



## PROVIDING SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL ALIGNING OF MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR THE NATURA 2000 NETWORK AND THE NATIONAL PRIORITIZED ACTION FRAMEWORK FOR NATURA 2000 (NPAF)

**Period of implementation:** September 2016 – September 2017

**Implemented by:** Consortium “Dicon – UBA NATURA” with the leading role of Dicon Group Ltd. (Bulgaria) in partnership with the Environment agency Austria (Austria).

**Contracting Authority:** Ministry of environment and water of Republic of Bulgaria

**Budget:** 341 645 EURO

### Project Objective:

The main objective of the project is to create conditions for a coordinated, effective and lawful management of the Natura 2000 network in Bulgaria through building and developing management models for Natura 2000 and protected areas, as well as for the NPAF.

The specific objectives of the project include:

- *Specific objective 1:* Development and aligning of a national approach for Natura 2000 network management;
- *Specific objective 2:* Development and aligning of a management approach for the Natura 2000 National Prioritized Action Framework.

**Specific Beneficiary:** National Nature Protection Service (NNPS) at the Ministry of Environment and Water of Republic of Bulgaria

The target group of the project includes:

- Line ministries
- Regional structures of those ministries
- Non-governmental organisations
- Professional and business associations
- Scientific institutes, universities and research centres.

### Activities:

The main activities of the project are:

- **COMPONENT 1: DEVELOPMENT AND ALIGNING OF A NATIONAL APPROACH FOR MANAGING THE NATURA 2000 NETWORK.** This component includes the following activities:
  - ✓ *Activity 1.1:* Analysis of the legal-regulatory framework and its effectiveness in the Republic of Bulgaria with regards to the management of the Natura 2000 network;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.2:* Analysis of the legal-regulatory framework with regards to the elaboration, establishment and implementation of the protected areas management plans;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.3:* Study and analysis of the approaches for Natura 2000 network management in EU member states;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.4:* Organising and conducting a working exploratory trip in two EU member states;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.5:* Study and analysis of the approaches for elaborating management plans in the EU member states;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.6:* Analysis and assessment of the available capacity for implementation of activities for managing the Natura 2000 network and protected areas (PA);
  - ✓ *Activity 1.7:* Elaboration of a working and final versions of a proposal on alternative (options for) approaches on establishing an effective management structure for Natura 2000 protected areas;

- ✓ *Activity 1.8:* Preparation of a comparative analysis between the proposed alternatives;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.9:* Development of a proposal on the rules, procedures and statutes for managing the Natura 2000 network and PA;
  - ✓ *Activity 1.10:* Preparation of a report containing recommendations for the development and strengthening of the capacity of employees within the Natura 2000 network management structure.
- **COMPONENT 2: DEVELOPMENT AND ALIGNING OF A MANAGEMENT APPROACH ON THE NATIONAL PRIORITIZED ACTION FRAMEWORK FOR NATURA 2000.** This component includes the following activities:
- ✓ *Activity 2.1:* Preparation of an analysis of the needs for establishment of an NPAF structure;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.2:* Research and analysis of the approaches for managing the implementation of NPAF in EU member states;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.3:* Preparation of proposals for the structure of the NPAF implementation management;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.4:* Preparation of a working draft of the NPAF management approach;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.5:* Preparation of a final draft of the proposal for NPAF management approach;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.6:* Preparation of the documents necessary for forming the NPAF management structure;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.7:* Elaboration of a proposal on the rules, procedures and statutes aimed at the NPAF management structure;
  - ✓ *Activity 2.8:* Elaboration of a report containing suggestions for the development and strengthening the capacity of employees within the NPAF implementation management structure.

→ **COMPONENT 3: INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES.** This component includes the following activities:

- ✓ *Activity 3.1:* Elaboration of a communication plan to ensure the participation of stakeholders in the development of the management approaches;
- ✓ *Activity 3.2:* Establishment of expert working groups with the participation of key stakeholders and organisation of working sessions;
- ✓ *Activity 3.3:* Holding working meetings for ensuring the national aligning and selection of the Natura 2000 network management structure;
- ✓ *Activity 3.4:* Organising and holding a national round table with the participation of all stakeholders, presenting the elaborated approaches and the overall concept for managing the activities on Natura 2000.



#### Results of the implementation of the contract:

- Developed and aligned a national approach for managing the Natura 2000 network and Protected areas;
- Developed and aligned a management approach for the National Prioritized Action Framework on Natura 2000;
- Created conditions for the sustainable management of the Natura 2000 network and Protected areas in Bulgaria.