WORKING TOGETHER TO INSPIRE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

























# The objectives

- To demonstrate and promote PES and other sustainable financing schemes in the Lower Danube river basin.
- To derive lessons of relevance for the Danube basin at large and for other international watersheds

Influence focus on Danube Strategy Action Plan; advocate for integration of biodiversity objectives

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funding, development of position papers and policy recommendations, lobby; support the development of public payments for common goods – developed methodology and calculations

Critical review of policies and

Regional level: active observer to EU Strategy for D

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standards; physical restoration projects, (incl. CBA)

National level: ministries well as associations working groups at min

level, development of point papers (policy recommendations and lobby

Pilot projects and local level actions – interactions with land users and local management authorities for improved land management and protection of the biodiversity; development of pilot solutions with public/private support

Assessing and I



# Pilot PES schemes

since 2010 we have been working on:

- a national public scheme for fisheries and aquaculture in Bulgaria
- 2 schemes supporting protection and biodiversity and cultural values of protected areas in Bulgaria and Romania
- 1 scheme for sustainable fishpond management in Romania
- 1 scheme for wetland management by harvesting biomass











#### Persina Pilot

- Location: north of Bulgaria, 77 000 ha (150 ha pilot)
- **Status**: Protected area of inland marshes and flooded forests, including 24 islands, 3 reserves, 2 natural landmarks, 1 protected area
- Socio-econ: Rural area including 3 municipalities within approximately 27 000 residents
- Problem: deteriorated hydrological and carbon cycles
- Solution: improve the water regime of the wetland through reed harvesting – contributing to local economies and reduction of GHGs









# Annual volume of biomass from the Persina pilot

Type of culture	Sown area ha	Average yield per ha - ton	Overall biomass production - tons	Biomass average yield in sustainable nature way
Wheat and barley	1400	4	5600	1867 t
Corn	2650	7	18550	12057 t
Sunflower	1027	2,5	2567	2053 t
Reed	2000	2,9	5800	1160 t
Total of area and product.	7077		32 517	17137 t
Annual market price of pallets 185 Euro/t				~ 3 120 000 Euro









#### Effectiveness of the investment

The analysis of the effectiveness of the investment shows that:

- the net present value of such a project is positive;
- the internal rate of return is nearly 68%
- •the pay-back period of such an investment is 2 years
- •the Profitability index above 1 (PI = 6,23)











# The Ciocanesti fishpond

**Location**: Ciocanesti fishpond, Lower Danube, Romania; 255 ha **Problem**: Fish-eating birds of high conservation value feed on this private market-oriented fishpond. The fishpond owners suffer loss of yield to up to 70%. More than 20,000 bird individuals visiting the place

**Solution:** Introduce payments awarding the managers of the fishponds for their efforts to protect the birds and maintain water quality

**Cost**: A package of 5 measures was developed with different values for each measure: 70 - 6,000 Euro/ha/ year

**Benefit**: Protection of the 31 protected bird species, improved water quality, reduction of GHGs







#### Measures

### **Biodiversity protection**

Measure 3: Maintaining (cutting) the reed after birds breeding season (manual or with aquatic mowing machine) - non fragmented area and/ or waterholes in reed

Level of compensation:

- 189 €/ha of cut reed (manual) or
- 60 €/ha of cut reed (renting mowing machine)

Results: improved environment for birds nesting; reduction of GHG emissions



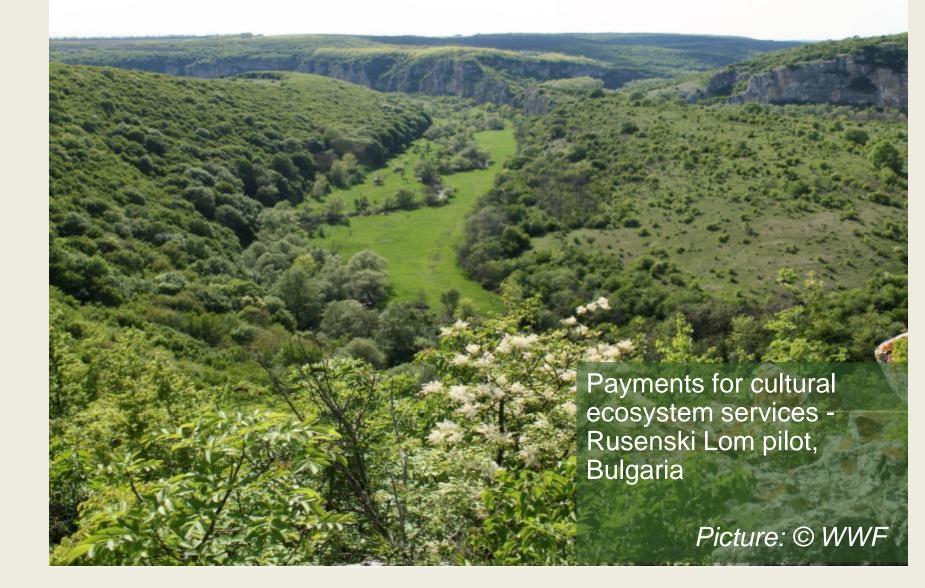


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## Rusenski Lom pilot

Location: Northeast of Bulgaria, 3408 ha

Status: Protected area – nature park, IBA, Natura 2000 site

**Problem**: unregulated tourism impacting negatively BD and Ecosystems

**Solution**: Private deal between the tourism entrepreneurs, from one side and the Directorate of Rusenski Lom Nature Park, from another **For**: visitors control and conservation activities of emblematic species: feeding of Egyptian vulture, creation of artificial water bodies, restoration of existing fishponds and fish-stocking for the Black stork, restoration of the ground souslik and Crex crex habitats











# **Maramures pilot**

Location: Oas-Gutai Platou, Carpathian mountain, 47000 ha

Status: 2 Natura 2000 sites, 7 small PAs

Problem: unregulated tourism and lack of funding for PAs management,

**Solution**: Conservation and Sustainable Development Fund (CSDF) allocating financial resources in equal proportion to nature conservation and to development needs associated with ecotourism.

**To** restore the integrity of landscapes in pilot areas within the selected protected areas with the purpose to deliver the benefit represented by landscape beauty, a key ES for individuals (tourists), businesses (local guesthouses and tour-operators), and local communities.



# Thank you!

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