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Seeing is believing!

Without a doubt, excursions are one of the best ways of giving people a better idea of what your aims are. This improved understanding helps people accept the progress you are making. The Life+ 3WATER project partners therefore organized guided visits to our project area; these are a crucial part of the project. Two guided visits were organized for local inhabitants on December 22, 2012 and January 5, 2013.

3WATER contributes to the implementation of Natura 2000 in the region of Midden Limburg in Belgium. The project aims to restore and conserve specific habitat types and species of European importance, specifically the Bittern and Tree frog. Sometimes, ecological restoration can change the landscape quite dramatically for a shorter or longer period of time which can upset the local inhabitants. This makes informing people about what is going in their community essential.

Three project partners; the European Landowners' Organization (ELO), the local landowners' association (OVML) and the Community of Zonhoven organized guided tours for local communities to see the progression in areas where the restoration actions take place. Knowledgeable guides, recruited from local landowners and the Community of Zonhoven, showed the attendees the works undertaken by the Flemish Agency for Nature and Forest (Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos-ANB) in the first phase

as well as the works planned by private landowners. This is what makes 3WATER

unique; it is being implemented by both public and private actors. The guides also underlined the importance of the Natura 2000 network.

Other events in the project area for the general public are planned for September 11, 2013 as well as the conference in Brussels on December 10, 2013.

Barbora BUCKOVA,
ELO Life+ Coordinator

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WCC report: A step closer to the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management



Since wildlife knows no national borders, more regional and cross-boundary management efforts are needed. With this in mind, the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) and IUCN-SULi organised a workshop entitled "Towards a Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPSWM)", at the occasion of the 5th World Conservation Congress of IUCN in September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea. The workshop gathered together organisations with an interest in wildlife management including CIC, IUCN, CBD, OIE, FAO and TRAFFIC.

The CIC, from which the idea was born, had prepared a motion which served as the basis for the workshop discussions. It was agreed that the Programme of Work of the partnership could initially focus on the issue of bushmeat and subsequently on further issues relating to the sustainable management of wildlife. The motion was later adopted with minor amendments.

The successful adoption of the motion, together with the decision on the CPSWM which was taken later at the 11th COP to the CBD in October 2012 in Hyderabad, India carries forward the process which was started by the CIC, following a suggestion from Jan HEINO, President of the CIC Policy and Law Division and former Assistant Director General of the Forestry Department of FAO, who successfully chaired the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, a possible model for the CP-SWM.

This CIC initiative is well on its way to becoming a truly global partnership for the sustainable management of wildlife resources.

For more information <http://www.cic-wildlife.org/> - CIC Team