe by the Spanish Government, the European Commission, and a host of conservation NGOs.

Visit <http://wild10.org/en/>

1. Terra Viva Grants Directory



This global database provides information about international grant funding for agriculture, energy, environment, and natural resources in the developing world. They focus on grant makers (donors) serving the developing world. The website is mostly used by people searching for financial support of their work as individuals or as organizations. Grant makers included in the Terra Viva Grants Directory range from funders of community projects to funders of science and research. For more information please visit: www.terravivagrants.org.

Guidelines for contributing to the IUCN SEE e-Bulletin

IUCN welcomes articles in which you report on the activities related to transboundary cooperation in protected areas and biodiversity conservation. Please inform the public on the status of your projects and actions, as well as events that you attended. You are welcome to announce new meetings and workshops, briefly report on new publications and announce funding opportunities. Please send a photo to accompany your article if appropriate and indicate your email and/or weblink for further reference.

The articles should be 150-250 words in length. Please note this as the interest to distribute news articles through the bulletin is extremely high and we are trying to secure space for all of you to contribute. The editors reserve the right to shorten and modify the text if necessary. Thank you for taking these guidelines into consideration!



Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, is the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization, with more than 1,200 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. IUCN's European region covers the European continent, Russia and Central Asia, and includes the European Union overseas entities. IUCN Programme Office for South Eastern Europe promotes improved governance of natural resources and biodiversity, and supports initiatives to conserve biodiversity and manage ecosystems for human well-being. Working closely with IUCN Members and Commissions, it shapes regional policy and supports two flagship initiatives: Dinaric Arc Initiative and European Green Belt.

www.iucn.org/southeasterneurope

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For the purpose of this publication, the name Kosovo is used to refer to the territory under the UNSCR 1244 and the name Macedonia is used to refer to The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The bulletin may point to other internet sites that may be of interest to you, however the IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe does not endorse or take responsibility for the content of such pages. The information in this bulletin is provided free-of-charge; therefore you agree by receiving it that this disclaimer is reasonable.

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NORWEGIAN EMBASSY

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