



Application of the Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) tools in the South-East Europe

Regional Network for Biodiversity Information Management and Reporting (BIMR)

Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe - Implementation of Biodiversity Agreements (ORF BDU)

GBIF – BID Meeting; Brussels 13-14 Nov 2019

SEE nature at glance



- **Rich biodiversity** - one of the most abundant regions in Europe, many endemic species, karst ecosystem
- **3 biogeographic regions** – Continental, Alpine and Mediterranean, with distinctive characteristics
- **Relatively large, unspoiled ecosystems**

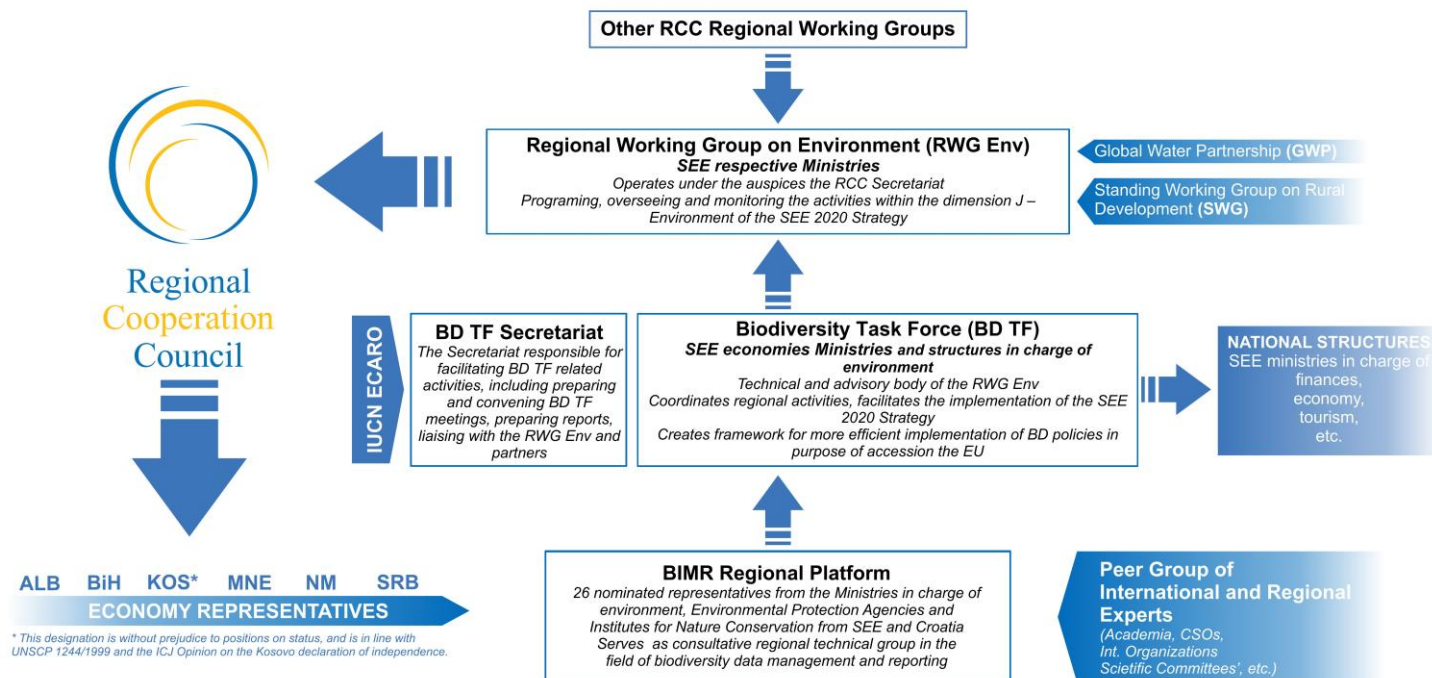


General info and purpose – GIZ and ORF BDU project

- Past **ORF Biodiversity** (2015-2018) and current **ORF Implementation of Biodiversity Agreements** (2018-2021) projects are commissioned by the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** and implemented by the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)**
- ORF BDU **promotes and strengthens regional cooperation between the economies of the Western Balkans** regarding the fulfilment of international obligations for the preservation of biodiversity, and EU-related obligations in particular.
- ORF BDU **consists of several thematic sub-projects** focussing on Biodiversity Task Force, ecosystem services, NGO networking, transboundary ecosystem management and **Biodiversity Information Management and Reporting (BIMR)**



Established structures within ORF BDU



Outcomes of the BIMR 1 (Aug 2015 – 2018)

The aim: strengthen capacities of partner institutions to forward the CBD and EU reporting in the SEE region

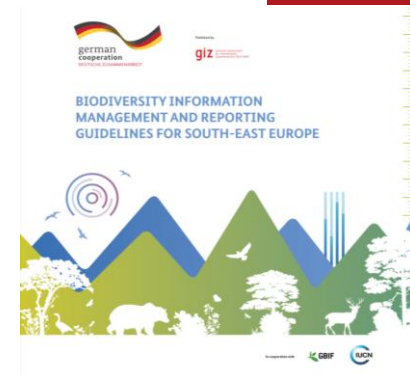
- **Established BIMR Regional Platform**, as a regional communication and cooperation group
- **Regional Assessment of BIMR Baseline** – Developed as a compedium of six National Assessment of Biodiversity Information Management and Reporting Baseline
- **Developed BIMR Regional Guidelines and Recommendation Paper**
- **Piloting of BIMR Regional Guidelines** – with two parallel activities – development of List of Endemic Taxa of SEE and establishment of fundamental database as parts of the Information system for nature conservation (ISNC) in 3 economies (BiH, Montenegro, North Macedonia)
- **Start cooperation with GBIF** – organization of the First Biodiversity Data Mobilization (BDM) Workshop for SEE



REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF
BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND
REPORTING BASELINE
FOR SOUTH-EAST EUROPE



Recommendation paper on enhancing
the Biodiversity Information
management and reporting
in South-East Europe



<https://balkangreenenergynews.com/open-regional-fund-south-east-europe-biodiversity-orf-bd/>

- [illegible]

Page 6 | 13 Nov 2019 | Application of BID tools - SEE

Contribution of GBIF to SEE - *Biodiversity Data Mobilization Workshop for SEE*

Organization: GIZ/ORF BDU and GBIF

Venue and date: Podgorica, Montenegro; 23-26 April, 2018

Contents: focused on the technical aspects of data mobilization — in particular, everything related to data capture, management and online publishing in order to increase the amount, richness and quality of the data published through the GBIF network

Participation: 14 participants from 6 SEE economies and Croatia

Facilitation: trainers and mentors from the GBIF community

Outcome: 8 certified participants (5 advanced and 3 basic) – contribution to enhanced capacity for biodiversity data mobilization in SEE



Participants gave very positive feedback on the overall workshop

- High scores to the course features (4.5 out of 5) regarding use of digital and online resources, course contents and preparatory activities
- High scores to the course sessions (above 4 and many over 4.5) regarding data cleaning, using OpenRefine, terminology, GBIF participation, Darwin Core
- **Most increased knowledge** on data cleaning and mobilization, standardization
- **Most useful for their daily work** – data cleaning and OpenRefine
- One of the technical suggestions – devote more time to practical exercises



Set of recommendations

The following recommendations are provided to facilitate continued data mobilization activity in the South-East Europe region:

- Assignment of mentors for those individuals/organizations that are ready to publish data.
- Encourage certified participants of the course to hold versions of the course within their own organizations and/or for project stakeholders.
- Invite certified participants of the course to become mentors within the GBIF community.
- Organize a workshop around the GBIF Data Use for Decision Making curriculum.
- Determine if any of the country groups are ready to pursue membership in GBIF (at that time already established initial contacts with Croatia and Montenegro).



BIMR 2 ongoing and planned activities (Aug 2018 – Mar 2021)

- Developing **BIMR Policy Paper** through three consultative meetings with BIMR Regional Platform,
- Further updating **List of Endemic Taxa of SEE** (introducing new taxonomic groups and publishing on **GBIF**) and further developing modules within **ISNC** in 3 economies including promotion,
- Supporting collaboration between BIMR Regional Platform and BD TF (membership, joint activities),
- Supporting participation at the international conference – Biodiversity_Next (October 22-25, 2019; Leiden, Netherlands),
- **Fostering of the SEE region towards joining the GBIF and DiSSCo community,**
- **Organizing GBIF Training on Data Use for Decision Making (Dec 4-6, 2019 in Sarajevo, BiH), attending 11th and 12th GBIF European Node Meeting 2020,**
- **Organizing the GBIF and DiSSCo Engagement Meeting with stakeholders from SEE region and Croatia (Dec 2, 2019) in Sarajevo, BiH,**
- Organizing study visit to Croatia regarding ISNC issues in cooperation with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Energy.



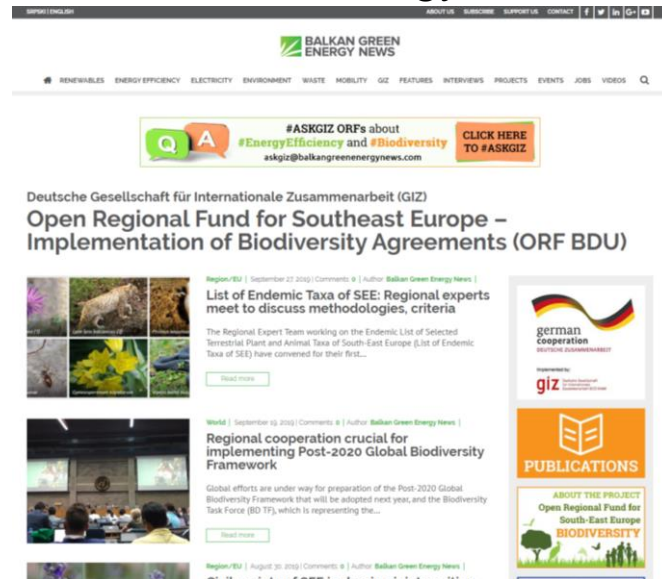
Communicating BIMR issues

➤ Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/BiodiversityORF/>

➤ Balkan Green Energy News



<https://balkangreenenergynews.com/open-regional-fund-south-east-europe-biodiversity-orf-bd/>

Photo credits/sources

Photo credits/source for slides number 2 and 3

Ana Štrbenac

Photo credits/source for slide number 8, 9 and 10

GIZ/ORF BDU

Contact

Dr. Verena Sommer

Sector Fund Manager ORF BDU
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

T +387 33 957 548
M +387 62 967 842
F +387 33 957 501
E verena.sommer@giz.de
S verena.sommer.gtz

Azra Velagić - Hajrudinović

ORF BDU/BIMR Project Manager
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

T + 387 33 957 549
M + 387 62 732 218
F + 387 33 957 501
E azra.velagic-hajrudinovic@giz.de
S azra.velagic-hajrudinovic

Ana Štrbenac

GIZ Consultant
Stenella consulting d.o.o., Croatia

E ana.strbenac@stenella-consulting.hr
www.stenella-consulting.hr
M +385 91 542 8868
S ana.strbenac



www.giz.de



https://twitter.com/giz_gmbh



<https://www.facebook.com/gizprofile/>