

The 1st of February 2010, Warsaw

The World Wetlands Day Report

In Warsaw the World Wetlands Day was organized by the Wetland Conservation Center and the Faculty of Biology of the University of Warsaw on the 31st of January.

Every year a number of lectures and meetings about wetlands is being organized in Poland. It was the 6th meeting organized by Wetland Conservation Center (former Save Wetlands Association) in Warsaw, this year concerning the impact of wetland ecosystems on climate change. The topic of the meeting at the Faculty of Biology was *Wetlands conservation as a chance for the climate*. It was initiated by a radio program with participation of members of the association. The World Wetlands Day was financed by the Polish National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management.

The lectures program: (31st of January 2010)

chairing: Paweł Pawlikowski

12.00 – Introduction by Paweł Pawlikowski (*Department of Plant Ecology and Nature Protection at the University of Warsaw, Wetland Conservation Center*)

12.15 – *Mires and global climate change* by Agata Certa

12.45 - *Healthy wetlands = healthy climate* by Łukasz Kozub (*Department of Plant Ecology and Nature Protection at the University of Warsaw, Wetland Conservation Center*)

13.15 – *Activity of the General Directorate for Environmental Protection in the Implementation of Ramsar Convention Statements* by Marek Kajs (The General Directorate for Environmental Protection)

13.45 – 14.15. – Coffee break

14.15 – *Flow along Vistula river through Mazovia* by Przemek Pasek (*Ja Wisła Foundation*)

14.45 – *Through Forests and Marshes* – a slide show presented by Grzegorz Leśniewski (The Polish Nature Photographers Association)

15.15 – *The Wild Wonders of Europe* photographic project by Grzegorz Leśniewski

15.30 – Summary and discussion

Among over 60 listeners there were scientists, students of many different faculties (mostly students and graduates of The Interfaculty Studies of Environmental Protection), members of nongovernmental organizations, representatives of government, workers of national parks and everyone interested in wetland issues.

Everyone has enrolled on the list which will be used to send a newsletter with information about Wetland Conservation Center activity.

There was also an international conference on wetland conservation *Wetlands aLive* (1st-2nd of February), with a honorary patronage of the Ramsar Convention Office, was jointly organized by the Wetland Conservation Center, the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe and the Faculty of Biology of the University of Warsaw. It was a final event of a LIFE-Nature project on wetland butterflies conservation and focused on Central European wetland projects, financed by the LIFE Nature Fund. There were over 120

participants from twelve European countries who took part in 34 wetland lectures, two movie shows, an excursion in Vistula River valley and a Landscape Auction for Nature. As a result of the meeting, the Warsaw Wetland Declaration was written down and sent to the Secretary of the European Commission. Its full text is available on http://www.bagna.pl/pdf/Warsaw_Wetlands_Declaration.pdf