

## LIFE NATURA 2000 BRATISLAVA

**Project title:** *RESTORATION OF NATURA 2000 SITES IN CROSS-BORDER BRATISLAVA CAPITAL REGION* – LIFE10 NAT/SK/000080

### **Project background**

The Bratislava capital region and its surroundings support a high number of habitats and species of European importance. Within the project site, the Pannonian and the Alpine bio-geographical regions meet and there are important lotic and lentic aquatic habitats as well as diverse man-made habitats and pristine natural forest. A total of 60 species listed within Annex II of the Habitats Directive occur within the project site. These valuable habitats face threats from the abandonment of traditional land-use practices, and a high density of unregulated tourists and day-trippers.

Trilateral cross-border LIFE+ project “**Restoration of NATURA 2000 sites in cross-border Bratislava capital region**” is carried out from January 2012 until March 2017. The project area is situated in the Slovak-Hungarian-Austrian cross border region in the capital of Slovakia Bratislava and its surrounding. 6 project partners under leadership of Slovak NGO BROZ co-operate together on implementation of project actions:

1. BROZ (Regional Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development)
2. DAPHNE – Institute of Applied Ecology
3. Comenius University of Bratislava
4. State Nature Conservancy of Slovak Republic
5. Trout Circle Association (Pisztránk Kör), Hungary
6. National Park Donau-Auen, Austria

### **Project objectives**

The main project objective is to establish a functional network of NATURA 2000 areas in the trilateral region of Bratislava and to secure favourable conservation status for habitats of Community interest by restoration and management of 17 sites within the project site.

Project actions are aimed at restoration of forest habitats as well as forest steppes, grasslands, maintenance of optimal conservation status by the traditional grazing of animals (sheep, goats, cows), restoration of water and wetland habitats as well as caves and rocky habitats.

Restoration of grasslands focuses on management of semi-natural dry grasslands as well as fen grasslands and wet meadows which will be treated first of all by removal of tree and shrub vegetation and subsequently also by local mowing, mulching and sowing of seeds. Restoration management of grassland and fen habitat types 6110\*, 6190, 6210\*, 6240\*, 6410, 6440, 6510, 7230 is aimed at their preservation, improvement of conservation status and re-introduction of traditional management such as grazing (in case of grassland types 6110\*, 6190, 6210\*, 6240\*) and mowing (fen grasslands and wet meadows: 6410, 6440, 6510, and 7230).

Beside the concrete conservation measures the project includes also variety of activities aimed at public awareness rising like project web site ([www.broz.sk/natura2000ba](http://www.broz.sk/natura2000ba)), production of information materials, elaboration of complex educational programs for schools, production of documentary films, guiding of excursions and many others.

**Coordinating beneficiary:** The Regional Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development (BROZ)

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**Duration of project:** 63 months (01/01/2012 - 31/03/2017)

**WEB site:** [www.broz.sk/natura2000ba](http://www.broz.sk/natura2000ba)