Current state WP3

Description of scientific progress

Two major works were undertaken for WP3.

The first is related to theory and constructs analysis considered relevant for the project's aims. In this context the core motivational concepts in contemporary environmental and social psychology were analyzed. A list of exemplary writings with a brief introductory description of key concepts was made. On the basis of that document, the following list of concepts has been created:

1. Individual and group processes and biodiversity
2. Psychological processes and urban green areas
3. Pro-environmental world-views, values and attitudes
4. Connectedness to nature
5. Restorativeness

The summary of this work is incorporated into the "common concepts and framework" document under WP4. This work on psychological motivational concepts useful for contemporary theory of governance of biodiversity is relevant for all WPs.

The second major work is related to the gathering and the pre-analysis of the global, EU and (sub-) national case studies. As WP3 leaders, an activity of stimulating and collecting case-studies in each country has been started via email with each partner's contact person. Preliminary lists of case-studies have been acquired for most partner countries, and these need to be synthesized in order to establish general shared criteria to guide the final selection for the case studies.

In the second half of the first year, the above mentioned list of concepts has been then reorganized and enlarged to include further concepts, knowing: The quest for personal significance; Attitudes and behaviours; Identity-based motivations; Personal ethics and values; Worldviews and beliefs systems; Social norms; Stories; Collective actions and sanctions; Leadership and empowerment.

During the second half of the first year, regarding the case studies selection and decision, a shared set of case studies categories has been agreed on during our workshop in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. This was circulated between and adopted by all partners in order to prepare one's own country's extended list of case studies. Some of these categories are compulsory in each country in order to warrant comparability with BESAFE work, as agreed during project workshop 1.

Finally, a national panel list of relevant stakeholders has been created, comprising of 100 people who are to be contacted in future stages in the project.

In the first half of the second year, starting from the above mentioned list of concepts (Common concepts and framework BIOMOT), a draft for a first empirical protocol was developed and further elaborated, through email and videoconferencing and especially in cooperation with the WP2 team. The main aim of this first phase has been the translation of the Common Concepts and Framework BIOMOT from the conceptual to the empirical level, as well as the agreement among the various teams and WPs over the preferred methodologies. Then, the protocol has been fully developed along two lines: a standard questionnaire to be administered via an on-line platform and based on quantitative measurement scales; and a life history interview to be administered via a face-to-face qualitative semi-structured procedure.

Significant result
After the preparatory work in the first 6 months, a template or framework of case study categories was produced in the following 6 months. The adopted template consists of an extended list of 20 categories of case studies, with one of those (Wolf or other big carnivores) being compulsory in each country's final short list. Two further categories are compulsory in each country: UNESCO-BR and Natura 2000 (both to warrant synergy with the BESAFE project).
The work in months 13-18 have produced, as a main result, the prototype for the WP3 empirical protocol, comprising two tools: 1) a protocol for the life history interview; 2) a protocol for the on-line standard questionnaire. A refined case study list had also been produced, in agreement with WP2.

At this moment, all countries are translating the protocols for the interviews and the questionnaire. They are selecting the people who are most suitable to be interviewed in the specific cases and they are contacting respondents to make appointments for interviewing.