



Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority

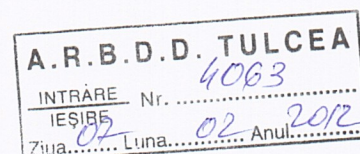


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RAMSAR SECRETARIAT

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REPORT

February 2nd, 2012 - World Wetlands Day



In order to celebrate the World Wetlands Day, Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority (DDBRA) organized a series of activities to celebrate and raise public awareness about the values and benefits of wetlands.

The program included:

- **Celebration of the environmental event - World Wetlands Day 2012** - under the theme "*Wetlands and Tourism*", by organizing environmental education activities for pupils and teachers from schools in Tulcea city and DDBR territory.



The action held in Tulcea took place on February 2nd, at Tulcea Children's Palace, in cooperation with Tulcea City Hall through the Information and Education Center for Waste Management Tulcea (CIEMD) and Children's Palace Tulcea, Danube Delta Economic College of Tulcea and the Agricultural College „Nicolae Cornăţeanu”, and was opened by a message of local officials: Governor of DDBR, Mayor of Tulcea City, County School General Inspector.

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The action included various activities:

- Volunteers from CIEMD presented the significance of the event, the proposed theme and the message of RAMSAR Secretary General, wetland functions and values, and the current implementation status of the convention at global and national level;
- The Mayor of Tulcea City presented local projects and initiatives on wetlands protection: Zagen polder environmental restoration (project proposed for funding by Sectorial Operational Environmental Programme, which aims to transform the agricultural polder into a wetland by reconnecting it to the natural flow of the Danube);
- Debate – „Tourism in the Danube Delta, benefits and threats”. Students presented case studies on the types of tourism in the DDBR (ecotourism, leisure tourism, slow tourism, agrotourism), the effects of tourism practices on natural elements and feedback from participants in the action.
- Presentation of educational activities calendar, programs and targets for 2012;
- Awarding the participation diploma.

During the program were distributed promotional materials: posters, leaflets, flyers, informative materials on the environmental event theme transmitted by the Ramsar Secretariat, adapted and translated by the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, sent to schools within DDBR perimeter and made available for public on the website <http://www.ddbra.ro/ro/stiri-si-informatii/2-februarie-2012-ziua-mondiala-a-zoneilor-umede-a858>, together with materials presenting the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (RBDD Visitor's guide, DANUBEPARKS brochure, STURGEONS flyer, Natura trail - Sf. Gheorghe leaflet).

The event was attended by 280 pupils and teachers representing all schools from Tulcea city as well as representatives from institutions of Tulcea City and county: Tulcea City Hall, Danube Delta - National

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Institute for Research and Development Tulcea, Environmental Protection Agency Tulcea, Forestry Department - Tulcea, Environmental Guard – DDBR Tulcea, Tulcea County School Inspectorate.

- **Similar specific actions** took place in DDBR territory, coordinated by the Information and Environmental Education Centre - Sulina, with the participation of 50 pupils in V – VIII grades from "Jean Bart" High School, Sulina.

The event was held at the Information Centre of DDBRA – Sulina, with the support of the Ecology Club of Children's Palace - Sulina, the Library of Sulina and Sulina Culture House. The program included debates on environmental event theme, exhibition of drawings, songs, dances and poems.

Actions have been promoted in the media, by sending a press release, informing schools in DDBR territory about the significance of this environmental event and publishing the materials on DDBR's website.

Also, during the activities held in Tulcea, was made a film which will be posted on DDBR's website, www.ddbra.ro.

GOVERNOR,

Grigore BABOIANU



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