



Developing the EU Biodiversity Research Strategy

**Report on the state of National Biodiversity
Platforms and the Vilnius meeting**

9th November 2007. Porto.

Importance of National Biodiversity Platforms (NBPs)

- important basis for the future of EPBRS after BioStrat financing
- NBPs could have more influence on biodiversity issues at national level
- The network of NPs provides link to EU-level

=national and EU interest

Goals of the Vilnius NBP workshop

- to come up with some practical guidance on how to make NBPs survive under different national conditions
- to see how do successful and active NBPs work
- see possible synergies with Diversitas

Participants

- 24 participants from 19 countries
 - + DIVERSITAS
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- More time for discussions as usual

Documents and results

- Questionnaires on NPs filled by 20 partners, + reports – diversity of approaches „dormant” NPs
- Best Practise Report (draft for commenting)
- Strategy for self sustainability (draft)
- Strategic document

Best Practise Report – to comment (internal BioStrat website)

Common mission of NBPs

1. Bridging the gap between science and policy
2. Support to EPBRS
3. Identifying research topics in contributing to research agendas
4. Promoting interdisciplinary biodiversity research to support the implementation of biodiversity policies – national and European ones
5. Scientific support to focal points of international initiatives on biodiversity

Best Practise Report

Minimum requirements of NBPs

1. represent members of both the science and policy side
2. have a committed secretariat
3. adopt an open transfer of information (e.g. website)
4. have documented activity related to the common missions
5. ensure the active participation of the national scientific community in the EPBRS process

Strategy for self sustainability – ideas, under development

- “adoption” scheme: link bigger platforms to smaller ones (advice, training, visit)
- Shared information of NPs (e.g. IT tools)
- Regional NP networks – bilateral links (biogeographic, political similarity etc.)
- Small platforms: list of what is needed, big platforms identify what they can offer

Strategic document – to help approach national authorities (1 page)

- Common effort to help NPs in lobbying and receive support
- Further develop in Slovenia, 2008 January

Thank you!

See you in Slovenia