

Living Lakes Eastern Europe Network Conference in Estonia

Sustainable Development of Lake Areas



19 - 22 February 2008

**Venues:
Tartu (Conference),
Lake Peipsi, Lake Vörtsjärvi (Field Trips)**

Preface

We are pleased to announce the final conference organised in the framework of Living Lakes Eastern Europe Network. This conference organised within the framework of the DBU funded project is meant to create an international platform for an intensive exchange of knowledge and experiences. It also provides the possibility to benefit by the wide knowledge of several experts giving a lecture on the issues to Sustainable Tourism Development, Visitor Management of protected areas, Sustainable Fisheries and Land Use Planning. We intend to enhance herewith the exchange of experiences and implement joint strategies and activities in a common Europe also afterwards the phase-out of the DBU funded project. The Living Lakes Eastern Europe Network comprises seven organisations from five different countries: Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Lithuania and Germany.

Main Topics of the Conference are: Sustainable Tourism Development, Protected Areas and Visitor Management, Sustainable Fisheries and Sustainable Land Use Planning and Sustainability Management on Regional and Local Level.

Conference Fee

Due to the support of the event by the EU Commission and the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU) and the Environmental Investment Centre, no conference fee for participation will arise. Nevertheless, the number of possible participants is limited. Please consider your early registration.

Hosting Organisations

Global Nature Fund (GNF)

GNF was founded in 1998 with the objective to foster the protection of nature and environment as well as animals. GNF's work consists mainly of initiating and implementing nature and environment protection projects to preserve the animal world, the protection of migrating species, their habitat and their migratory routes.

Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation (CTC)

Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation is an international non-profit organisation founded in 1993, which works to promote specific cross-border activities, especially in the Lake Peipsi region. The head office is located in Tartu in southern Estonia. The projects cover research, environmental awareness, nature education and community development projects.

Lake Vörtsjärv Foundation (LVF)

The Lake Vörtsjärv Foundation was established in 2000. Aims of the foundation are: Raising the environmental awareness of the public, promoting the balanced development of the Lake Vörtsjärv region, protecting the lake as a sensitive water body, and promoting Lake Vörtsjärv as a rapidly developing recreational region both in Estonia and beyond.

Estonian Fund for Nature

The Estonian Fund for Nature (Eestimaa Looduse Fond - ELF) is a non-profit organisation which' aim is the preservation of Estonian nature and its diversity. ELF was established in 1991 by biologists and conservationists in close co-operation with World Wide Fund for Nature. Since then ELF, in cooperation with many people and organizations, has been the leader of various wildlife conservation projects important to Estonia.

Estonian University of Life Sciences, Centre for Limnology

The history of the Centre goes back to year 1954 when a small field station of the Estonian Academy of Sciences was established on the eastern shore of Lake Võrtsjärv. Today the Centre for Limnology constitutes a department of the Institute of Agriculture and Environment protection of the Estonian University of Life sciences (EULS). The activity of the Station comprises fundamental research of Estonian water bodies, teaching of students and applied research.

South-Estonian Tourism Foundation

South-Estonian Tourism Foundation was established in 1998. The priorities are joint marketing of the region, development of tourist products and training programmes. The NGO promotes regional cooperation between all sectors in field of tourism, primarily focusing on the priorities of the government and local authorities regarding regional policy. One of foundation's objectives is to value and propagate sustainable approach towards natural and cultural heritage.

Supporters

German Federal Foundation for the Environment

The Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt DBU (German Federal Foundation for the Environment) is one of Europe's largest foundations and promotes innovative environmental projects. The DBU was established in 1990. Since then, almost 6,400 projects have received financial backing. Supported activities concentrate on environmental technology and research, nature conservation, communication and cultural assets.

European Union

The field trips and the conference are also supported by the European Union.

Environmental Investment Centre

A foundation of the Estonian Ministry of the Environment, established in 2000, provides financial support for international, national, regional and local programs and measures, which are in conformity with environmental strategy in the field of environment protection, nature conservation, environmental and nature control, elaboration and procurement of non-waste technology, equipment and other technical means, environmental and nature conservation training and educational work and in-service training and propaganda, solving other national and regional environmental problems.

Living Lakes Network

In 1998 the Living Lakes network has been launched by Global Nature Fund. Living Lakes is a global partnership of environmental organisations striving for the protection of lakes and wetlands worldwide. At the moment there are 45 partner lakes represented by more than 55 member organisations. Our vision is that all lakes, wetlands and freshwater bodies of the world should be healthy ecosystems and being used in a sustainable way.



Venues

Lake Peipsi and Lake Võrtsjärv - Living Lakes in Estonia

Lake Peipsi and Lake Võrtsjärv are large shallow lakes, connected by the Emajõgi river which drains from Lake Võrtsjärv to Lake Peipsi.

Lake Peipsi is the largest trans-boundary water body in Estonia (3,555 km²) and the fourth largest lake in Europe. 44 % of the lake area belongs to the Republic of Estonia and 56 % to the Russian Federation. Peipsi is one of the most important lakes in Europe for commercial fishing, with a total catch of 8,000 - 11,000 tons/year. Up to one million migratory birds use Lake Peipsi as a resting place every year. A major threat to the lake is eutrophication, caused by high nutrient loads. Agriculture is the main source of nutrient water pollution. Furthermore the oil-shale industry causes negative influences to the outlet from Lake Peipsi, the River Narva.

Lake Võrtsjärv is the largest lake within the boundaries of Estonia (270 km²). It is mainly used for recreation and fisheries, 35 fish species occur here. The lake is an important habitat for nesting birds. The fast expansion of reed thickets and the deterioration of biological diversity give clear evidence of eutrophication of the lake over the last decades. In future even higher phosphorus and nitrate loads from agriculture are expected.

Programme

MONDAY, 18. FEBRUARY 2008

Arrival of Participants
Check-in at hotels

TUESDAY, 19. FEBRUARY 2008 – FIELD TRIP DAY I^{*} LAKE VÕRTSJÄRV REGION – FOCUS ON TOURISM AND FISHERIES^{**}

8:30 **Departure from Tartu (hotel Dorpat) by bus (guide: Annereet Paatsi)**

Places of interest along Tartu-Viljandi road:

- Sangla peat area
- Jõesuu recreational area
- Ulge recreational area

10:00

- Excursion to Valma fishermen village
Visit of Valma holiday camp and fishing port
- Welcome tea and local refreshment at Valma Visitor Centre
Overview of the history of the village *by Annereet Paatsi*
Valma Fishermen village today *by the governor Jaan Leetsar*

13:30

Lunch at Barbara Village Centre

15:00

- Lake Võrtsjärv Visitor Centre
Introduction of the Lake Võrtsjärv Visitor Centre and fish aquariums.
Interactive session in parallel groups: Ice fishing with hot drinks or hiking to Lake Mustjärv (depending on weather conditions)
- Presentations on the following issues:
Overview of the Lake Võrtsjärv (fisheries, ecosystem):
Ain Järvalt, Manager of the Limnological Centre;
Lea Tuvikene, researcher of the Limnological Centre
The socio-economical problems and the connectivity with nature protection at Lake Võrtsjärv:
Jaan Leetsar, Assoc. Professor, Estonian University of Life Sciences
Lake Võrtsjärv Leader Group:
Helmut Hallemaa, Lake Võrtsjärv Union, NGO, consultant

18:30 – 19:00

Arrival at hotel Dorpat

19:30

Dinner

^{*} Depending on the number of registered participants the field trip groups may be divided into two. Thus for the second group the first Field Trip might be to Lake Peipsi and the second to Lake Võrtsjärv.

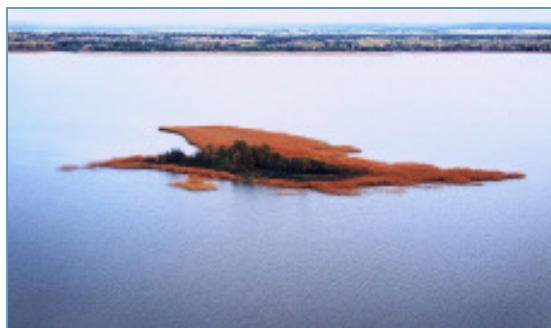
^{**} Field trip is supported by Rannu Parish Government

WEDNESDAY, 20. FEBRUARY 2008 - FIELD TRIP DAY II*

LAKE PEIPSI REGION – FOCUS ON PROTECTED AREAS, TOURISM AND LAKE PEIPSI AS A TRANS-BOUNDARY LAKE

8:30	<p>Departure from hotel Dorpat by bus (guide: Anne-Ly Feršel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short stop in Kavastu - Kavastu Raft
9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emajõe Suurso Visting Centre: Overview of the centre Elo Rospel, State Nature Conservation Centre and presentations on the following issues: Estonian protected areas: <i>Ain Vellak, Elo Rospel, State Nature Conservation Centre</i> Estonian nature tourism resources: <i>Rein Kuresoo, naturalist Conservation Holidays. Robert Oetjen, Estonian Fund for Nature</i> Lake Peipsi region, its socio-economical problems and challenges: <i>Katrin Loss, Peipsi Regional Development Association</i> Guided walk around visiting centre – track for nature study here
12:15	<p>Departure to Kolkja</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit of villages Varnja and Kasepää
13:30	<p>Traditional Lunch at Kolkja Fish and Onion Restaurant</p>
14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kolkja Museum of Russian Old Believers Fishing Trip at Lake Peipsi Visit of Emajõgi-Peipsi Barge Yard in Tartu
18:00 – 18:30	<p>Arrival at hotel Dorpat</p> <p>Evening at own disposal</p>

* Depending on the number of registered participants the field trip groups may be divided into two.



THURSDAY, 21. FEBRUARY 2008 - CONFERENCE DAY I

until 9:00	<p>Registration of participants</p> <p><i>Venue: Atlantis Conference Centre</i></p>
9:30	<p>Official Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Annika Uudelepp</i> Secretary General, Ministry for the Environment, Estonia • <i>Dr. Volker Wachendörfer</i> German Federal Foundation for the Environment (DBU), Germany • <i>Andreas Krug</i> German Federal Agency for the Environment (BfN), Germany • <i>Marianne Mikko</i> Estonian Member of European Parliament, Fisheries Commission, Belgium <p>Overview and Introduction - Eastern European Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Udo Gattenlöhner</i> Global Nature Fund, Germany
10:30	<p>Coffee Break</p>
11:00	<p>Session I – Sustainable Tourism Development. Protected areas and visitor management</p> <p><i>Moderator: Prof. Aitken Clark, GNF, England</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Richard Partington, Natural England, UK</i> Tourism carrying capacities at lakes – limits and threats • <i>Anke Biedenkapp, Statterreisen Hannover/Reisepavillon, Germany</i> Tourism development in Europe – impacts, challenges and marketing • <i>Mart Reimann, University of Tallinn, Estonia</i> Nature tourism challenges in Estonia • <i>Dr. Annamária Kopek, Balaton National Park, Hungary</i> Ecotourism management at the Balaton Uplands National Park
13:00	<p>Lunch Break</p>
14:30	<p>Session II - Sustainable management of European lakes: bridging economic development and environmental protection</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dr. Gulnara Roll, CTC, Estonia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lionel Platteuw, European Water Partnership, Belgium</i> Managing lakes and trans-boundary waters - a European perspective • <i>Dr. Tillmann Stottele, Environmental Department of the City of Friedrichshafen, Germany</i> Balancing environmental protection and economic development at

	<p>Lake Constance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Harry Liiv, Vice Chancellor of Estonian Ministry of Environment, Estonian-Russian Water Commission</i> Transboundary cooperation at Lake Peipsi • <i>Dr. Külli Kangur, Estonian University of Life Sciences</i> Effects of natural and human impacts on large European lakes - Case study Lake Peipsi and Lake Võrtsjärv
16:00	Coffee Break
16:30	<p>Knowledge Café Session</p> <p><i>World Café is an interactive method to use the knowledge of all people present to come to quick results and foster communication and interaction.</i></p>
18:00	Wrap up and rapports
18:30	End of Conference Day I
19:30	Conference dinner and evening programme
FRIDAY, 22. FEBRUARY 2008 – CONFERENCE DAY II	
08:00	Breakfast at hotels
9:00	<p>Introductory Presentation – Healthy Lakes – Healthy People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Tobias Salathé, Ramsar Convention, Gland, Switzerland</i> Healthy lakes – healthy people
09:20	<p>Session III – Sustainable Fisheries</p> <p><i>Moderator: Lauri Vaarja, Ministry of Environment, Estonia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Herbert Löffler, Lake Constance Research Institute, Germany</i> Fisheries at Lake Constance • <i>Erzsébet Székely, Association of Civil Organisations of Lake Balaton, Hungary</i> Development of sustainable fisheries in the Lake Balaton region: plans, possibilities and results. • <i>Dr. Szymon Szewrański, Wrocław University of Environmental Life Sciences, Poland</i> Management of fish ponds in Poland • <i>Ain Soome, Head of Fisheries Department, Estonia</i> Estonian-Russian cooperation in the field of fisheries at Lake Peipsi
11:00	Coffee and Tea Break

	<p>Session IV – Sustainable Land Use Planning and Sustainability Management on regional and local level <i>Moderator: Marion Hammerl, Lake Constance Foundation, Germany</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Arnulf Müller-Helmbrecht, Friends of UNEP/CMS, Germany</i> The importance of sustainable land use planning for migrating species • <i>Dr. Gábor Molnár and Zita Egerszegi, Lake Balaton Development Agency, Hungary</i> Introduction of an Environmental Management and Auditing System (EMAS) in the Lake Balaton region • <i>Erika Lagzdina, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Latvia</i> Latvian experiences in managing lakes and protected areas and building local partnerships • <i>Taivo Tali, Development and Planning Department, Tartu County</i> Land use planning on regional level in Estonia
11:30	
13:00	Lunch Break
14:30	<p>Session IV Continued <i>Moderator: Taivo Tali, Tartu County Government, Estonia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kastytis Gedminas, State Service for Protected Areas, Lithuania</i> Balance land use and management of protected areas in Lithuania • <i>Amada del Rio, Fundación Global Nature, Spain</i> Sustainable land use strategies for sensitive areas in Spain • <i>Dr. Titus Bahner, European Network, Forum Synergies, Germany</i> Private actors and public supporters: European experiences with practical sustainable land use strategies
15:45	Coffee Break
16:00	Knowledge Café Session
18:00	Wrap up and rapports
18:30	End of Conference Day II
SATURDAY, 23. FEBRUARY 2008	
8:00	Breakfast and individual departure (airport transfer provided)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Time Zone	Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) plus 2 hours
Weather	In February the weather in Estonia can be very cold. The average temperatures range from 0 °C to minus 20 °C! You may find some helpful weather forecast at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/5day.shtml?world=4972 Please take warm clothes with you, also gloves, muffler and a cap.
Workshop Language	The workshop language will be English.
Currency	Estonian Kronas EEK (Exchange rate approx. 1 Euro = 15,6 EEK)
Communication	The international code for Estonia is +372. Mobile phone networks cover most areas
Electricity	Various electrical sockets can be found. Voltage is 230V. Information on adapters and plugs is available under http://kropla.com/electric2.htm

ADDRESS OF CONFERENCE VENUE

ATLANTIS Conference Centre

Narva mnt. 2, Tartu 51009, Estonia

General telephone: +372 7 385 485, Restaurant: +372-7-385 495, Star Café: +372-7-385 473

Fax: +372 7 385 484

E-mail: info@atlantis.ee, Website: www.atlantis.ee

HOSTS AND CONFERENCE TEAM

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Contact: Ms Eeva Kirsipuu, Ms Gulnara Roll

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Fax: + 372 - 7 - 302 301

E-Mail: tartu@ctc.ee, Website: www.ctc.ee

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Tel. / Fax: + 372 - 7 - 356 084

E-Mail: jaanika@vortsjarv.ee, Website: www.vortsjarv.ee

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Phone + 49 - (0) 77 32 - 99 95 - 82, Fax + 49 - (0) 77 32 - 99 95 - 88

Conference Mobile Phone Number: + 49 - (0) 175 - 26 39 694

E-mail: info@globalnature.org, Website: www.globalnature.org

RECOMMENDED HOTELS

Dorpat Hotel

Soola 6, Tartu, 51014

Tel: +372 733 7180, +372 5646 8309

Fax: +372 733 7181

E-mail: info@dorpat.ee

<http://www.dorpat.ee>

Barclay

Ülikooli 8, Tartu, 51003

Tel: 744 7100

Fax: 744 7101, 744 110

E-mail: barclay@barclay.ee

<http://www.barclay.ee>

Draakon

Raekoja plats 2, Tartu, 51003

Tel: 744 2045, 501 9173

Fax: 742 3000

E-mail: tonyas@solo.delfi.ee

<http://www.draakon.ee>

London

Rüütli 9, Tartu, 51007

Tel: 730 5555

Fax: 730 5565

E-mail: london@londonhotel.ee

<http://www.londonhotel.ee>

Pallas

Riia 4, Tartu

Tel: 730 1200

Fax: 730 1201

E-mail: pallas@pallas.ee

<http://www.pallas.ee>

