

Newsletter Topics October 2013

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Living Lakes – Mono Lake



International aid projects



Conservation projects

A good reason to celebrate – 15th anniversary of Global Nature Fund and Living Lakes

There were two anniversaries to celebrate in the first half of 2013: 15 years ago, on 29th April 1998, the Foundation Global Nature Fund (GNF) was established, and on 11th June of the same year the international network Living Lakes was launched. During these eventful 15 years, GNF together with committed local partners, has successfully carried out countless projects, and thus established its national and international reputation.

Focus areas

Since the foundation of the network Living Lakes, our primary focus has been the protection of lakes, wetlands and freshwater reservoirs. Since then, 98 partners have joined the four founding member lakes to advance the protection of their water bodies and habitats. The original aims of our founders around the renowned zoologist Prof. Gerhard Thielcke are very important to the foundation, particularly in the UN World Water Year 2013. Water scarcity, water pollution and the threat to natural habitats are current issues that as a result of climate change are unfortunately becoming increasingly important. GNF projects such as drinking water purification in Africa or the installation of green filter systems in South America provide concrete solution approaches. In the meantime, GNF's diversified project portfolio has grown including nature conservation, biodiversity and sustainable development.

International appreciation

The great commitment and indefatigable work of the many people behind the Living Lakes partner organisations has made the joint success possible. During the past 15 years they have grown together as one global Living Lakes family. Numerous employees and volunteers have received important awards and prizes for their commitment to nature and environment.

Also the network itself and the projects receive widespread recognition. For a number of years now, the network has the status “Project of the UN Decade Education for Sustainable Development”. In April 2013, Living Lakes was awarded as one of three finalists in the category “Best Water Management Practices” within the framework of the UN Water Decade.

Full of ideas for the future

Sadly, lakes and wetlands are still among the world's most threatened ecosystems. In the years ahead, the Living Lakes partners will be particularly active in the areas of renaturation of lakes and their tributaries (e.g. Jordan River), species conservation (e.g. rhinos), improvement of the water quality (e.g. green filter) and the promotion of environmentally and socially compatible income opportunities.

Especially in the year of its anniversary, GNF emphatically pursues its key tasks, above all developing projects, providing financing and reporting to the public, for our motivation is to contribute to make the world a better place to live.



Marion Hammerl
President of the Global Nature Fund

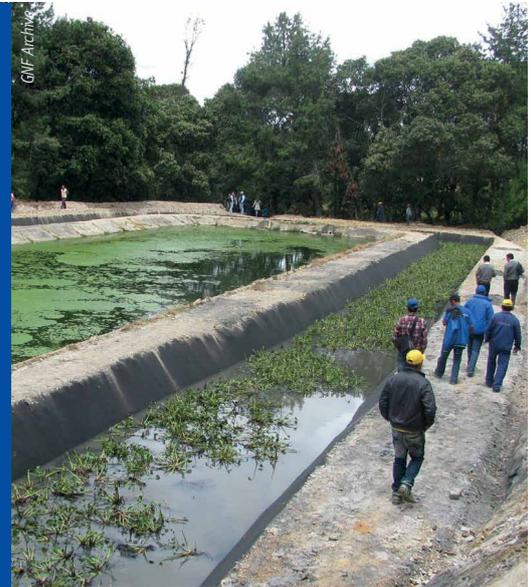
and



Udo Gattenlöhner
Executive Director of the
Global Nature Fund



Water hyacinth



Now nature can become active...

There is a cure – even for wastewater

Installation of a green filter system in San Miguel de Sema in Colombia

Lake Fúquene in Colombia provides drinking water to 200,000 people who depend on safe and clean water. Massive water abstractions also from the tributaries and rainfall deficit lead to sinking water levels. Untreated wastewater from communities and agriculture as well as introduced water plants cause overload with nutrients. The oxygen content decreases resulting in fish kills and also water bird die-off.

Pilot facility in San Miguel de Sema

The town of San Miguel de Sema has 4,000 inhabitants and is located in the



Construction works

region of Boyacá, north of Laguna de Fúquene. An already existing collecting tank is currently used to collect waste water. Around this collecting tank a primary sedimentation tank and a green filter are now being built. The sewage will flow through the green filter. Bacteria and microorganisms living in the roots of the water hyacinth as well as the roots themselves absorb nutrients and germs from the wastewater and integrate them into their metabolism. The system works without the use of chemicals and without pumps this means no electric power is necessary. From time to time the water hyacinths used for water purification have to be cut back. In August 2013, this pilot facility went into operation.

Further effective green filter systems with low investment and operational costs are to be built in South America; to realise this we need your support. Preparatory operations, such as water testing at new locations cost about 500 Euro. Costs for the construction of one green filter facility in South America amount to approximately 25,000 Euro. For continued monitoring of the water

quality around 200 Euro per month are needed per installation.

More information on the installation of the green filter is available at:
www.globalnature.org/Greenfilter-Colombia
www.globalnature.org/Greenfilter-America

Our contribution to UN World Water Year

The United Nations international Year of Water Cooperation is an opportunity for us to deal more intensely with the issue of drinking water protection within the frame of our Living Lakes network. That way humans and animals in Africa and South America may benefit from the implementation of concrete water projects.

Bank details

Donation account No.: 80 40 41 60 00,
GLS-Bank Bochum, BLZ: 430 609 67
Key word: Green filter for South America
EU Bank Transfer (European Countries):
IBAN: DE 53 4306 0967 8040 4160 00
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

“Water for Life”

UN-Water Best Practices Award for the network Living Lakes

In April 2013 the network Living Lakes was awarded second place in Category 1 “Best Water Management Practices”. This award honours projects and actions within the network that contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg plan of Implementation.

Focus is on sustainable management of the water resources.

The Finalists 2013 in Category 1:

1st ranked: Basin wide Groundwater Management using the System of Nature in Kumamoto City, Japan

2nd ranked: Living Lakes Network

3rd ranked: Farmer Participatory Capacity Building Programme for Drip Irrigation Management, India

More information available at:
www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/finalists2013.shtml

Peace beyond borders

A trans-boundary cooperative project between Israel, Palestine and Jordan

Water scarcity in the Middle East is a byproduct of climate patterns, increasing anthropogenic activities but most importantly the lack of sustainable management of available water resources. The Jordan River, a major landmark of the Middle East shared between Israel, Palestine and Jordan, suffers from all these pressures and is currently reduced to a trickle of polluted runoff. Global Nature Fund, Friends of the Earth Middle East and the Stockholm International Water Institute joined efforts to develop a transboundary NGO Master Plan for the Lower Jordan River. Such Master Plan for cooperation over water will offer a framework for a sustainable management of the river in order to protect its ecosystem and to maintain the anthropogenic activities relying on it. In addition, the transboundary master plan will significantly contribute to the regional peace process.

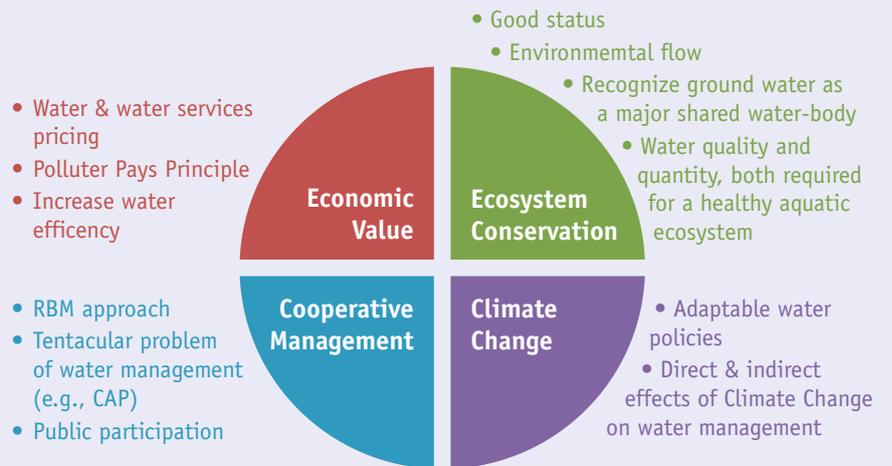
Transferable experience from the EU to the Jordan

European history in water management is a treasure pile of information on successful but also deceiving experiences. A detailed examination of the Water Framework Directive, succeeding water related policies and evaluation documents allowed us to understand the pillars shaping Europe's water management strategies



Minimum water level not yet reached

The four policy pillars for a sustainable water management



and to skim off the best practices transferable to the Lower Jordan. Four policy pillars were identified and summarize the EU accomplishments in water management policies.

Among the lead EU accomplishments are the river management at the river basin scale, the polluter pays principle, the establishment of environmental flows, the recognition of water quality and quantity as requirements for a health ecosystem. These were few of GNF's recommendations for a sustainable Master plan for the Jordan. In addition to the unambiguous recommendation to increase flow in the Jordan River, recommendations were made to establish this flow based on the needs of aquatic communities. This flow is commonly described as environmental flow and is expected to reflect the characteristics of a natural flow regime. Thus, the economic development of the

Jordan valley should not jeopardies the establishment of an adapted environmental flow.

The project is supported by the EU.



Water sampling at the Jordan River

Economic factor nature

"No business without biodiversity"

On the newly launched web site www.naturalcapitalmarkets.org the Global Nature Fund (GNF) and Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (DUH) show how businesses can invest in the conservation of nature. The website is part of the project "Online Information Platform for Biodiversity Markets", supported by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) and the Federal Environment Ministry (BMU). The aim of the online platform "Natural Capital Markets" is to provide businesses and political decision makers an overview of concrete implementation

and participation opportunities to protect biodiversity. Case studies illustrate how our societies depend on biological diversity, and how businesses may invest in the conservation of nature. The new website links economy, politics and associations and invites to greater reflexion on the advantages, difficulties and risks of market based instruments for the protection of nature.



News

Publications and Online Information

GNF Annual Report 2012/2013

as well as

Annual Report "Protection of Cultural Landscapes"

Download (in English) at:

www.globalnature.org/Annual-Reports



Study: Economic Value of Lakes and Wetlands

This publication presents the results of the project "Economic Value of Lakes and Wetlands", which was carried out in close cooperation with the project partners, the Lake Constance Foundation and the University of Applied Forestry Sciences Rottenburh (HFR). Detailed version and summary can be found at:

www.globalnature.org/seenstudie



Annual Report of the Living Lakes Partner Wilson Inlet, Australia

Green Skills Annual Report 2012 (<http://www.greenskills.org.au/ar/index.html>)

Report: Shorebirds on WA's South Coast – 2013 (<http://www.greenskills.org.au/pub/sbr4/sb.html>)

Natural Solutions for Water Security

Published by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. ISBN: 92-9225-498-7 (<https://www.cbd.int/idb/2013/>) or direct download: <https://www.cbd.int/idb/doc/2013/booklet/idb-2013-booklet-en.pdf>

GNF on Facebook

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www.facebook.com/globalnature.org



Further information on supported projects

www.globalnature.org/supported-projects

Events

October 2013

21 August - 23 October 2013

Travelling Exhibition "Pantanal – A natural Paradise in Danger"

Gemeindeverwaltung Bodelshausen - FORUM, Bachgasse 2, 72411 Bodelshausen, Germany

www.globalnature.org/Pantanal-Exhibition

4 - 5 October 2013

Annual Conference of the Network UK & Ireland

"Lough Neagh – Managing and protecting the UK and Ireland's largest Lake. – Lessons to Learn"

Lough Neagh Antrim Shores and Parliament Buildings, Stormont. Belfast, Ireland

www.ukandirelandlakes.org

4 - 10 October 2013

10th World Wilderness Congress (WILD10)

Salamanca, Spain

www.wild.org/blog/wild10-save-the-date

9 - 13 October 2013

EUROPARC Annual Conference 2013

Debrecen and the Hortobágy National Park, Hungary

www.europarc.org

Supporters

BMZ



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Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales



Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit



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