

## Content

2 / 2012

- Preface
- Vegetable Gardens in the Desert
- Unknown Beauty - Lake Stechlin
- GNF in Berlin
- News from our Donors
- Drinking Cups for Drinking Water
- Order of Merit for GNF President
- Dates
- Publications and Online Information

### Vegetable Gardens in the Desert

The unique desert wetlands complex Deh Akro, in southeast Pakistan, is a mixture of sand dunes, wetlands, swamps, ponds and farmland. The water covers an area of 50 sq. km. In 1988, the wetland was declared a wildlife sanctuary of international importance. In 2002, the Deh Akro wetlands

complex was recognized as a Ramsar site. The whole complex stretches over an area of 205 sq. km. In the southwest, the landscape is characterised by agricultural areas. The few existing natural resources such as fish and pastures are increasingly overused. The farmers allow their cattle to graze along the lake's banks thus destroying the few shrubs and trees that are still growing in the wetland. But these are very important for the wetland's eco-system and biodiversity, for the many rare and endangered animal and plant species occurring there, such as Houbara bustard, marsh crocodile, marbled duck and tamarisk. To protect the nature and provide the poorest families a source of food, the GNF partner SANGAT Development Foundation established exemplary vegetable gardens to grow potatoes, onions, eggplants and pumpkins for 15 families. At the same time, 4,000 planted jujube trees contribute to improve the soils of the desert as well as the nutrition situation - their fruits are very rich in vitamins. A new drip irrigation system was installed to irrigate the gardens.



*Establishing vegetable gardens*

Since 2011, the desert wetlands complex has been a member of the network Living Lakes. With its 38 lakes, 5 of them have drinking water quality, the area is a unique example of a desert wetland ecosystem.

The project was funded by Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. and Rapunzel Naturkost by the Hand in Hand-Fonds.



### Preface

As GNF representative, I was invited by the newly formed Living Lakes network Canada to attend a kick-off event on May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on the occasion of the international Biodiversity Day. The goal of the initiative is to provide an effective platform for the exchange between environmental organisations in Canada and the whole world, because Lake Winnipeg faces severe problems. Algae growth due to phosphorus input and climate change are two of the biggest threats to Canada's sixth largest lake and the tenth largest freshwater lake in the world.

The idea that lakes in Canada might face similar problems like water bodies in densely

populated Europe was long unconceivable. Spanning almost over 10 million sq. km, Canada is the world's second largest country by total area, but compared to Germany, only half as many people live there. The impacts of eutrophication, climate change and biodiversity loss are increasing dramatically. Therefore, the Lake Winnipeg Foundation is encouraging international exchange and global cooperation.

Manitoba's licence plate bears the slogan "Friendly Manitoba". Oh yes, the Canadians are friendly people. And cars dominate the everyday life. I tried to use public transport and had to drop this idea, although this was easily possible 100 years ago! At the Winnipeg station, I saw some old photos and learned that the horse carriages, which were used for transportation from 1882 to 1894, were replaced by electric trams by the

"Winnipeg Street Railway", which, in 1892, was confidently renamed Winnipeg Electric Railway. In 1955, however, the electric trams were withdrawn from service. From the ambitious project of electro-mobility as a sustainable mobility solution, unfortunately nothing is left over.

"Friendly Manitoba". Friendliness is important, but for a rich country of this size this is not enough, it should also assume global responsibility. Perhaps, in the future the licence plate will bear the slogan "Responsible Manitoba"!



Udo Gattenlöhner  
Executive Director

## Unknown Beauty - Lake Stechlin

Do you know Lake Stechlin? Hidden in a wood in Brandenburg, about 90 kilometres north of Berlin, the Living Lake 2012 is situated.

Since the beginning of 2012, Lake Stechlin has been a member of the network Living Lake Germany. In March, this deepest and clearest lake in Northern Germany was selected as Living Lake of the Year. It was not a difficult decision because the lake with its clear water and natural diversity is home to rare species such as the threatened slender-leaved pondweed or *Pisidium*. Great Bittern breed in the bays and otter is looking for food along the shore.

The name Stechlin comes from the Slavonic "steklo" - glass - and refers to the clear

transparent lake water. A 16 km long trail goes around the lake, motor boats are not allowed. Lake Stechlin is one of the few lakes where water sportsmen and conservationists join forces to protect the biodiversity and good water quality of the lake.

This is all the more praiseworthy with regard to its spectacular past. Close to the lake, the decommissioned research reactor of Rheinsberg was located, which was constructed in the 1950's and 60's and shut down in 1990. Initially, everything seemed to go well, and the clear water allowed a view into the lake as far as 11 m. Now, the water depth has shrunk to 6 or even 3 m. Within 20 years the lake has lost 100 hectares of its submerged aquatic plant communities. The causes for this are still unclear.

In the meantime, Landestauchsportverband Brandenburg e.V. (LTSVB), NABU Landesverband Brandenburg e.V. as well as Verband Deutscher Sporttaucher e.V. (VDST) are jointly committed to saving this natural wonder. They organise comprehensive information campaigns, action days and guided nature tours to increase public awareness and appreciation of the lake. The cooperation among different local actors shall contribute to early recognize changing underwater conditions and find common solutions to preserve the water quality and biodiversity of the lake.

More information in German is available at [www.globalnature.org/LebendigerSee2012](http://www.globalnature.org/LebendigerSee2012).



*The photo was provided by the nature photographer Michael Feierabend, who has published a highly impressive illustrated book on Lake Stechlin. See also Publications.*

### GNF in Berlin

In April 2012, the GNF opened an office in Berlin. Katja Weickmann, who previously was employed in Radolfzell, has moved to the Berlin office.

#### Global Nature Fund – Office Berlin

**Katja Weickmann**

**Hackescher Markt 4**

**10178 Berlin, Germany**

**Phone: +49 - (0) 30 - 24 00 867 32**

**Fax: +49 - (0) 30 - 24 00 867 19**

**E-mail: [weickmann@globalnature.org](mailto:weickmann@globalnature.org)**



### News from our Donors

Ms Erika Kambeck died on March 14th, 2012. She lived in South Africa and actively supported the preservation of the threatened rhinos. Instead of a funeral wreath or flowers, Ms Kambeck had asked to donate to the Global Nature Fund. This is a great honour for us and, according to her last will, we will use the funds for the rhino protection in South Africa.

## Drinking Cups for Drinking Water Successful Football and Donation Season 2011 / 2012 42,233 Euro for Drinking Water in Africa

During the third common (donation) season, the visitors to the Hanover stadium have supported the campaign "Drinking Cups for Drinking Water". In total, sensational 42,233 Euro were raised by the donation of the deposit to the initiative. On the occasion of Bundesliga and Europe League home games, numerous fans donated their drinking cup deposit amounting to 1,- € , to support projects of the Global Nature Fund and its local partners in Kenya as well as in the Ivory Coast. The fans were informed about the project progression via the stadium screen and information boots. In its first season 2009/2010, the joint initiative of Hannover 96, TUI AG, the fan club Red Curve, and the Global Nature Fund, raised over 24,000 Euro, which were spent for the installation of four drinking water systems in Kenya. Since then, two schools, an orphanage and a hospital (3,500 people all in all) are being supplied daily with drinking water. The partner organisations Osienala and Pure Flow successfully implemented the measures on site.

Since the season 2010 / 2011, in 16 villages in the Ivory Coast, 16 water pumps for wells have been repaired. In the regions of Man and N'zi Comoé, in total 20 pumps were repaired and the well systems restored. Ever since then, over 12,000 people are reliably provided with drinking water. The local people were involved into the renovation and repair work, for each well a so-called water

committee is responsible for the maintenance and technique as well as the distribution of water. The local partner organisations, eddr (engagement durable pour le développement rural e.V.) and Habitat for Humanity, were in charge of the coordination and successful implementation on site.

In the village of Fronobo in the region of N'zi Comoé, Antoinette, a married mother of five children, is very glad about the functioning pump in her village. Up to now, she had to walk four times a day 5 km to the river to fetch water for her family of seven. The river water is polluted and carries a high risk of infections and diseases.

The repair of seven more wells in the Ivory Coast is planned for 2012. In Kenya, another drinking water purification will be installed, thus in total about 20,000 people in Kenya and the Cote d'Ivoire will benefit from three successful years of cooperation in the "Drinking Cups for Drinking Water"-campaign. A donation amount of more than 100,000 € was collected so far.

Up to now, thanks to the TUIfly Marathon in Hannover annually taking place in May,



After repair, this pump in the village N'drikro, Cote d'Ivoire, is working again.

the campaign was additionally supported by committed runners and spectators. Clean drinking water still is not self-evident, despite the fact that in 2010, the United Nations declared water a human right. In Kenya, only 11 % of the rural population has access to safe drinking water. In the Côte d'Ivoire, women and girls still have to walk for hours to fetch often strongly polluted water from lakes or rivers for their families.



## Order of Merit for GNF President

On June 6th, 2012 Marion Hammerl, GNF president, was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany by President Gauck for her great voluntary commitment to the protection of the environment and nature conservation. The Order for Merit is awarded for achievements in the political, economic, cultural, intellectual or honorary realm and outstanding services in the field of charitable work. Our sincere congratulations!

President Joachim Gauck and Marion Hammerl



© Public Relation Office of the Federal Government, Photograph: Sebastian Bolech

## Dates

**20 Juni 2012**

**Biodiversity and Supply Chain - Workshop for the Food Industry**  
President Hotel & Botanic Garden, Bonn, Germany

**21 - 24 June 2012**

**Regional Sustainable Development in Greece**  
Expert Conference within the frame of the German-Greek Meeting  
Kastoria, Greece

**29 June 2012**

Wind Power and Biodiversity Workshop: Tools to measure, avoid and compensate impacts  
Museu da Electricidade, Avenida de Brasília, 1300 Lisboa  
[www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=25&Termin=268](http://www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=25&Termin=268)

**30 June 2012**

**Open Day of the Lake Lab**  
Lake Lab at the Institut für Gewässerökologie und Binnenfischerei (IGB)  
Alte Fischerhütte 2, 16775 Stechlin / Neuglobsow, Germany  
[www.igb-berlin.de/ueber-uns.html](http://www.igb-berlin.de/ueber-uns.html)

**6 - 8 September 2012**

**Network Meeting Living Lakes Germany**  
Lake Stechlin, Germany  
More details on the network at  
[www.globalnature.org/NetworkGermany](http://www.globalnature.org/NetworkGermany)

**6 - 15 September 2012**

IUCN World Conservation Congress – Workshop on Corporate Ecosystem Valuation  
Jeju, Republic of Korea  
[www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=25&Termin=277](http://www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=25&Termin=277)

## Exhibitions

**PANTANAL – A NATURE PARADISE IN DANGER**

**LIVING LAKES GERMANY**

Locations and dates will be available soon. More details at:  
[www.globalnature.org/exhibitions](http://www.globalnature.org/exhibitions)

**JORDAN RIVER**

**Haus am Dom**

Frankfurt, Germany  
23 August - 20 September 2012

Please, find more details at:  
[www.globalnature.org/jordan-river](http://www.globalnature.org/jordan-river)

## Publications and Online-Information

**Green Filter at Lake Albufera in Spain** (Download in English and Spanish): [www.globalnature.org/AlbuferaLake](http://www.globalnature.org/AlbuferaLake)

**Fascination Stechlin by Michael Feierabend and Prof. Rainer Koschel**

The book contains a variety of large-format color photos of the fascinating plant and animal life above and under water of the deepest lake in German Brandenburg.  
be.bra Verlag, 160 pages, 144 colored images, hard cover, ISBN 978-3-86124-654-1, 19,95 €.

**Manual on Excellence of Lake Tourism in Europe**

A manual on the EU-project Slow Tour with information on the best practices in sustainable tourism as well as recommendations and guidelines especially for lake regions can be downloaded in English and Italian at: [www.slow-tour.eu/manual](http://www.slow-tour.eu/manual)

**Hans-Martin Große-Oetringhaus**

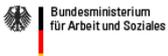
**Living Environments of Young People and Globalisation** – Teaching “Global Development” 39 short stories from all over the world to create better understanding of global interrelations among pupils. Persen Verlag. Buxtehude 2011, 102 pages, DIN A4, ISBN 978-3-403-23103-5, 24,90 €. Available at: terre des hommes, [logistik@tdh.de](mailto:logistik@tdh.de), [www.tdh.de](http://www.tdh.de)

**You can visit us also here:**

**betterplace.org**  [www.betterplace.org/de/organisations/globalnature](http://www.betterplace.org/de/organisations/globalnature)

**facebook**

[www.facebook.com/globalnature.org](http://www.facebook.com/globalnature.org)

Imprint	Supporters	
 <p><b>Global Nature Fund</b> Fritz-Reichle-Ring 4 78315 Radolfzell, Germany Phone +49 (0) 7732 9995-0 Fax +49 (0) 7732 9995-88 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@globalnature.org">info@globalnature.org</a> <a href="http://www.globalnature.org">www.globalnature.org</a> V.i.S.d.P.: Udo Gattenlöhner, GNF</p>	             	
<p><b>Editor in Charge:</b> Udo Gattenlöhner, GNF</p>		