

## World Wetlands Day 2009 in Hungary

WWD2009 was celebrated in several Hungarian national parks. The central event was organised jointly by the Ministry of Environment and Water and by the Kiskunsági National Park Directorate in the Nature House, Kecskemét, on 5 February. Approximately 120-140 participants from environmental organisations, NGOs and local governments attended the event with presentations on the Ramsar sites of the Kiskunság National Park, the special natural values of saline lakes in the Pannonian region and the hydrological issues of the Danube-Tisza Interfluvium. A special talk was given by a farmer about management issues in the Upper Kiskunság Alkaline Plains Ramsar site. The afternoon programme consisted of visiting a wetland restoration site by Tiszaalpár village in the River Tisza flood plain. In addition to the natural values of the site, where wise use, such as cattle grazing, traditional orchards and fishing are also encouraged, participants also enjoyed a visit to a cultural site (restoration of an ancient village).

Other WWD2009 events in Hungary included open days for schools with exhibitions, field visits and quiz games, as well as goose counting on Lake Balaton.

Photos: Mr. Róbert Urai

**Participants from NGOs, local government and environmental organisations enjoyed various presentations in the morning**





**An afternoon excursion for participants to a wetland restoration site by Tiszaalpár village in the River Tisza floodplain**





**Participants were also treated to some folk music**

