



# EU FOR NATURA 2000 IN SERBIA

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The “**EU for Natura 2000 in Serbia**” project started in May 2019, with the aim to support establishment of the Natura 2000 network. This network is a crucial instrument for biodiversity protection in the European Union, an ecological network of protected areas that are established to secure the survival of the most valuable species and habitats, promoting the protection of numerous ecosystems and ensuring that European nature systems stay healthy and resilient. It is based on the Birds and Habitat Directives, and its implementation is one of the requirements for the accession to the European Union.

Nature protection is an essential topic for Serbia, as a part of the negotiation process for the accession to the European Union, related to the implementation of Chapter 27 dedicated to environmental protection and climate change. From 2015, the **European Union has donated more than 3.5 milion EUR** for establishment of Natura 2000 in Serbia.

## Key Information

Contracting Authority  
**Delegation of the European Union  
to the Republic of Serbia**

Main Beneficiaries  
**Ministry of Environmental Protection  
Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia**

Value  
**1,644,350 EUR**

Duration  
**30 months (May 2019 - November 2021)**



**Result 1  
Identification of potential  
Natura 2000 areas**



**Result 2  
Information system, tools and  
data management**



**Result 3  
Harmonization of national  
legislation with EU directives**



**Result 4  
Improvement of technical and  
administrative capacities**



**Result 5  
Public awareness raising**

## Project Team

The Project Team includes **4 key experts** and **33 international and national non-key experts** who worked on activities within the five project Results.





## Result 1 Identification of potential Natura 2000 areas

277

Potential Sites of Community  
Interest (**pSCIs**) identified.

85

Special Protection  
Areas (**SPAs**) identified.

Standard Data Forms  
(**SDFs**) prepared.

**Methodologies** prepared for field mapping of Natura 2000 species and habitat types in Serbia, and for selecting pSCIs of forest and non-forest habitats and species.

New version of the **Interpretation Manual of Habitat Types** of EU importance for Serbia prepared.

Over two vegetation seasons (2020, 2021), the project collected **2,132 field mapping data records** of 147 species from 173 known species of European importance for the purpose of **pSCI identification** (173 species of Annex II, IV of HD with clear status) and **1,120 fieldwork data records** of 81 species from 141 known species (Annex I and migratory species from BD) for the purpose of **SPAs identification**.



## Result 2 Information system, tools and data management

**Species and habitats codelists harmonized** across different data repositories.

Mobile application for data collection "**Terenska**" developed and published on Google Play. More than **15,000** data records for species were recorded in Terenska in 2021.

**Web application portal** designed for mappers and supervisors for managing the collected data.

**Desktop application for analysis of the fieldwork results** developed according to **Methodology for desktop analysis for identifying pSCIs**. This module can be used to analyse the feasibility of each site according to defined criteria, and to prepare **Standard Data Forms (SDF)**.

Specifications developed for future integration with SEPA and RGA, facilitating fulfilment of obligations towards **INSPIRE directive** and **EU reporting**.



## Result 3 Harmonization of national legislation with EU directives

**Legislation assessment** and **Recommendations for legislative changes** prepared, for the Law on Nature Protection, related bylaws, as well as sectoral legislation (planning and construction, forestry, hunting, fishing and other).

Supported the Ministry in preparing **amendments to the Law on Nature Protection**, focusing on the Appropriate Assessment provisions and the provisions on protected areas.



## Result 4 Improvement of technical and administrative capacities

**Capacity Building Plan** with Short- and long-term training plans developed.

**6 training events** implemented, with a total of **235 participants** from a wide range of project stakeholder institutions.

**10 project concepts** developed in the field of biodiversity protection.

**Practical management plan guidelines** with templates and **3 pilot Natura 2000 management plans** prepared for Kraljevac, Slano Kopovo and Dolina Pcinje.



## Result 5 Public awareness raising

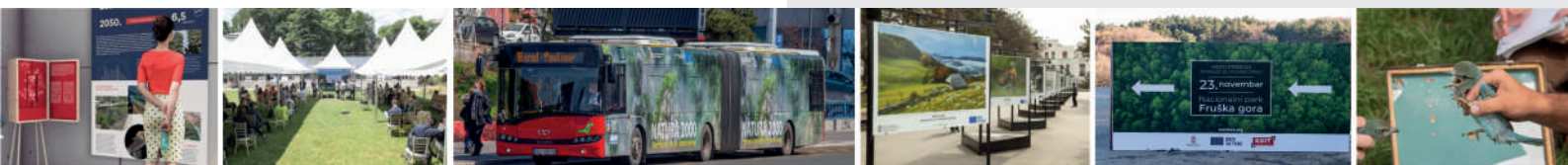
**More than 10 major visibility actions** organised to promote Natura 2000 and biodiversity protection: Fruska Gora afforestation, Green Fest participation, photo contest "Natura 2000 in the frame", Caravan for Climate support, Natura 2000 movie, photo exhibition at Kalemegdan Fortress, bus campaign "Healthy nature for healthy life" with social media challenge "Catch the Natura 2000 vehicle and win an award", Natura 2000 day at EU Green Week, Natura 2000 photo exhibitions at Mikser Festival and BITEF, and an action to improve the conservation of a Natura 2000 species - the European Roller.

**Natura 2000 website:**

[www.natura2000.gov.rs](http://www.natura2000.gov.rs)

**EU ZA TEBE platform - Project's webpage:**

[natura-2000.euzatebe.rs](http://natura-2000.euzatebe.rs)



*We wish to express our most sincere gratitude to the Beneficiary Institutions, the Contracting Authority, governmental, academic, non-governmental and international institutions and organisations, working group members, project experts, and all other stakeholders and partners who have contributed to the successful implementation and achievements of the "EU for Natura 2000 in Serbia" project.*