

# NATURE IN THE EYES OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES FROM DANUBE DELTA BIOSPHERE REZERVE

## Project presentation



# NNA



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## **GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATIONS**

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**PROJECT DURATION** - 1 January 2007 – 31 March 2007

## **GENERAL SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**

To change the way how people should perceive nature. The main instrument of the proposed project is an intensive information and awareness campaign for local communities. At the end of project implementation, the local communities will be more informed about environmental problems, prepared to accommodate with European Union rules and objectives, capable to identify/access European Union funds for rural development.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

**To identify the local population and stakeholders needs**

**To identify the local traditional products and services**

**To improve the quality of information regarding to EU legislation and rules, sustainable development and nature conservation, EU funds for rural development**

**To promote some local traditional activities for sustainable use of the renewable natural resources**

### **Sub-targets**

**-To identify target public which will be involved in the project**

**-Dialogue for identification of actuality problems**

**-To identify additional traditional activities based on natural resources**

**-To disseminate EU environmental legislation**

**-To explain nature conservation and sustainable development concepts**

**-To identify EU funds for rural development**

**Targets groups: stakeholders, local administrations and local representative people from Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve – Sulina, Sf. Gheorghe and Crisan localities, heads of professional fishermen's associations which are developing fishing activities.**

## CURRENT SITUATION

Employment rate in DDBR was in 1996 of 86,6%, this percentage having decreased until today at approx. 60%

The pressure on the renewable natural resources (especially fish) increased very much

The lack of access to culture, recreation and information because of the infrastructural difficulties to get in and out of the Danube Delta and because of the existence of only very few informational sources (Radio and TV)

Local communities from Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve are not sufficiently prepared and informed to initiate and develop environmentally friendly activities

Live in Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve is difficult, especially during the winter time when people don't have many opportunities to earn money for subsistence

# CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT TO NATURE PROTECTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The new information's accumulated during the project implementation period, will be used by local communities and local administrations in order to identify new environmental friendly activities and new sources of incoming. European funds for rural development, grants and other funds will be easily to find and access. Local communities from DDBRA will be prepared to understand Environmental Legislation, goals and actions regarding to sustainable development and nature conservation concepts

## **Preparatory work/projects**

**Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority implemented during the period 1995-2000, the GEF-World Bank Project “Biodiversity in Danube Delta”. One of the important achievements of the project was the Public Awareness Strategy, finalised in 2000 and being the first of its kind for any protected area in Romania. As well as providing an overall objective and vision for public awareness in the Danube Delta, it contains an Action Plan documenting the activities that DDBRA plans undertake to ensure effective communication and public involvement. The Public Awareness Strategy has relied on ideas and comments from a wide range of people, including representatives of governmental bodies, NGOs, local communities, academic institutions, schools and other organisations, along with DDBRA staff.**



## Perspectives of the project after subsidation - period has ended

Annual Festival for promoting the local natural and cultural values and the local products will be organised.

DDBRA will continue to monitor the local communities opinion regarding the EU regulations implementation, will continue to organise meetings with the main stakeholders acting inside the DDBR, in view to identify their needs and the results of the alternative economic activities implementation.

The DDBRA web site quality will be improved.





**CONCEPT FOR PROBLEM SOLUTION (EXPLANATION OF METHODS/MEASURES THAT ARE GOING TO BE APPLIED)**

- workshops and seminars (dialog)
- opinion survey (questionnaires)
- consultation (a good opportunity to identify the problems and solutions)



## **CONSTRAINTS:**

Regarding the local people involvement in project implementation because of the reticence for legislation

Regarding the local people reticence to apply for advice to develop new activities, to respect the new EU environmental regulations

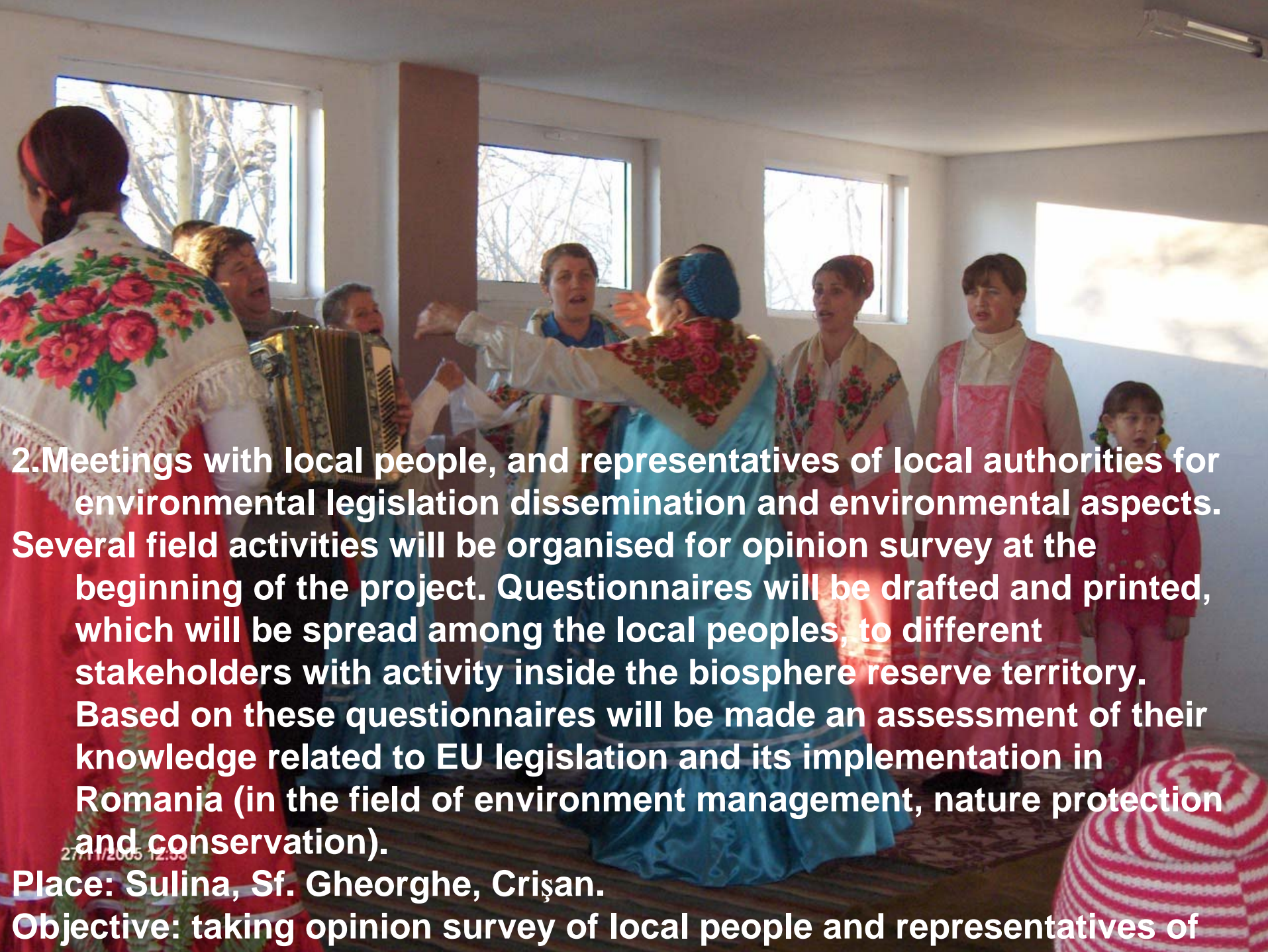
# **Project activities:**

## **1. Project launching (stakeholders workshop)**

**Place: Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Administration**

**Topics: will be presented the project, its objectives, what intends to achieve through its implementation, the financial support and the involvement of the Alfred Toepfer Foundation F.V.S., the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU), Euronatur, Europarc Federation and Lunenburg University.**



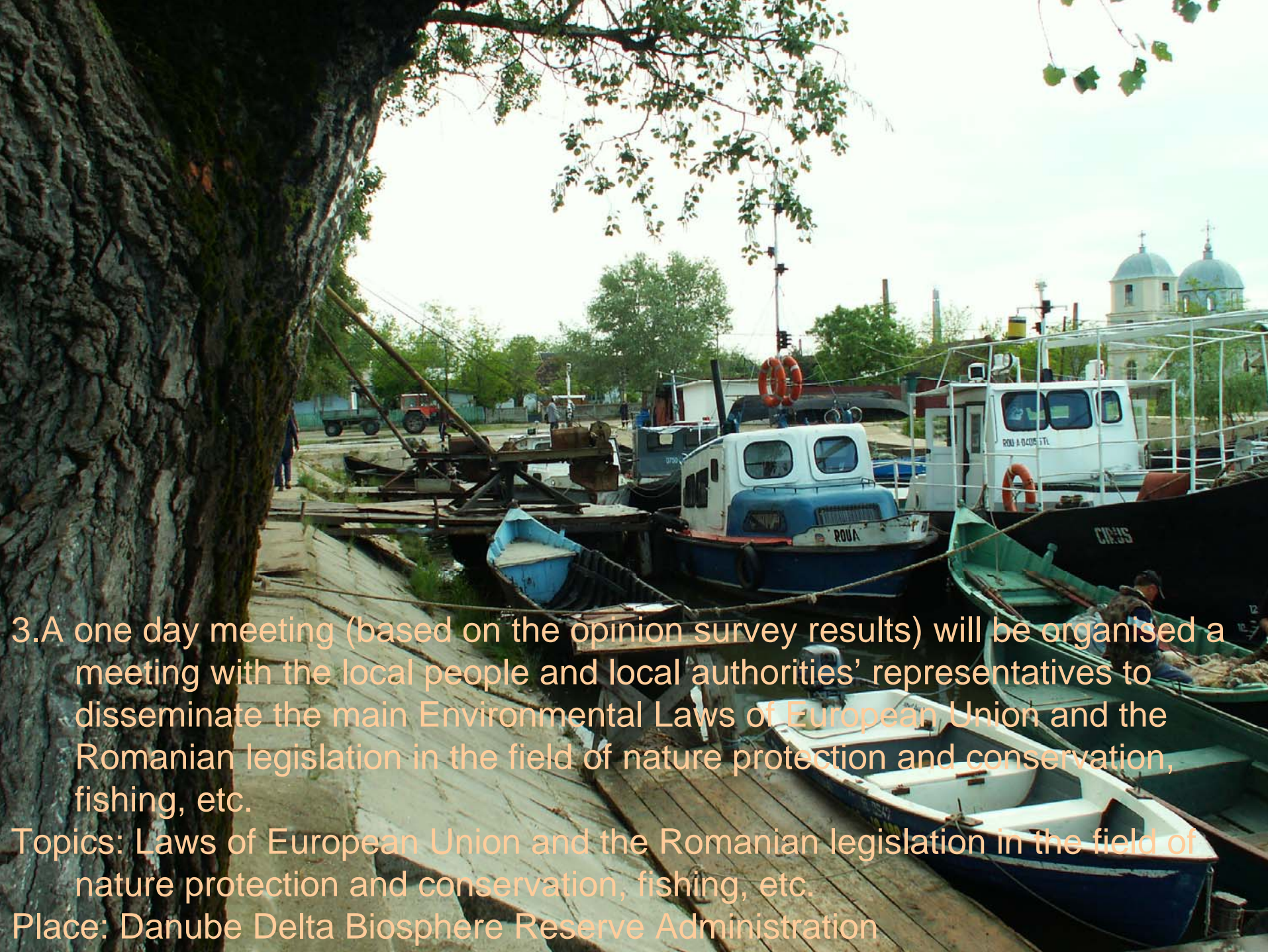


**2. Meetings with local people, and representatives of local authorities for environmental legislation dissemination and environmental aspects. Several field activities will be organised for opinion survey at the beginning of the project. Questionnaires will be drafted and printed, which will be spread among the local peoples, to different stakeholders with activity inside the biosphere reserve territory. Based on these questionnaires will be made an assessment of their knowledge related to EU legislation and its implementation in Romania (in the field of environment management, nature protection and conservation).**

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**Place: Sulina, Sf. Gheorghe, Crişan.**

**Objective: taking opinion survey of local people and representatives of**



3.A one day meeting (based on the opinion survey results) will be organised a meeting with the local people and local authorities' representatives to disseminate the main Environmental Laws of European Union and the Romanian legislation in the field of nature protection and conservation, fishing, etc.

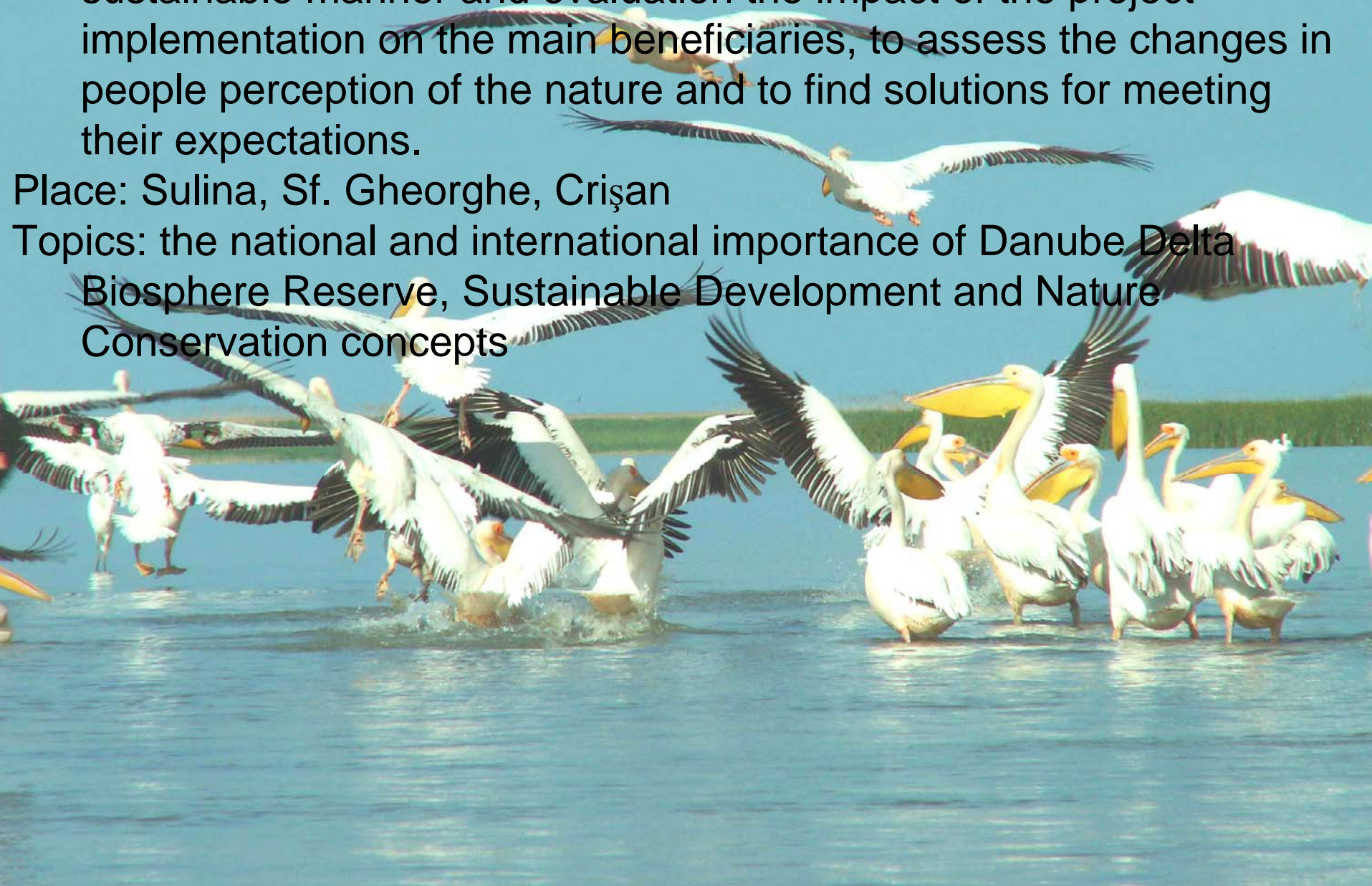
Topics: Laws of European Union and the Romanian legislation in the field of nature protection and conservation, fishing, etc.

Place: Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Administration

4. Workshops (meetings) with the main actors for presenting them the values of the nature and how they can benefit from its use in a sustainable manner and evaluation the impact of the project implementation on the main beneficiaries, to assess the changes in people perception of the nature and to find solutions for meeting their expectations.

Place: Sulina, Sf. Gheorghe, Crişan

Topics: the national and international importance of Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, Sustainable Development and Nature Conservation concepts

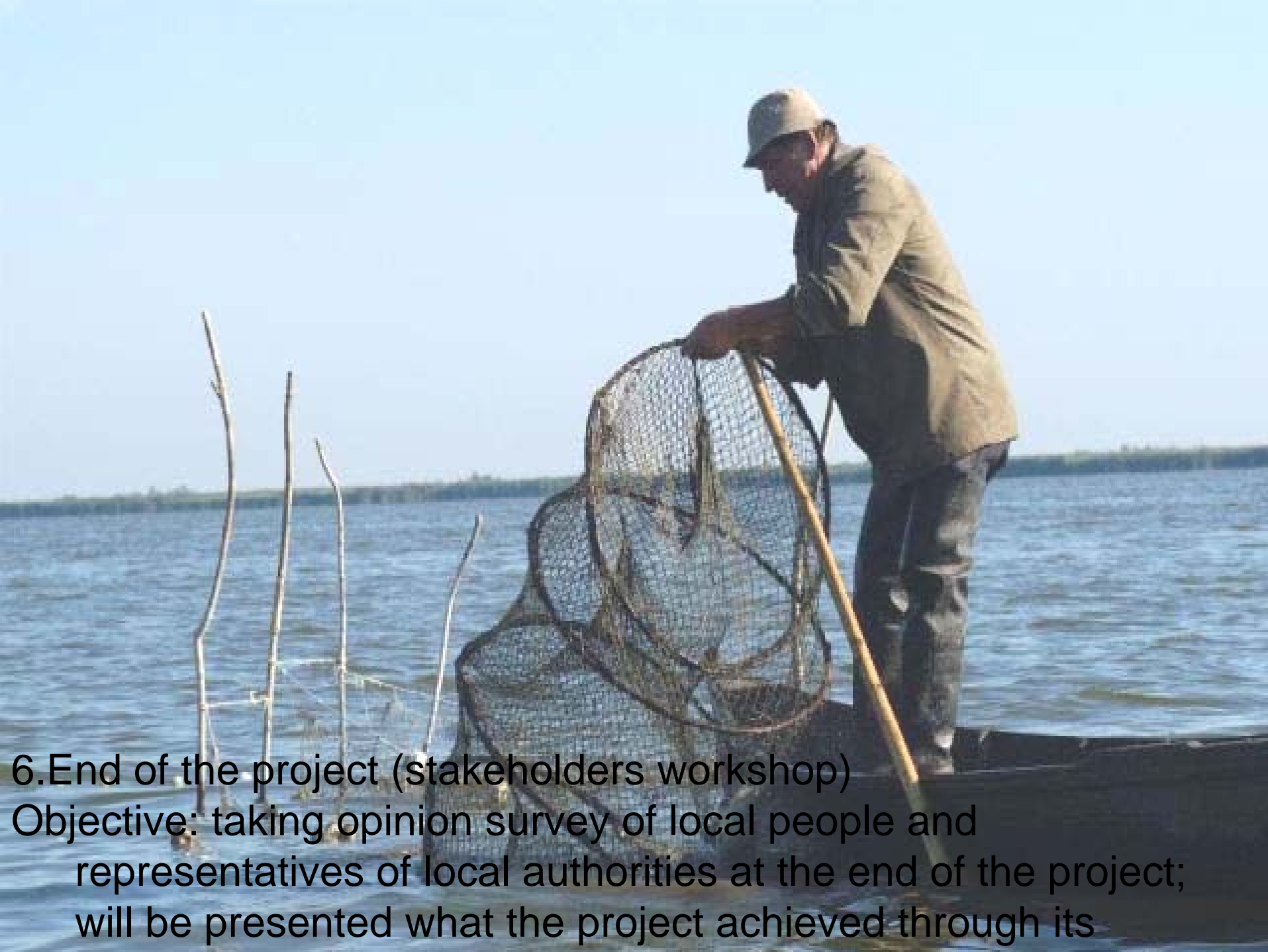




5. Public awareness actions regarding the project (information materials for local traditional products and services promotion. It will be produced a leaflet, 100 copies, about the Project financial support, the main EU regulations in the field of environment management, natural and cultural heritage of the local people, proposals for environment friendly activities to be developed on the reserve's territory and EU funds for rural development

Place: Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve.

Objective: leaflets spreading.



6. End of the project (stakeholders workshop)

Objective: taking opinion survey of local people and representatives of local authorities at the end of the project; will be presented what the project achieved through its



THANK YOU FOR ATENTION