

Aims and Objectives

- ▶ Practice oriented, scientifically funded advanced vocational training of five “young professionals“ from each Romania and Bulgaria in the field of nature conservation and regional development
- ▶ Supporting the adoption of the “Aquis Communautaire” in the environmental policy of Bulgaria and Romania
- ▶ Initiation and implementation of projects in nature conservation and regional development in the home countries; competition for funding
- ▶ Contribution to networking between Bulgaria and Romania and with the EU countries, esp. Germany, between GO’s and NGO’s, between nature conservation and regional development

Who can apply?

- ▶ The ten trainee positions per year are open to younger (up to 40 years) employees and decision-makers in the field of nature conservation and regional development from NGO’s and GO’s
- ▶ Good English language skills are required as well as a strong support of the applicant by his/her home institution



The recent group of trainees at their arrival at the Alfred Toepfer Academy for Nature Conservation (19.08.2008) together with the project team.

Programme

The NatuRegio project started in 2006 and will continue at least until 2010. The training period for the trainees is one year which is structured as follows:

1. One week technical language course
2. Two-week excursion to all types of large scale protected areas in Germany and to important institutions in the field of nature conservation



During the excursion 2007 at the Naturpark Am Stettiner Haff with two Park Ranger

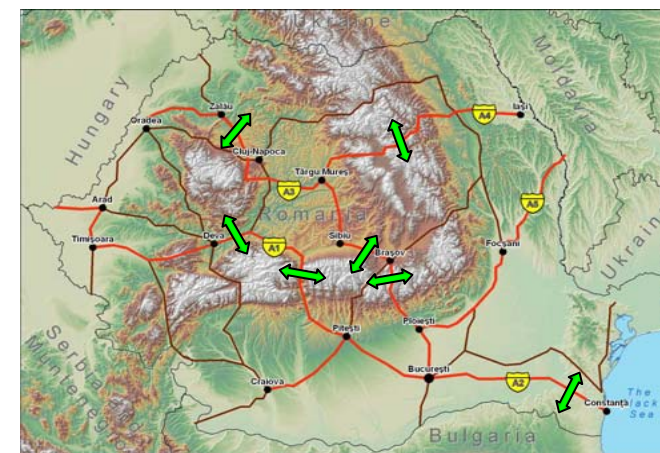
3. Three months traineeship in German institutions equivalent to the trainees home institutions.
4. Three seminars (partly in RO/BG) on the themes of Natura 2000, sustainable tourism, environmental education, regional development, project management, communications and EU funding instruments
5. Four months implementing individual projects in their home institutions which have been planned and elaborated during the stay in Germany. Every trainee gets 3000 € to implement the project, the best two of each year are specially awarded with up to 15.000 €

How to support the programme

- ▶ For the next training period we are looking for german institutions which are interested in new contacts to South-Eastern Europe by offering a placement position for a NatuRegio trainee. All costs are covered by the project. It is mostly welcome to join the process of planning the scholar projects and extending it to a bi-national project.
- ▶ We are also grateful for any support in raising the public notice of the NatuRegio project in Romania and Bulgaria in order to reach people from all kinds of institutions.

Trainee projects

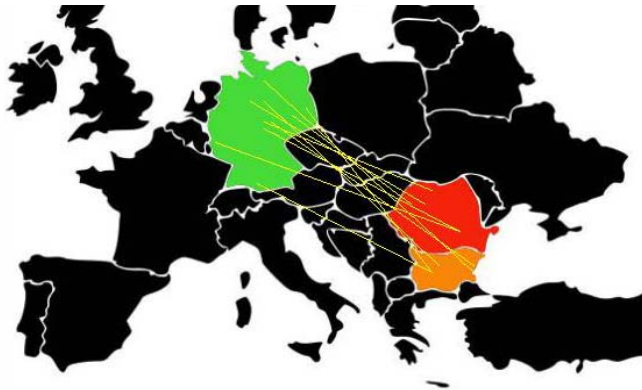
- ▶ All the trainees are implementing individual projects in their home institutions in Bulgaria and Romania. More information about these projects can be obtained from our webpage or by contacting the project coordinators.



One project example: Developing a model for the Romanian ecological network as a tool for sustainable development.

Outlook

- ▶ Continuation of this project for another two years
- ▶ Having at the end a network of 40 young leaders in Bulgarian and Romanian GO's and NGO's well equipped with knowledge and experience in European nature conservation, linked with each other and with German institutions in the field of nature conservation and regional development
- ▶ Having implemented 40 local projects in Bulgaria and Romania.



In the course of the project young professionals from all over Romania and Bulgaria complete a three-month traineeship in protected areas and nature conservation organisations in Germany matched to their own position and activity area in their home countries in order to establish a network of expertise.

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Naturegio
trainees for nature

Nature Conservation and
Regional Development in
South-East Europe
illustrated by the examples
of **Romania** and **Bulgaria**

Vocational training and
networking programme

Period: 01.05.2006 – 30.04.2010

