

Release of the new Emerald Software

On 19 September 2014, the new Emerald Network Software was released. It is now ready for use by the Bern Convention Contracting Parties working on the establishment of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. The new tool is user friendly and will significantly facilitate the work of experts gathering ecological information on species and habitats to be protected through the Emerald Network sites identified in the different countries.

This Software was adapted from the recently released new Natura2000 Software, used by EU Member States. The adaptation works, testing and release of the Emerald Software was possible thanks to the hard work and support of the European Environment Agency, the independent expert Marc Roekaerts and the Bern Convention Contracting Parties who have volunteered for the testing of the first versions available during the adaptation process.

The new Emerald Software can be downloaded from the European Environment Agency's EIONET (European Environment Information and Observation Network): <u>https://svn.eionet.europa.eu</u>

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