

# Strategy and Action Plan for the Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity of the Republic of Croatia



Republic of Croatia  
Ministry of Culture  
Nature Protection Directorate  
Ivna Vukšić



Isle of Vilm, Germany  
June 13th – 17th 2009



## NBSAP in Croatia

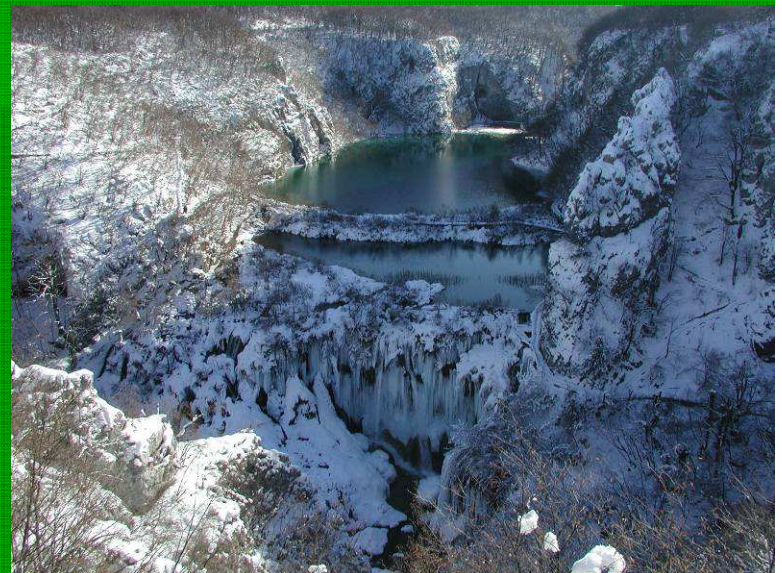
- the obligation to prepare the Strategy is proscribed by the Nature Protection Act (basic nature protection document)
- defines long-term objectives and guidelines for conservation of biological and landscape diversity and protected natural assets
- Defines methods for implementation, in compliance with the overall economic, social and cultural development of the Republic of Croatia
- drawn up on the basis of a *Report on the state of nature and nature protection status*

# NBSAP in Croatia

- 1999 - First NBSAP adopted by Croatian Parliament
- 2006 - whole document (aims, guidelines and action plans) was analysed, and it was decided that the new Strategy was needed

BIRO KRUMHOLTZ  
BIRO KRUMHOLTZ  
BIRO KRUMHOLTZ

Pregled  
stanja  
biološke i  
krajobrazne  
raznolikosti  
Hrvatske sa  
strategijom i  
akcijskim  
planovima  
zaštite



# New Croatian Strategy (2008)

- substantial changes in the nature protection concept
  - establishment of a new legislative and institutional nature protection framework
  - accession to international conventions and agreements in the field of nature protection
  - process of integration into the European Union and alignment of the legislation with relevant EU directives and regulations
- need has arisen not only to revise the 1999 Strategy, but to look into the strategic objectives and guidelines on a completely new basis



# Methods of work on the Strategy

- the *Report on the state of nature and nature protection for the period 2000-2007* has been drawn up (SINP)
- The Report contains information on:
  - state of nature,
  - analysis of the threat and guidelines for protection,
  - evaluation of exploitation of natural resources and impact of interventions on the nature
  - situation and assessment of legislative and institutional framework for nature protection
  - **assessment of implementation of action plans defined by the Strategy 1999**
- 10 WGs were established (competent state administration bodies, professional institutions, public institutions for management of protected areas, inspection services, scientific institutions, economic sector and NGOs) → **integrated approach**  
→ prerequisites for incorporation of biological diversity determinations into all relevant sectors



## Public presentation of NBSAP

→ On the 28th of November 2008, Croatian Parliament adopted the new Strategy and Action Plan for the Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity of the Republic of Croatia (OG 143/08)



# General achievements of the implementation of the Strategy 1999

- an overview of the status of biological and landscape diversity
- institutional strengthening at the national and regional/local level
- administrative strengthening at all levels
- accession, ratification and implementation of all international agreements in the field of nature protection
- establishment of national legislative framework in the field of nature protection (compliant with the legislation of the EU); 13 implementing regulations (harmonized with European legislation)
- establishment of national legislative framework in the field of genetically modified organisms

# General achievements of the implementation of the Strategy 1999

- establishing a systematic process of inventory of biological diversity of Croatia, which resulted in publishing red lists and Red Books
- creation of a basic habitats map of the Republic of Croatia
- successful implementation of a large number of international projects funded from various funds, including EU funds



# **NBSAP (2008)**

## **General Strategic Objectives**

1. Conserve overall biological, landscape and geological diversity as an underlying value and potential for further development of the Republic of Croatia;
2. Meet all obligations arising from the process of integration into the European Union and alignment of the legislation with relevant EU directives and regulations (Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, CITES Regulations);
3. Fulfil the obligations arising from international treaties in the field of nature protection, biological safety, access to information etc.;
4. Ensure an integral nature protection through co-operation with other sectors;

## General Strategic Objectives

5. Establish and evaluate the state of biological, landscape and geological diversity, set up a nature protection information system with a database connected to the state's information system;
6. Encourage promotion of institutional and non-institutional ways of education about biological diversity, and participation of the general public in decision-making
7. Develop legislation implementation mechanisms through strengthening of legislative and institutional capacities, education, development of scientific resources, information, development of funding mechanisms.

# Strategic objectives

## PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

### ➤ *Protected areas*

- Continue development of the system of protected areas, efficiently—manage the protected areas, increase the areas under protection and promote active participation of interested public

### ➤ *Protection of ecosystems and habitats*

- Ensure a long-term conservation of threatened and rare habitat types

### ➤ *Ecological network of the Republic of Croatia and the NATURA 2000 network*

- Continue and complete designation of important areas for conservation of threatened and rare taxa and habitat types within the ecological network of the Republic of Croatia and NATURA 2000 network and define protection and management measures for such areas

# Strategic objectives

## ➤ *Protection and conservation of wild taxa*

- Conserve and improve the existing diversity of wild taxa and recover a part of lost taxa where this is possible and justified. Ensure sustainable use of plant, fungal and animal taxa

## ➤ *Protection and conservation of domesticated taxa*

- Conserve and promote the existing diversity of indigenous domesticated animal breeds and cultivated plant sorts using all suitable conservation methods (in situ, ex situ, inter situ)

## ➤ *Ex-situ protection*

- Conserve biodiversity components outside their natural habitats

## ➤ *Elimination of invasive species*

- Prevent introduction of invasive alien species into the nature of the Republic of Croatia and continue resolving the issues of the existing invasive species



# Strategic objectives

## LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION

---

- Ensure landscape conservation through landscape protection, management and planning instruments, which are based on identification and state of its characteristics and on the completed process of landscape inventorying and classification

## GEOLOGICAL DIVERSITY PROTECTION

- Conserve geodiversity or geotopes as one of the prerequisites for the conservation of biological and landscape diversity, and conserve non-renewable geomorphological and geological heritage of the Republic of Croatia in situ and ex situ

# Strategic objectives

## SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

---

### ➤ *Agriculture*

- Conserve biological diversity on agricultural land surfaces through sustainable management

### ➤ *Forestry*

- Conserve the existing biological diversity of forests and ensure sustainable exploitation of this biological resource through incorporation of biological diversity protection measures and ensure co-operation between the forestry and nature protection sectors

### ➤ *Hunting*

- Conserve the existing biological diversity of fauna and ensure sustainable use of this biological resource through incorporation of biological diversity measures and ensure cooperation between the hunting and nature protection sectors

# Strategic objectives

## ➤ *Freshwater fisheries*

- Conserve and, where possible and appropriate, re-establish as natural biological diversity of inland waters as possible

## ➤ *Marine fisheries*

- Use biological resources of the Adriatic Sea on the basis of the principles of sustainable management

## ➤ *Genetically modified organisms*

- Ensure incorporation of biological diversity measures into all activities related to the contained use, release into the environment, placing on the market and cross-border transport of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), by applying precautionary principle

## ➤ *Water management*

- Through co-operation with the water management sector, conserve biological and landscape diversity of water eco-systems, in particular threatened wet and wetland habitats, and karst habitats

# Strategic objectives

## ➤ *Tourism*

- Given the great importance of tourism as an industry in the Republic of Croatia and taking into account its negative impacts as well, promote development of sustainable tourism and eco-tourism





# Strategic objectives

## ➤ *Transport*

- Reduce the impact of transport infrastructure on wild taxa and natural habitats



## ➤ *Energy*

- Use of energy sources with the minimum potential impact on biological diversity

## ➤ *Mining*

- Ensure sustainable exploitation of mineral raw materials by incorporating biological and landscape diversity conservation measures and through co-operation between the mining sector and nature protection sector

# Strategic objectives

## LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### ➤ *Legislative framework*

- Complete and update the national legislation and harmonise the sector-related legislation in order to ensure implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Republic of Croatia in an effective and efficient manner

### ➤ *Institutional framework*

- Establish an integral institutional framework for protection of biological and landscape diversity at the state and county level

# Strategic objectives

## CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

---

### ➤ *Research and monitoring*

- Inventorying and ensuring a systematic monitoring of the state of all components of biological, landscape and geological diversity

### ➤ *Education*

- Promote and develop all institutional and non-institutional forms of education of all citizen groups in the field of protection of biological, landscape and geological diversity

### ➤ *Notification and participation of general public*

- Ensure informing of the public about, and its participation in, the matters related to the protection of biological and landscape diversity

# Strategic objectives

## ➤ *Physical planning*

- Adoption of physical plans of the areas characterized by distinctive features for all national parks and nature parks, evaluation of the area from the nature protection standpoint, incorporation of the nature protection requirements and measures, as well as the information resulting from evaluation of the area, into physical planning documents

## ➤ *Nature impact Assessment*

- Establishment of the instrument for assessment of acceptability of interventions, plans and programmes to the nature



# Strategic objectives

## THE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

- ***Monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy implementation***
  - Ensure an effective implementation of the Strategy
- ***Financial mechanisms for the Strategy implementation***
  - Ensure financial mechanisms for an effective implementation of the Strategy



# Priorities in the forthcoming five-year period

- ✓ full alignment of the legislation, including establishment of implementing mechanisms and adoption of a proposal for the NATURA 2000 network and assurance of financial resources for implementation

Active role of other sectors including support from NGOs is needed

# **National strategy for sustainable development (OG 30/09)**

- Main goals and activities/measures in accordance with NBSAP
- WS for development of AP for implementation of National strategy for sustainable development



# Thank you for your attention!



[www.min-kulture.hr](http://www.min-kulture.hr)