



***PAN-EUROPEAN BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE
DIVERSITY STRATEGY***

Geneva and Strasbourg, 9 September 2005

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**BUREAU OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN
BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY STRATEGY**

Twelfth meeting
16 September 2005
Palais des Nations, Geneva

Fundraising and Budget for the Conference

*Document prepared by
the Joint Secretariat for PEBLDS*

Project Proposal

UNEP Sub-Programme and Programme element:	Regional Office for Europe (Biodiversity)
Title of Project:	Fourth Intergovernmental <i>Biodiversity in Europe</i> Conference
Geographical Scope:	Western Europe, Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
Co-operating Agency/ Supporting Organization	UNEP/Regional Office for Europe in cooperation with the Council of Europe, European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC) and other relevant NGOs
Duration of the Project:	Commencing: September 2005 Completion: April 2006
Project Co-ordinator:	Ms. Ivonne Higuero Programme Officer UNEP Regional Office for Europe Telephone: (4122) 917 8395; Fax: (4122) 797 3420

Project Summary:

Background:

The first, second and third Biodiversity in Europe conferences, in Riga, Budapest and Madrid respectively, were considered successful as they fully achieved their main objective of establishing closer links between the Pan European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Further to enhancing the complementarities between the two intergovernmental processes in the pan European region, the conferences also have provided a forum for the regional preparation for the Meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. Governments are able to discuss the priority issues of the CBD and shape the positions that will eventually be taken at the Meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Another important aspect of the Conferences is that they encourage and support the participation of countries from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia so they may be able to provide their input in the decision-making processes of the PEBLDS and the CBD.

At the 5th Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, the ministers participating in the PEBLDS process adopted the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity with the primary objective to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. This decision further underlines the importance of the Biodiversity in Europe conferences and the discussions on the status of implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity will bring an added value to the debate regarding the implementation of the CBD, its Strategic Plan and the agreed target to halt the loss of biodiversity by the year 2010. The status of implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity will also be reported on at the 6th *Environment for Europe* Ministerial Conference in Belgrade in 2007.

At the 9th PEBLDS Council meeting in March 2005, the draft agenda for the next Biodiversity in Europe Conference was presented including the themes for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. The PEBLDS Council adopted the draft agenda for the 4th Biodiversity in Europe Conference and agreed that background papers would be prepared for the following CBD priority themes for Europe:

- Island biodiversity;
- Global taxonomy initiative;
- Education and public awareness;
- Progress in implementation towards the 2010 target.

Proposal:

UNEP and the Council of Europe propose to hold the Fourth Intergovernmental *Biodiversity in Europe* Conference in February 2006 in order to make the pan European input to the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Curitiba, Brazil, 20-31 March 2006). UNEP and the Council of Europe are committed to assisting the governments in the implementation of the CBD, the PEBLDS and the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity in the pan European region. However, funding is needed from the Governments of the region to be able to organize successfully the Fourth Intergovernmental *Biodiversity in Europe* Conference. Adequate funding is essential for the period between September 2005 and April 2006 to be able to make the preparations, both logistical and substantive, for the Conference, as well as prepare the inputs from the pan European region to the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (CBD-COP8). Secondly, the preparation of papers and documentation for the meetings, the organization of preparatory meetings and the participation of NGOs and countries from the Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia also require funding. Finally, a number of side events should be organised in collaboration with partner NGOs both at the Biodiversity in Europe Conference and the CBD-COP8 to illustrate the biodiversity activities taking place in the region. UNEP has therefore prepared this proposal to be submitted to all the European Governments so that they may consider providing the funds needed to carry out the relevant activities during this period. The European countries are requested to assist UNEP and the Council of Europe in ensuring that the Conference will:

1. Provide a forum for the exchange of views on priority issues of the agenda of the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD with a pan European perspective.
2. Enhance a common pan European understanding on these priority issues to be able to provide an input in the decision-making process at the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.
3. Provide the recommendations from the pan European region to be reported on at the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.
4. Initiate the discussions on the status of implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity to report on at the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD as well as in preparation for the 6th *Environment for Europe* Ministerial Conference in Belgrade in 2007.

A three and a half day conference would allow sufficient time for:

- A high level opening session.
- Regional preparatory discussions for CBD COP8 to be held in Curitiba, Brazil in March 2006.
- Initial discussions on the status of implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity for the Sixth Ministerial Environment for Europe Conference in Belgrade in 2007.

Activities:

1. Organise the preparatory meetings to review and discuss the organization of the conference as well as the preparation and review of the background documents.

2. Organise the Fourth Intergovernmental *Biodiversity in Europe* Conference for February 2006 and the high level opening session with representatives of the Presidency of the European Union, the European Commission, the Secretariat of the CBD, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Council of Europe and eminent personalities from the environmental and productive sectors of the region.
3. Coordinate the cooperation with, and the participation of, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations such as the Secretariat of the CBD, the European Commission, ECNC, IUCN, Eco-Forum and others.
4. Prepare discussion papers focused on selected key issues of the CBD COP8 agenda of common pan European concern, in agreement with the decision of the PEBLDS Council and with the participation of key PEBLDS governments.
5. Prepare reports in collaboration with governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations on the status of implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity in the pan European region.
6. Translate and print discussion papers in English, French and Russian. On the basis of the discussion papers and the output of the Conference, prepare an information document on the pan European recommendations to submit as the pan European input to the CBD COP-8 discussions.
7. Organize side events at the Biodiversity in Europe Conference and the CBD COP8 (Brazil) to profile and illustrate European biodiversity processes and initiatives.

Objectives:

1. Enhance the complementarities between the PEBLDS and the CBD in the pan European region and influence the global biodiversity agenda from a regional perspective.
2. Communicate the efforts of the region to implement the CBD, address the goals of the strategic plan and achieve the agreed objective to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010.
3. Improve the participation of the Balkans, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the decision-making processes of the PEBLDS as well as the CBD.
4. Strengthen and improve regional cooperation in the area of biodiversity and enhance the profile of biodiversity in the region and at the global level.

Results:

The overall result of the project is a more efficient and better-coordinated implementation of the Pan European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy with the Convention on Biological Diversity with participation from the entire region.

Specific results include:

1. Broadened and improved regional cooperation in the implementation of the CBD;

2. implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity;
3. coordinated pan European input in negotiations and decision making at the CBD COP8, as far as possible and appropriate;
4. better integration of global and European biodiversity policies and processes;
5. enhanced exchange of information between European countries on the implementation of the CBD at the national level;
6. improved coordination of ongoing and planned activities for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the pan European region.

Outputs:

1. Discussion papers on selected key issues of the CBD COP8 agenda.
2. Documentation in English, French and Russian.
3. Information document on pan European recommendations to be submitted to the CBD Secretariat and presented at the CBD COP8 in Brazil by the government which hosts the *Biodiversity in Europe* Conference.

Budget:

Cost of Project: Expressed in US dollars

Activity	2005	2006	TOTAL
1. Coordination (professional and general service staff time = 4 man months)	40,000	40,000	80,000
2. Travel costs	5,000	5,000	10,000
3. Preparatory Meetings	10,000	10,000	20,000
4. Participants travel to the Fourth Biodiversity in Europe Conference (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia) and special guests		50,000	50,000
5. NGO participation in the Fourth Biodiversity in Europe Conference		30,000	30,000
6. Preparation of documents for the Fourth Biodiversity in Europe Conference and CBD COP-8	10,000	10,000	20,000
7. Fourth Biodiversity in Europe Conference (Russian interpretation and other logistical expenditures.)		20,000	20,000
8. Side events at CBD COP-8		10,000	10,000
9. Miscellaneous (administrative support costs, communications, rent, etc.)		10,000	10,000
TOTAL			250,000