



Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

# The Convention on Biological Diversity in the Principality of Liechtenstein

National Office of Forests, Nature  
and Land Management  
Thomas Gerner

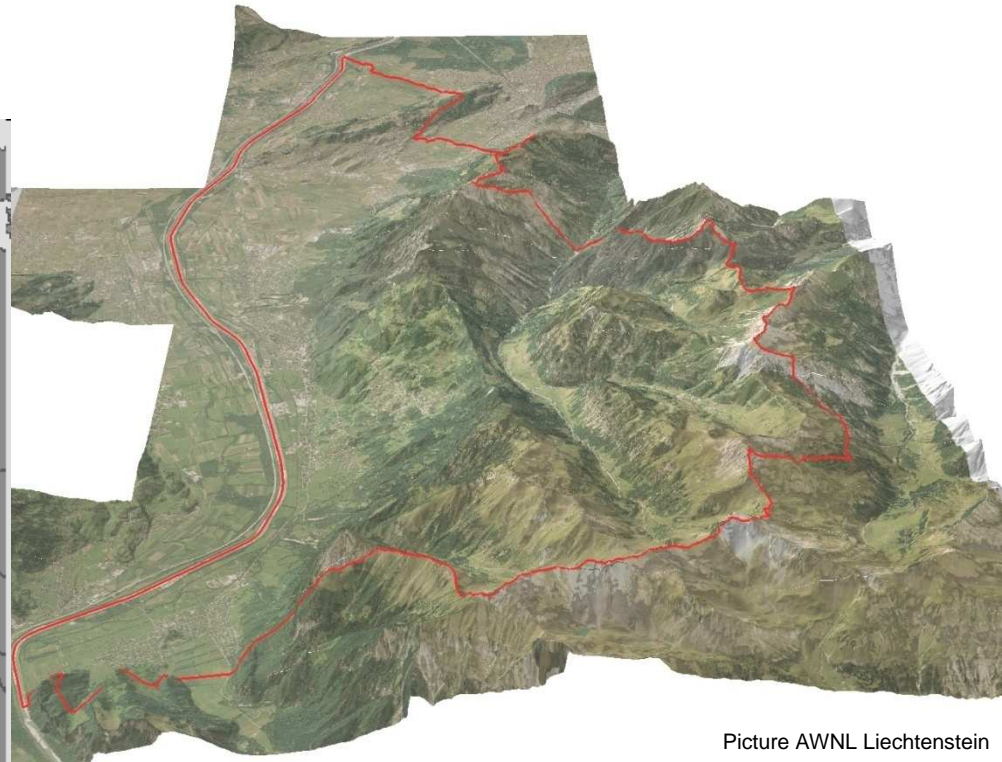


Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

# Where is Liechtenstein?



Picture [www.welcome.li](http://www.welcome.li)



Picture AWNL Liechtenstein

160 km<sup>2</sup>  
35'000 people

LIECHTENSTEIN



# Situation in Liechtenstein

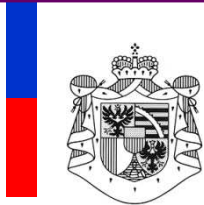
Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

**High biodiversity:** 6'000 species

**Threats to biodiversity persist:**

- Rhine valley: enlargement of settlement and infrastructure
- Valley slope: abandonment of steep slopes
- Mountain region: broad use for leisure activities





Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

## NBSAP ?

Liechtenstein has no national biodiversity strategy as yet. However, tools exist that allow an up-to-date environmental policy.

### **Forestry:**

- „National concept on nature and landscape protection in the forest“ (2000)
- National Forest Programme 2002-2012

### **Agriculture:**

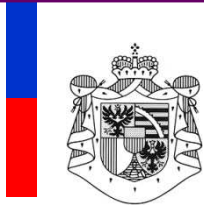
- „Concept on the development of nature and agriculture“ (2005), a basis for a landscape development strategy

### **Inland waters:**

- Waterway development plan plus detailed plans of the 11 townships
- „Concept on the development of the Alpine Rhine“ (ARGE Rheinblick, 2005)

### **Mountain ecosystem:**

- „Concept on the development and conservation of the Liechtenstein mountain area“ (2000)



Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

# Success stories

## Protected areas:

- Nature reserves and forest reserves make up 12.5% of the land area

## Forest:

- Forests of high conservation value are largely part of a protection regulation (27% of total forest area)
- 100% of the forest FSC certified

## Agriculture:

- 20% of the cultivated land are ecological compensation areas
- the proportion of organic farming was increased to 27%

## Waterways:

- Liechtenstein has now a system of inland waterways that are largely permeable for most fish species
- $\frac{1}{4}$  of the permanent waterways in the valley are now irrigated



Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

## Limitations to nature protection

- Limited personell capacities
- Extremely high prices for land: comparable to cities

→ Regional development strategy required



Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

## Deficits

- No ecological network by law
- Landscape protection areas are not designated yet
- No measures have been taken for the improvement of the ecological situation at the Alpine Rhine



Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

## Big questions

- How can we find a pragmatic approach that is suitable to a country the size of Liechtenstein?
- We do a lot already, why is more action needed?
- We cannot contribute significantly to global biodiversity. Does it change something if we get more engaged?





Amt für Wald, Natur und Landschaft

