



Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe



Protected Areas: creating synergies with the work of other Bern Convention's Groups of Experts



Mandate of the Group of Experts on Climate Change

- To address the effects of climate change on the biological diversity covered by the Convention, including impacts on species and habitats, on protected areas, and on ecological networks



Draft Work-Plan

Priority c. - Establish and manage protected areas in light of climate change:

- ✓ Incorporate appropriate actions in the management guidance for the Emerald Network;
- ✓ Undertaking a review of the adequacy of the Emerald Network to ensure adaptation (species, species, ecological processes and ecosystem services);
- ✓ Promote a network-wide approach to the management of individual protected areas;
- ✓ Assess the impact of climate change during on-the-spot appraisals carried out prior to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas (EDPA).





Draft Work-Plan

Other priorities

- ✓ Implement agreed recommendations (and sharing of best practices);
- ✓ Assess species' vulnerability for their prioritisation (seasonally migrant; rare, endemic, range-restricted species);
- ✓ Monitoring using common approaches;
- ✓ Assess the role of biodiversity in maintaining ecosystem functions;
- ✓ Promote research to advance the work of the Group;
- ✓ Promote conservation of Arctic species;
- ✓ Promote effective communication on CC challenges and opportunities;
- ✓ Cooperate with other institutions



EDPA: The Pisa Declaration

-  Use the EDPA network to trial innovative nature conservation management and nature-based solutions;
-  Adapt the existing management to most pressing threats (i.a. Climate change)



Other EDPA priorities

- ✔ Develop a communication strategy;
- ✔ Promote participatory management (including traditional knowledge);
- ✔ Involve local community in the development of PA;
- ✔ Expand the network to marine and freshwater ecosystems



Proposals for future work

Proceed to the identification and designation of Important Herpetofauna Areas (IHA) within the existing Natura 2000 and Emerald (including candidate) sites.

Ensure that designation of Emerald sites takes herpetofauna into account and considers the contribution of herpetofauna to habitats conservation.



Matters of urgency for the SC

- Urgent implementation of the Draft Rec on the prevention and control of the *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (BS) chytrid fungus;
- Implementation of monitoring programmes of populations' trends and *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* BD infections at national level;
- Control of the small Indian mongoose (BiH, Croatia, Montenegro)

Other priorities

- Monitoring and surveillance of herpetofauna in BC Parties;
- Monitoring of implementation of past Recs and APs;
- Preparation of basic principles to avoid or reduce transport defragmentation;
- Review the impact of alien predators on amphibian and reptiles