UN Decade on Biodiversity as a challenge for inter-generations activities
Programmes and events addressed to senior citizens performed by The
Warsaw University Centre for Environmental Studies and Sustainable
Development and partner's organizations of the RCE Warsaw
Metropolitan

#### Anna Kalinowska

The University of Warsaw

University Centre for Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development, RCE Warsaw Metropolitan e-mail <a href="mailto:ucbs@uw.edu.pl">ucbs@uw.edu.pl</a>, anna.kalinowska@pro.onet.pl











### Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development



RCE Warsaw Metropolitan





### Our Region: Warsaw Metropolitan

The City of Warsaw is home to 1.75 million people. It is surrounded on all sides by a more or less contiguous green belt of forest which is what remains of Mazovia's once-extensive primaeval forest of the Puszcza type. The best preserved and rich in biodiversity part of it is protected as Kampinos National Park (KPN).

## Kampinoski National Park –this is an exceptional park as it encompasses forest directly adjacent to Warsaw.







### Some Facts about KPN



- In 2000. KPN was entered into the list of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.
- It holds Europe's largest inland dunes sharing the area with marshlands.
- There are two Educational Centres several educational trails
- and 35 km of touristic paths

# The "secret power" of RCEWM it is great number and diversity of Partners



### Type of Partners

• Higher Education Institutions: The University of Warsaw - Coordinator

The Cardinal Wyszynski University, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Kozminski Bussiness School, Pedagogical University, "GENERATIONS"- Senior's University

- Municipal Goverment The Mayor of Warsaw Department of Infrastructure
- Kampinos National Park
- UNEP/GRID Centre
- Cultural and Environmental NGOs:

The Warsaw Friends Association ,Center of Culture and Civic Initiatives ,Foundation Earth and People , Fundation for Sustainable Development

• Formal Education: Schools and "Green" Kindergarten

#### **CHALLENGES**

- The KPN and other protected areas close or even inside Warsaw agglomeration are the very important objects for environmental education and recreation for urban citizen. But the environmental awareness in urban population is not sufficient as well as average knowledge about protected area in neighborhood.
- The KPN is looking for methods of valuable education on biodiversity, attracting more visitors to Park's educational trails and at the same time avoiding negative effects on park's ecosystems.

# RCE answer: education address to the attendance specific for each Partner

- The goal of activity it is to popularize the KPN as forest playing great role in adaptation to climate change, place for formal and non formal education and opportunity for relax and for better health condition for everybody.
- Through individually tailored methods of education oriented to different social groups by diverse Partners (webpages, organization of special events, books) we hope to inspire changes towards a more healthy and sustainable way of living in urban zones with respect for biodiversity.

RCE Warsaw Metropolitan as the place of cooperation between partners from the urban zone and the Kampinoski National Park- interrelatednes of environmental and social issues





Kampinos National Park- for students and citizens of the Capital city-Inauguration of exhibition organized by KPN, UCBS and State Forestests in the main hall of University of Warsaw



## Students- future teachers are learning how to observe nature outside classroom



# Meeting with Nature- education events for Students of The Third Age Universities and members of other Senior's assocciacions are organized in KPN all year round



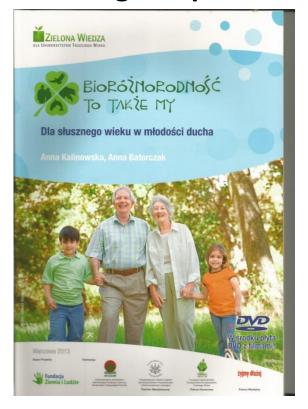


# Inter-generations handbook-resources for learning about biodiversity (prepared by University of Warsaw and Foundation Ziemia i Ludzie). The double-book is used by many universities for seniors

Part adressed to grandchildren



#### Part adressed to grandparents



### Nature for Generations- very new project for the last years of UN Decade on Biodiversity

 The follow-up of biodiversity training for seniors is a new long-lasting intergenerational programme "Nature for Generations" where experts - seniors from the Universities of the Third Age - will educate seniors and youngsters from protected areas in the Region. The Universities of the Third Age organise several field activities for seniors, together with Kampinoski National Park.



Cooperation of Partners from urban zones and the KPN are based on the presumption that understending of interrelatedness of social and environmental issues is obligatory for actions on the road to UN SDGs

- Goal 3- Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Goal 4- Ensure inclusive and equitable education and, promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 11- Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

 Goal 15- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably managed forest and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

# The role of cooperation between various partners and generations in the last years of UN Decade on Biodiversity

The main benefit from the cooperation of the University of Warsaw and other partners in the framework of the RCE Warsaw Metropolitan is that it brings together in one team all the partners in the education on biodiversity in the Region. The creation of a working channel for a permanent information flow between the partners and the participation in organised events help multiply the effects of all the events organised over the years until the end of the DECADE ON BIODIVERSITY in the Region.



## Healthy Park for Healthy People

Thank you for your attention



#### **Photo Credit:**

- G. Okołow and M. Szajnowski (photo from KPN)
- Univesity Pokolenia (events for Seniors)