

Let's Talk about Biodiversity

Multi Target Activities Designed to
Increase Public Awareness on
Biodiversity in Context of Sustainable
Development



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Studies and Sustainable Development UCESD**

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CEPA Fair 2016 Cancun, Mexico

Gates to the University of Warsaw
-Gates to the City of Warsaw
-Gates to CEPA



The University of Warsaw (200 years old, Poland's largest university) Mission:



The University should not only maintain in the nation both learning and skills at the level already attained in the scholarly world but also further develop and propagate them as well as apply their theory for the public good.



The University Centre for Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development

Interdisciplinary academic unit that carries out research and education on various themes in sustainability and biodiversity.

Through inter-faculty cooperation it engages in a wide range of activities for students, staff and broad public outside university

UNEP Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability GUPES





The University Centre for Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development UCESD

Education & Communication for SD and Biodiversity

- Interfaculty Studies on Environmental Protection
- In service trainings on ESD : for teachers, educators, NGO activists
- Open lectures and educational events for different groups as Professionals, Seniors, Urban Citizens etc
- Advisory point for municipalities, NGO and media
- Publications and educational web www.ekoedu.uw.pl
- Coordination of international projects and global initiatives like:



Multi- Target Activities for Decade BD: „Let’s talk about Biodiversity”



The premise of „Let’s talk...” pointing to the need for dialogue, but also an individual approach to different group of recipients

„Let's Talk...” recommendation : to make education for biodiversity more „sexy”:

- Less „taxonomy” more connection with every-day practice
- Less information about biodiversity loss more on benefits and connection with human health , kitchen and economy
- Less theory more practice for mainstreaming biodiversity

The long-term action programme for Decade on Biodiversity: **Open Lectures**

Semester of lectures:

Sustainable development in theory and practice.

Each year devoted to different aspects of biodiversity in context of sustainability



The long term programme of Decade on Biodiversity :

Presentation of exhibition devoted to the theme of the Day of Biodiversity

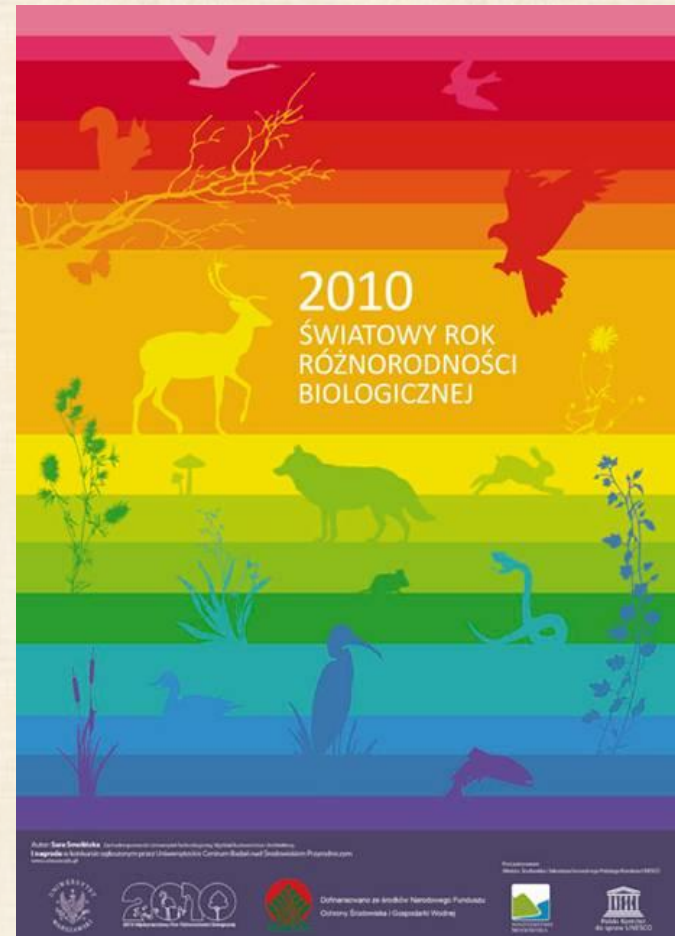


FOR YOUNG ARTISTS:

Competition for students of Academy of Fine Arts for poster promoting International Year of Biodiversity



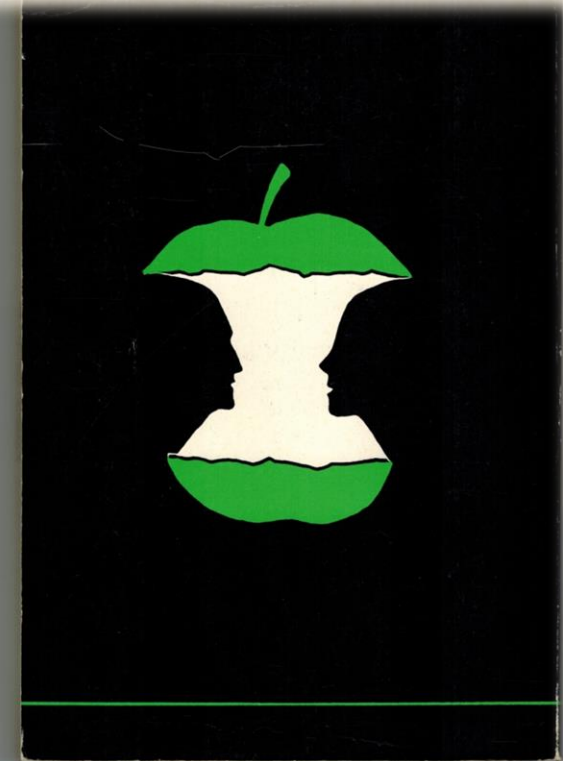
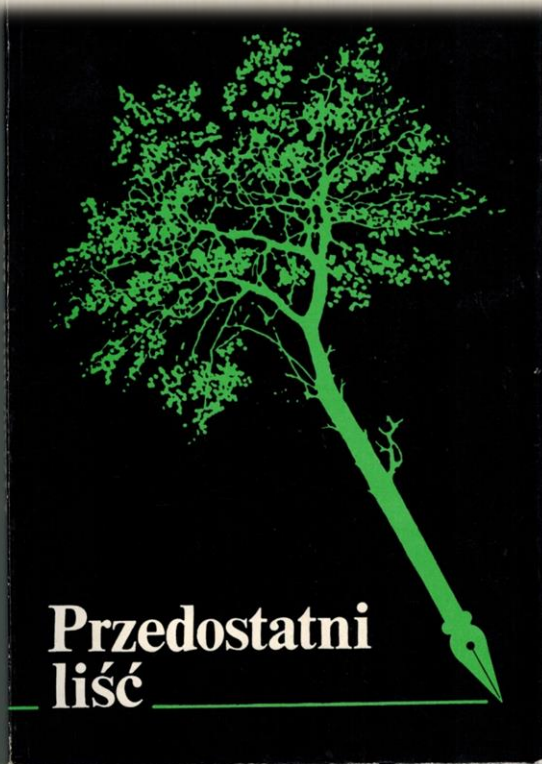
Exhibition of the best posters promoting International Year of Biodiversity



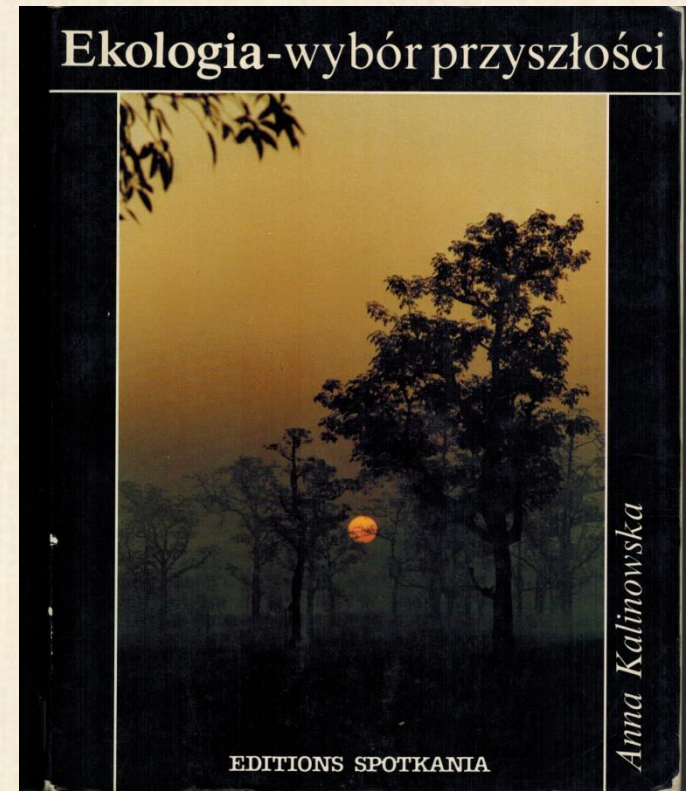
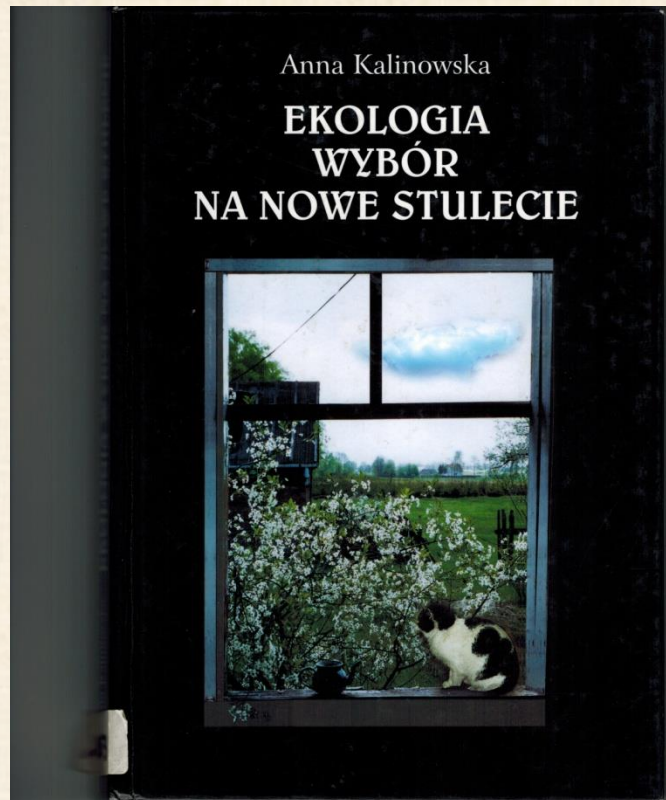
For private sector: popularisation of benefits from biodiversity



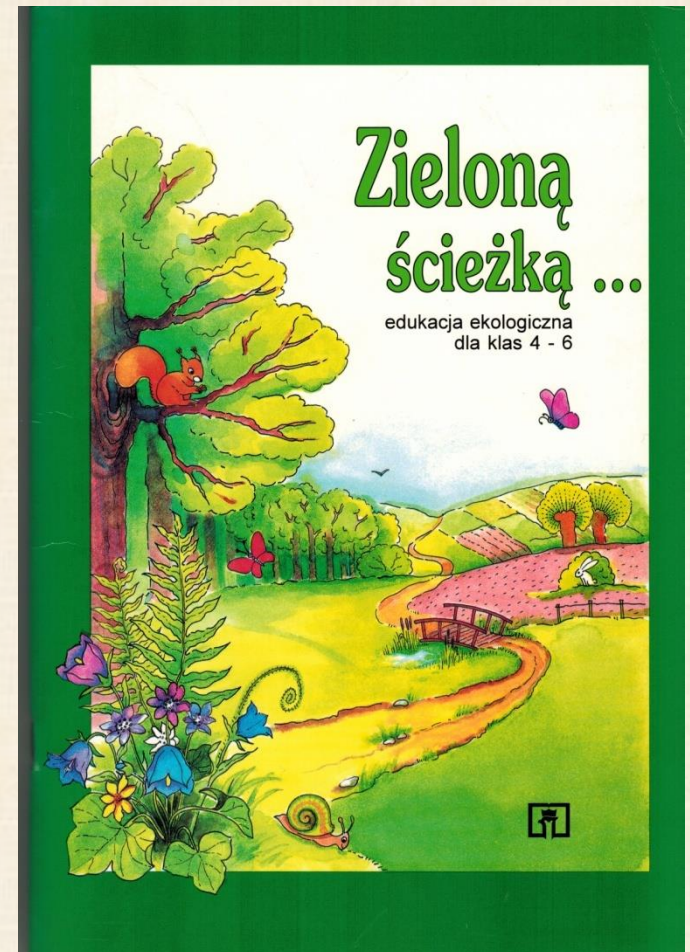
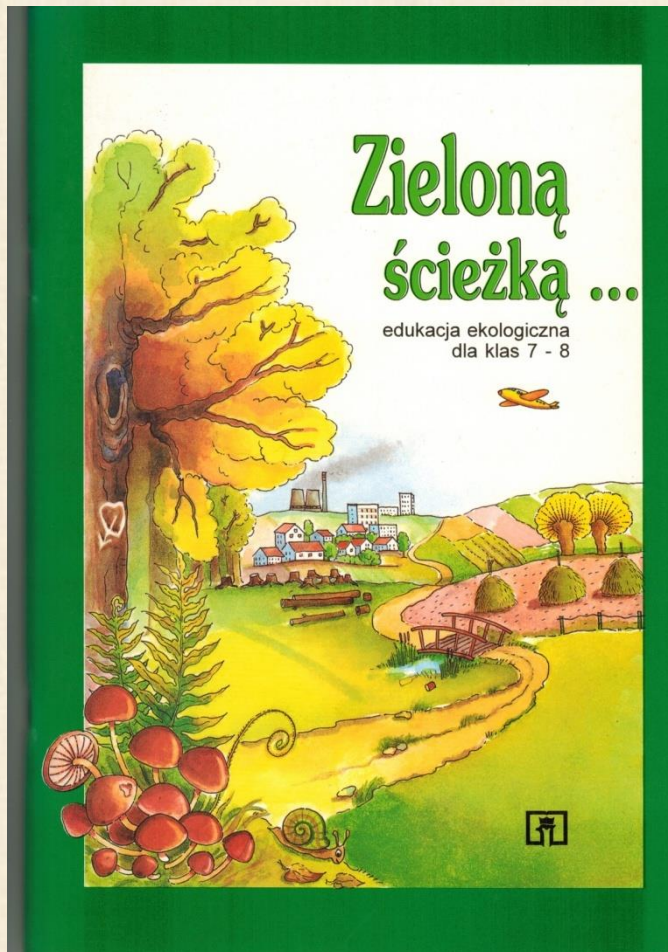
For Consumers:



**For general public and professionally active:
popular-science book on sustainable development
and biodiversity offering examples of
environmental-friendly innovations**

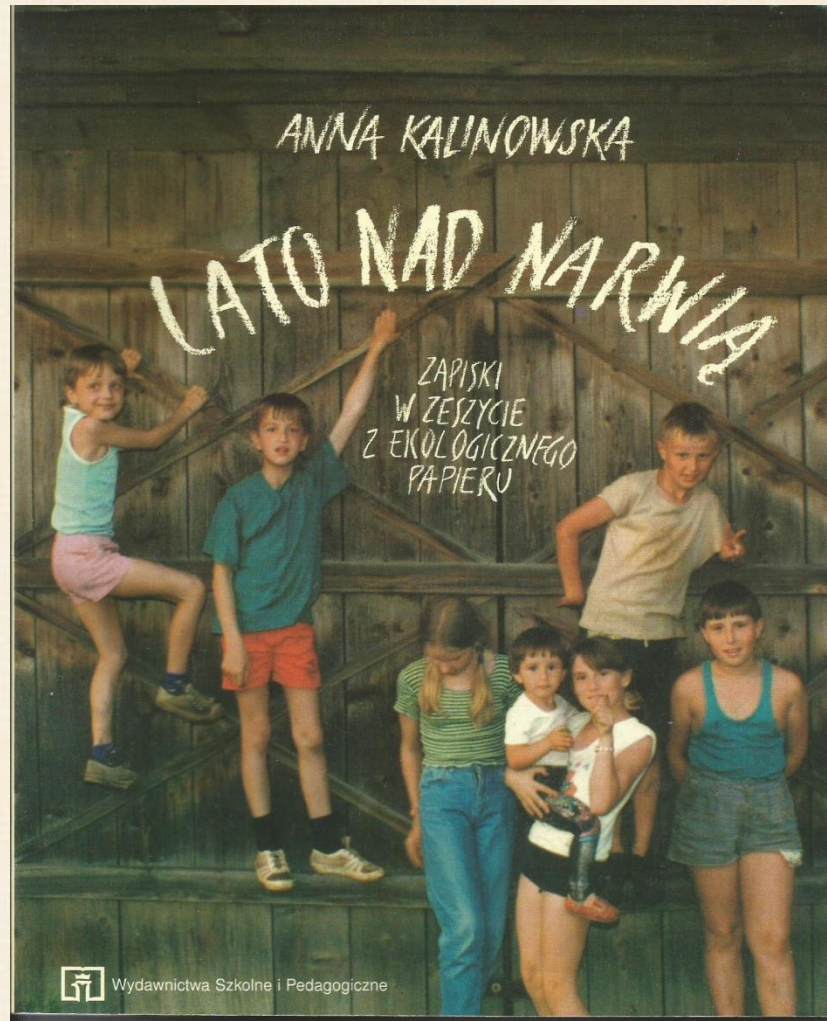


For schools:

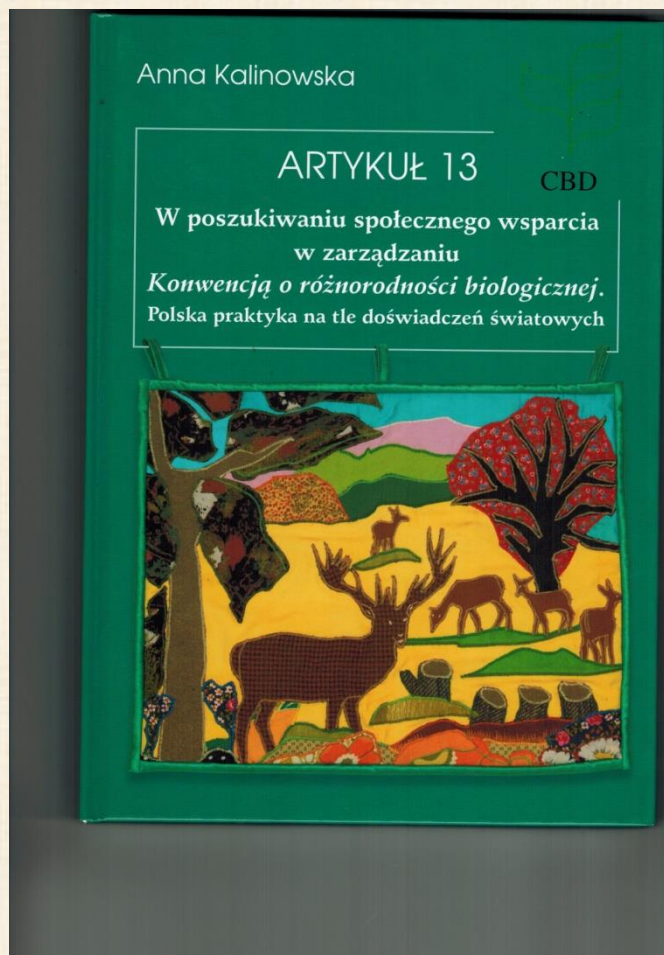


FOR CHILDREN:

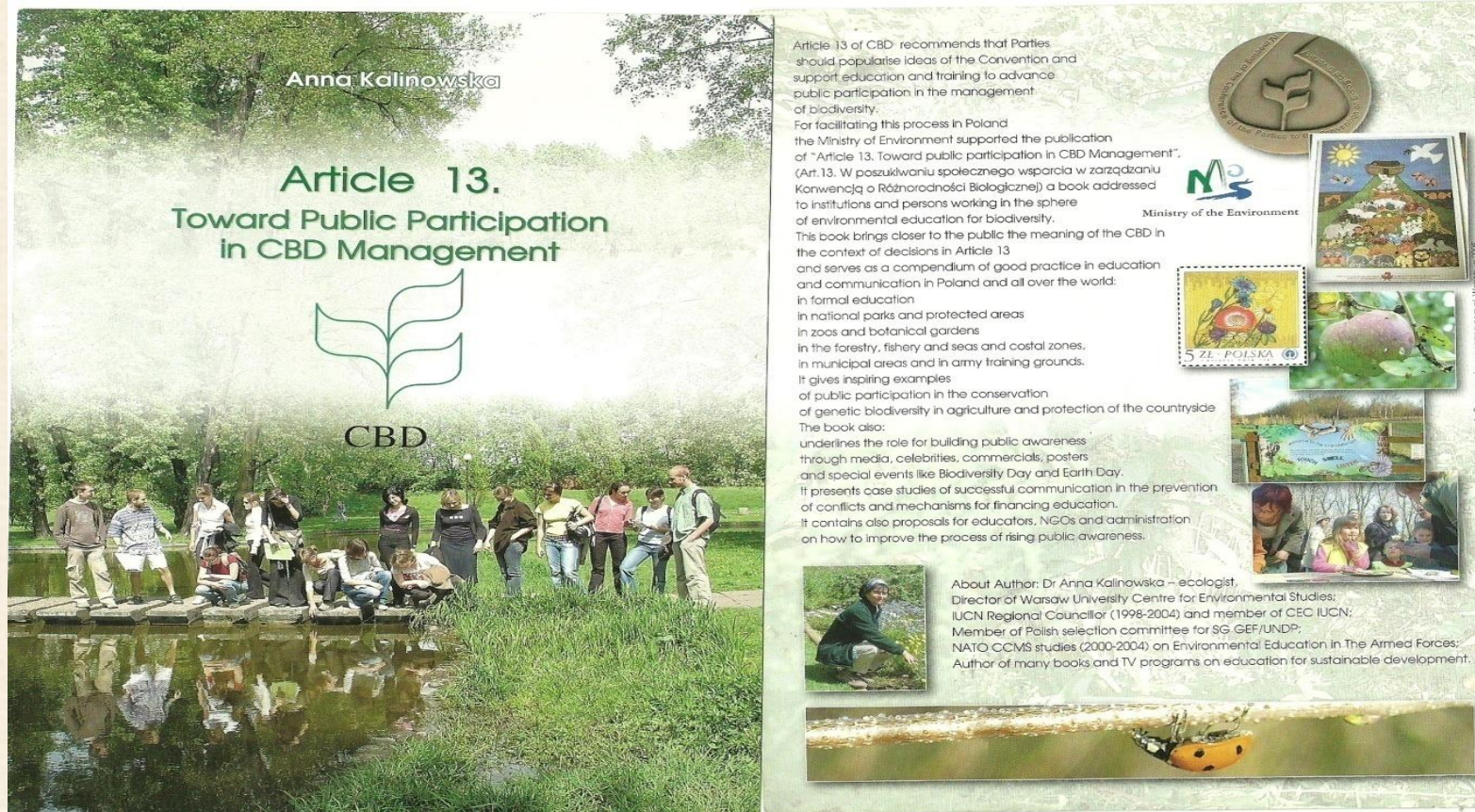
adventure story - book on protection of rural biodiversity



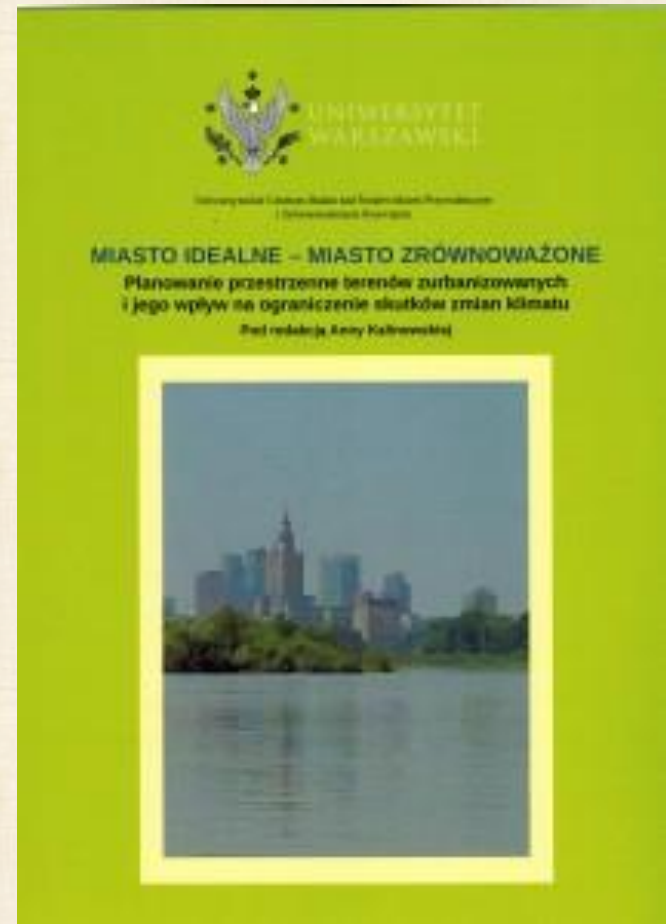
For environmental educators and NGOs:



Inventory of educational methods and capacity building possibilities useful for Poland



FOR URBANISTS: Ideal City- Sustainable City



FOR MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES:

The role of urban green areas

Carbon emissions and urban heat islands (UHI) represent one of the main challenges for cities.

To reduce these, solutions were seen in the support of urban ecosystems services as achieved by green areas and urban trees



FOR TEACHERS: International Project BEAGLE

Biodiversity Education and Awareness to Grow a Living Environment-



Promotion of ecosystem services in forests and foresters as the pioneers of sustainability



The Forests mitigate climate exhibition organised jointly with the Information Centre of the State Forest



FOR SENIOR CITIZENS: the most rapidly growing age group and significant in terms of its lifestyles and means of utilising biological diversity



The programme Green Knowledge for Universities of THE THIRD AGE is tailored to the needs of the „60+ „ age group



Universities of the Third Age (UTW) form a network of more than 500 educational institutions across Poland engaging in education and cultural activity for Senior Citizens.

Several hundred thousand of the oldery people each year participate on UTW as mature students

Programme for Senior Citizens: workshop for leaders able to „cascade” the Programme further in the local communities



**Programme for Seniors is based around the
handbook:**

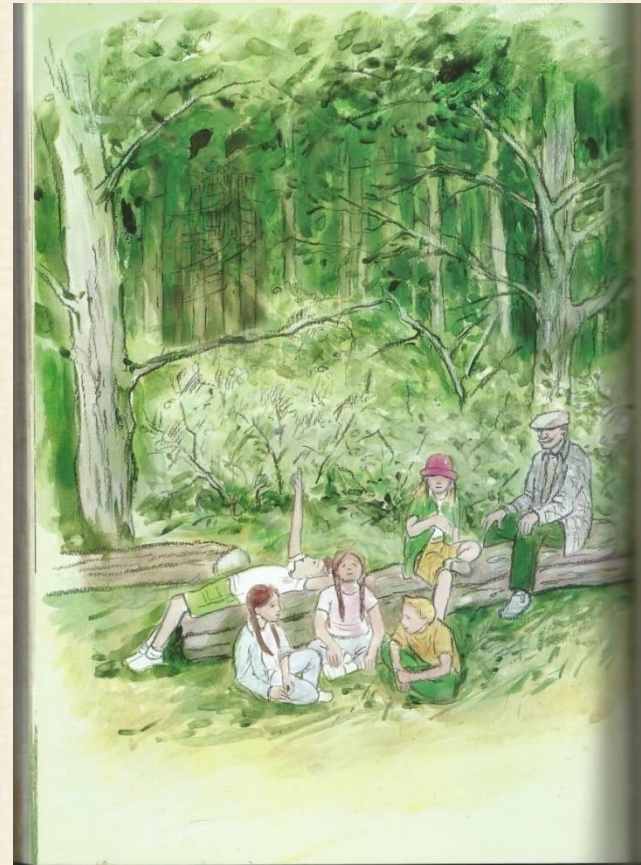
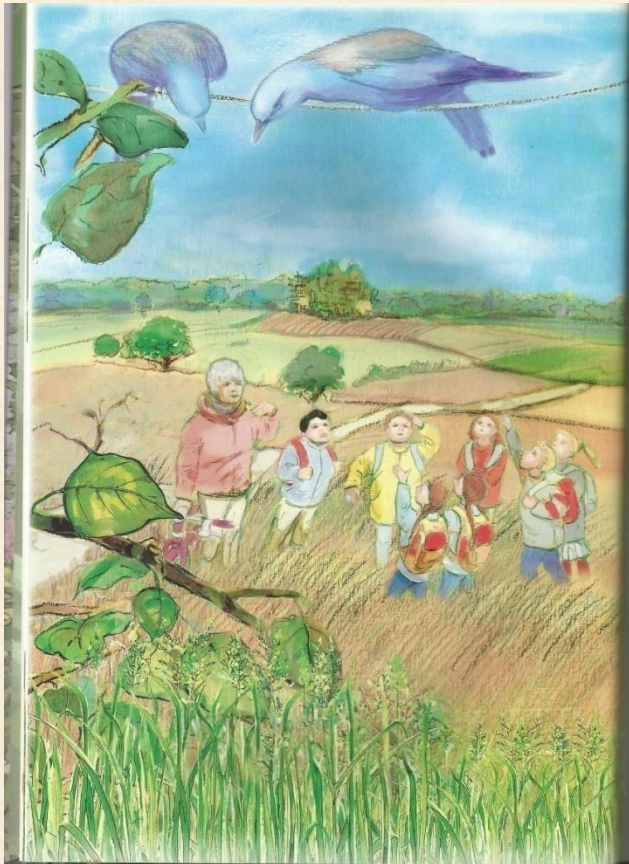
Biological diversity –that's us as well

These handbook is devided into two parts::

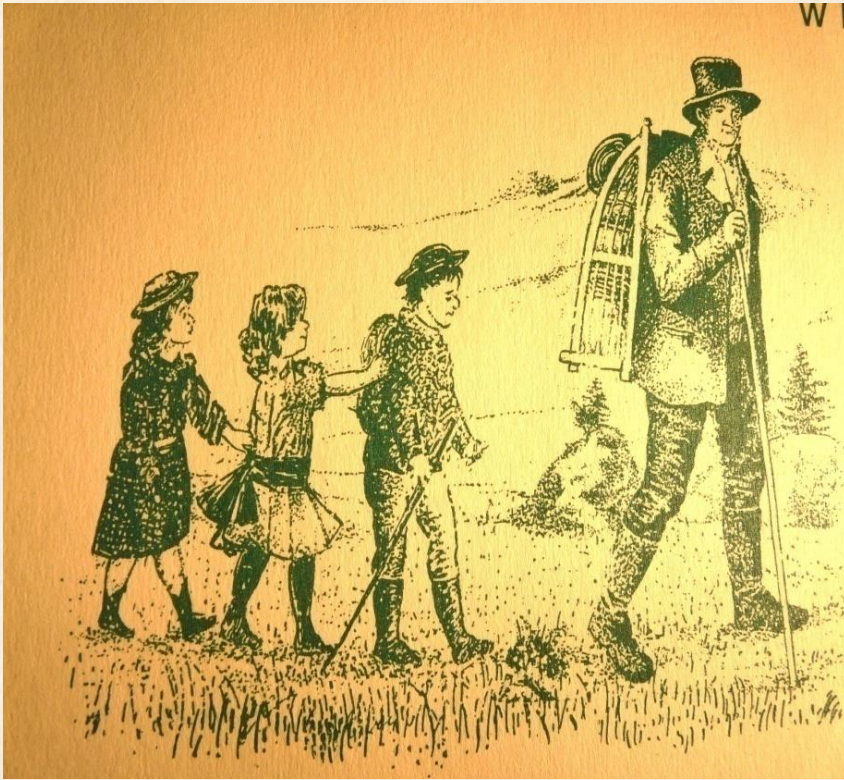
- Part adressed to grandchildren
- Part adressed to grantparents

FOR GRANDPARENTS:

-these are active people simultaneously having time at their disposal to spend with grandchildren



Getting involved: citizen science-the benefits of join discovery of the value of biodiversity



- It can assist with the collection of valuable data
- Participation by the general public in scientific research can help raise awareness and foster local engagement in decision making

For Senior Citizen:

The programme offer numerous workshops promoting a healthy lifestyle and sustainable consumption



The programme for Senior Citizens has several tens of lectures given at UTWs around the country along with workshops promoting sustainability



Seniors are acting as guardians of traditional knowledge of rural biodiversity, agriculture methods and ethnobotany



competition for traditional
village gardens

Adoption of threatened
species of weeds in
gardens

Competitions for traditional
recepies from native local
plant varities

Seniors are sensitive people having time at their disposal to be active in the interests of local biodiversity



Seniors are people with experience who can act as guardians of traditional knowledge where utilisation of biodiversity is concerned



Cultivation of old varieties of fruit trees herbs, vegetables and flowers



SOLIDARITY BETWEEN GENERATIONS IS ESSENTIAL IF BIODIVERSITY IS TO BE PRESERVED!



Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020



The active involvement of civil society will be encouraged at all levels of implementation. Citizen science initiatives for instance are valuable means of gathering high-quality data .

Flash Eurobarometer survey „Attitudes towards biodiversity”

- A minority of EU citizens felt inform on biodiversity
- 70% of EU citizens said that they personally made same efforts to protect biodiversity and they would be willing to do even more.
- 28% answered that they were not making any attempts to protect biodiversity because they did not know what to do to stop biodiversity loss
- 25% of respondents indicated that EU should focus on providing citizens with better information about the importance of biodiversity

The Higher Education CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)

Promotion of the principles of biodiversity conservation, along with models for sustainable production, consumption and living.

Active participation in international initiatives as Decade on Biological Diversity

Thank you for sustainable use of Biodiversity



More poetry and fine arts in education for biodiversity

Poems redeem that which has been trampled upon. They contribute what is human and heartfelt to a computerized, technical world, what has not been contaminated by hatred, envy and bickering. Poems bring along orderliness and harmony. They purify today's reality.

Father Jan Twardowski