

# Conservation of baltic raised bogs in Pomerania, Poland

### **PLBALTBOGS** project

## Klub Przyrodników (Naturalists Club), Poland LIFE04NAT/PL/000208



Progress report 2 2005, January 1st - September 30th

#### 1. Introduction

The project was started in 2003, November, 02, paralelly with the application to the LIFE-Nature 2004.

In period 2003.11.02-2004.12.31 the project was implemented by Klub Przyrodników and partners, and project actions were financed by Global Environment Fund - Small Grants Facility (non-EU funds, official project co-financer) and beneficiary & partners own funds, waiting for the LIFE-Nature decision. The decision about LIFE-Nature co-financing was taken in 2004, August, but as a result of problems with bank guarantee (described in Report 1), the first LIFE funds were avaliable in 2005, January, with 4 month delay according to preliminary plan.

During 2004 year:

- site assessment & nature inventory or documentation to protection form establishing have been completed for 11 bogs;
- site management plans have been prepared for 2 bogs;
- ◆ light conditions of rare plants localities have been improved by removing the willows and birch on 2 bogs;
- technical documentation for dams building have been prepared for 3 bogs;
- draft of Habitat Action Plan have been prepared;
- website have been established:
- monitoring transects have been established on 4 bogs

In January 2005 the first progress report (below cited as Report 1) was prepared, describing the actions from the project beginning to the end of 2004.

In April 2005 the project was visited by Ms Yolaine Boutelier from the Ecosphere - LIFE Monitoring Team.

In 2005 year, the preparatory actions was continued and mainly finished, and some direct conservation actions were executed. As a result of communication work in the project, and preparing appropriate documentation, important progress in formal designation of the project sites as protected areas and as Natura 2000 sites have been achieved.

This report covers the period from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005 to 30<sup>th</sup> september 2005, describing also cumulative progress with achievement of project objectives, legal protection status of sites, products & milestones. Because we not ask for second part of prefinancing yet, this report is prepared as "progress report". The interim report will be presented probably in the beginning of 2006 year.

#### 2. Progress in project actions

ACTION A.1: Name of action: Sites assessment & Inventory.

Action is finished for all bogs it have been planned. Summary of results have been presented in Progress Report 1.

For sites with general lack of knowledge about its nature, ecology and hydrology, inventory of natural values (flora, fauna, natural habitats map, peat deposit stratigraphy) have been be prepared. Aerial photos and old maps were also completed. Elements of site management plans have been prepared. This inventory will be enough formal base for establishing appropriate form of protection – Ecological Ground or Nature & Landscape Area. For established EG or NLA, this inventory will be a confirmation of its natural values.

As a result of this action, nature inventory reports have been prepared. These reports evaluate sites from the point of view appropriate formal protection form. Two sites have been found more valuable then expected, as a result the documentation and application for Nature Reserve establishing was prepared. Two sites have been found less valuable then expected, but they still are worth of conservation and - after restoration - including to Natura 2000.

As a result of more precise inventory, in some cases Natura 2000 habitats have been identified and assessed more precisely. Habitat maps have been prepared (see products) Also in some cases the conservation needs was more precisely assessed and corrected. Also conservation needs have been in some cases identified more precisely; as a result small modification in details of localisation of conservation actions (see C3 action in Report 1 as example) was necessary.

As a result of this action, the gap of insufficient knowledge about some sites nature (habitats, flora, fauna, basic stratygraphy and hydrology) was fulfilled. Summary of results are included to "Polish Baltic Bogs Catalog", which is a part of Baltic Raised Bogs Habitat Action Plan (see Action A5).

As a part of this documentation, N2000 SDF have been prepared or revised, making possible to add some sites to the Polish pSCI official proposal.

Protected Natural Areas (selected) according to Polish legislation:

- Nature Reserve (NR) created by the regional administration. It is a designation of area for nature conservation only. It is "high level form". Detail documentation in necessary for establishing. Management plan is prepared obligatory and established by the regional administration with consultation with the Ministry;
- Ecological Ground (EG) created or by regional or by local administration. It is a designation of area for nature conservation only, but it is "lower level form". Not so detail documentation is necessary for establishing. There is no obligation to prepare management plan, but active conservation action may be prescribed in the act establishing this form.
- Nature & Landscape Area (NLA) created or by regional or by local administration. It is area with combined nature conservation and agricultural or forest management, but as a rule not very intensive. It is "lower level form". Not so detail documentation is necessary for establishing. There is no obligation to prepare management plan, but active conservation action may be prescribed in the act establishing this form.

Natuira 2000 designation and national conservation forms in Poland are independent, i.e. site may be designated as Natura 2000 site even it is not protected by any national form.

## ACTION A.2: Name of action: Preparation of formal documentations for Nature Reserve establishing.

Action is almost finished for all bogs it have been planned. Details have been described in progress report 1.

For site 1 (Słowinskie Bagno) the action will be formally finished in November 2005, but even preliminary draft of documentation was enough to formal Nature Reserve establishing.

For sites proposed as Nature Reserves, more detailed inventory, containing about its nature, ecology and hydrology, inventory of natural values (flora, fauna, habitats detailed map) will be prepared. Analysis of the peat deposit stratygraphy, water and peat chemical composition, and peatbog history and ecology will be included. Old maps, historical aerial photographs and contemporary aerial photos will be used for site history analysis. Peat borer analysis will be used for peat stratygraphy. Necessary documents on ownership status, relations to the forest management plan, water management plan, land use plan will be included. This documentation will be presented in format appropriate and complete for nature Reserve establishing by competent authority.

First part of the action A2 was planned in January 2005, second part - in January 2006. But all action will be completed in November 2005.

As a result of documentation preparing and paralelly lobbying:

Site 1 (Słowińskie Bagno) - Nature reserve have been established

Site 3 (Kusowskie Bagno) - Nature reserve have been established

Site 9 (Wierzchucińskie Bagno) - Nature reserve have been established.

**Site 15 (Stramniczka)** - Formal procedure for nature reserve establishing have been started.

Site 16 (Roby) - Formal procedure for nature reserve establishing have been started.

Effectiveness of formal procedures for nature reserves establishing is partially out of our control. Competent nature conservation authority declare its intention to establish nature reserves, but this procedure is rather long time in Poland. But we hope it will be before the end of the project.

#### ACTION A.3:

Name of action: Preparation of site management plans for Nature Reserves.

First part of the action is planned to be finished in January 2005, next parts - in 2006 and 2007. First part contains the management plans for four sites 2, 4, 5 and 14. This is completed. Also site management plan for site 11 (planned for 2006) is prepared yet.

For Nature Reserves, detailed site management plans have been elaborated, according to obligatory Polish regulations. Necessary field inventory have been completed. Analysis of the peat deposit stratygraphy, water and peat chemical composition, and peatbog history and ecology have been included. Old maps, historical aerial photographs and contemporary aerial photos have been used for site history analysis. Peat borer analysis have been used for peat stratygraphy. Hydrogeological expertise will be included, as necessary. Documents on ownership status, relations to the forest management plan, water management plan, land use plan will be included

While all necessary documentation for sites 2 and 14 is completed, and for sites 4 and 5 will be completed in May, some formal problems with formal acceptation for the management plans may apperas, as a result of legislation changes in Poland (new nature conservation act, detail regulation for management plan format must also be renewed, but till now was not renewed by the Polish Ministry for Environment. This is a problem for all nature reserves in Poland. But it will be not significant for next work steps. From the formal point of view, formal authority decree on 'annual management actions' or formal nature conservation authority decision for conservation action executing is approprtaite formal base for conservation action in a field. This is the formal path in a situation when the full management plan is prepared but not formally accepted).

Prepared nature reserves management plans can be easily transformed to "site Natura 2000 management plan" in format demanded by Polish regulations.

#### ACTION A.4:

## Name of action: Preparation of technical projects for water daming up and sluices building and permissions receiving.

According to Polish law regulations, for water damming up, so called "Water permission" is necessery. Aplication for that permission must contain detail technical project of action with its assessment for water resources.

In most cases (especially in nature reserve) also building permission is necessary. Aplication for that permission must contain detail technical project.

As a result, preparing of necessary technical project for water damming is necessary, some months before planned conservation action execution.

In 2005y we start this action for sites where we plan to build dams and block the ditches in 2006 y. Action have been started (and is ongoing now) for sites:

- site 3 Kusowskie Bagno;
- site 4 Kurze Grzędy (as execution of prepared site management plan);
- site 5 Staniszewskie Błoto (as execution of prepared site management plan);
- site 6 Bielawa;
- site 7 Czarne and Łebskie Bog;
- site 11 Pobłocie (as execution of prepared site management plan):

This part of the action is expected to be finished in January or February 2006, as planned.

Some important problems are connected with this action. In 2004 and 2005 the execution of existing building regulations in Poland became very strict and rigorous. For almost each water damming up action, the full technical documentation, including detail maps 1:2000 start to be demanded by the responsible authorities. In most situation on bogs, such maps do not exist and must be specially prepared, which is time-consuming and expensive. As a result, this action became more expensive than expected, and some modifications in the project budget will be necessary.

#### **ACTION A.5**:

## Name of action: Preparation of Regional Habitat Action Plan for baltic raised bogs in Poland.

First version of Habitat Action Plan for baltic raised bogs in Poland is completed. No actions with this documment have been planned for the summer period 2005y, and no revisions have been done; we prefer to works with documents rather in winter period. We are going to make the first revision in winter 2005 / 2006 y.

#### ACTION C.1.

#### Name of action: Blocking draining ditches

1<sup>st</sup> packet of this action (which should be completed till January, 2006), is almost completed on the field, then we expect to complete it without delay. Next packets of this action are prepared for 2006y. (see A4 action - formal permits and detail technical documentations are necessary).

The action have been completed on 3 bogs:

- On the site 1 (Slowińskie Bagno) 7 wooden sluices and 1 wooden-turf dam have been almost finished (deadline is in November 2005, but will be finished to the end of October);
- On the site 2 (Janiewickie Bagno) 9 wooden sluices, 4 wooden-turf dams, 3 concrete sluices have been built:
- On the site 19 (Reptowo) 9 wooden dams and 3 concrete sluices have been built.

As a result of more detailed recognizing of the hydrology, and as a result of long negotiations with the water administration, some detail technical solutions have been modified, but without modification of general idea and expected hydrological results.

Klub Przyrodników was responsible for this action execution on the site 1 and 2. Forest Department Kliniska (Project Partner) was responsible for this action execution on the site 19. The action was partially subcontracted, as planned in the project. Subcontractors have been selected in a public tender procedure.

#### ACTION C.2.

#### Name of action: Trees (birch and pine) removing

1<sup>st</sup> packet of this action have been planned to be completed till January, 2006, but is almost completed on the field. Next packets of action are prepared for execution in 2006.

The action have been completed for the site 8 (Jeziorka Chośnickie) and 18 (Bagno Ciemino), where birch understory have been removed from the bog forests, 91D0, according to Site Management Plan established for these sites. The action have been partially completed also for site 23 (Wielkie Błoto near Wierzchowo)

The action have been also partially completed also for site 6 (Bielawa), where we remove birch from the open bogs habitas. But here we do 2005 action only as "pilot action" before more intensive birch removing planned for 2006.

Klub Przyrodników was responsible for this action execution on the site 6, 8, and 18. Forest Department Szczecinek (Project Partner) was responsible for this action execution on the site 23.

The action was partially subcontracted, as planned in the project. Subcontractors have been selected in a public tender procedure. On the Bielawa Bog (site 6) part of this action have been executed by organizing a voluntary work. It have not been planned in the project, but if the possibilities appears, we use it. In colaboration with the regional nature conservation administration, the volunteers have been recruited (manly students from the

different places in Poland), and the volunteers accommodation & feeding have been arranged. As a result of voluntary work ca 30 ha of birch have been removed. This was good way of action execution (additional "social effect" and building public awareness), but only some fragments of bogs are appropriate for this way.

As a result of executing part of this action by voluntary work, not by subcontracting, some little modification in costs categories appears (costs of volunteers accommodation, feeding, insurance and costs of materials in place of subcontracting costs).



Fig. Bog forest (habitat 91D0) after removing the birch understory Ciemino Bog (site 18)

#### ACTION D.1:

Name of action: Local improving light condition for rare plants localities.

Action described in details in Progress Report 1. In summer 2005 y. delayed part of action on site 20 was completed. No other fragments of this actions was planned for 2005.

#### ACTION E.1:

#### Name of action: Building education infrastructure on selected peatbogs

This action full execution have been planned for 2006, but in 2005 it have been partially competed. On 2 bogs education trails have been built, with wooden pavements, observation platform and information panels presenting informations about bogs nature and ecology. These are: site 17 (Karsibór) and site 23 (Wielkie Błoto near Wierzchowo).

The action was partially subcontracted, as planned in the project. Action have been completed by: Klub Przyrodników on site 17 and by Nadleśnictwo Szczecinek (project partner) on site 23.

After the more detail recogintion and discuss with nature conservation authority, in 2006 y. we are going to build third trail, but we decide that it should be localized not on the site 18 (as planned), but on the site 3. On the site 18, the white-tailed eagle *Haliaetus albicilla* starts to nest in 2004 y, and it is necessary not to disturb around the nesting place. The site 3 (Bagno Kusowo) in the same forest district seems to be most appropriate. Additionally, from the sociological point of view, there is great need to create any "tourists interests" at Bagno Kusowo - three years ago this bog was planned to peat extraction, now it is nature reserve and local community not fully accept this fact and it would be helpful to support acceptation building by public access infrastructure here.

On some other bogs both possibilities or needs of public access were recognised. Probably for building public awareness for bog conservation, it would be helpful to build to

build more public access infrastructure on some other bogs (of course only in places it do not disturb nature), which would be possible extension of the project in future.

Karsibór Bog (site 17)





#### ACTION E.2:

#### Name of action: Communication with locals peoples & authorities

Ca 47 meetings with: forest authority and forest districts, local authority, regional authority, water authority have been arranged and conducted to negotiate different aspects of project sites conservation and project action details (especially water damming up). This work is essential for success of the project, and must be continued in next years.

2400 leaflets have been printed in 7 "mutations", presenting: general project idea and actions and particular project sites on the background of baltic bogs conservation problem. Total print have been 3000 leaflets. These leaflets have been distributed in local communities, forest districts, and used during the meetings. We estimate in next year some additional leaflets will be necessary, as useful communication tool.

#### ACTION E.3:

#### Name of action: Work with people responsible for nature management planning.

In 2004 year the working group of ca 30 people was created. This is mix of: nature conservation planners, scientists, specialists on peatbog ecology (from the Agricultural University in Szczecin and Olsztyn, University in Gdańsk), regional nature conservation authority (Szczecin, Gdańsk), regional landscape parks, forest administration (especially forest department; in Poland, in ca 80-90% of cases forest departments are land managers for bogs).

The first workshop (two days) for this group is arranged for 15-16 November in Suleczyno in Cassubians (Pomerania District). In 2005 year we continue work with this group. 1-day workshop have been organized in Szczecinek in the beginning of August, concentrated on field presentation of conservation actions on the field. Field visit to Latvian and Estonian bogs have been organized in August 2005, to give the impression of "true", near untouched bogs to Polish people, responsible for Polish (rather strongly transformed) bogs. We have visited the Cena and Kemeri bogs in Latvia and Nigula Bog in Estonia, and discuss these sites ecology and conservation problems with Latvian and Estonian bog ecologists.

During this visit, we have visited results of three other LIFE-Nature project in Latvia and Estonia:

- ◆ LIFE04 NAT/LV/000196 Implementation of mire habitat management plan for Latvia;
- LIFE02 NAT/LV/008496 Conservation of wetlands in Kemeri National Park;
- ◆ LIFE00 NAT/EE/007082 Restoration and management of the Häädemeeste wetland complex

This action seems to be crucial for the sustainability of sites conservation after our LIFE project. As a result of this "stakeholders management", deep involvment of local Forest Service to the bogs conservation seems to be built in some cases.

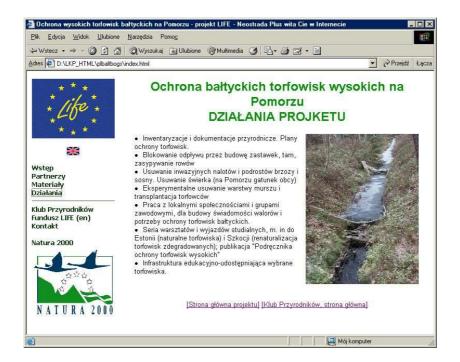
#### ACTION E.4:

Name of action: Handbook of Polish raised bogs conservation preparing and printing. The handbook is planned to be published at the end of November and it is expected to will be, maybe with 2-3 weeks delay. Draft of the text is competed, written by Maria Herbichowa, one of the best Polish specialists on peatbogs ecology, working in the project.

#### ACTION E.5:

Name of action: Project website.

Project website have been initiated in 2004 year and is avaliable on <a href="http://www.kp.org.pl/plbaltbogs">http://www.kp.org.pl/plbaltbogs</a> or <a href="http://www.kp.org.pl/life">http://www.kp.org.pl/life</a>. In 2005 y. the website was supported on the Klub Przyrodnikow server. Some links have been improved. More detail information on project site will be successively added.



#### ACTION F.1:

Name of action: Overall coordination and management of project actions.

The action is continuous. Because of uncertainty of project LIFE financing, in 2004 this action was not fully developed in 2004. The Klub Przyrodników activity in 2004 was based on voluntary work. The project leader was nominated in the starting point of the project, but till now he do not work in the project with the full time limit. The full project team was completed in the beginning of 2005 y.

Project manager participate also in LIFE Co-op "Bogs and dunes" workshop, discussing our project idea in October 2004 in Netherlands and in August 2005 in Latvia & Estonia. Our project have been presented and discussed during this workshop. This

workshop have been organized in the frames of Dutch project **LIFE2003NAT/CP/NL/000006** "Dissemination of ecological knowledge and practical experiences for sound planning and management in raised bogs (7110\*, 7120, 7140, 7150, 91D0\*, 3160) and sea dunes (2110, 2120, 2130\*, 2140\*, 2150\*, 2160, 2170, 2180, 2190, 3110)"

#### ACTION F.2

#### Name of action: Monitoring and documentation

Monitoring transect of piesometers have been established on the sites: Reptowo (site 19), Janiewickie Bagno (site 2), Bagno Ciemino (site 18), Jeziorka Chośnickie (site 8), Słowinskie Bagno (site 1), Kurze Grzędy (Site 4), Staniszewskie Błota (site 5), Górkowski Las (site 12), Czarne and Łebskie Bagno (site 7) and Torfowisko Pobłockie (site 11), covering all sites targeted by the blocking ditches or removing trees actions was targeted in 2005 y., and most of the sites these actions will be targeted in 2006.

First record of water chemistry have been collected. Measurements of water level in piesometers have been started. This work will be done on majority of sites by local Forest Service, as a result of partnership relations built as a result of action E3.

## 3. Cumulative progress in deliverable products & project milestones - for deadlines < September 2005

#### **SUMMARY OF DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS**

Product	action	Deadline	
Regional Habitat Action Plan for baltic raised bogs in Pomerania Region – 1st draft	A5	31.08.2004	1st version completed, published on the www, next revisions under discuss
Site Nature Inventory Reports for sites: 7 (northern part), 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22	A1	31.01.2005	Completed for all sites where planned. As a result, all project sites have completed basic inventory.
Documentations for Nature Reserve establishing for sites: 1, 3, 9	A2	31.01.2005	Completed for sites 3, 9, and also for sites 15, 16 (planned for 2006). For site 1 will be completed in the November 2005.
Site Management Plans for Nature Reserves: 2, 14, 4, 5	A3	31.01.2005	Completed for sites 2, 14, 4, 5, and also for site 11 (planned for 2006)
Brochures presenting selected sites	E2	30.06.2005	Published for 11 bogs + general project description; general print ca 3000 issues. Useful tools in stakeholders management, in the 2006 y. will be probably needed for 2 bogs more.
Handbook of Raised Bog Conservation – published book	E4	30.11.2005	Prepared to print in November

#### **SUMMARY OF PROJECT MILESTONES**

Milestone	action	Deadline	
Project leader nominated	F1	02.11.2003	Completed
Measuring equipment for bogs assessments and monitoring completed	A1, F2	30.04.2004	Completed, see Report 1
'Working group" of nature management planners and nature conservation administration completed	E3	30.06.2004	Completed, see Report 1.
1st workshop arranged	E3	30.11.2004	Completed, see Report 1
Project website avaliable in	E5	30.11.2004	Completed, see
Internet			www.kp.org.pl/plbaltbogs
1st return of Action D1 done	D1	30.11.2004	Completed, see description of action in the Report 1.
Technical projects for water	A4	30.03.2005	Completed. Technical
damming up – first packet –			documentation and necessary
done			permissions for 3 bogs (planned
			1 <sup>st</sup> packet) prepared (and in
			2005 used for field work). For
			next bogs it is planned for the
			beginning of 2006y.

Meetings with local communities and authorities carried and effected	E2	30.09.2005	Plan completed. Ca 47 local meetings with authorities. But it is necessary to continue for supporting acceptation
2nd workshop arranged and study tour to Estonia	Е3	30.10.2005	Completed, see description if action E3. 3 Estonian and Latvian bogs LIFE projects visited.

### 4. Achieved results (in the light of project expected results)

Expected project result (= Application Form 15)	Achieved till end of 2004		
Draining ditches on 13 peatbogs blocked everywhere when needed. Ca 2200 m of ditches filling. Ca 440 sluices blocking ditches built. As a result, hydrology of 13 sites importantly improving, with keeping the water level average no deeper than 0,3m under the ground level.	In 2005 r. actions have been executed on 3 bogs, as planned for 2005 year. Field works are mostly finished, some remaining elements will be finished till the end of November.		
	For next 5 bogs, procedure of preparing necessary technical documentation and necessary permissions is ongoing, for completing action in 2006 y.		
Trees degrading peatbogs removed from 9 sites. Trees removed or thinned on ca 650 ha. As a result, water balance of these bogs importantly improving, see above.	Action executed on 2 bogs (65ha), as planned for 2005, and started on 3 <sup>rd</sup> bog also (ca 50 ha). For ca 200 ha action prepared for 2006 y.		
Full today's biodiversity (species list) of open bogs and bog forests on all sites preserved. 9 "hot points of threat" important for biodiversity on 3 bogs safe (light conditions improved for rare plants populations)	Needs revised as a result of more detailed inventory and management planning. Light conditions (important for biodiversity) improved in 10 places on 1 bogs. On next bog action (delayed from 2004y as a result of natural conditions) executed.		
Spruce removed from 2 bogs. As a result no important threat of spruce invasion anywhere.	Action prepared for 2006		

Natural values, stratygraphy and hydroecology of all 23 bogs recognized. Site management concept for all bogs prepared, and if necessary, formally established as site management plan.

Necessary nature protection forms established, basing on prepared documentation. Established Site Management Plans, according to Polish law, for all Nature Reserves.

Basic nature inventory for all bogs completed.

Documentations for establishing necessary nature protection form completed for all bogs when planned. Formal procedures of conservation forms: for 1 bog completed, for 4 bogs almost completed, for 5 bogs started.

Project of Site Management Plans for all existing nature reserves started and for 4 reserves completed. Formal ministration procedure of its formal establishing started.

Local public, local authorities, forest administration and water authorities aware of natural values of each site and aware of need of its conservation, including appropriate methods of its conservation.

Popular brochures presenting each bog printed and disseminated.

Website created and maintained.

Project of active raised bogs conservation propagated in public: layman's report printed and disseminated.

Group of ca 20 persons, nature management planners and nature conservation authority and administration, trained in raised bogs ecology and appropriate methods of its conservation.

Handbook of raised bogs conservation in Polish conditions prepared, printed and disseminated.

Report with technical and planning solution examples printed.

Public awareness increased: info about project disseminated among foresters and Polish conservationists.

Ca 47 meetings & negotiations sessions with the local authorities, water management bodies, or foresters responsible for the sites conducted.

Website initiated and maintained.

Group of ca 30 persons establihed and work with this group is continued. After the first workshop in November 2004, in August 2005 the field workshop to Latvian & Estonian bogs have been organized.

Handbook prepared to print, will be printed in November 2005..

## 5. Progress in including of project sites to Natura 2000 network and in establishing of national conservation forms

In the 2004, April, Polish government have send to the European Commission the project of Natura 2000 net in Poland with 182 proposed habitat sites. Some of our project sites, but not all, have been included to this governmental project.

Although, according to LIFE2004 rules, there is only obligation to establish "appropriate national form of nature protection" for project sites on the end of the project, we try to include all project sites to Natura 2000 network, because of their natural values and importance for 7110, 7120 and 91D0 habitats.

We ask Polish Ministry of Environment for including all project sites to official Natura 2000 proposal. In 2005 Polish Ministry of Environmet start to work on extension of Polish Natura 2000 proposal. Till September the draft of the extended pSCI list have been prepared and the formal consultation process was started for these sites. Most of our project sites are included to this list. We expect Polish Ministry of Environment will send the extended list of pSCI to European Comission ca in November 2005.

Paralelly to the lobbing for including sites to Natura 2000 network, the national form of protection have been established step by step. Between February and September 2005 1 new nature reserve was established on one of the most important sites (Kusowo Bog), and establishing of 4 new nature reserves is prepared and negotiated and probably will be formally signed by appropriate authority soon.

The formal situation of project sites on the end of September 2005 was as below :

Site Nr	Site Name	Polish Protection Form	Natura 2000	
1	Słowińskie Błoto	Nature Reserve have been		
		created during the project	On official Polish list	
2	Janiewickie Bagno	existing Nature Reserve	On official Polish list	
3	Kusowskie Bagno	Nature Reserve have been		
	_	created during the project	On official Polish list	
4	Kurze Grzędy	existing Nature Reserve	On official Polish list	
5	Staniszewskie Błoto	existing Nature Reserve	On official Polish list	
6	Bielawskie Błota	existing Nature Reserve	No, should be added after restoration, before the project end	
7	Łebskie Bagno	Nature Reserve will be	Probably will be proposed by Polish	
7	Carra Dagga Karalinki	created soon	government ca in November 2005	
7	Czarne Bagno-Karolinki	Nature Reserve will be created soon	Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005	
8	Siedem Jezior-Chośnica	Existing Nature Reserve	On official Polish list	
9	Wierzchucińskie Błota	Nature Reserve have been created during the project	probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005, as fragment of Piasnickie Łaki site	
10	Ciemińskie Bagna	Existing Nature Reserve	On official Polish list	
11	Pobłocie	Existing Nature Reserve	probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005	
12	Górka	Existing Nature Reserve	No, should be added after restoration, before the project end	
13	Zaleskie Bagno	Procedure of nature reserve creating will be started soon	On official Polish list	
14	Warnie - Wierzchomińskie Bagno	Partially existing nature reserve, on the rest of the area nature reserve have been created during the project	Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005	
15	Stramniczka	Procedure of nature reserve creating will be started soon	Probably in November 2005 Polish government will propose to included itt o neighbouring N2k site	
16	Roby	Procedure of nature reserve creating will be started soon	On official Polish list	
17	Klęcko	Existing ZPK	Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005	
18	Bagno Ciemino	Existing Nature Reserve	Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005	
19	Reptowo	Proposed ZPK	No, should be added after restoration, before the project end	
20	Łazy	Procedure of nature reserve creating will be started soon	Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005, as part of the bigger site	

21	Święta		Probably will be proposed by Polish government ca in November 2005
22	Świdne Bagno	Proposed ZPK	On official Polish list
23	Wielkie Błoto - Wierzchowo	Procedure of ecological ground establishing will be	
		started soon	On official Polish list

**bold** = legally established as a results of project activities

#### 6. Main problems

1. Effects of changing legislation on nature conservation in Poland are still important for the procedures of Site management Plan establishing. After the establishing of new nature conservation act in May 2004, detail decrees on Site Management Plans (both MP for Natura 2000 or nature reserves) have been established in May and June 2005 year. But till now neither Polish ministry nor regional nature conservation administration do not work out the good practice of manegement plan format. As a result, all formal procedures of nature management plans establishing are delayed. They do not block the project action, because formal procedures for this "changing situation" exists and works, but as a result getting obligatory permissions for conservation actions is more bureaucratic and takes more effort, but is still possible.

It is not necessary to use any special measurements to solve this problem. It is expected that in 2006 and 2007 years the "good practice" will be worked pout by governmental administration and formal procedures became faster and easier.

- 2. Long procedures of formal Nature Reserves establishing. Official procedures seems to be longer than expected. But it seems to be enough time to establish necessary conservation forms before the project end.
- 3. Gaps in knowledge about nature & ecology of particular bogs have been fulfilled as a result of actions A1-A3. But as a result, the site assessment, decision about appropriate conservation form, concepts of site management, and identification of conservation needs sometimes had to be revised. As a result some modifications in localisation of particular actions in project will be necessary, but generally without modifications of expected ecological effects in general.
- 4. Execution of project actions demand much more bureaucracy, necessary permissions and technical documentations then expected on the start. Especially getting building permits for ditches blocking demands according to new, more detailed Polish regulations on building permits preparing very detail documentation, which is time and money consuming.

To solve this problem we are finding the additional sources of financing for preparing necessary documentation.

#### 7. Financial summary (cumulative: 2003 Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> - 2005 Sept 30<sup>th</sup>).

Category →	A	ВС	D	E	F	Total costs, EURO
Budget item ↓						
1. Personnel						
	20328,99	570,30		5530,29	30141,50	56571,08
2. Travel	3798,70	1090,33		5134,73	2943,14	12966,90
3. External assistance	54824,42	12151,33		4509,31	,	71485,06
4. Durable goods	12262,36	9210,98		72,04	17415,21	38960,59
5. Land purchase /	,	,		,	,	,
6. Consumable	3057,88			598,55	20,59	3677,02
7. Other costs						
	8,13				3513,65	3521,78
8. Overheads	,				·	,
	2193,33	384,77		1442,23	3622,48	7642,81
TOTAL	96 473,81	23 407,71		17 287,15	57 656,57	194 825,24

EURO =3,9821 PLN (2005, September, 1st)

#### Comments:

- Some important and expensive actions (C1, C2, E1) in the end of September 2005 have been finished or almost finished on the field, but not financially documented yet. The deadline for this actions is as a rule November 2005. Therefore in this moment the financial progress do not reflect the technical progress accurately. The costs of actions, which will be finished in October or November 2005y will be ca 104 719 Euro, then expected cumulative project costs on the end of November will be ca 299 000 Euro
- Low cost F7 in comparison to provisional budget: the cost of bank guarantee have been much lower than expected. This is because the guarantor National Fund for Environment and Water Management, use non-commercial rate for our guarantee

#### Actions planned for the next 6 month (till March 2006)

- Completing the technical documentations for building in 2006 dams on ditches for next 6 bogs;
- Revision of Habitat Action Plan;
- Printing of Handbook of Polish Raised Bogs Conservation;
- Stakeholders management, continuing of meetings with autrorities;
- Website improving and updating;
- Monitoring data recording.