



# **Profile: Estonia**

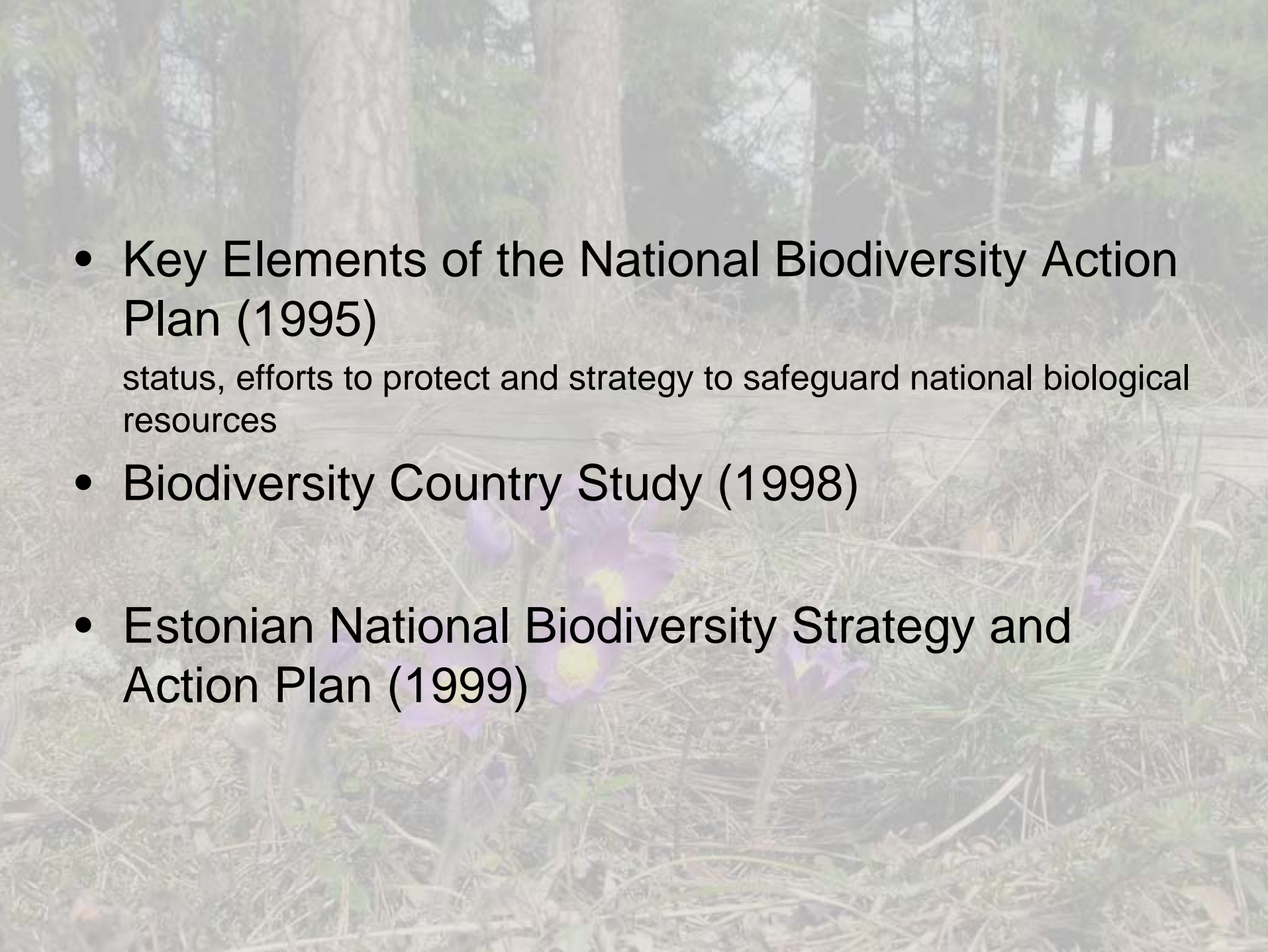
*by Mart Külvik*

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

26 April – 1 May 2008

# Kick-off

- Ratification by Estonia (1994)
- Workshop on the Practical Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Baltic Countries, in Tallinn on 16.-18. October 1994 (UNEP ROE, CBD IS)
- Government Decree on the implementation of the CBD (1995)
  - Governmental Commission
  - responsibility to the minister of the Environment for taking practical steps in the national process of CBD implementation
  - i.a. obligation for preparation of the National Action Plan.

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- **Key Elements of the National Biodiversity Action Plan (1995)**  
status, efforts to protect and strategy to safeguard national biological resources
  - **Biodiversity Country Study (1998)**
  - **Estonian National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (1999)**

# “existing plans and strategies”

- Estonian Environmental Strategy (1997/2007)
- National Environmental Action Plan - NEAP  
(1998-2000, 2001-2003, 2004-2006)  
NEAP 2007-2035 (2007)  
NEAP 2007-2013 (2007)
- Nature Conservation Development Plan  
12 longterm targets, 52 measures



## CONVENTION

- Issues under the convention
- Information network
- Glossary
- National reports
- Strategy and action plan
- Convention text
- Estonian Bioplatform

## BIODIVERSITY IN ESTONIA

- Habitats
- Species
- Taxonomy and collections
- Biodiversity Country Study
- Nature observations database

## CONSERVATION

- Protected natural objects
- Protected species

>> [English](#) >> [Convention](#) >> Information network

## Information network

The contact agency/person of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on national level is the Ministry of Environment /Liina Eek, whose tasks involve coordination of implementation of CBD and the policy of conservation and use of biological diversity.

Contact agency of the Clearing-House Mechanism of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-CHM) on national level is the Estonian Environment Information Centre, who is responsible for exchanging information on CBD and facilitating the explanation of issues regarding biological diversity. On national level these tasks are performed by Reigo Roasto. In terms of international communication Estonia is represented by Lauri Klein.

In addition to that it is necessary to establish CBD-CHM network in the form of regional and thematic contact units.



Environmental  
information

[http://eelis.ic.envir.ee:8080/English/index\\_html](http://eelis.ic.envir.ee:8080/English/index_html)

# National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management in Estonia (2004) GEF/UNEP

- Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Convention to Combat Desertification
- **Convention on Biological Diversity**

# Results

- integration of biodiversity concerns into sectoral policies as required by Article 6 (b), has been non-sufficient. The main reasons can be listed as
  - inadequate communication among concerned sectors and
  - low awareness of the role which respective sector is to play in the implementation of the CBD



# Results

- There are only few low **incentives** for private sector to finance biodiversity in the forms like for instance land tax reduction is.
- Both general public and decision-makers **awareness** is still low of the biodiversity concept, of its challenges and opportunities.

# Results

- **Lack of** qualified and properly **skilled personnel** in governmental “non-conservation” sectors
  - a) biodiversity is a relatively “specific” concern for the public administration and therefore staff in most lacks relevant training,
  - b) brain drain of high quality personnel into private sector offering comparatively high salaries and
  - c) competition with “grey” issues within environmental sector which still hold higher priority “green” ones

# Results

- **Poor inter-institutional coordination** – different institutions do not cooperate sufficiently, this is obvious even in the ministerial level where different ministries do not interact. NGOs and private sector are often forgotten.

# Results

- **Occasional or sojourn nature of existing activities** relating to biodiversity has been a noteworthy delimitator of the projects success in a general scale. Often the projects are focused to some particular site or species and do not consider a wider or longer term development.



French: Anémone de Haller

English: Pulsatille

Latin: *Pulsatilla patens*