

## **Training for youths for monitoring and advocacy through utilization of spatial data – part 1**

**April 28–30 2014, Sofia**

### **Practical exercise 1**

#### **Threats and causes for biodiversity – a Norwegian case study**

One of the goals of Aichi targets for biodiversity is prevention of biodiversity loss, integration and using of traditional knowledge.

It is widely accepted that traditional, sustainable using of natural territories is often contributive for the extremely rich biodiversity of such areas. Examples of such usage are traditional grazing of sheep, goats and cows as well as mowing the grass and picking it as food for animals during the winter. This kind of traditional practices has contributed for the creation of pastures and mosaic territories, containing rich biodiversity. Cessation of this kind of traditional usage of natural resources leads to rapid changes in territories and their characteristic biodiversity.

In the modern agriculture growing of monocultures is a common practice. When this type of activity is stopped and the traditional usage of this renewed a process of recovery the biological diversity can be observed. People practicing agriculture are often forced to replace their way of working and the very essence of their work because they would receive more funding for extensive farming rather than applying the traditional methods.

Another example for the traditional use of the natural resources is pruning the trees and collecting branches, storing it and using it as a food for the animals during the winter. After the pruning the trees grows much more branches and the number and the diversity of species on these trees is much bigger than the on the trees that has not been pruned.

The shift from traditional use of the natural resources to not so sustainable use and applying of the modern extensive methods of farming is typical to the depopulated areas or in areas in which the process of depopulation is fast. The lack of young people as well as the process of their migration from the small towns to the bigger ones leads to gradual loss of traditional knowledge for utilization of natural resources.

Additional information for the Aichi targets of biodiversity: several of the targets are oriented towards cessation of losses of biodiversity. Aichi target 18: Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, sustainable usage of biodiversity and traditional usage of nature's resources are the object of the national legislation and the international obligations as the above-mentioned are fully integrated and reflected in the execution of the Convention with the altogether and effective participation of the local communities.

Exercise:

Which are the threats for the biodiversity?

What are the reasons for the arising of these threats?