



wetlanet



E-BULLETIN ISSUE 1 / 01 JUNE 2009

PROGRESS REPORT

WP1: Project coordination

Task 1.1. Organisation, monitoring and assessment of project activities.

The Start-up meeting of WETLANET was held on 29th April 2009. Almost all research staff of the Central Laboratory of General Ecology attended the event. Among the guests of the meeting were Professor Lyubomir Kazakov, scientific secretary of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the members of the Core-team of the project Ms Lora Pavlova, Senior Expert in the Scientific Research Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria, and Ms Rayna Hardalova, Head of the Biodiversity Department, National Nature Conservation Service, Ministry of Environment and Waters of the Republic of Bulgaria. The meeting was held in two sessions. The first session included presentation about the objectives of the WETLANET project by Professor B. Georgiev, coordinator of the project and continued with brief presentations which were presented by Mrs Pavlova and Mrs Hardalova. During the second session, the work package leaders of the six work packages presented briefly the tasks and activities of every work package according to the working plan of the project. Operative units (Core team, WP teams, and Task teams) of the project were set up. During the discussion after the presentations, some useful comments and suggestions were made by the project participants aiming at better organization of the WETLANET implementation.

Task 1.2. Establishment and maintenance of the management information system.

The template of the e-bulletin was developed. The Core team took the decision the E-bulletin to be issued every three months. It will provide useful information concerning the project progress report and a schedule of the events and activities for the next three months. Thus, the E-bulletin will be a tool for early announcements about the project activities and events and will facilitate the implementation of the project tasks on time.

WP2. Transfer of know-how and experience

The two Task teams settled the application form for all participants of WETLANET. They have to express their interests and plans for outgoing and incoming visits for the period June 2009 – April 2010. The deadline for the applications from the researchers of the CLGE-BAS is 1st July 2009.

WP3. Recruitment of incoming experienced researchers

Task 3.1. Selection and hiring procedure for incoming researchers.

Four positions for employment of experienced researchers were announced on 26th May 2009 on the websites of WETLANET Project (<http://www.wetlanet.org>) and EURAXESS. Three temporary positions (at least postdoctoral level) were announced for biologists to carry out studies on functioning, management and restoration of wetlands (including coastal marine zones) and their

biodiversity. One temporary position was announced for a chemist for research on the fate of persistent organic compounds in wetlands (including coastal marine zones). The deadline for applications is 1st September 2009.

WP4. Acquisition, development and upgrading of research equipment

Preliminary survey on the necessary research equipment for upgrading of the field stations and the headquarters was accomplished. In accordance to the Bulgarian Legislation, the WP Team and the Core team took decision to purchase the RTD and IT equipment via a tender procedure. The preparation of the tender documentation is ongoing.

WP5. Organisation of a conference and workshops

The preparation of the first WETLANET Workshop “Genetic monitoring in Wetlands: Recent methodological developments” was started.

WP6. Dissemination and promotional activities

Task 6.1. Launching and maintaining of website of the project.

The preparation of the website is ongoing. The ZOPE server was installed and the CMS platform (Plone) was chosen to develop the WETLANET website. At the moment the content of the website is complete. The final launching (planned to be done till 15th of June) needs domain registration and a decision about the hosting of the website.

SCHEDULE

01 June – 31 August 2009

- **WP2** - outgoing and incoming visits schedule approval meeting (July 2009).
- **WP3** - approval of the job applications, interviews with the applicants (September 2009).
- **WP4** - offers evaluation and decision on RTD and IT equipment acquisition (August 2009).
- **WP5** - participations in scientific and training events schedule approval meeting (July 2009).
- **WP5** - first announcement of the Workshop 1 “*Genetic monitoring in Wetlands: Recent methodological developments*”; approval of the list of invited experts and participants (August, September 2009).
- **WP6** – launching the WETLANET website (July 2009).
- **WP6** - preparation of template for the bilingual leaflet “WETLANET project” (August, September 2009).