Sustainability – Impact of EU Accession in New Member states – Civil Society
Split, 3. 9. 2008

# How EU Policies Influenced Biodiversity Conservation in Slovenia

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## Civil Society Involvement

ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS

**TECHNICAL ADAPTATIONS** 

TRANSPOSITION
of the Habitat and Bird Directive
(full and correct)

DESIGNATION OF NATURA 2000

**IMPLEMENTATION** 

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT BIOGEOGR. SEMINARS

**MANAGEMENT OF SITES** 

ASSESSMENT
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS
MONITORING
REPORTING
COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

## Accession process



**ACCESSION TREATY** 



#### **SCREENING PROCES**

MULTILATERAL (EC - SI) BILATERAL (SI - EC)



NEGOTIATIONS
EXCEPTIONS
TRANSITIONAL PERIODS
TECHNICAL ADAPTATIONS



## Technical adaptations

#### Aditions to the Annexes:

- national interest
- meet criteria
- is it already covered
- find the right way
  - Habitats manual
  - proposal for adition



## Transposition

Regulation – direct implementation

Directive – transposition



EU NATURE
CONSERVATION POLICY
(Wild Bird Directive &
Habitats Directive)



HABITAT CONSERVATION (NATURA 2000)

Habitats Directive Art. 6 Annex I, II

Bird Directive Art. 3 & 4 Annex I + some migrat. species



PROTECTION OF SPECIES

Habitats Directive Art. 12 Annex IV, V

Bird Directive Art. 5 & 6 All species except Annex II, III

MEMBER STATES LEGISLATION

(full and correct transposition of the Birds and Habitats Directive)

other conservation measures

## Designation process

**BIRDS DIRECTIVE** 

SPA

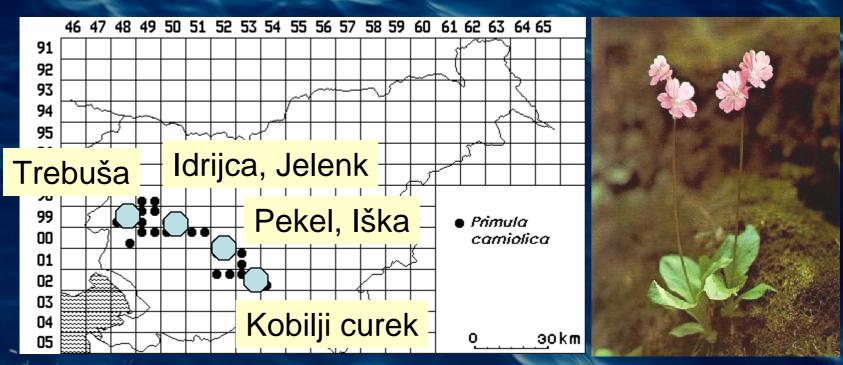
**HABITATS DIRECTIVE** 

pSCI



**SEMINARS** 

### Example – Primula carniolica



Distribution of Primula carniolica

## How many Natura 2000 sites are needed?

- only scientific criteria for selection on the basis of existing data
- proportion of Natura 2000 is proportional to the biodiversity of the country (more biodiversity, more Natura 2000 needed!)
- prediction (managability, natural processes...)

## Biogeographical seminar



INDEPENDENT EXPERTS



EUROPEAN COMMISION



EEA/ETC Biodiversity (technical support)

landowners (ELO)



proposal pSCI

MEMBER STATE



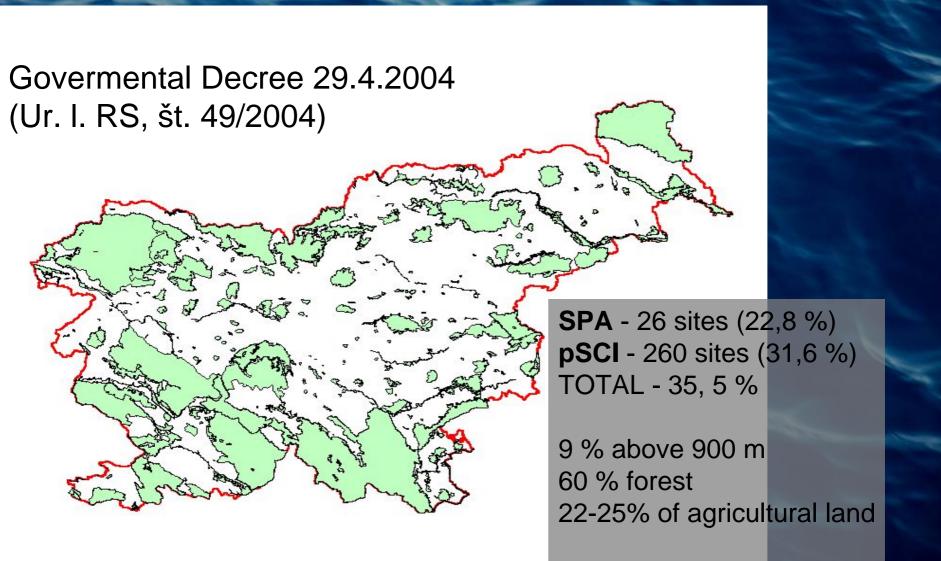
NGO (Biodiversity Forum)

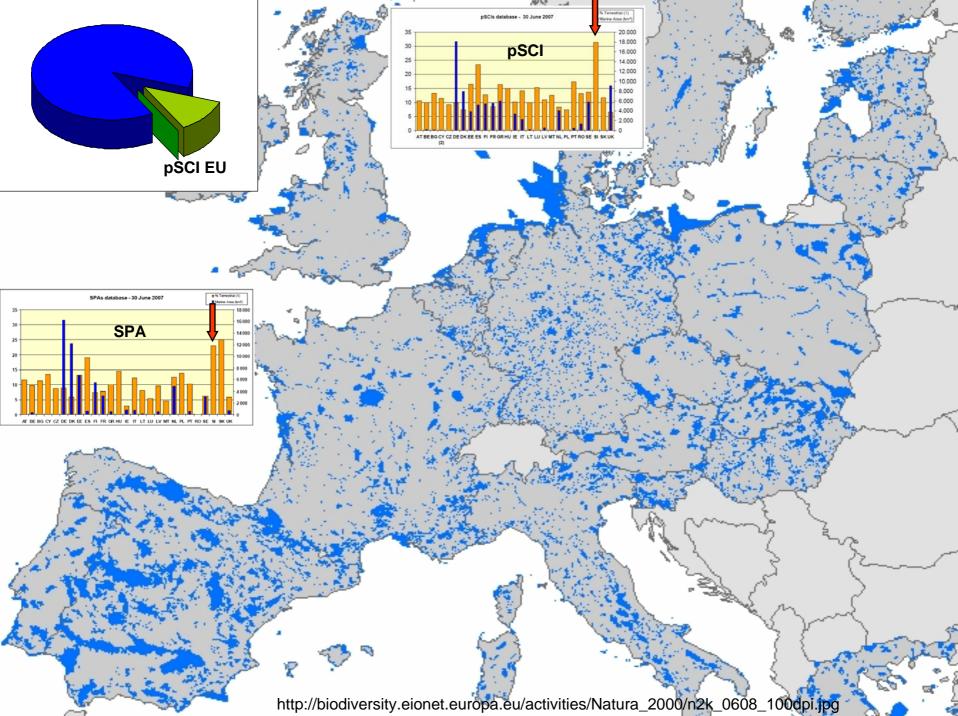


### Larger or smaller areas?

- smaller areas for stabile and special habitat types or species (e.g. serpentin rocks flora)
- larger areas for dynamic ecosystems and mobile species (e.g. river ecosystems, grasslands...)
  - easier to implement and adapt to changes (including climate)
  - more possibilities with assessments

### Natura 2000 in Slovenia





## Implementation (Art. 6)

Avoid deterioration - Art. 6(2) – for proposals as well!

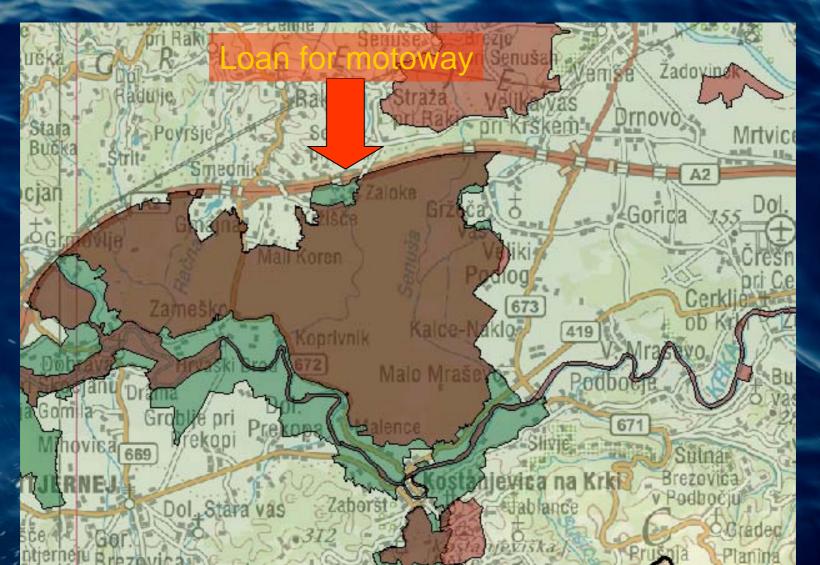
ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE Art. 6 (3)(4)

#### MEASURES – Art 6 (1):

- statutory
- administrative
- contractual
- (appropriate management plans)

INTEGRATION COMMUNICATION

## EU investment funds and Natura 2000



## Implementation – integration in other sectors

EU policy is to integrate nature conservation (WBD & FFH D) in other sectors (Cardiff process)

#### Most important integrations:

- Common Agricultural Policy (direct payments & Rural Development Programme)
- Regional Development
- Water Framework Directive
- Common Fisheries Policy

## Implementation – integration in other sectors

#### **Forestry**

 Rural Development Regulation now offers funding for nature conservation in forests.

Important - 6 year cycle, if NC is not properly included, it is not for 6 (3) years



## Objectives in the Natura 2000 operational programme

#### Most important:

- objectives for each Natura 2000 site in relation to forestry, hunting, fishing, agrienvironment, water management and nature conservation measures, designated for each species and/or habitat type
- list of investments to enhance nature protection (info centres, cycling paths,...)

## Main groups of measures

- 1. Nature conservation (e.g. protected areas)
- 2. sustainable use of natural resources in sectorial plans (forestry, hunting, fishing)
- 3. adaptation in agricultural programmes (agrienv. measures 2007-2013)
- 4. water management (planning)
  - 5. other measures

## Complaint procedure









**INFORMAL PHASE** 

FORMAL INFRINGEMENT
Letter of formal notice
Reasoned opinion

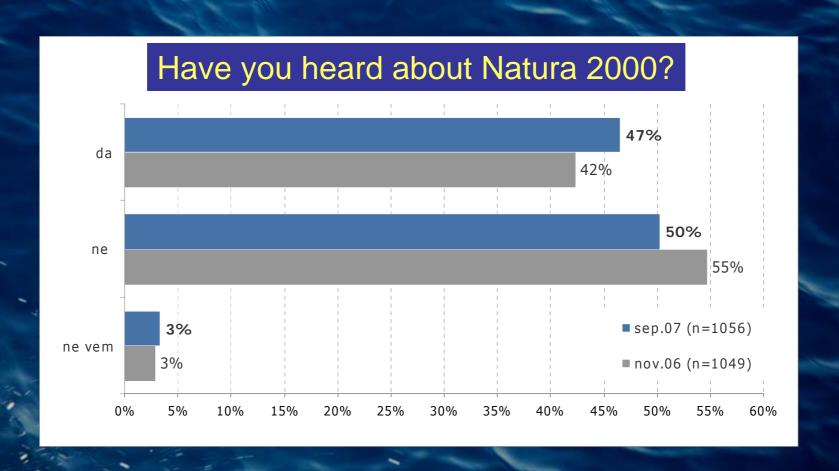
MEMBER STATE



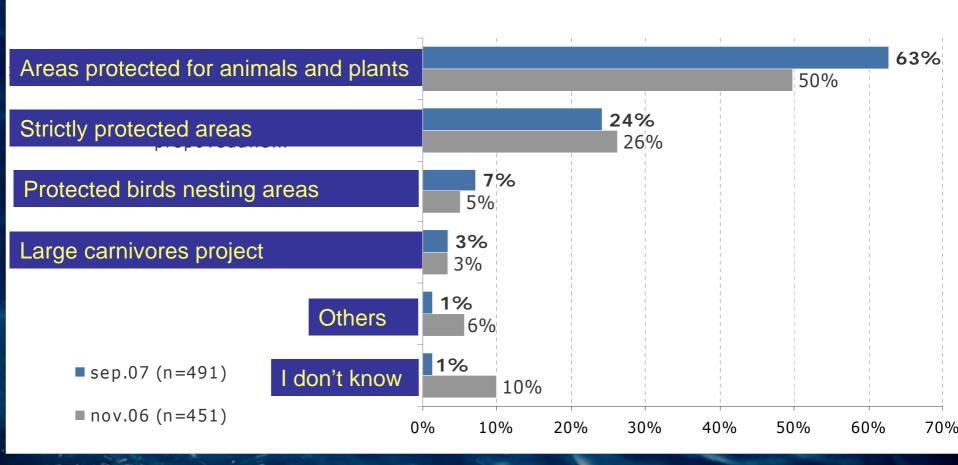
### Basic Myths on Natura 2000

- NATURA 2000 = protected area
  - protected areas are one of the measures to reach the goals of the Natura 2000
- in Natura 2000 areas there are no activities ('no-go' areas)
  - all activities are possible if assessment proves that they have no significant effect on species and habitat types that were reason for designation
- Member state is passing the suverenity of Natura 2000 areas to the Brusels administration
  - European Commission is checking if national legislation is implemented correctly.

### Communication - public response



### What is Natura 2000?



#### Conclusions

#### **POSITIVE**

- better legislation
- better implementation
- (+) image for nature conservation
- big opportunity for mobilisation

#### **NEGATIVE**

- emphasise on Natura 2000, neglecting other instruments
- (-) image for nature conservation

AND BIODIVERSITY?

ECONOMY IS MORE AGRESSIVE THAN NATURE CONSERVATION EFFECTIVENESS

#### **More information**

