

Friday, December 3, 2010

Workshop

**Biodiversity conservation –
a challenge for spatial and landscape planning**

13:15 - 15:15

[Parallel Workshop](#) related to plenary session 2

**Oral presentation 1:
Biodiversity and landscape planning –
methods and examples**

Ulrich Walz, *Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Dresden, Germany*
contact-e-mail: u.walz@ioer.de

The contribution will show methods for the assessment of biodiversity at the landscape level and give examples of spatial planning instruments in Germany which can preserve and develop biodiversity. Focus will be the level of regional and landscape planning with the following topics:

- *Regional priority and reserved areas for nature conservation and green space*

The German "Regionalplan" allows the designation of different legal protection categories for nature conservation and the preservation of biological diversity 'hot spots' or 'networks'. First of all, existing protected areas e.g. under Habitats-Directive are strictly to be integrated in the spatial plan. Secondly, spatial objectives can stipulate legally binding priority areas for nature conservation. Finally, spatial basic guidelines show provisional areas for nature conservation.

- *Biotope (habitat) networks*

Large biotope networks are important for migration of animals, but also for plants (e.g. species of dry meadows). For whole Germany a biotope network strategy was developed, with designation of conflict points and measures for re-connection of habitats. Planning instruments are necessary to prevent these corridors from further development for housing and infrastructure.

- *Landscape fragmentation*

Landscape fragmentation by technical infrastructure is an increasing threat for biodiversity in Europe. The remaining open space is an important subject of protection, as well as habitat for animals as for recreation. Efforts in Germany were made to preserve these areas.

- *Landscape diversity – regional minimum density of landscape elements*

Small scale landscape diversity is important for maintaining biodiversity in rural areas. Not only large biotope corridors and protection areas are necessary, but also small landscape elements like hedgerows, treelines etc.. The German Nature Protection Act endorses the definition of regional minimum density values of such landscape elements. The indicator can be applied in regional spatial planning instruments.